



HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST BULLETIN

5 March 2010

In this issue

- **Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles**
 - Are the investments in national HIV monitoring and evaluation systems paying off?
 - HIV prevention for South African youth: which interventions work? A systematic review of current evidence
 - TB treatment initiation and adherence in a South African community influenced more by perceptions than by knowledge of tuberculosis
 - Sex work and the 2010 FIFA World Cup: time for public health imperatives to prevail
 - Policy development in malaria vector management in Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe
 - Bridging the gaps among research, policy and practice in ten low- and middle-income countries: Development and testing of a questionnaire for researchers
- **Recent News**
 - Letter to health care workers from the Minister of Health
 - Overall HIV prevalence stabilises at 11% in South Africa, with decreases in younger age groups
 - Private aid for state hospitals
 - Why we need a competitive ARV tender
 - Health insurance might hit a snag
- **Reports**
 - District Health Barometer. Part A: Indicator Comparison by District
 - Unplanned ART treatment interruptions in southern Africa: what can we do to minimise the long-term risks?
 - Collection of documents on the 2010 mass immunization campaign
- **Publications**
 - South African HIV care and treatment guidelines
 - Natural ventilation for infection control in health-care settings
- **Conferences**
 - 7th TICH Annual Scientific Conference
 - 2nd Tuberculosis Conference
 - The 26th International Pediatric Association Congress of Pediatrics 2010
 - MedInfo 13th World Congress on Medical and Health Informatics 2010
 - First Global Symposium on Health Systems Research
- **Training and Resources**
 - 19th WITS Skills Training Course
 - Applications invited: IPHU short course

- Africa Health Placements

Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

Are the investments in national HIV monitoring and evaluation systems paying off?

Peersman, Greet PhD; Rugg, Deborah PhD; Erkkola, Taavi MSc; Kiwango, Eva MSc; Yang, Ju M, Math. JAIDS Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes: December 2009 - Volume 52 - Issue - pp S87-S96. Published: December 2009.

Concerted efforts and substantial financial resources have gone toward strengthening national monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems for HIV programs. This article explores whether those investments have made a difference in terms of data availability, quality and use for assessing whether national programs are on track to achieve the 2015 Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of halting and reversing the HIV epidemic ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://journals.lww.com/jaids/pages/articleviewer.aspx?year=2009&issue=12012&article=00003&type=abstract> [Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

HIV prevention for South African youth: which interventions work? A systematic review of current evidence

Abigail Harrison, Marie-Louise Newell, John Imrie, Graeme Hoddinott. BMC Health, 2010. Published: 26 February 2010

In South Africa, HIV prevalence among youth aged 15-24 is among the world's highest. Given the urgent need to identify effective HIV prevention approaches, this review assesses the evidence base for youth HIV prevention in South Africa ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/10/102> [Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

TB treatment initiation and adherence in a South African community influenced more by perceptions than by knowledge of tuberculosis

Jane M Cramm, Harry JM Finkenflgel, Valerie Miller and Anna P Nieboer. BMC Public Health 2010, 10:72. Published: 17 February 2010.

Tuberculosis (TB) is a global health concern. Inadequate case finding and case holding has been cited as major barrier to the control of TB. The TB literature is written almost entirely from a biomedical perspective, while recent studies show that it is imperative to understand lay perception to determine why people seek treatment and may stop taking treatment. The Eastern Cape is known as a province with high TB incidence, prevalence and with one of the worst cure rates of South Africa. Its inhabitants can be considered lay experts when it comes to TB. Therefore, we investigated knowledge, perceptions of (access to) TB treatment and adherence to treatment among an Eastern Cape population ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/10/72> [Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

Marlise L Richter, Matthew F Chersich, Fiona Scorgie, Stanley Luchters, Marleen Temmerman and Richard Steen. *Global Health*. 2010; 6: 1. Published: 11 February 2010.

Sex work is receiving increased attention in southern Africa. In the context of South Africa's intense preparation for hosting the 2010 FIFA World Cup, anxiety over HIV transmission in the context of sex work has sparked debate on the most appropriate legal response to this industry ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2829543/?tool=pubmed> [Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

Policy development in malaria vector management in Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe

Julie Cliff, Simon Lewin, Godfrey Woelk, Benedita Fernandes, Alda Mariano, Esperanza Sevene, Karen Daniels, Sheillah Matinhure, Andrew Oxman and John Lavis. *Health Policy and Planning Advance Access*. Published: 21 February 2010.

