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## Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

### Embedding operational research into national disease control programme: Lessons from 10 years of experience in Indonesia

Yodi Mahendradhata, Ari Probandari, Bagoes Widjanarko, Pandu Riono, Dyah Mustikawati, Edine W. Tiemersma, Bacht Alisjahbana, on behalf of the Tuberculosis Operational Research Group (TORG). *Global Health Action*. Published: 23 October 2014.

There is growing recognition that operational research (OR) should be embedded into national disease control programmes...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.globalhealthaction.net/index.php/gha/article/view/25412>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### Research centers: Using a public health systems approach to improve all hazards preparedness and response

Mary Leinhos, Shoukat H. Qari, Mildred Williams-Johnson. *Public Health Reports*. Published: October 2014.

In 2008, at the request of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Institute of Medicine

(IOM) prepared a report identifying knowledge gaps in public health systems preparedness and emergency response and recommending near-term priority research areas... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.publichealthreports.org/issueopen.cfm?articleID=3263>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### **A cross-sectional study describing motivations and barriers to voluntary medical male circumcision in Lesotho**

Laura Skolnik, Sharon Tsui, Tigistu Adamu Ashengo, Virgile Kikaya and Mainza Lukobo-Durrell. *BioMed Central*. Published: 30 October 2014.

In February 2012, the Lesotho Ministry of Health launched a national voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) program. To assess the motivations for seeking VMMC, a cross-sectional mixed methods study was conducted among clients aged 18 years and older at four sites... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/14/1119/abstract>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### **Consumers' perspectives on National Health Insurance in South Africa: Using a mobile health approach**

Edda Weimann, Maria C Stuttaford. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*. Published: 28 October 2014.

Building an equitable health system is a cornerstone of the World Health Organization (WHO) health system building block framework. Public participation in any such reform process facilitates successful implementation... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mhealth.jmir.org/2014/4/e49/>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### **Assessing the impact of mHealth interventions in low- and middle-income countries – what has been shown to work?**

Charles S. Hall, Edward Fottrell, Sophia Wilkinson, Peter Byass. *Global Health Action*. Published: 27 October 2014.

Low-cost mobile devices, such as mobile phones, tablets, and personal digital assistants, which can access voice and data services, have revolutionised access to information and communication technology worldwide... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.globalhealthaction.net/index.php/gha/article/view/25606>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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## **Recent News**

### **New barometer reveals the haves and the have nots**

*Health-e News*. Published: 30 October 2014.

Life is hardest for people living in the Eastern Cape's Alfred Nzo district, where fewer than six out of 100 households have inside taps. Deprivation is worst in "ex-homeland rural areas" according to a range of DHB indicators that covered income, unemployment, living standards and education. This is according to the latest District Health Barometer (DHB) 2013/14, produced annually by Health Systems Trust... [Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.health-e.org.za/2014/10/30/new-barometer-reveals-haves-nots/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=rss&utm\\_campaign=new-barometer-reveals-haves-nots](http://www.health-e.org.za/2014/10/30/new-barometer-reveals-haves-nots/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=new-barometer-reveals-haves-nots)[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### **Comment: Care is cast aside beyond the city limits**

*Mail&Guardian*. Published: 7 November 2014.

Last week Health Systems Trust, an independent not-for-profit research institution, published the ninth edition of its annual District Health Barometer... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mg.co.za/article/2014-11-07-00-comment-care-is-cast-aside-beyond-the-city-limits/>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### **Experts mull ways to fund, manage National Health Insurance**

*Health-e News*. Published: 30 October 2014.

The National Health Insurance (NHI) is likely to revolutionise health funding. This could include new, business-like approaches to health and new roles for medical aids in the post-NHI world, according to latest South African Health Review released last night... [Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.health-e.org.za/2014/10/30/experts-mull-ways-fund-manage-national-health-insurance/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=rss&utm\\_campaign=experts-mull-ways-fund-manage-national-health-](http://www.health-e.org.za/2014/10/30/experts-mull-ways-fund-manage-national-health-insurance/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=experts-mull-ways-fund-manage-national-health-)

[insurance](#)[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### 'Unnecessarily high' Caesarean section rate is cause for concern

*Mail&Guardian. Published: 29 October 2014.*

More women are having C-section births in SA, but authors of the 2013/14 District Health Barometer warn that this increase is "a matter of concern"...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mg.co.za/article/2014-10-29-sas-caesarean-section-rate-doubled/>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### More gymslip mothers

*TimesLIVE. Published: 30 October 2014.*

According to The Health Systems Trust's latest District Health Barometer, 1166 more teenage girls fell pregnant last year than in the previous year...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/thetimes/2014/10/30/more-gymslip-mothers>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### KZN's shock teen pregnancy figures: DA call for joint departmental intervention

*Politicsweb. Published: 5 November 2014.*

The Democratic Alliance is extremely alarmed by KZN's latest teen pregnancy figures which reveal that 9.3% of all babies delivered in the province's health facilities are to teenage mothers...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.politicsweb.co.za/politicsweb/view/politicsweb/en/page71654?oid=785610&sn=Detail&pid=71616>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### HIVR4P Conference

*HIV Research for Prevention*

Recently held in Cape Town, South Africa, HIVR4P is dedicated exclusively to biomedical HIV prevention research. The conference supports cross-fertilization between research on HIV vaccines, microbicides, PrEP, treatment as prevention and other biomedical prevention approaches...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://webcasts.hivr4p.org/>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### No to treating our way out of the epidemic, say South African experts

