SUMMARY OF SITUATION

The following and additional data and citations can be found at www.aidsdatahub.org

HIV Prevalence (2007)

- Estimated 4.2% of MSM are HIV positive.
- Out of 423 newly reported cases of HIV in 2007, 145 are from MSM (34% of the total).
- 24% of reported HIV cases occur via homosexual and bisexual transmission.

Additional information:

More information (including link to MOH site) can be found at http://www.afa.org.sg/statisticnsurvey.asp

Selected Behaviors & Knowledge (2006)

- 51% of MSM reported not regularly using a condom with partners or boyfriends during the last 3 months.
- 33% of MSM reported did not regularly use a condom with casual partners during the last 3 months.
- 50% of MSM reportedly had multiple sex partners in the last 3 months.
- 70% of MSM reported having an HIV test in the last year and receiving the results.

National Response

- Male-to-male sex is illegal in Singapore.
- There is a specific program line for MSM in the national HIV plan.
- There is a specific budget line for MSM in the national HIV plan.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSES

- Decriminalize homosexuality and remove other laws impeding effective HIV prevention.
- National strategic plan should include a costed comprehensive response for MSM and TG.
- More systematic and regular surveillance of HIV rates, risk behaviors and MSM communities.
- Fully fund prevention programs, including condom and lubricant provision, peer education and outreach, community development, mass media, and individual counseling.

MORE INFORMATION ON GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY BASED RESPONSES


http://www.afa.org.sg/home.asp
Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) – Update for ICAAP, Bali, 2009

The Regional Picture

REPORT ON THE COMMISSION OF AIDS IN ASIA

The Commission on AIDS in Asia used the Asian Epidemic Model (AEM) to construct a picture of how the regional HIV epidemic in different sub-populations has developed over the years, and how it is likely to grow in the future if prevention stays the same.

The regional projection shows that Asia is on the brink of a large increase in new infections among MSM if risk behavior stays at current levels of low condom use with many concurrent male partners.

AEM is a computer model that simulates the spread of HIV within and between important at-risk populations and their partners. Key inputs are levels of HIV (prevalence), and the most important HIV-related risk behaviors of each sub-population and their sizes. The regional projection was made by adding up results of AEMs for countries in Asia.

The main risky behaviors for MSM are the frequency of unprotected anal sex contacts with regular and commercial male partners, and unprotected vaginal sex with commercial and regular female partners. The probability of HIV being transmitted during anal sex between a HIV+ man and another man or transgender is much higher than during vaginal sex with a woman.

However if high coverage with effective interventions raises condom use in anal sex among men to 80% levels over the next few years, then the growing epidemic among MSM can be controlled as shown in the model on the left.

KEY MSM SESSIONS AT ICAAP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 Aug.</td>
<td>08.00</td>
<td>Forum: From 200 to 0: Responding Effectively to HIV Among MSM in Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Aug.</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>Satellite: MSM and HIV in Asia and the Pacific – Cross-Cutting Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Aug.</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>Symposium: Overcoming legal barriers to comprehensive prevention among men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender (TG) persons in Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>Satellite: MSM HIV Infection in Developed East and South-East Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>Satellite: Gender Variance and Male-Male Sexualities Across the Global South</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Aug.</td>
<td>11.30</td>
<td>Launch: The Pacific Sexual Diversity Network Strategic Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>Symposium: Addressing Legal Barriers and Criminalization of Risk Populations</td>
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Session details and all of the MSM Country Snapshots are available at www msmasia.org