Indoor residual spraying (IRS) and insecticide-treated nets (ITNs), two principal malaria control strategies, are similar in cost and efficacy. This report aims to describe recent policy development regarding their use in Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe. ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/czq008v1> [Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

Bridging the gaps among research, policy and practice in ten low- and middle-income countries: Development and testing of a questionnaire for researchers

David Cameron, John N Lavis, G Emmanuel Guindon, Tasleem Akhtar, Francisco Becerra Posada, Godwin D Ndossi, Bounngong Boupaha. *Health Research Policy and Systems* 2010, 8:4. Published: 29 January 2010.

A questionnaire could assist researchers, policymakers, and healthcare providers to describe and monitor changes in efforts to bridge the gaps among research, policy and practice. No questionnaire focused on researchers' engagement in bridging activities related to high-priority topics (or the potential correlates of their engagement) has been developed and tested in a range of low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content/8/1/4> [Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

Recent News

Letter to health care workers from the SA Minister of Health NDOH.

A letter from the Minister of Health sent to all health care workers to inform and request support to rollout a national HCT Campaign ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.hst.org.za/publications/867> [Accessed: 3 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

Overall HIV prevalence stabilises at 11% in South Africa, with decreases in younger age groups

Gus Cairns. *Aidsmap*. Published: 18 February 2010.

Results of three national HIV household surveys spanning six years, presented at the 17th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) in San Francisco, indicate that HIV prevalence

groups ...[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.aidsmap.com/cms1374946.aspx?article=C5BD4E85-066F-4FF6-AA43-17_149_503CAED
[Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top ↑](#)

Private aid for state hospitals

Faranaaz Parker. Mail&Guardian. Published: 22 February 2010.

In a move that has already sparked controversy, the treasury is to draw private business into the public health sector as a way of upgrading the services provided by state hospitals. In his budget speech Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan artfully linked the expanded role envisaged for the private sector to national health insurance, a key demand of the labour movement ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.mg.co.za/article/2010-02-22-private-aid-for-state-hospitals> [Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top ↑](#)

Why we need a competitive ARV tender

Health-e News. Published: 24 February 2010.

The Budget and Expenditure Monitoring Forum recently held its second meeting and focused on the upcoming antiretroviral tender and the need to ensure that it is structured and run in a manner that enables the state to procure an adequate supply of appropriate medicines at the lowest possible prices ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20032659> [Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top ↑](#)

Health insurance might hit a snag

Zinhle Mapumulo. Sowetan. Published: 1 March 2010.

The chances of implementing the proposed National Health Insurance in the next few months are very slim. The government and the ministerial advisory committee on NHI are working around the clock on how best it can make this state- controlled single-payer system work for everybody. But challenges keep emerging, especially as far as costing is concerned ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.sowetan.co.za/News/Article.aspx?id=1118983> [Accessed: 2 March 2010]

[back to top ↑](#)

Reports

District Health Barometer. Part A: Indicator Comparison by District

Health Systems Trust. Published: 1 March 2010

South Africa is at the centre of the concurrent human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and tuberculosis (TB) epidemics. The country has the largest number of people living with HIV infection in the world (about 5.5 million people) and in 2007 South Africa accounted for 17% of the global burden of HIV infection. The incidence of TB continues to rise and the 2007 incidence rate of 805 per 100 000 led to South Africa being ranked fifth in the list of 22 high burden TB countries in 2009. In 2007, 73% of those with TB were co-infected with HIV. ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.hst.org.za/news/20041963> [Accessed: 2 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

Unplanned ART treatment interruptions in southern Africa: what can we do to minimise the long-term risks?

Health Economics and HIV/AIDS Research Division (HEARD). Published: 25 January 2010.

This report considers the longer term impact of unplanned ART treatment interruptions and makes suggestions as to how they might be avoided and managed in future. ...[More Information](#) »

Source: <http://www.heard.org.za/downloads/unplanned-art-treatment-interruptions-in-southern-africa-final-report.pdf> [Accessed: 1 March 2010] [N.B. Opens to PDF file approx. 416kb]

[back to top](#) ↑

Collection of documents on the 2010 mass immunization campaign

NDOH

The NDOH has posted a collection of documents on their website on the 2010 mass immunization campaign. ...[More Information](#) »

Source: <http://www.doh.gov.za/docs/immune-f.html> [Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

Publications

South African HIV care and treatment guidelines

NDOH.

The National Department of Health has released a short version of the South African HIV care and treatment guidelines. The launch date for the full report is for 1 April 2010 ...[More Information](#) »

Source: <http://www.hst.org.za/publications/868> [Accessed: 3 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

Natural ventilation for infection control in health-care settings

WHO. Published: 2009.

