



In 2001, HIV-infection was detected for the first time in a total of 304 persons, of whom 213 (70%) were men and 91 (30%) were women. This is the highest figure since 1995, and a rise of 18% from 2000, Fig. 1. The median age for females was 29 years (range: 0-66 years), and for males 37 years (range 0-83 years). Almost half (46%) of the notified persons were from Greater Copenhagen, where the incidence is still high, Table 1.

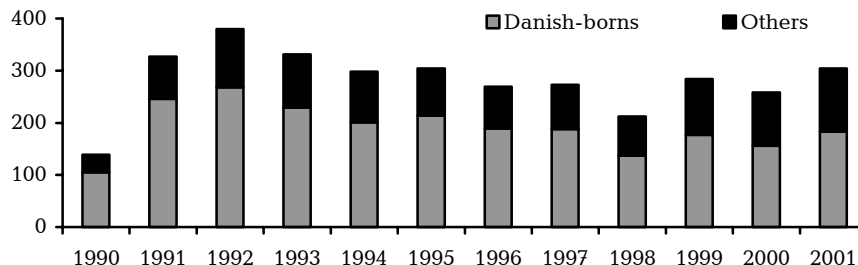
Table 1. No. of persons with newly diagnosed HIV-infection, by county, and no. of newly diagnosed per 10⁵

County	No.	(%)	Newly diagnosed per 10 ⁵
Cph. Municip.	91	(30)	18.2
Frb. Municip.	17	(6)	18.7
Copenhagen	32	(11)	5.2
Frederiksborg	20	(7)	5.4
Roskilde	13	(4)	5.6
West Zealand	10	(3)	3.4
Storstrøm	5	(2)	1.9
Bornholm	-	-	-
Funen	17	(6)	3.6
South Jutland	5	(2)	2.0
Ribe	8	(3)	3.6
Vejle	7	(2)	2.0
Ringkøbing	12	(4)	4.4
Aarhus	21	(7)	3.3
Viborg	3	(1)	1.3
North Jutland	20	(7)	4.0
Other	7	(2)	-
Not stated	16	(5)	-
Total	304	(100)	5.7

The Municipality of Frederiksborg had the highest incidence, followed immediately by the Municipality of Copenhagen. A total of 183 persons (60%) were Danish-born, and 109 (36%) were immigrants, Table 2. Seven persons were temporarily resident in Denmark, and in five cases ethnic background was not stated. Half of the immigrants came from Central or East Africa, 13 from Thailand, while 13 came from another European country. Among immigrants, 47 were men (43%) and 62 were women (57%). A total of 28 (60%) of the men and 50 (81%) of the women were infected through heterosexual contact, while 15 of the men (32%) were infected through homosexual contact. One immigrant was thought to have been infected by blood transfusion given abroad. The proportion of newly discovered HIV-infected immigrants was higher in counties in Jutland compared with the Greater Copenhagen area, 53% (40/76) vs 31% (43/140).

HIV 2001

Fig. 1. No. of newly diagnosed HIV-infected persons 1990-2001, by Danish-borns and other nationality



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Table 2. No. of notified newly diagnosed HIV-infected persons, by mode of infection and by Danish-borns and immigrants, 2001. Percentage in ()

	Danish-borns	Immigrants	Total	AIDS
MSM* ¹ incl. bisexuals	86 (47)	15 (14)	101 (33)	14
Heterosexuals	61 (33)	78 (72)	145 (48)	21
I.v. drug users	23 (13)	5 (4)	28 (9)	2
Mother-to-child	3 (2)	6 (5)	10 (3)	4
Other	10 (5)	5 (4)	20 (7)	3
Total	183 (100)	109 (100)	304 (100)	44

*¹Men having sex with men

Of those born in Denmark, 159 were men (87%) and 24 were women (13%). A total of 86 (54%) of the men were infected through homosexual contact, while 49 of the men (31%) and 12 of the women (50%) were infected through heterosexual contact. Of these heterosexually infected persons, 31 (51%) were infected in Denmark, while 21 (34%) were infected abroad, eight of them in Africa and four in Thailand. In nine cases, the country of infection was not stated. Among Danish-born men who have sex with men (MSM), 76 (88%) were infected in Denmark, while this applied to five (33%) of MSM among immigrants.

Symptoms of HIV and AIDS

For 141 (46%) of all newly detected cases of HIV-infection, it was stated that they had symptoms of HIV-infection. Of these, 44 (31%) had AIDS. The proportion with HIV-associated symptoms was 53% (113/213) among men and 31% (28/91) among women. According to ethnic groups, this proportion was 51% among Danish-born and 39% among immigrants. Among the 109 immigrants, 13 (12%) were also ill with AIDS at the time of diagnosis of HIV. This proportion was 15% (28/183) among those born in Denmark. In the year 2001, notification was made of a total of 14 MSM in whom it was stated that they also had AIDS. Of these, 11 were Danish-born. Of the 145 notified cases who were infected through heterosexual contact, 21

(14%) had AIDS, Table 2. Of these, 12 were Danish-born, and in addition all were infected by a person known to have HIV-infection. For relatively few persons, a total of 28, information was available about previous negative HIV-tests, of which most were from the period 1994-2000.

Comments

In Denmark, 304 new cases of HIV-infection were detected in 2001. This is more than in the previous five years, and represents a rise of 18% from 2000. However, this figure is not a measurement of the incidence of HIV, which is unknown in Denmark. Thus, the figures do not indicate a possible rise in the current spread of infection. Whether the figures reflect an increased interest in HIV-testing among people with high-risk behaviour is anybody's guess, but if this were the case, it would be a favourable development. (E. Smith, Dept. of Epidemiology)

INTERNATIONAL VACCINE SYMPOSIUM – SSI 100 YEARS

Statens Serum Institut is 100 years old in September this year. Among other events to mark the occasion, the Institute will be holding an international vaccine symposium on 11-12 September. The theme is the vaccines of the future and the role of vaccines in the 21st century. Programme and registration form can be found on www.ssi.dk.

(E. Smith, Dept. of Epidemiology)

Streptococci isolated from blood and CSF from infected patients

1st quarter of 2002 compared with the same period of the two previous years

		1st quarter 2002				1st quarter	
		< 2 yrs	2-59 yrs	60 yrs +	Total	2000	2001
January	S. pneumoniae	6	35	82	123	114	96
	Gr. A strep.	-	5	6	11	20	8
	Gr. C strep.	-	-	2	2	1	1
	Gr. G strep.	-	1	3	4	9	7
February	S. pneumoniae	7	45	69	121	92	110
	Gr. A strep.	-	4	7	11	18	13
	Gr. C strep.	-	-	-	-	2	1
	Gr. G strep.	-	1	15	16	4	5
March	S. pneumoniae	4	49	62	115	121	146
	Gr. A strep.	1	9	13	23	17	5
	Gr. C strep.	-	1	2	3	3	1
	Gr. G strep.	-	2	6	8	8	9
1st quarter	S. pneumoniae	17	129	213	359	327	352
	Gr. A strep.	1	18	26	45	55	26
	Gr. C strep.	-	1	4	5	6	3
	Gr. G strep.	-	4	24	28	21	21

(Dept. of Respiratory Infections, Meningitis and STIs)