

Access Information Centre Newsletter

HIV, Hepatitis and Sexually Transmitted Diseases
Education and Resources
www.accessinfo.org.au

March 2005

The Centre is open:
Mon - Fri
9:30am – 4:30pm

**Access Information Centre
At The Alfred
Fairfield House
Moubray St
Prahran 3181
PH: 9276 6993
FX: 9533 6324
email: access@alfred.org.au**



Liza Doyle and Jennifer Stewart

Newsletter No 14 March 2005

CONTENT

Meet the Staff News

What's new?

HIV/AIDS
Hepatitis
Sexual Health

Welcome to the first Access Information Centre Newsletter for 2005!

This edition is packed with all of the **latest resources, websites, services and journal articles**. To help you locate material of interest, we have grouped information under the broad headings of HIV, Hepatitis and Sexual Health.

Access Information Centre (AIC) has a change of face!

Since the last edition, Access Information has undergone a change of staff and also has a new look website.

Liza Doyle is the new AIC Coordinator and has experience in health education and training both here in Australia and South East Asia. After completing her nursing training, Liza undertook a Graduate Diploma in Health Science and has since completed her Master of Public Health through Monash University. Liza is looking forward to working with the community to ensure the delivery of a valuable

and comprehensive HIV/AIDS Hepatitis and Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) education and resource service.

Jenny Stewart is the new Librarian and has a background in the community health sector. Jenny has worked for over 10 years in information services, largely focussing on issues of cultural diversity. Jenny is available to assist members of the community locate HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis and STI resources, including literature searches and the mailing out of relevant information and materials.

The new look AIC website is user-friendly with easy to read fact sheets, links to related sites and the ability to check out the virtual library catalogue, including a request information. The AIC website address is: www.accessinfo.org.au.

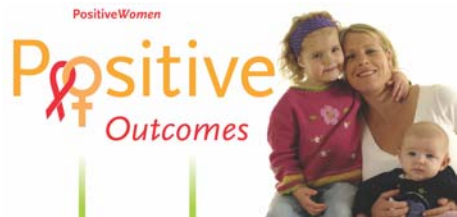


What's new?

New Brochures/Reports

Positive Outcomes

Positive Women Victoria has produced a brochure highlighting their role in providing support and advocacy for women with HIV/AIDS.



Free copies available from Access Information Centre.

Sex Matters A-Z & Changing Lives.

Excellent free resource booklets for heterosexual people living with HIV/AIDS. Produced by Pozhet (Call 1800 812 404)



Free copies available from Access Information Centre.

New Books/Reports

Listed here are some new books/reports recently added to our resource collection. Please contact us if you wish to borrow any items.

HIV Futures 4: State of the [Positive] Nation.

By Jeffrey Grierson, Rachel Thorpe, Mark Saunders & Marian Pitts, The Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society, Latrobe University, Melbourne, 2004

The HIV Futures study attempts to represent the experience of living with HIV for as diverse a population as possible and to represent the lived experience of HIV across multiple health, social and psychological domains. The findings of this fourth national survey of PLWHA were released in late 2004. It highlights clear patterns of health and social disadvantage particularly in regard to such issues as poverty, discrimination, co-existing health conditions, mental health problems and treatment failure.

The John Hopkins Hospital 2004-5 Guide to Medical Care of Patients with HIV Infection (12th edn.)

By John G. Bartlett, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Philadelphia, 2005

Thoroughly updated for 2004, this pocket manual is the definitive guide to the care of HIV-infected patients, written by Dr. John Bartlett, a world-renowned expert.

The First Year – HIV: An Essential Guide for the Newly Diagnosed

By Brett Grodeck, Marlowe & Co, New York, 2003

The author has been HIV positive for 15 years and as a 'Patient-Expert' walks the reader through everything they need to learn and do in the first year.

Medical Management of HIV Infection (2004 edn.)

By John G. Bartlett & Joel E. Gallant, John Hopkins Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, 2004

This book is offered as a comprehensive resource for physicians and other health care professionals who provide care and treatment to patients with HIV/AIDS. This updated edition reflects substantial changes in the treatment of patients since the previous edition was published.

