



# HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST BULLETIN

7 July 2010

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## Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

### **Re-thinking global health sector efforts for HIV and tuberculosis epidemic control: promoting integration of programme activities within a strengthened health system**

*Maier D. BMC Public Health 2010, 10:394. Published: 5 July 2010.*

The global financial crisis threatens global health, particularly exacerbating diseases of inequality, e.g. HIV/AIDS, and diseases of poverty, e.g. tuberculosis. The aim of this paper is to reconsider established practices and policies for HIV and tuberculosis epidemic control, aiming at delivering better results and value for money. This may be achieved by promoting greater integration of HIV and tuberculosis control programme activities within a strengthened health system...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-2458-10-394.pdf> [Accessed: 7 July 2010]

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### **What can global health institutions do to help strengthen health systems in low income countries?**

*Balabanova D, McKee M, Mills A, Walt G, Haines A. Health Research Policy and Systems 2010, 8:22. Published: 29 July 2010.*

This paper sets out the case for global leadership to support health systems investments and help ensure the synergies between vertical and horizontal programs that are essential for effective functioning of health systems. At national level, it is essential to increase capacity to manage and deliver services, situate interventions firmly within national strategies, ensure effective implementation, and co-ordinate external support with local resources. Health systems performance should be monitored, with clear lines of accountability, and reforms should build on evidence of what works in what circumstances...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content/pdf/1478-4505-8-22.pdf> [Accessed: 6 July 2010]

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### **Nurse versus doctor management of HIV-infected patients receiving antiretroviral therapy (CIPRA-SA): a randomised non-inferiority trial**

*Sanne I, Orrell C, Fox MP, Conradie F, Ive P, Zeinecker J, Cornell M, Heiberg C, Ingram C, Panchia R, Rassool M, Gonin R, Stevens W, Truter H, Dehlinger M, Prof van der Horst C, McIntyre J, Prof Wood R. The Lancet, Volume 376, Issue 9734, Pages 33 – 40. Published: 3 July 2010.*

Expanded access to combination antiretroviral therapy in resource-poor settings is dependent on task shifting from doctors to other health-care providers. We compared outcomes of nurse versus doctor management of ART care for HIV-infected patients. By contrast with the individualised approach to HIV care in developed a country, WHO has proposed a public health approach to antiretroviral therapy to enable scaling up of access to treatment for large numbers of HIV-positive adults and children in developing countries...[Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(10\)60894-X/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(10)60894-X/fulltext) (NB: Free access with registration) [Accessed: 6 July 2010]

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### **Community-directed interventions for priority health problems in Africa: results of a multi-country study**

*The CDI Study Group. Bulletin of the World Health Organization 2010; 88:509-518.*

Ensuring that available health interventions reach the people who most need them is one of the greatest challenges in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Many simple, affordable and effective disease control measures have had only limited impact on the burden of disease due to their inadequate distribution in poor and remote communities. Although several global health initiatives have improved the delivery of selected health interventions, many priority interventions, such as those directed against malaria, still have unacceptably low coverage, especially in Africa. The community-directed intervention strategy is an approach in which communities themselves direct the planning and implementation of intervention delivery...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/88/7/09-069203/en/index.html> [Accessed: 6 July 2010]

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## **Recent News**

### **Health department allows patients to get three months of antiretroviral treatment**

*National Department of Health. Published: 2 July 2010*

*Joint TAC/SECTION27 statement*

The Department of Health has given the go-ahead for patients on antiretroviral treatment (ART) to be given three months supply of medicines instead of one month. It will be more convenient for patients because they will have to make fewer trips to their health facility. It will also reduce patient-load on the health system, particularly on health facility pharmacies given the shortage of pharmacists in the public health system. In a memorandum dated 2 July 2010, the Department of Health states, "There is no indication of any legislation prohibiting the supply of medicines for three months to any one patient. This practice should only be implemented once the patient has proved stable on the regimen."... [Read More »](#)

Source:

<http://www.section27.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2010/07/DOHMemoOnThreeMonthARTSupplyForPatients-20100702.pdf> (Approximately: 46 KB) [Accessed: 7 July 2010]

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### **Doctors still getting short end of the stick**

*Health-e. Published: 2 July 2010*

Public sector doctors continue to be in short supply in South Africa as many leave the health system because of poor working conditions, bad management and low pay. South African public service doctors' dissent has been in the spotlight in past years for being under-paid and working under difficult conditions. More recently in 2009, a prolonged protest action by doctors further crippled the health system. Doctors took to the streets in protest against bad salaries, lack of infrastructure and staff shortages... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=2003285> [Accessed: 5 July 2010]

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### **Money no protection from HIV**

*PlusNews. Published: 6 July 2010*

A new study has challenged widely held assumptions about income level in relation to HIV, finding that neither wealth nor poverty are reliable predictors of HIV infection in Africa. Previously, the argument that poverty drove HIV epidemics was supported by the World Bank and UNAIDS, as well as less reliable authorities like former South African President Thabo Mbeki, who told the International AIDS Conference in Durban in 2000 that the disease was a partner with "poverty, suffering, social disadvantage and inequity". More recent research suggests that the reality is far more complex. For example, Botswana and South Africa, described as two of the wealthiest countries on the continent, also have among the highest rates of HIV infection... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.plusnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=89746> [Accessed: 6 July 2010]

