A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park*

One-Fourth of All Reported AIDS Cases in D.C. Metropolitan Area Associated with Drug Use

According to recently released data from the District of Columbia's Agency for HIV/AIDS, one-quarter of the 11,924 AIDS cases reported in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) through September 30, 1994, were associated with injection drug use (IDU). The majority of the IDU-related AIDS cases were among heterosexuals (20% of total reported AIDS cases), which makes injection drug use the most prevalent mode of exposure among heterosexuals in the D.C. Metro area. The number of reported AIDS cases related to injection drug use and heterosexual contact has been increasing each year, while the number of cases associated with homosexual contact has leveled off in recent years.

Number of Cumulative AIDS Cases Reported Through September 30, 1994, by Mode of Exposure, Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area¹

Mode of Exposure	<u>Number</u>	Percent	
Men Having Sex with Men	7,234	61%	
Injection Drug Use			
by Heterosexuals	2,333	$^{20\%}$ $>_{25\%}$	0/
by Male Homosexuals	618	5% - 25	70
Heterosexual Contact	810	7%	
Unknown Risk	467	4%	
Undisclosed/Other	312	3%	
Perinatal (mother-to-child)	150	1%	
Total	11,924	100%	

¹Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes the District of Columbia; Calvert, Charles, Frederick, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties in Maryland; Arlington, Clarke, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, King George, Loudoun, Prince William, Stafford, Spotsylvania, and Warren counties and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, and Manassas Park in Virginia; and Berkeley and Jefferson counties in West Virginia.

SOURCE: <u>HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report: Cumulative cases through September 30, 1994.</u> Agency for HIV/AIDS, Commission of Public Health, Department of Human Services, District of Columbia.

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