Presentation delivered during the Second Technical Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS/STI

Brasilia, Brazil

16-19 January 2006

Pan American Health Organization

Regional Office of the World Health Organization

WORKING GROUP #2

HIV /AIDS PROGRAMME

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Barbados

January 2006

Overview

- Background
- Epidemiology
- Organizational Structure
- Programme Components
- Strengths
- Successes
- Weaknesses

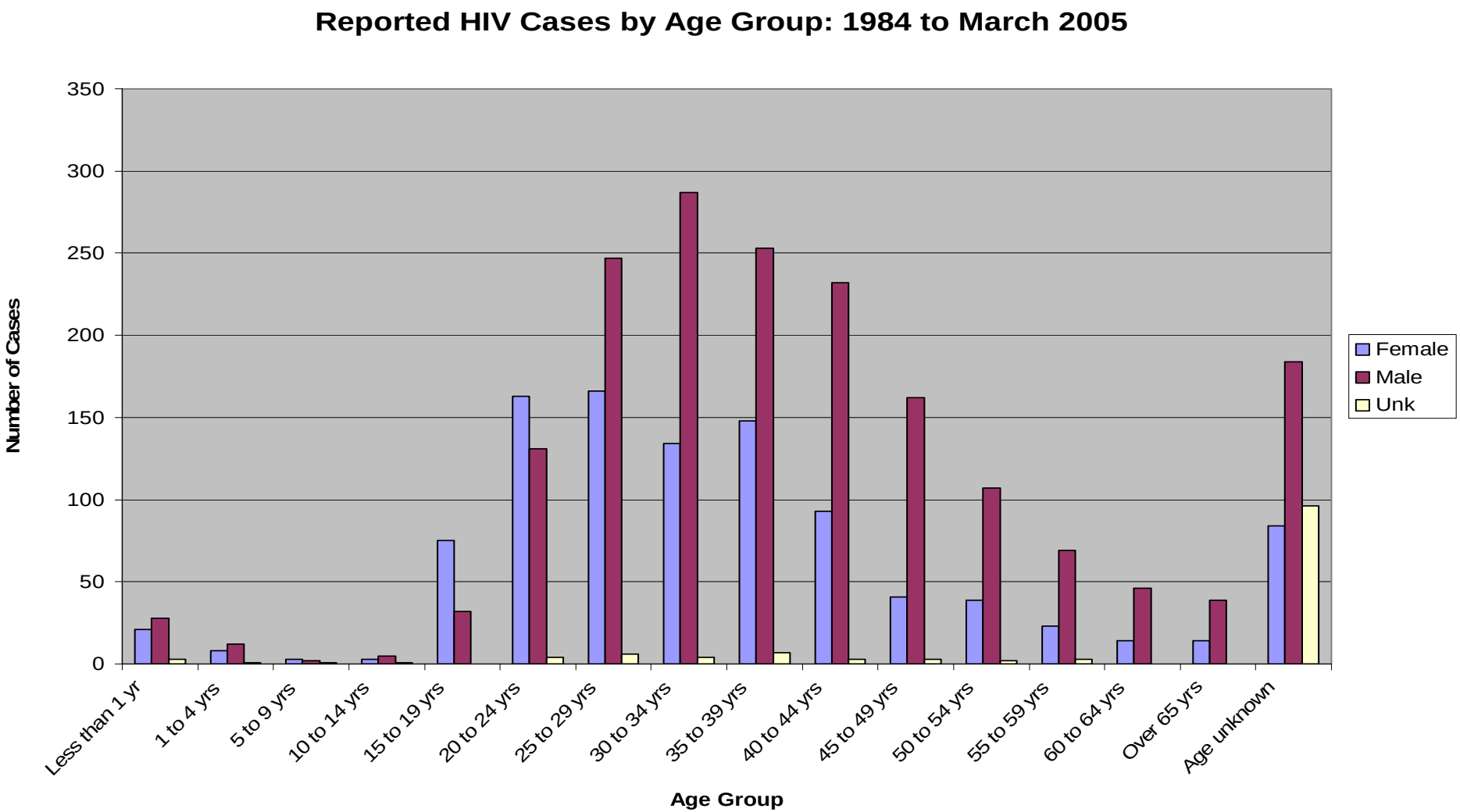
Background

- South Eastern Caribbean
- 166 Square Miles
- Pop Size: 270,000
- Stable Economy
- Unemployment Rate < 9%

Epidemiology (1)

- Leading cause of death: 15-44 age group
- Majority cases: Heterosexual Contact
- Cumulative Data (1984 to March 2005)
  - HIV Positive cases: 2999
  - AIDS cases : 1876
  - Deaths : 1254

Epidemiology (2)



Epidemiology (3)

- Estimated Prevalence: 1.5% (2003)
- Approx 200 cases per year

Organizational Structure

National HIV/AIDS Commision (Established in 2001)

- Government Ministries
- NGOs
  - ASOB
  - CARE
  - AIDS FOUNDATION

Programme Components

- Prevention
- Care and Support
- Treatment
- Management

Prevention (1)

Activity 1: Information, Education and Communication (IEC)

❖Staff: Community Health Education Officer

HEO (QEH)

Polyclinics

(Men´s, Antenatal and Adolescent Health)

Retired Nurses

Prevention (2)

- Activity 2: Screening of Blood and Blood Products

  Staff: QEH
- Activity 3: STD clinic

  Staff: Polyclinics
- Activity 4: PMTCT

  Staff: Polyclinics, QEH

Prevention (3)