New Books continued

Family Care in HIV/AIDS: Exploring Lived Experience

By Premilla D'Cruz, Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks, California, 2004

This book vividly describes family care in HIV/AIDS through the lived experiences of caregivers and care receivers. Based on a study conducted in Mumbai, *Family Care in HIV/AIDS* provides valuable insights into caregiving in family settings, capturing the experiences of caregivers and care receivers belonging to diverse socio-economic groups and traditional as well as non-traditional family settings.

Let's talk about it: Me, you & sex. A facilitator's resource & workshop guide on positive sexuality.

Produced by the Health Promotion project of People Living with HIV/AIDS.

This resource has been developed through the experiences of people living with HIV/AIDS. It offers the insights, practical strategies and background information to help others to run campaigns, or particular events or programs.

HIV Management in Australasia - a guide for clinical care

Produced by ASHM

2004 Edition with expanded index. The 2003 edition was described as: 'a cornerstone resource in HIV education for HIV clinicians, The concise, yet authoritative and clear style of this publication makes it an ideal educational tool.'



HIV/Viral Hepatitis – a guide for primary care

Produced by ASHM

This monograph, first published in 2001 and revised in 2004, explores patterns of risk and the intersections and differences in the management of these illnesses in the primary care setting.

HIV and Hepatitis C – policy, discrimination, legal and ethical issues.

Produced by ASHM

This new book highlights the negative effects of discrimination on health interventions for HIV and hepatitis C. It is a collection of essays describing the legal, ethical and discrimination issues presented by two important challenges to global public health: HIV and hepatitis C. The book will be launched on 8 April 2005 and is available online at www.ashm.org.au/ethics.

Websites

www.hiv-druginteractions.org



This informative and educational HIV pharmacology resource is valuable for healthcare professionals, scientific researchers or anyone with an interest in HIV therapy.

www.yeah.org.au

YEAH aims to promote advocacy and education to the local community, with a specific focus on young people. It runs creative and appropriately marketed campaigns and events that encourage participation and interaction, hoping to improve the public image and understanding of HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS

www.stayingnegative.net.au

Staying Negative HIV Prevention Campaign by the Health Promotion Team of the Victorian AIDS Council. Read all about relationships, casual sex, positive & negative sexual health, self esteem, highs and lows, ins and outs in real stories from gay men. The stories change every six weeks and aim to encourage safe sex behaviour amongst gay men.



What's on

BBV/STI Update Forum

STIs and HIV – asking the difficult questions

This forum is an initiative of the VAC/GMHC in collaboration with the Community Liaison and Education Unit of ARCSHS.

DATE: 31 March 2005

TIME: 3:30pm -5:30pm

Pan Pacific Regional HIV/AIDS Conference 2005.

Where: Auckland,
Aotearoa/New Zealand

When: 25 – 28 October 2005

<http://www.panpacific-hiv aids05.net.nz/>

Feature Service

Melbourne Sexual Health Centre - Referral Clinic.

The Referral Clinic at Melbourne Sexual Health Centre (MSHC) provides specialist care for people living with HIV. The Referral Clinic team all specialise in HIV care and many are leaders in the field. The Referral Clinic is open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Thursday, and from 1:30pm to 5pm on Fridays.

For further information, contact MSHS on 9347 0244 or check out their website at www.mshc.au/

Journal articles:

Research literature

Rising HIV Infections in Victoria, the Need for a New Approach to Preventative Interventions

Guy, Rebecca & Hellard, Margaret, Sexual Health, no. 2, 2004, pp. 69-71

http://www.publish.csiro.au/?act=view_file&file_id=SH03003.pdf

New Technology and Partner Notification – Why aren't we using them?

