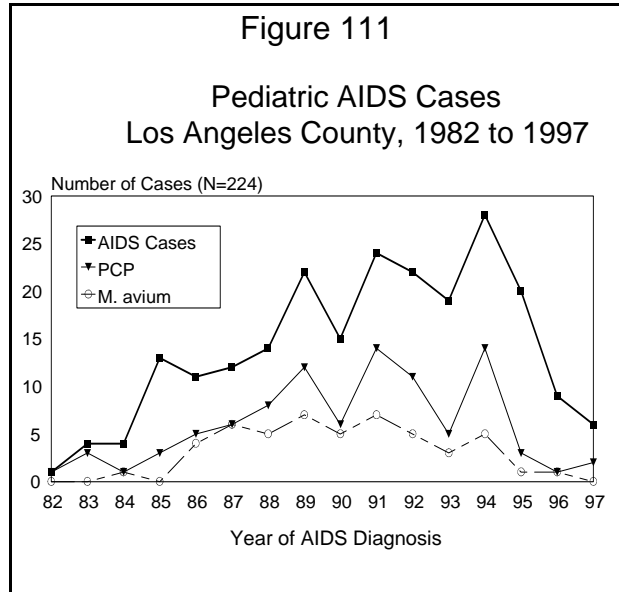


PEDIATRIC ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME

CRUDE DATA	
Number of Cases	6 ^b
Annual Incidence ^a	
LA County	0.27
California	0.25
United States	0.90
Age at Onset	
Mean	4
Median	3
Range	2 mos-10 yrs
Case Fatality	
LA County	66.0%
United States	58.4%



^aCases per 100,000 population.

^bPreliminary data.

ETIOLOGY

A syndrome caused by *human immunodeficiency virus*, type 1 (HIV-1). A pediatric AIDS case is a child <13 years of age with a CDC surveillance case definition of AIDS. AIDS is defined as an illness characterized by one or more indicator diseases, and based on laboratory evidence of HIV infection.

DISEASE ABSTRACT

Pediatric AIDS cases are reported to Los Angeles County (LAC) through an active surveillance system. Residents of LAC diagnosed with AIDS are reported to the State Office of AIDS. Based on the year of AIDS diagnosis, 224 pediatric AIDS cases were diagnosed between 1982 and 1997 (Figure 111). The number of pediatric AIDS cases peaked in 1994; 28 (13%) of the 224 cases were diagnosed. This was followed by a decline in the number of newly diagnosed cases among HIV-infected children. This decline is due to earlier identification of HIV-exposed children, prevention of perinatal transmission, and use of drug therapies which delay the incidence of AIDS-defining illnesses, as well as the screening of blood supply.

DATA

Age: The age range of cases at diagnosis was between 2 months and 10 years. The mean age was 4 years, and the median was 3 years.

Sex: The male-to-female ratio was 2:1.

Race/Ethnicity: Of the six AIDS cases in 1997, 3 were African Americans, 2 were Hispanics, and 1 was White.

AIDS-Defining Illnesses: Two cases (33%) had *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia (PCP), 2 (33%) had multiple or recurrent bacterial infections, 1 (17%) had immunoblastic lymphoma, and 1 (17%) had HIV encephalopathy.

COMMENTS

Of the cases reported in 1997, all were infected perinatally from mothers who have HIV or AIDS during their pregnancy.