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Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

Health financing lessons from Thailand for South Africa on the path towards universal health coverage

Mark Blecher, Anban Pillay, Walaiporn Patcharanarumol, Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Yot Teerawattananon, Supasit Pannarunothai, Jonatan Daven. South African Medical Journal. Published: June 2016.

Five years after the release of its Green Paper on National Health Insurance (NHI),[1] 4 years after the institution of NHI pilot sites and following the recent release of the White Paper on NHI,[2] South Africa (SA) needs to move beyond the phase 1 plans , policy making and health system strengthening activities to phase 2 - putting into place the legal and institutional frameworks and systems for implementation of its universal health coverage (UHC) system.Read More »

Source: http://www.samj.org.za/index.php/samj/article/view/10953/7375[Accessed: 10 June 2016]

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Trends and risk factors for childhood diarrhoea in Sub-Saharan countries (1990 - 2013): Assessing the neighbourhood inequalities.

Aristide R. Bado, A. Sathiya Susuman and Eric I. Nebie. Global Health Action. Published: 11 May 2016.

Diarrheal diseases are a major cause of child mortality and one of the main causes of medical consultation for children in sub-Saharan countries. This paper attempts to determine the risk factors and neighborhood

inequalities of diarrheal morbidity among under-5 children in selected countries in sub-Saharan Africa over the period 1990-2013.Read More »

Source: http://www.globalhealthaction.net/index.php/gha/article/view/30166[Accessed: 10 June 2016]

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Adapting HIV patient and program monitoring tools for chronic non-communicable diseases in Ethiopia
Mekitew Letebo , Fassil Shiferaw. Globalization and Health. Published: December 2015.

Chronic non-communicable diseases (NCDs) have become a huge public health concern in developing countries. Many resource-poor countries facing this growing epidemic, however, lack systems for an organized and comprehensive response to NCDs. Lack of NCD national policy, strategies, treatment guidelines and surveillance and monitoring systems are features of health systems in many developing countries. Successfully responding to the problem requires a number of actions by the countries, including developing context-appropriate chronic care models and programs and standardization of patient and program monitoring tools.Read More »

Source: http://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12992-016-0163-y?view=classic [Accessed: 10 June 2016]

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Effects of increased nurses workload on quality documentation of patient information at selected Primary Health Care facilities in Vhembe District, Limpopo Province
Rhulani C. Shihundla, Rachel T. Lebese, Maria S. Maputle. Curationis. Published: 13 May 2016.

Recording of information on multiple documents increases professional nurses responsibilities and workload during working hours. There are multiple registers and books at Primary Health Care (PHC) facilities in which a patient's information is to be recorded for different services during a visit to a health professional. Antenatal patients coming for the first visit must be recorded in the following documents: tick register; Prevention of Mother-ToChild Transmission (PMTCT) register; consent form for HIV and AIDS testing; HIV Counselling and Testing (HCT) register (if tested positive for HIV and AIDS then this must be recorded in the Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) wellness register); ART file with an accompanying single file, completion of which is time-consuming; tuberculosis (TB) suspects register; blood specimen register; maternity case record book and Basic Antenatal Care (BANC) checklist. Read More »

Source: http://www.curationis.org.za/index.php/curationis/article/view/1545 [Accessed: 10 June 2016]

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Close-to-community providers of health care: increasing evidence of how to bridge community and health systems
S. Theobald, K. Hawkins, M. Kok, S. Rashid, D. G. Datiko and M. Taegtmeyer. Human Resources for Health. Published: 2 June 2016

The recent thematic series on close-to-community providers published in this journal brings together 14 papers from a variety of contexts and that use a range of research methods. The series clearly illustrates the renewed emphasis and excitement about the potential of close-to-community (CTC) providers in realising universal health coverage and supporting the sustainable development goals. Read More »

Source: https://human-resources-health.biomedcentral.com/articles/[Accessed: 10 June 2016]

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Comment Yellow fever: The resurgence of a forgotten disease
Margaret Chan. The Lancet. Published: 28 May 2016.