- Activity 5: VCT

  Staff: Polyclinics, 8 VCT Counsellors, SC, DCC

- Activity 6 : Hotline

  Staff: Manager, Volunteers

- Activity 7: Condom Distribution

  Staff: Public Health Nurses, Counsellors

Care and Support

- HIV/AIDS Hospice (Nursing Supervisor, Nursing Assistant, Health Aides)
- Food Bank (Manager)
- Community Care (Health Aide, Public Health Nurses)
- CARE Bdos

Treatment

❖ Clinical : HAART

STIs

Opportunistic infections

(Clinical Consultants, Doctors, Nurses, Pharmacists)

STI Director (New)

❖ Laboratory: CD4

Viral Load

Viral Resistance Testing (Future)

(S L Technologist, 3 L Technologists, N Phlebotomist)

Management (1)

- Senior Medical Officer of Health
- Senior Adminstrative Officer
- Administrative Officer
- Executive Officer
- Procurement Officer
- Accountant
- Clerical Officer
- Senior Accountant (New)

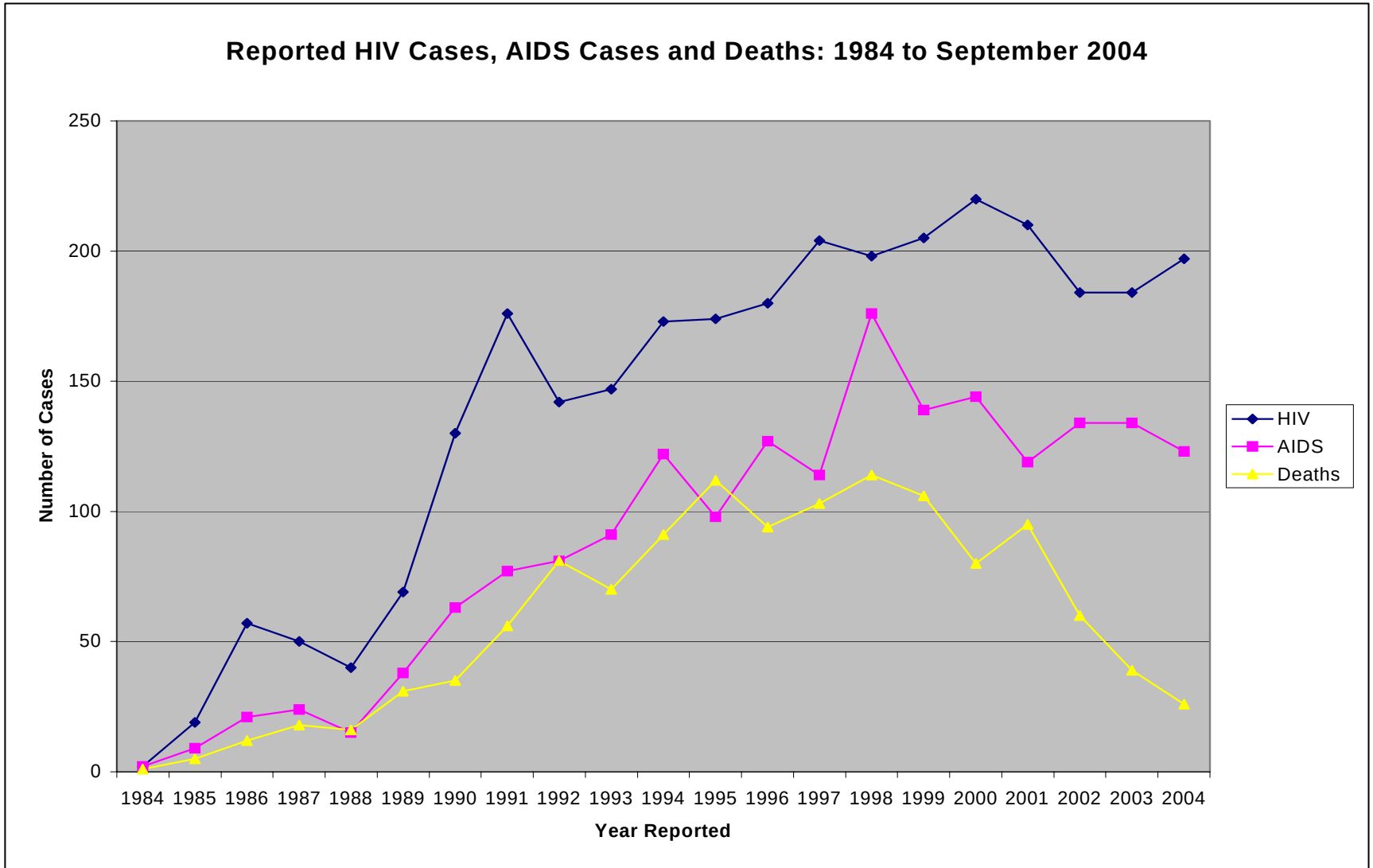
Management (2)

- ❖ CSW Project (Coordinator and Assistant)
- ❖ CHART (Coordinator)
- ❖ Medical Waste Management System Project (Sewerage Project Manager)
- ❖ Research (CDRC)

Strengths

- Stable Economy
- Assistance from World Bank and other funding agencies
- Existing Strategic and Works Plans

Successes (1)


Reported HIV Cases, AIDS Cases and Deaths: 1984 to September 2004
Number of Cases
250
200
150
100
50
0
1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004
Year Reported
HIV
AIDS
Deaths

Sucesses (2)

- New HIV diagnoses among pregnant women decreased by 50% between 1999 and 2003

- Number of hospital admissions for HIV/AIDS decreased by 42% from 316 admissions to 183

- Total hospital days fell by 59.4%

Weaknesses

- Difficulties in experienced in bringing about behaviour change
- Vulnerable groups may not benefit from IEC campaigns

THE WAY FORWARD
(PREVENTION)

Behaviour Change Communication