In this new guideline, natural ventilation is considered for the first time among the effective measures to control infections in health care. Such a recommendation from WHO demonstrates a growing recognition of the role of ventilation and natural ventilation for infection control. Previous guidelines demonstrated that further study was required in areas such as minimum requirements for natural ventilation and design, construction, operation and maintenance for effective natural ventilation systems for infection control ...[More Information](#) »

Source: http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/natural_ventilation/en/ [Accessed: 1 March 2010]

[back to top](#) ↑

Conferences

7th TICH Annual Scientific Conference

29th April - 2nd May 2010. Kisumu, Kenya.

The aim of the conference is to share innovations and success stories to inform approaches to address challenges in accelerating progress towards Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The conference will also seek to share strategies to contextualize imported innovations in the achievement of MDGs and define effective packages for action to accelerate progress, in the spirit of self-reliance and self-determination. Over 300 participants from Africa, Europe, Asia and America are expected to facilitate the sharing of the approaches, models, best practices, lessons learnt, experiences and challenges in MDGs within the African context. For more information [click here](#)

[back to top ↑](#)

2nd Tuberculosis Conference

1-4 June 2010. ICC Durban, South Africa.

The 2nd SA TB Conference in Durban, South Africa from 1 to 4 June 2010 will focus on partnerships and how solidarity among the state, private sector and civil society at all levels and structures can increase access to services and prevent people dying from a curable disease. Forging Strategic Partnerships to Fight TB and HIV is the theme for this Conference, which will build on the awareness and commitment made by 1657 people that contributed to the success of the 1st SA TB Conference in 2008. More information can be found at <http://www.tbconference.co.za>

[back to top ↑](#)

The 26th International Pediatric Association Congress of Pediatrics 2010

4-9 August 2010. Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa.

Three leading paediatric associations, IPA, SAPA, and UNASPA, are uniting to host the 26th International Paediatric Association Congress of Paediatrics. More than 5,000 participants are expected to attend this landmark event, the first IPA Congress to be held in Sub-Saharan Africa. Just five years before the due date of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), IPA 2010 will unite paediatricians and health professionals working towards the MDGs target to reduce child mortality by two thirds before 2015. [Registration Details »](#)

Source: <http://www.kenes.com/ipa/mailshot/ms3.htm?ref3=db1> [Accessed: 13 October 2009]

[back to top ↑](#)

MedInfo 13th World Congress on Medical and Health Informatics 2010

12-15 September 2010. Cape Town, South Africa.

This will be the first time MEDINFO is held in Africa. It promises to boost exposure to grassroots healthcare delivery and the underpinning health information systems. This will open the door to new academic partnerships into the future and help to nurture a new breed of health informaticians. [Registration Details »](#)

Source: www.medinfo2010.org [Accessed: 13 October 2009]

[back to top ↑](#)

First Global Symposium on Health Systems Research

16-19 November 2010, Montreux, Switzerland.

The World Health Organization and partners will convene the inaugural global symposium on health systems research on 16-19 November 2010. Researchers. policy-makers. funders. and other

evidence, identify significant knowledge gaps, and set a research agenda that reflects the needs of lowand middle-income countries. The first symposium will be dedicated to improving the scientific evidence needed by health policy-makers and practitioners to inform their decisions related to accelerating universal health coverage. [Registration Details »](#)

Source: <http://www.hsr-symposium.org/> [Accessed: 04 February 2010].

[back to top ↑](#)

Training and Resources

19th Wits Skills Training Course

*University of Witswatersrand, Johannesburg.
Division of Rural Health, Department of Family Medicine.*

The next Wits Clinical Skills Course will be held on Friday 19 March 2010. Participants have the chance to do 5 skills stations of 80 minutes each during the day. As always, the focus will be on practical skills relevant to rural hospital and primary care practice...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.hst.org.za/events/8528> [Accessed: 18 February 2010]

[back to top ↑](#)

Applications invited: IPHU short course

Kisumu, Kenya. 12-28 April 2010.

The International People's Health University (IPHU) of the People's Health Movement and The Great Lakes University of Kisumu (GLUK) are pleased to announce "The Struggle for Health", a 10 day short course for health activists. The course will be conducted in English and a limited number of scholarships for travel and accommodation will be available for qualified applicants from Sub-Saharan Africa and Kenya ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.phmovement.org/iphu/en/kisumu/announce> [Accessed: 18 February 2010]

[back to top ↑](#)

Job Opportunities

AHP - African Health Placements

African Health Placements (AHP) is a not-for-profit project that aims to support the recruitment and retention of healthcare workers in South Africa. AHP is focused on assisting healthcare professionals make the right choice for their future in South Africa.

No placement fees are charged. Please view the website for more details <http://www.ahp.org.za> or contact on 011 328 1300

[back to top ↑](#)

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