

HIV diagnoses in Scotland

Quarterly data to 31 March 2019

A Management Information statistical release for Scotland

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About this release

This release provides data relating to [new HIV diagnoses reported to HPS by NHS Scotland laboratories for the period 1 January to 31 March 2019](#). The number of new diagnoses includes i) first ever HIV diagnoses, and ii) diagnoses previously recorded elsewhere, but newly reported in Scotland during this period. Data are also presented on the cohort of individuals diagnosed and living with HIV in Scotland at 31 March 2019.

Find out more

From January to March 2019, NHS Scotland laboratories reported positive HIV-antibody test results for 79 individuals not previously recorded on the HPS HIV database; of these, 41 (52%) were first ever HIV diagnoses and 38 (48%) had been previously diagnosed elsewhere, but were newly reported in Scotland during this period. Men who have sex with men (MSM) accounted for the largest proportion of new diagnoses (46%, 36), sexual intercourse among men and women for 16% (13) and PWID for 8% (6).

Of the 41 first ever HIV diagnoses recorded during the first three months of 2019, the largest proportion (39%, 16) were made in NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, 15% were recorded in NHS Lanarkshire and five or fewer diagnoses were reported by nine other NHS boards.

Since April 2014, avidity antibody testing has been rolled out across NHS boards in Scotland to determine the recency of acquisition of newly reported HIV infections. From January to March 2019, of the 17 HIV-positive samples which underwent avidity antibody testing, six (35%) were recently acquired HIV infections (i.e. within the preceding three to four months).

Allowing for the migration of an estimated 1561 infected individuals, those who have not attended for more than ten years (261), and for the 2203 (23%) known to have died, 5431 diagnosed HIV-positive individuals were estimated to be living in Scotland at 31 March 2019. Of these individuals, 73% (3980) are male and 27% are female (1451) while almost half (47%, 2550) are MSM, 39% (2142) are heterosexual men and women, and 9% (485) are PWID.

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