

HST Bulletin



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ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Motivations of South African physicians specialising in public health

Global Health Action | Published: 29 May 2018.

Virginia Elizabeth Melvill Zweigenthal, William M Pick, Leslie London

South African physicians can specialise in public health through a four-year 'registrar' programme. Despite national health policies that seemingly value public health (PH) approaches, the Public Health Medicine (PHM) speciality is largely invisible in the health services. Nevertheless, many physicians enrol for specialist training.

Rethinking assumptions about delivery of healthcare: implications for universal health coverage

BMJ | Published: 21 May 2018.

Jishnu Das, Ruma Rajbhandari, Kamran Abbasi, Ashish Jha

We are at an inflection point in global health. People are living longer, healthier lives than ever before, and we are rightly celebrating disease focused programmes that have greatly reduced or eradicated diseases such as smallpox and river blindness. Better diagnosis and treatment of HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases have saved countless lives.¹² Yet, as populations age and the burden of morbidity grows more complex, the limitations of programmes focused on single diseases have become increasingly evident.

Perceptions of community safety and social activity participation among youth in South Africa

PLoSOne | Published: 18 May 2018.

Nicole De Wet, Oluwaseyi Somefun, Ndivhuwo Rambau

Crime and violence causes massive disruptions to the health, survival and development of populations. In South Africa, incredibly high rates of crime and violence are noted. The country also has a very large youth population whose health, survival and development are key to economic growth. Among other efforts to encourage healthy youth development and the promotion of social activities such as sports, youth groups, choirs and so forth. This study examines the relationship between perceived community safety and the uptake of social activities among youth in South Africa.

Detection, referral and control of diabetes and hypertension in the rural Eastern Cape Province of South Africa by community health outreach workers in the rural primary healthcare project: Health in Every Hut

African Journal of Primary Health Care & Family Medicine | Published: 11 April 2018.

Angela A Morris-Paxton, Paul Rheeder, Rose-Marie G Ewing, Dillon Ewing

Non-communicable diseases, mainly cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer and chronic respiratory diseases, are responsible for approximately 63% of all deaths occurring worldwide in any given year. The majority of these deaths have occurred in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). The latest World Health Organization (WHO) report shows that the increase in diabetes is also most pronounced in the LMICs. The South African Labour and Development Research Unit estimated a 9% prevalence within the adult population in 2016. In the Eastern Cape Province, hypertensive heart disease has become the second most common cause of death, followed by diabetes, the third most common cause of death.

Trends in Antiretroviral Therapy Eligibility and Coverage Among Children Aged <15 Years with HIV Infection — 20 PEPFAR-Supported Sub-Saharan African Countries, 2012–2016

CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report | Published: 18 May 2018.

Amanda Burrage, Monita Patel, Kelsey Mirkovic, Eric Dziuban, Wondimu Teferi, Laura Broyles, Emilia Rivadeneira

Rapid disease progression and associated opportunistic infections contribute to high mortality rates among children aged <15 years with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection (1). Antiretroviral therapy (ART) has decreased childhood HIV-associated morbidity and mortality rates over the past decade (2). As accumulating evidence revealed lower HIV-associated mortality with early ART initiation, the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines broadened ART eligibility for children with HIV infection.

Provision of antiretroviral therapy for children in Nelson Mandela Bay: Health care professionals' challenges

African Journal of Primary Health Care & Family Medicine | Published: 12 March 2018.

Margaret Williams, Dalena RM van Rooyen, Esmeralda J Ricks

The human immunodeficiency virus and/or acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic continues to increase in prevalence worldwide, particularly in South Africa, and includes the often overlooked paediatric population. The provision of paediatric antiretroviral treatment (ART) is as essential for children as for adults, and has numerous obstacles, not least of which is lack of decentralisation of facilities to provide essential treatment. [This study aimed] to explore the experiences of health care professionals regarding the provision of ART for children at PHC clinics.

Exploring the socio-ecological levels for prevention of sexual risk behaviours of the youth in uMgungundlovu District Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal

African Journal of Primary Health Care & Family Medicine | Published: 7 March 2018.

Nelisiwe Khuzwayo, Myra Taylor

Prevention of youth sexual risk behaviour among the youth in uMgungundlovu District Municipality continues to be a primary challenge for public health and health promotion. Current prevention interventions are targeted at an individual level, whilst youth behaviour is influenced by many social and environmental factors.

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HST IN THE NEWS

Emerging Public Health Practitioner Award: manuscript submissions open

Health Systems Trust | 31 May 2018.