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### **Vienna declaration calls for science-based drug policies**

*Aidsmap News. Published: 30 June 2010*

Three leading scientific and health policy organisations this week launched a global drive for signatories to the Vienna Declaration, a statement seeking to improve community health and safety by calling for the incorporation of scientific evidence into illicit drug policies. Among those supporting the declaration and urging others to sign is 2008 Nobel Laureate and International AIDS Society Governing Council member Prof. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, co-discoverer of HIV. The Vienna Declaration is the official declaration of the XVIII International AIDS Conference...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.aidsmap.com/en/news/6C14E4F6-C9E6-4C4B-96FE-C211C5869F92.asp>

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## Hospital standards Bill to be tabled

News24.com. Published: 7 July 2010

A Bill to establish an independent office to enforce standards in public hospitals would go to Parliament before the end of the year, Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi said on Wednesday. The proposed office of standards compliance would ensure hospitals became places "where people find love and compassion", he said. Although he said the Bill would be tabled by his department, the Constitution lays down that only ministers or MPs may introduce draft legislation... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/Politics/Hospital-standards-bill-to-be-tabled-20100707> [Accessed: 7 July 2010]

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## Reports

### Draft for consultation: Investing in our common future

World Health Organization

The health of women and children is at the forefront of the development agenda. Bold, focused, and coordinated action is required to accelerate progress on the health MDGs. With only five years left until the 2015 deadline to achieve the Millennium development Goals, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon has initiated a global effort on women's and children's health that will build upon and revitalise existing strategies and commitments, secure new commitments from a range of influential partners, and provide organisation and accountability for delivery. [Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: [http://www.who.int/pmnch/activities/jointactionplan/201006\\_jointactionplan\\_a4en\\_lowres.pdf](http://www.who.int/pmnch/activities/jointactionplan/201006_jointactionplan_a4en_lowres.pdf) (Approximately: 1522 KB) [Accessed: 6 July 2010]

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### The Millennium Development Goals Report 2010

United Nations

This report shows how much progress has been made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Perhaps most important, it shows that the goals are achievable when nationally owned development strategies, policies and programmes are supported by international development partners. At the same time, it is clear that improvements in the lives of the poor have been unacceptably slow, and some hard-won gains are being eroded by the climate, food and economic crisis.... [Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: [http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Resources/Static/Products/Progress2010/MDG\\_Report\\_2010\\_En.pdf](http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Resources/Static/Products/Progress2010/MDG_Report_2010_En.pdf) (Approximately: 50706 KB) [Accessed: 25 June 2010]

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## Publications

### Healthcare workers handbook on influenza

The National Institute for Communicable Diseases. Updated: 1 July 2010

The updated 2010 healthcare workers handbook on influenza provides detailed guidelines on the diagnosis and management of influenza, both seasonal and pandemic influenza, for healthcare workers in South Africa. [Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: [http://www.nicd.ac.za/outbreaks/h1n1/docs/Healthcare\\_Workers\\_Handbook\\_on\\_Influenza\\_in\\_SA\\_2010\\_07\\_01.pdf](http://www.nicd.ac.za/outbreaks/h1n1/docs/Healthcare_Workers_Handbook_on_Influenza_in_SA_2010_07_01.pdf) (Approximately: 255 KB)

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### Launch of South African Child Gauge 2009/2010

For more information contact: Children's Institute

URL: <http://www.ci.org.za/>

The fifth issue of this popular annual review of the situation of children in South Africa will be released on 27 July 2010. This year the Gauge focuses on 'Healthy children: from survival to optimal development'. The themed essays highlight the current state of child health in South Africa; describe key challenges that need to be addressed to improve child health outcomes; give examples of best practice; and make recommendations that could help realise children's rights to health, survival and optimal development. Other regular features include recent legislative developments affecting children's health, and a data section on children's access to social assistance, education, health care, housing and basic services.

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## Conferences

### XVIII International AIDS Conference

18-23 July 2010. Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://www.aids2010.org/>

The biennial International AIDS Conference brings together some 25000 scientists, government representatives, health workers, activists, business leaders, and people with HIV and AIDS. The theme of AIDS 2010, "Rights here, right now" emphasizes that promoting and protecting human rights is needed for a successful response to HIV. Conference topics

include the status of the epidemic in southern Africa and other regions, combination prevention strategy, advances in antiretroviral therapy, expansion of policies and programmes for people who inject drugs, and political accountability for universal access and human rights.

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### **Operational Hospital Management Conference 2010**

4-6 August 2010. The Indaba Hotel, Fourways, Johannesburg

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

The Operational Hospital Management Conference is the leading conference in South Africa aimed at improving performance and the quality of services at public hospitals. The conference offers a tangible learning and sharing opportunity for all management levels within our public hospitals and health care sector and has effectively achieved this for the past six years through identifying real challenges and problems that are faced by management in the public health sector.

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## **Job Opportunities**

### **AHP - 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

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