オーストラリアにおける HIV 地域医療を考える

— Albion Street Centre - An Overview —

Albion St. Centre  Dr. Julian Gold
Dr. Lindsay Sales
Introduction

The Albion Street Centre (ASC) in Sydney, was established in 1985 as a Centre for the provision of services for the HIV/AIDS community in Australia. The Centre's mission is to promote the wellbeing of people affected by HIV/AIDS, hepatitis and other emerging infectious diseases. The Centre's core approach is to integrate prevention and care for patients and to train healthcare workers in the field of epidemic infectious disease management.

The Centre is a Division of the Prince of Wales Hospital, a 1000 bed acute care hospital that serves as the principal University of New South Wales, Faculty of Medicine teaching facility. The Centre is accredited by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians as a post graduate training site for Infectious Diseases. The Centre is a UNAIDS Collaborating Centre for HIV/AIDS Information.

The Albion Street Centre is the only major Australian community based multidisciplinary centre dealing exclusively with HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C clinical management, counselling, research, prevention and education. The principal activities of Albion Street Centre include:

- Clinical diagnosis and management of HIV/AIDS, hepatitis and infectious diseases.
- Psychological and counselling services
- Prevention (needle exchange, community and patient education).
- Ambulatory care including lumbar puncture, biopsy, blood transfusion.
- Multidisciplinary research including clinical trials.
- Volunteer emotional support for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA).
- Healthcare worker and corporate education and training.
- Infection Control
- Information Services
- Healthcare worker safety.
- International Health Projects.

The Centre has over 60 professional staff and more than 200 volunteers who provide care, support and education. The staff have significant experience in HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, infection control, sexual health and healthcare worker education and training both in Australia and overseas.
The Albion Street Centre provides a broad spectrum of education and consultation services to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), public and private sector organisations and healthcare workers including:

- On-site training for doctors, psychologists, nursing staff, dietitians and other healthcare workers in HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C prevention, diagnosis and management.
- Development of practical policies for ambulatory care and community-based clinical management of clients.
- Development of infection control programs including policy, training, surveillance and information.
- Specifically designed education programs for healthcare, corporate and public sector workers in HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C, sexual health, counselling, infection control and occupational health and safety aspects of communicable disease management.
- Clinical placements and study tours for health care workers in HIV/AIDS/hepatitis C and infection control at the Centre and structured training programs in Sydney and other Australian locations.
- Design of programs for volunteer management, training, supervision and support.

The Albion Street Centre also operates a number of unique services:

- The NSW HIV/AIDS Information (telephone) Line.
- The NSW Infection Control Resource Centre.
- The National Needlestick Injury Hotline.
- The National Needle Clean Up Hotline.
- A 24 hour crisis counselling and medical consultation service.
- The Australian Reference Centre for hepatitis C Information (ARCHI).

The Albion Street Centre is actively involved in international collaborative projects, especially in the Asia/Pacific region. These have included:

- The development and implementation of the Australia - Thailand HIV/AIDS Ambulatory Care Collaborative Project (1997 – 2001) to develop clinical and educational services and a Regional HIV/AIDS Training Centre at Bamrasnaradura Hospital in Bangkok;
- Development and implementation of the Indonesia – Australia Special Training Project in HIV/AIDS Management and Control in collaboration with UNSW School of Medical Education; the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research and the Macfarlane Burnet Centre for Medical Research.
- Development and implementation of the World Bank China Health Promotion Project, in collaboration with the Centre for Health Promotion, Sydney University.
- The Centre is one of Australia's foremost sites for training of doctors and nurses from Japan, Fiji, China, Thailand and the Philippines.

*In summary, the Albion Street Centre is recognised both in*
Australia and internationally as:

- Having over 14 years experience in providing quality, patient sensitive HIV/AIDS care.

- The only clinic providing a model of integrated prevention and care across the disease spectrum.

- The major centre for providing training, policy development and information in infection control, sterilisation and healthcare worker safety.

- Providing education by qualified educators who are experienced and practicing health professionals.

- Providing consultation on clinical services and education to many health institutions in Australia and overseas.

