

## SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES

The 'Bigge Park Centre' at Liverpool provides expert services across SWSAHS in the areas of sexually transmitted infections and infectious hepatitis, and is the only prescriber of HIV medications in SWSAHS. In addition, the Centre provides medical care for all occupational exposures to blood borne viruses in SWSAHS.

The Centre provided 13,828 outpatient occasions of service in 2003. The number of visits to the Centre continues to grow, with growth rates of approximately 10% attained over the last 4 years.

### Current Services

The Bigge Park Centre's core services include the provision of clinical care, clinical research, education and prevention. Satellite clinics are provided at Campbelltown Community Centre, Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre and Berrima Correction Centre.

The Sexual Health Education Program targets people who may be 'at risk' of infection including young people, prison inmates and needle and syringe program clients.

The Centre has close links with Youth Health, Drug Health, Women's Health and Community Health services across SWSAHS.

### Teaching and Research

Bigge Park Centre provides education and training to medical, nursing and pharmacy students, and general practitioners.

In addition, the Centre is currently undertaking a total of eight research projects. Research is clinically based with trials of drug therapies in HIV and Hepatitis B, C and HSV.

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### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Sexual Health services be an Area-wide service based at Liverpool's Bigge Park Centre with an Area Director appointed.
- The Sexual Health Centre, with support from the HIV Service staff, provide supervision and training to clinics run by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, multicultural, youth and women's health services to improve STD screening coverage across SWSAHS.
- A registrar in sexual health/HIV medicine be appointed to enable expansion of services to other sites across SWSAHS.
- Hepatitis services be formed into an Area department.
- The Hepatitis Advisory Committee include representatives from the Infectious Diseases, Gastroenterology and Sexual Health.
- The provision of staff occupational exposures and the screening and vaccination program for staff be fully integrated and enhanced across the area.
- Dedicated budget be allocated for HIV pathology testing.