The South African Health Review's Emerging Public Health Practitioner Award (EPHPA) is open to young public health practitioners or student researchers in the fields of health sciences, medicine or public health who are currently studying for their Masters or Honours degree, or are in the final year of their Bachelor's degree. To apply, please submit your complete chapter along with a copy of your South African ID and EPHPA Entry form to sahr@hst.org.za no later than 3 August 2018.

TB: Act now to stay healthy

Daily Sun | 31 May 2018.

Do you know what the top 10 causes of death are in Mzansi?

You may be surprised to learn that tuberculosis (TB) comes in at number one, followed by diabetes at number two, with HIV coming in at number five.

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RECENT NEWS

Birth defects scare hits roll-out of HIV drug

BD Live | 31 May 2018.

Regulator concerns that GlaxoSmithKline's HIV drug dolutegravir may be linked to birth defects could severely limit women's access to the medicine and undermine their rights to be involved in decisions about their health, the Southern African HIV Clinicians Society warned on Wednesday.

PrEP may make it hard to tell if someone has an HIV infection

AIDSMap | 23 May 2018.

Series of indeterminate and contradictory tests highlight 'blunted infection' problem.

How antiretrovirals have cut the HIV/AIDS burden on SA's economy

BD Live | 28 May 2018.

Lost earnings attributable to HIV and AIDS as a result of either death or inability to work have declined significantly globally as countries scale up antiretroviral therapy. In 2005 HIV and AIDS were believed to have resulted in about \$17bn in lost income, but the figure is projected to fall to \$7.2bn in 2020.

Durban cuts city's only needle exchange programme

Bhekisisa | 30 May 2018.

A tale of two cities: Durban ditches drug users while Tshwane becomes the first city in SA to pioneer and fund new ways to keep them safe.

The remarkable story of hope: how attitudes to drug-resistant TB changed

The Conversation Africa | 27 May 2018.

The informal settlement of Khayelitsha in Cape Town is the latest site of a multi country trial that aims to transform the treatment for drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB).

How to stop strikes from killing patients

Health-e News | 21 May 2018.

Patients have died as a result of the recent strike in North West. Doctors and nurses were also chased out of operating theatres and wards by strikers. How can patients and health workers be protected from becoming victims of a fight that is aimed an employer?

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TRAINING AND RESOURCES

CCGHE Distance Education Courses

Johns Hopkins Center for Clinical Global Health Education | Ongoing.

The CCGHE works to improve health outcomes in resource limited countries through infectious disease research and education.

Approach:

- Conduct groundbreaking clinical research on prevention and treatment for many of the world's gravest health issues
- Design and implement high quality medical education and research training programs for care providers and health researchers
- Develop and leverage innovative technologies that improve clinical care

- Ensure sustainability by mentoring in-country professionals and Johns Hopkins students to become clinical leaders

Courses are available free to registered users.

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PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

World Health Statistics 2018: Monitoring health for the SDGs

WHO | 17 May 2018.

The World Health Statistics series is WHO's annual snapshot of the state of the world's health. This 2018 edition contains the latest available data for 36 health-related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators. It also links to the three SDG-aligned strategic priorities of the WHO's 13th General Programme of Work: achieving universal health coverage, addressing health emergencies and promoting healthier populations.

SAGE Open Special Collection Call for Papers: Special Collection on Adolescence, Sexuality and Reproductive Health in Sub-Saharan Africa

Submissions open until 31 May 2018

The objective of this special collection would be to bring together contemporary research, thinking and critical scholarship about adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) (both empirical and theoretical) in sub-saharan Africa (SSA). The special issue aims to draw together the work of academics and policy makers to make available current thinking, evidence, responses and debates relating to AGYW sexual and reproductive health needs in SSA. It is expected that this interdisciplinary and cross cutting special issue will provide an avenue for experts at universities, in international organisations, civil society groups and intergovernmental organisations to offer important insights on the subject matter.

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CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

22nd International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2018)

23-27 July 2018

RAI Amsterdam Convention Centre, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

RareX Rare Disease conference

13-16 September 2018

Johannesburg, South Africa

Rural Health Conference 2018 (RHC)

21-24 September 2018

AOG Conference Centre, 1922 Regatta Road, Henley-on-Klip, Gauteng

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI): Epidemiological Database Manager

Closing Date: 15 June 2018

URC: Demand Creation Manager – VMMC Engagement, Campaigns and Advocacy

Closing Date: 30 June 2018

CareWorks: Quality Assurance Registered Nurse

Closing Date: 30 June 2018

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