- International Project design, implementation and evaluation.
The Albion Street Centre Experience

The Albion Street Centre is a unique organisation in the area of HIV/AIDS/hepatitis C. clinical management, ambulatory care, counselling, research, support, prevention and education. The staff are committed to providing personal client-centred care and support. This is achieved through an integrated multidisciplinary team maintaining an accessible, non-judgemental, holistic and confidential service. The Centre's training and education programs are directed primarily for healthcare workers.

The Centre provides the following:

Medical & Clinical Services

The Clinic is Australia's largest public HIV/AIDS/hepatitis C. ambulatory care centre and provides a full range of outpatient and day treatment services. As well as early recognition and management of HIV/AIDS/hepatitis C. related conditions, specialist-on-site clinics are conducted in a number of areas, ranging from dermatology to dentistry, oncology, palliative care, rheumatology, ophthalmology and nutrition. Immunological and viral load monitoring is carried out, prevention and health education for patients is provided, assessment and management of occupational exposures is undertaken, and anonymous and confidential HIV antibody testing is conducted. The clinic also provides access to international clinical trials and full pharmacy services. The Centre utilises the comprehensive laboratory services of the South Eastern Area Laboratory network.

Psychological & Counselling Services.

Albion Street Centre's team of psychologists provide a variety of clinical services for HIV/hepatitis C. positive people and their families, partners and carers. Areas covered include pre- and post-test counselling; HIV/hepatitis C. related therapy (e.g. impact of a positive diagnosis); crisis management, specific therapy (e.g. depression, grief & bereavement, sexual dysfunction); diagnostic and neuropsychological assessment; advocacy and referral to liaison psychiatric services, and consultation services.

Support Services

The Ankali Project ('Ankali' is an Aboriginal word meaning 'friend') was established in 1985 to train volunteers to provide one-to-one emotional support for people living with HIV/AIDS, their partners, family members and friends. Other services provided by the Project include counselling and psychotherapy with trained clinical staff and referral services. Since the Project's inception over 1600 volunteers have provided emotional support to over 1500 clients.

Prevention Services

Albion Street Centre provides community and client education in the prevention of transmission of HIV and hepatitis through safe sex and safe injecting practices; it operates a needle and syringe exchange; makes condoms, lubricant and dental dams available to clients; and offers hepatitis A & B vaccinations.
The core approach of the Centre is to integrate prevention and care activities.

Information Services

- **NSW HIV/AIDS Information Line**

  Staff and volunteers provide information about HIV/AIDS and related issues, support and referral services to telephone callers. There is an average of 2000 calls per month. A full training program is provided for volunteers.

- **The Albion Street Centre Library**

  The Library has over ten years experience in collecting, organising and accessing information on HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, and infection control and has one of the most comprehensive collections of material in Australia. The Library is the NSW Stare Reference Centre for HIV/AIDS Information and is a UNAIDS information Support Centre. The Library has recently focused its efforts on accessing information through technology, and provides access to a variety of online and CD-ROM databases, the internet and email. The Library has also established a research service for regional HIV/AIDS healthcare workers which deals with more specific and complicated research requests for people who, due to geographical isolation, are unable to access the library in Sydney.

- **NSW Infection Control Resource Centre**

  The Resource Centre provides an expert response to questions relating to infection control, with a particular focus on interpreting and disseminating government directives to infection control practitioners throughout the State. In addition to practical advice for healthcare workers the Centre also provides a number of resource packages and educational materials.

- **National Needlestick Injury Hotline**

  This 24 hour telephone hotline is an immediate response capacity support service for health and paramedical workers. After a potential occupational exposure to blood borne pathogens, the Hotline provides expert advice to the exposed person, their clinical supervisors or treating physicians, and/or referral to a nominated local service.

- **NSW Needle Clean Up Hotline**

  This Statewide service is for the general public who may find used needles improperly discarded. The Hotline will make arrangements for the safe collection and disposal of the injecting equipment. It is very important in allaying public concern about the effective needle and syringe exchange program.
• **Australian Reference Centre for Hepatitis C Information (ARCHI)**

ARCHI provides information on hepatitis C for medical practitioners, other health care workers, social workers and researchers. This is the first and only Australian reference centre for hepatitis C. It is accessible for all healthcare workers in Australia by a toll-free number, email and website.

