

# An Overview of HIV/AIDS in Canada Raynell Lang, University of Calgary, Alberta



## **Canadian Population**

- There were an estimated 63,110 persons living with HIV (PLHIV) in Canada in 2016, which increased by 5% since 2014.
- In 2016, the HIV prevalence rate was 173 per 100,000.
- In 2017, 2,402 new HIV cases were reported with a incidence rate was 6.5 per 100,000 in Canada.
- Estimates show that 14% of PLHIV in Canada are unaware of their diagnosis.

#### **Risk Populations in Canada:**

- 49.2% MSM
  - The majority of new infections in 2017 (60.2%) were MSM
  - MSM incidence rates are 131x higher than other men
- 19.1% PWID
  - 16.3% of new infections in 2017 were in PWID
  - PWID incidence rates are 59x higher than the general population
- 34.5% heterosexual sex
  - 28.7% of new infections in 2017 were from heterosexual sex
- 1% from other risk including maternal to child transmission, transfusion and needle-stick injuries

#### **Demographic populations in Canada**

- 23% of all PLHIV are females
- 15% of all PLHIV are persons from endemic areas (primarily sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean)
  - People from countries where HIV is endemic made up 2.5% of the Canadian population in 2011 but represent 13.6% of new infections in 2016
  - Incidence rate is 6.4x higher
- 9.6% of all PLHIV are indigenous people
  - Indigenous people made up 4.9% of the total Canadian population in 2016 but represent 11.3% of new infections in 2016
  - Incidence rates 2.7x higher

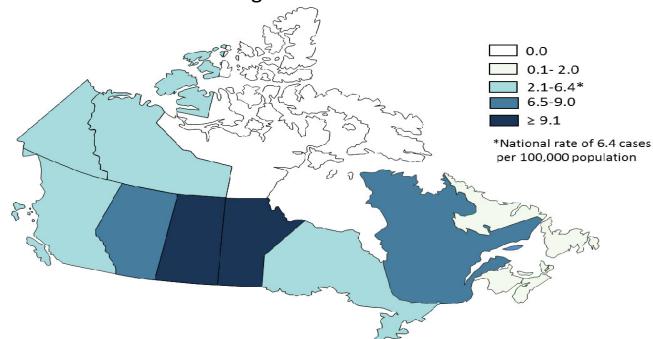
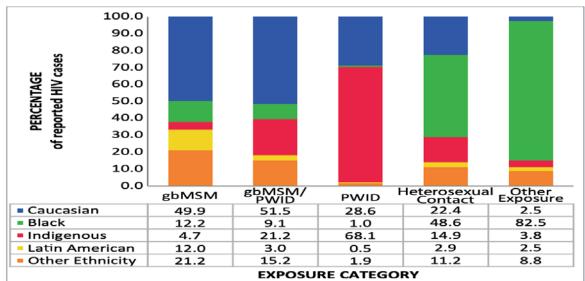


Figure 1: HIV diagnosis rate (per 100,000 population) by provinces/territories 2016 (Bourgeois et al.)

#### **Current Progress on 90-90-90 Targets:**

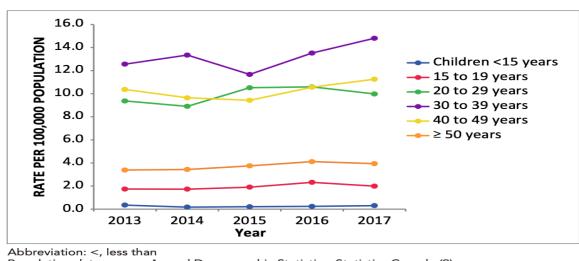
- 86% are diagnosed
- 81% on ART
- 91% achieved viral suppression



Abbreviations: gbMSM, gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men; PWID, people who

- Excludes HIV cases where race/ethnicity or exposure category was "not reported" "Latin American" includes, for example, Mexican, Central American and South American "Black" includes, for example, Somali, Haitian and Jamaican "Other Ethnicity" includes, for example, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Bangladeshi, Armenian, Egyptian,
- Korean, Filipino "Other Exposure" category includes unspecified exposure routes

Figure 2: Proportion of reported HIV cases (all ages) by exposure category and race/ethnicity, 2017 (Haddad et al.)



Population data source: Annual Demographic Statistics, Statistics Canada (9)

Figure 3: HIV diagnosis rate, by age group and year of test in Canada. (Haddad et al.)

### A 5-year Plan to End the HIV Epidemic in Canada:

- Increase prevention: Reduce new HIV infections from >2.100 to <500 per annum.
- Increase Testing: We are aiming for >95% of PLHIV to be diagnosed.
- Improve Health outcomes for PLHIV in Canada: Target >95% of PLHIV to be on ART and 95% of those have viral suppression.
- Stamp out stigma: Stop HIV stigma and significantly reduce HIV Related Health Inequities.

## **Southern Alberta Clinic Population**

- Since 1986, the Southern Alberta HIV clinic (SAC) has been the sole provider, of provincially funded ART for those living with HIV in southern Alberta.
- The number of patients on ART increased from 29.6% in 1989 to 93.4% in 2017.
- 22.4% of those on ART had viral suppression in 1997, increasing to around 90% since 2010 (92.7% in 2017).
- The HIV-related annual mortality rate declined from 11.0% in 1994 to 0.1% in 2017.

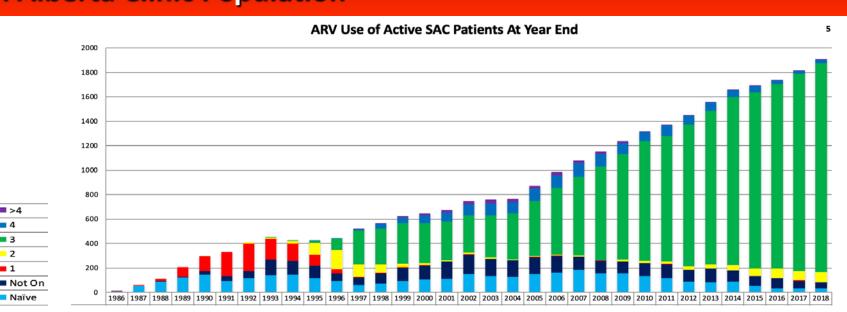


Figure 4: Active patients categorized by number of ARVs used at SAC.

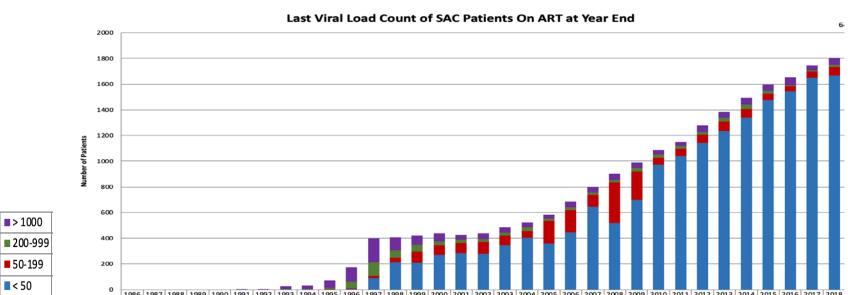


Figure 5: Annual viral suppression rates (copies/mL) of patients at SAC.

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Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research (CANFAR). Ending the HIV Epidemic in Canada in Five Years: It is Time to