Tomnay, J. E., Pitts, M. K. & Fairley, C. K., International Journal of STD & AIDS, vol. 16, no. 1, 2005, pp. 19-22

<http://iris.ingentaselect.com/vl=2735409/cl=17/nw=1/fm=docpdf/rpsv/cw/rsm/09564624/v16n1/s5/p19>

Journal articles continued:

Patients' Perception of Information about HAART: Impact on Treatment Decisions

Gellaitry, G., et al, AIDS Care, vol. 17, no. 3, 2005, pp. 367-376

<http://puck.ingentaselect.com/vl=784453/cl=11/nw=1/fm=docpdf/rpsv/cw/carfax/09540121/v17n3/s10/p367>

Quality of Life in HIV-Infected Individuals Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy is Related to Adherence

Mannheimer, S. B., et al, AIDS Care, vol. 17, no. 1, 2005, pp. 10-22

<http://puck.ingentaselect.com/vl=784453/cl=11/nw=1/fm=docpdf/rpsv/cw/carfax/09540121/v17n1/s2/p10>

Access to Appropriate Information on HIV is important in Maximizing the Acceptance of the Antenatal HIV Antibody Test

Lee, K., et al, AIDS Care, vol. 17, no. 2, 2005, pp. 141-152

<http://puck.ingentaselect.com/vl=784453/cl=11/nw=1/fm=docpdf/rpsv/cw/carfax/09540121/v17n2/s2/p141>

Enhanced Cellular Immunity in Macaques following a Novel Peptide Immunotherapy

Chea, S., et al, Journal Of Virology, vol 79, No.6, 2005, pp3748-3757 .

Article request form required – go to www.accessinfo.org.au

The Uptake of HIV Post-Exposure Prophylaxis within a Sexual Assault Setting in Sydney, Australia

Templeton, D. J., Davies, S. c., Garvin, A. L. & Garsia, R. J., International Journal of STD & AIDS, vol. 16, no. 2, 2005, pp. 108-111

<http://iris.ingentaselect.com/vl=2978010/cl=79/nw=1/fm=docpdf/rpsv/cw/rsm/09564624/v16n2/s4/p108>

HIV-1 co-infection, superinfection and recombination

Megan C., et al, Sexual Health vol 1, no.4, 2004, pp. 239-250

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/164/paper/SH04024.htm>

Plain Language

Starting Treatment, Staying on Therapy

Slotten, Ross, Positively Aware, Jan/Feb, pp. 10-12, 2005

HIV in Patients over 50: An Increasing Problem

Gebo, Kelly A., The Hopkins HIV Report, November, pp.7-9, 2004

Negotiated Safety Agreements: Do they Protect and How they Protect

Hoff, Colleen, FOCUS, vol. 20, no. 2, Feb 2005, pp. 1-4

Leaving on a Jet Plane: Visas, Carrying Medication, Travel Insurance, Food and More

Gallagher, Stephen, Talkabout, no. 137, Feb-Mar 2005, pp. 14-16

<http://www.plwha.org.au/talkabout/HTML/issue%20137/features/jetplane.htm>

Superinfection - A Changing Picture

Duffin, Ross, HIV Australia Vol. 3 No. 4, pp. 9-11

http://www.afao.org.au/view_articles.asp?pxa=ve&pxs=95&id=484

Hepatitis

National Hep C Awareness week

Australia has a hepatitis C positive population in the order of 210,000+ (and growing!), but only about 2,000 people with hep C are being treated each year. This is despite about 30,000 Australians with hep C being eligible for government-sponsored treatment.

Overall, the chances of clearing the virus are about 60% (up to 80% for genotype 3).

Here are a few things you might not know about hep C treatment:

- You can go on treatment if you are currently using and/or on methadone.
- Management of side effects (like depression) have improved a lot in the last few years.
- The newest treatment for hep C requires only one interferon injection a week, instead of 3 with the older type of interferon.

Even if treatment doesn't work, it can have ongoing benefits for your liver. While treatment might not be for you, or you might not meet the criteria the government have for subsidised treatment, it's worth checking out. Your local Hepatitis Council, GP or liver specialist will be able to give you the information you need. Call the Hep C Helpline on 03 9349 1111 or freecall 1800 800 241.

Keep an eye out for the Awareness Week website: www.hepcawareness.net.au

New Books

Management of Chronic Viral Hepatitis (2nd edn)

By Foster, G. & Goldin, R., Taylor & Francis, London, 2004

This new edition is intended to bring all those involved in the care of patients with Hepatitis up to date with the latest management guidelines.

Hepatitis B and C: Management and Treatment (2nd edn.)