**Education/Training Services**

Albion Street Centre provides a wide range of professional education to healthcare workers and others involved in the field of HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C. Training and education programs are designed to meet the needs of those working in clinical care, health, education, welfare, business and industry. The programs include workplace issues; healthcare worker issues; clinical management and treatment; nutrition; counselling and psychosocial issues and HIV information, transmission and prevention. The Centre implements the Train the Trainer model whereby healthcare workers are educated to become trainers within their own institutions. Policy development, safe work practices, discrimination and confidentiality issues are also aspects of education at Albion Street Centre. The Centre has developed significant experiences in the management of occupational exposure to blood borne pathogens, and has a number of training and health promotions programs for the management of Needlestick and other occupational exposures to blood and body fluids.

**Research**

The vast majority of research conducted at Albion Street Centre is in the field of clinical drug trials, both in large national multicentre trials and in smaller onsite trials in HIV and hepatitis C. The Centre also conducts psychological, behavioural, nutritional and epidemiological research. The Albion Street Centre has one of the world's largest and most comprehensive computer-based data collation systems on more than 4,500 patients with HIV/AIDS and hepatitis.

**Nutritional Services**

Albion Street Centre provides specialist nutritional care for all clients and their carers at all stages of HIV disease, helping to alleviate symptoms of HIV/hepatitis C. and associated treatments, to maintain optimum body weight and mass to promote a healthy lifestyle. The Centre also provides advice, training and resource material for those involved in HIV/hepatitis C. care.

**Resources and Publications**

The Centre produces and provides comprehensive publications and training materials on all aspects of HIV/AIDS and related areas. The Albion Street Centre has edited three editions of the highly regarded *The AIDS Manual*, a practical guide to HIV diagnosis and management for healthcare workers and students, and has produced *HIV/AIDS in the Workplace: An Introductory Training Manual* for workplace training in HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis. The Albion Street Centre staff have authored more than 200 scientific papers and book chapters.
Women and HIV/AIDS

Albion Street Centre has significant experience in managing and providing training in the physical health needs and psychosocial issues relevant to women living with HIV/AIDS. Areas of expertise include epidemiology, disease progression in women, nutrition, clinical management, counselling and management.

International Work

Albion Street Centre has considerable ongoing experience and expertise in international collaborative projects.

♦ Participation in WHO Training Projects with the School of Medical Education, University of NSW.

♦ Named in Memoranda of Understanding between New South Wales Health Department, the Thailand Ministry of Public Health and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Japan, to provide Clinical education for health care workers.

♦ Development and implementation of the Australia-Thailand HIV/AIDS Ambulatory Care Project (1997-2001), funded by AusAID and the Ministry of Public Health Thailand, to develop HIV/AIDS clinical and education/training services and to establish an ambulatory care centre at Bamrasnaradura Hospital, Bangkok.

♦ Development and implementation of AusAID Indonesia-Australia Special Training Projects: Managing HIV/AIDS (1996-1998) in the collaboration with the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research and the School of Medical Education, University of New South Wales.

♦ Development and implementation of the World Bank China Disease Prevention Project- Health Promotion Component, in collaboration with the National Centre for Health Promotion, Sydney University (1997-1999).

♦ Development and implementation of three Train the Trainer courses for nurses in Fiji (1997) funded by AusAID.


♦ Development and implementation of AusAID India-Australia HIV/AIDS and Health Promotion Project in collaboration with the National Centre for Health Promotion, Sydney University.

♦ Staff of the Centre have provided consultancy services in Project design, evaluation and monitoring, and implementation to UNAIDS, WHO, World Bank, AusAID, Ford Foundation, UNICEF and the EC.
Development and implementation of Training Workshop on HIV/STD Interventions with Sex Workers for World Bank/AusAID China Disease Prevention project in Beihai, China 1998.

Development and implementation of AusAID Indonesia-Australia Special Training Projects: STD/HIV/AIDS. Information and Education; and STD/HIV/AIDS Detection and Monitoring (1999-2000), in collaboration with the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, the School of Medical Education (UNSW) and the Macfarlane Burnet Centre for Medical Research.

Development and implementation of AusAID Philippines – Australia Special Training Projects: STD/HIV/AIDS Health Promotion and HIV/AIDS Care and Support (1999) in collaboration with the Australian Centre for Health Promotions (University of Sydney) and the School of Medical Education (UNSW).