*aidsmap. Published: 21 October 2014.*

No, we cannot treat our way out of the HIV epidemic, was the resounding sentiment of a panel of expert clinicians and the audience, at a debate held at the 2014 Southern African HIV Clinicians Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, last month...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.aidsmap.com/No-to-treating-our-way-out-of-the-epidemic-say-South-African-experts/page/2915160/>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### Stigma remains a barrier to accessing HIV therapy

*BDlive. Published: 27 October 2014.*

Leading HIV/AIDS researcher Quarraisha Abdool Karim gives only the briefest of answers when questioned on her personal life, but speaks easily and passionately when probed on women and AIDS, the field to which she has dedicated her career...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.bdlive.co.za/national/health/2014/10/27/stigma-remains-a-barrier-to-accessing-hiv-therapy>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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### Exciting new HIV prevention products in pipeline

*Health-e News. Published: 3 November 2014.*

Vaginal rings filled with antiretrovirals (ARVs), ARV injections and partially effective vaccines are some of the HIV prevention weapons under development. Cape Town women will soon know if monthly trips to the Emavundleni Research Centre in Crossroads have made history...[Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.health-e.org.za/2014/11/03/exciting-new-hiv-prevention-products-pipeline/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=rss&utm\\_campaign=exciting-new-hiv-prevention-products-pipeline](http://www.health-e.org.za/2014/11/03/exciting-new-hiv-prevention-products-pipeline/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=exciting-new-hiv-prevention-products-pipeline)[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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## Is it worth screening for Ebola at airports?

BBC News. Published: 28 October 2014.

Passengers arriving at a growing number of international airports are being screened for Ebola. But how effective are the tests and will they really help to stop the virus spreading? [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-29787746#>[Accessed: 7 November 2014]

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## Training and Resources

### African Doctoral Dissertation Research Fellowships

Deadline: 15 January 2015

Contact: The ADDRDF Manager, E-mail: [2015addrdf@aphrc.org](mailto:2015addrdf@aphrc.org)

The African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), in partnership with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), is calling for applications for the African Doctoral Dissertation Research Fellowships (ADDRDF). [Click Here>>](#)

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## Books, Publications, Reports and Manuals

### South African Health Review 2013/14

Health Systems Trust. Published: October 2014.

The 17th edition of the SAHR – now an officially accredited peer-reviewed journal that chronicles the development of South Africa's post-Apartheid health system – offers current, evidence-based insights into how integration of policy and implementation is either helped or hindered in a range of healthcare structures, protocols and processes. [Click Here>>](#)

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### District Health Barometer 2013/14

Health Systems Trust. Published: October 2014.

Published annually, the DHB provides current information on functioning and progress in all 52 health districts, describing performance over time in relation to previous years as well as other districts. Each edition highlights problem areas, data quality issues, sustained and notable progress, and aspects requiring deeper research into underlying factors contributing to the indicator values and trends. This ninth edition of the DHB presents data on 47 financial and health indicators, with additional chapters on progress towards equity, burdens of disease, district health performance ranking, and specific data quality concerns. [Click Here>>](#)

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### Policy: National complaints management protocol for the public health sector of South Africa

National Department of Health. Published: August 2014.

Released in August 2014, the 33-page protocol is to be followed by health authorities, establishments and professional bodies. [Click Here>>](#)

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## Conferences and Events

### 5th SA Child Health Priorities Conference

When: 3-5 December 2014

Venue: University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa

URL: <http://childhealthpriorities.co.za>

The theme for this year's conference is: Closing the Gap. The conference will interest child health practitioners, paediatricians, allied health professionals, nurses, district clinical specialists, programme managers and anyone involved in the delivery of child health care or services.

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### Health Information Systems Program - SA 2015 International Conference

When: 24-27 March 2015

Venue: Bloemfontein, South Africa

URL: <http://www.hisp.org>

Over the last 20 years, the District Health Information System in South Africa and in many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia has evolved significantly from a paper based system to a web based system. The conference is expected to be a platform through which this evolution is explored and where best practices and lessons learned are being shared.

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## 7th SA AIDS Conference: Reflection, Refocus and Renewal

When: 9-12 June 2015

Venue: Durban International Convention Centre, South Africa

URL: <http://www.saids.co.za/>

This Conference comes at a critical time in global health, as 2015 marks the end of the MDGs and the beginning of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda. The theme of the Conference this year: Reflection, Refocus and Renewal provides a unique opportunity to reflect on what we have done across the entire spectrum of our programmes in the response to HIV, including the structural and social determinants which fuel this epidemic.

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## Job Opportunities

### Health Systems Trust

- **Clinical Mentor**  
*Closing Date: 14 November 2014*  
**Please view our website for more details**  
<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/clinical-mentor>
- **Data Capturer: HIV Prevention Study**  
*Closing Date: 18 November 2014*  
**Please view our website for more details**  
<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/data-capturer-hiv-prevention-study>
- **Data Quality Monitors**  
*Closing Date: 14 November 2014*  
**Please view our website for more details**  
<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/data-quality-monitors>
- **District Co-ordinator**  
*Closing Date: 14 November 2014*  
**Please view our website for more details**  
<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/district-co-ordinator>
- **District Monitoring and Evaluation Mentor**  
*Closing Date: 14 November 2014*  
**Please view our website for more details**  
<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/district-monitoring-and-evaluation-me-mentor>
- **Facilitators: HIV Counselling and Testing (HCT)**  
*Closing Date: 20 November 2014*  
**Please view our website for more details**  
<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/facilitators-hiv-counselling-and-testing-hct>
- **Facility Mentors**  
*Closing Date: 14 November 2014*  
**Please view our website for more details**  
<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/facility-mentors-1>

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