By Poynard, Thierry, Taylor & Francis, London, 2004

This book provides a practical explanation of the natural history and management of Hepatitis B and C and examines the benefits of the contemporary drugs and their effect. This is a second edition, expanding coverage of treatment of various difficult-to-treat patients and aims to be a welcome guide to the physician in both clinical decision-making and in explaining the benefits and side-effects to the patient.

The Hepatitis C Cookbook: Easy and Delicious Recipes

By Jeanne, Heather, Cumberland House, 2004

The Hepatitis C Cookbook has been prepared with the special dietary needs of people suffering from Hepatitis C in mind. The author argues that by eating properly, those who suffer from the virus can delay the end stages leading to cirrhosis of the liver and can also diminish the uncomfortable symptoms of the disease. The cookbook uses medical guidelines to provide a road map to healthy, tasty foods to eat and enjoy.

Living with Hepatitis C for Dummies

By Paul, Nina L., Wiley Publishing, Indianapolis, Indiana, 2005

This compassionate guide explains how Hepatitis C affects the liver and the body and it provides solid advice on today's treatment options – from drugs (and their side effects) to transplants and alternative therapies – as well as tips on dealing with the emotional and financial burdens the disease brings with it.

Hepatitis

Websites

This animated website provides a great overview of Hepatitis B. It includes information on transmission, prevalence, prevention and tips on living with Hep B.

www.hepb.com.au

New Services

Khmer Hep C line. Confidential, free recorded information. Dial 1800 810 277

Journal articles

Research literature

Treatment of Hepatitis C in HIV/Hepatitis C Co-Infected Patients: What is the Evidence?

Cacoub, Patrice, International Journal of STD & AIDS, vol. 16, no. 1, 2005, pp. 1-4

<http://juno.ingentaselect.com/vl=720042/cl=103/nw=1/fm=docpdf/rpsv/cw/rsm/09564624/v16n1/s1/p1>

Hepatitis B Virus: Significance of Genotypes

Schaefer, S., Journal of Viral Hepatitis, vol. 12, no. 2, 2005, pp. 111-124

Article request form required – go to www.accessinfo.org.au

Clearance of Hepatitis C Virus after Newly Acquired Infection in Drug Users

Jauncey, M., et al, Journal of Infectious Diseases, vol. 190, 2004, pp. 1270-1274

Article request form required – go to www.accessinfo.org.au

Hepatitis C Education Needs of Rural General Practitioners Working in Northern New South Wales

Fraser, J., Alexander, C. & Fisher, K. Australian Journal of Rural Health, vol. 12, no. 4, 2004, pp. 152-6

Article request form required – go to www.accessinfo.org.au

Hepatitis C: A Medical and Social Diagnosis

Richmond, J., Dunning, P. & Desmond, P., Australian Nursing Journal, vol. 12, no. 1, 2004, pp. 23-25

Article request form required – go to www.accessinfo.org.au

Plain Language

Down Time (Suzanne Roche answers some commonly asked Questions about Depression and Hepatitis C)

Roche, Suzanne. Hep C Review, Summer issue, Dec 2004, pp. 14-16

Complementary Medicine Research in Australia: A Strategy for the Future

Bensoussan, Alan, Hep C Review, Summer issue, Dec 2004, pp. 22-26

Now, Later or Never? Challenges of Hepatitis C Treatment

By McNally, Stephen, Good Liver, Summer 2004, pp. 1, 4-5

Sexual Health

What's new?

In the Feb/March issue of *Poslink*, there was a report of a rare form of Chlamydia called **Lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV)** being detected in HIV positive men in the UK. *Poslink* spoke with Professor Kit Fairley from The Melbourne Sexual Health Centre who advised that only one case of LGV has been identified in Melbourne to date. Prof Fairley reiterated the importance of all HIV positive men having regular sexual health screens. Unlike the regular form of Chlamydia, LGV penetrates tissue and can cause a range of symptoms including large, tender glands in the groin or pain and bleeding from the rectum.

www.plwhavictoria.org.au

Research

The Private Lives Survey is the largest survey of the health and wellbeing of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people ever conducted in Australia. The survey takes about 20 -25 minutes to complete and is completely confidential.

If you would like to participate or learn more, check out the survey website at: www.privatelivssurvey.com.au.

Dr Margaret Hellard's SMS AND email intervention study at Burnet Institute.