Development and implementation of AusAID Infection Control for Nursing Staff, Fiji (1999).

Hosting visits by international health delegations from numerous countries including: India, Sri Lanka, China, Japan, Thailand, Laos, Korea, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United States and the United Kingdom.
DEVELOPMENT OF AIDS CARE SYSTEM IN SAN FRANCISCO

Reiko Homma True, Ph.D.

I Historical Background:
San Francisco is recognized as the community that quickly responded to the challenge of the AIDS/HIV epidemic and developed a health care system which is held up as a model for many other communities. When designing the health care system for AIDS/HIV epidemic in San Francisco, the planners decided to depart from the traditional medical model, which relied heavily on hospital care. It was based on the projection that the small number of hospital beds available in San Francisco will be quickly overwhelmed by a rapidly increasing number of sick AIDS patients. In order to reserve the expensive hospital beds for the severely ill patients, they tried to develop medical and supportive community services that can maintain patients in their own community.

II Current Status of AIDS/HIV in San Francisco:
In contrast to the peak period in 1990, when new AIDS cases were reported to reach 1,957, the number has been steadily going down over the past several years, with the figure for 1998 reported as 939. They credit aggressive prevention program as the main reason for the dramatic reduction in the incidence rate. Cumulative cases for San Francisco was reported as 25,914 at the end of 1998 , which constitutes about 23% of California cases and 4% of the national total. With the availability of combination drugs, the number of deaths has dropped from the high of 1,816 in 1992 to 303 in 1998. The number of persons living with AIDS at the end of 1998 was 8,152. There are also changes in the types of transmission categories. Prior to 1989 gay/bisexual males constituted 95.6% of the diagnosed, i.e. 84.1% gay/bisexuals, plus 11.6%, who are injection drug using (IDU) gay/bisexuals. Other IDUs at that time, constituted only 2.1%. However, in 1999, the % of gay or bisexual males has declined to 62.9% and the 14.5% IDU gay/bisexuals, while other IDUs has increased to 14.5%. For the past several years, the number of hemophiliac or transfusion cases has been minimal.

III Prevention Activities:
In order to minimize new infections in the community, San Francisco invested significant effort and funding in prevention activities. The high risk, priority target groups identified included: gay men; youth; injection drug users; women; homeless adults; immigrants. The prevention strategies adopted included: aggressive media campaign for safe sex practice; condom distribution; needle exchange for injection drug users; peer-led education program in schools; counseling.

IV System of Care for AIDS/HIV Patients:
Although some AIDS/HIV patients are being treated by physicians in private practice, majority of the patients receive care and treatment from the health care agencies operated by or funded through the
Department of Public Health. The Department receives a large amount of federal and state subsidies based on the number of AIDS/HIV patients identified. The City government also provides significant amount of funding. The total budget for AIDS/HIV health care services for the fiscal year 1998-99 was approximately $77 million. The goal of the system is to provide comprehensive, continuum of care so that we can assure comfortable and stable treatment within the non-institutional setting as much as possible.

The range of services provided either directly by the Department or by private sector health care and ancillary services organizations are as follows:

1. Primary medical care:
   a. Acute Hospitals: San Francisco General Hospital (dedicated AIDS ward plus access to all other medical, surgical wards); 6 private hospitals; 1 university hospital; 1 veterans hospital
   b. Emergency Services
   c. Outpatient Clinics
   d. Intermediate and Longterm Care Hospitals
2. Home health care
3. Hospice
4. Day and respite care
5. Case Management
6. Dental care
7. Mental health counseling
8. Substance abuse treatment/counseling services
9. Food Bank/home delivered meals/food vouchers
10. Rehabilitation Care
11. Translation/Interpretation services
12. Buddy/companyon services
13. Transportation
14. Adoption/foster care assistance
15. Client advocacy
16. Alternative and complementary therapies

V Research Activities:
A significant level of research is carried out in San Francisco, through University of California, San Francisco General Hospital, and at other health care setting. The amount of AIDS related research awarded to various institutions exceeded well over $76,000,000 during 1998. They include: 1) basic science research such as antiviral immunity and vaccines, pathogenesis of HIV disease, identification of HIV genome, animal models, novel therapeutics and drug targets; 2) epidemiological research; 3) clinical research; 4) prevention research.