This innovative strategy will provide sexual health and contraception information among women aged 16-25 years and men aged 18-29 by the use of mobile phone short message service (SMS) and email messaging. All participants will receive a sexual health education package. Half will be randomly selected to receive the intervention. Participants will be recruited at the Big Day Out – an annual music festival held in Melbourne that attracts over 40,000 young people. The study will require 2½ years to complete, with the intervention operating for 12 months. Participants will be followed for a further 6 months to monitor subsequent risk taking behaviour.

Resources

The ALSO Foundation Directory for 2005.

A resource directory for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community. Pick up your free copy from Access or call for a copy to be mailed out.

UNDERWORLD CD-ROM.

A new interactive, musical, detective investigation into the female reproductive system. Available for \$29.95. Contact Data Works on Tel: 03 9764 8344.

Websites

The Pleasure Project - www.the-pleasure-project.org

Based in the UK with a sexual health physician as a cofounder, this not-for-profit web site takes an innovative approach to the promotion of safe sex. The Pleasure Project promotes safe sex by focusing on prime motivators for having sex: desire and pleasure.

What's on

ARCSHS – seminars on Sexuality, Health and Research.

May 4, 1:00 to 2:00pm.

MATES: Sexuality and fertility in middle-aged and older Australian men.

May 18, 1:00 to 2:00pm

Early concepts of safe sex among Year 8 & 9 students.

Contact ARCSHS on 9285 5382.

Australian Sexual Health Conference

2005. Convened by the Australasian Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine.

When: 22-24 August 2005

Where: Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart.

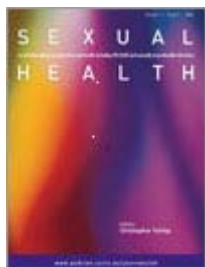
This conference will be held back-to-back with the 17th Annual ASHM Conference, 24 -27 August 2005.

For further details see:

Conference@ashm.org.au

www.ashm.org.au/conference2005.

Sexual Health



New Australian Sexual Health Journal - *Sexual Health*.

Sexual Health is a peer-reviewed journal produced in Melbourne. It is an interdisciplinary journal of sexual health including HIV/AIDS and sexually transmissible diseases. There have been

four issues published to date. They can be accessed online at www.publish.csiro.au. Future issues will be available at the Access Information Centre. The editor is Christopher Fairley – Director of Melbourne Sexual Health Centre.

The journal publishes peer reviewed original research, editorials, review articles, topical debates, case reports and critical correspondence. Authors interested in preparing a feature article, a mini-review or viewpoint articles are invited to discuss the matter with the Editor. The journal is supported by the Australasian College of Sexual Health Physicians.

Journal articles

Research literature

Where has all the Chlamydia come from? The Clinical Impact of the Introduction of an Improved Chlamydia Test

Sherrard, J., Rings, M. & Hall, C., International Journal of STD & AIDS, vol. 16, no. 2, 2005, pp. 163-165

<http://www.catchword.com/rsm/09564624/v16n2/contp1-1.htm>

Alcohol and sexual behaviour

Markos A.R., International Journal of STD & AIDS, vol. 16, no. 2, 2005, pp.123-127

<http://www.catchword.com/rsm/09564624/v16n2/contp1-1.htm>

New Technology and partner notification – why aren't we using them?

Tomnay J.E, Pitts M.K, Fairley C.K, ., International Journal of STD & AIDS, vol. 16, no. 1, 2005, pp. 19-22

<http://www.catchword.com/rsm/09564624/v16n1/contp1-1.htm>

A sexual health strategy for Australia – time for action

D. J. Chan and D. L. Bradford. Sexual Health, volume 1, no. 4 2004, pp. 197-199

www.publish.csiro.au

“Toward a better control of STDs”

Ebelding E.J & Zenilman J.M. N Engl J Med 2005; vol 352, 2005, pp. 720-721

www.nejm.org

Safer sex or pleasurable sex? Rethinking condom use in the AIDS era

Khan S.I, Hudson-Rodd N, Siggers S, Bhuiyan M.I & Bhuiya A. Sexual Health, vol 1, no. 4 2004, pp. 217-225

www.publish.csiro.au