The possibility that a mosquito bite during pregnancy could cause severe brain damage in newborn babies has alarmed the public and astonished scientists. The Zika outbreak in the Americas shows how a disease that slumbered for six decades in Africa and Asia, never causing an outbreak, can become a global health emergency. The Ebola and Zika outbreaks have revealed gaping holes in our lines of defence: weak health infrastructures and capacities in west Africa and the demise of programmes for mosquito control in the Americas. Both outbreaks show how old diseases can behave in surprising ways when they invade new territory.Read More »

Source: http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(16)30620-1/fulltext[Accessed: 10 June 2016]

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Recent News

Government hostility towards private healthcare impedes NHI
BDlive. Published: 26 May 2016.

The government's antipathy towards public-private partnerships is holding up implementation of the National Health Insurance (NHI), according to the head of the Independent Practitioners Association Foundation (IPAF), which represents doctors.Read More »

Source: http://www.bdlive.co.za/business/healthcare/2016/05/26/[Accessed: 10 June 2016]

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NHI: More pragmatism and less ideology
Health-e News. Published: 30 May 2016.

As South Africa grapples with how to implement "universal health service" via the National Health Insurance, a specialist advises more pragmatism and less ideology. Just as the apartheid regime fed its supporters with horror stories about marauding 'Reds' out to confiscate everything privately owned, so some post-apartheid ANC leaders have made the private sector synonymous with everything that is greedy and selfish. Read More »

Source: https://www.health-e.org.za/2016/05/30/nhi-pragmatism-less-ideology/[Accessed: 10 June 2016]

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Virtual GPs' weak pulse
Times Live. Published: 26 May 2016.

South Africans love their mobile phones, but not when they replace a doctor. Unlike the Chinese, South Africans have not taken to mobile consultations with GPs. Read More »

Source: http://www.timeslive.co.za/thetimes/2016/05/26/Virtual-GPs-weak-pulse[Accessed: 10 June 2016]

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Investing in health is not cheap, but it is not a luxury either
The Guardian. Published: 25 May 2016.

From Ebola to obesity, all countries need a healthcare system that is resilient to crises and responsive to people's changing needs. While Ebola, Zika and yellow fever may seem like distant threats to most people living in the developed world, the lessons from these global crises should resonate across health services in all countries.Read More »

Source: http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2016/may/25/[Accessed: 10 June 2016]

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Training and Resources

New health app a hit in SA clinics
Health 24. Published: 7 April 2016.
URL: http://www.health24.com/

A health information app developed by the SA Medical Research Council is proving a hit among primary healthcare workers who can quickly confirm important information with a tap on a cellphone.

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Research Fairness Initiative Website
Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED). Published: May 2016.
URL: http://rfi.cohred.org/

Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED). Published: May 2016. Hosted by COHRED, the Research Fairness Initiative aims to create a reporting system that encourages governments, business, organisations and funders to describe how they take measures to create trusting, lasting, transparent and effective partnerships in research and innovation. The RFI prioritizes its application in global health because there are so many urgent health-related issues, but it can be applied in any other setting as well

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CDC Tuberculosis website
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Published: 12 April 2016.
URL: http://www.cdc.gov/tb/

CDC's Division of Tuberculosis Elimination has launched a new tuberculosis website which can be accessed via mobile phone, tablet, or computer devices. The site content includes: Consolidated professional resources for a "one-stop-shop" for providers and TB programs; easy-to-fine information on TB basics, testing, and treatment; an expanded "Stay Connected" menu showing latest TB news from the Division.

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Books, Publications, Reports and Manuals

Global AIDS Update 2016
UNAIDS. Published: 2016

The world has committed to ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030. How to reach this bold target within the Sustainable Development Goals is the central question facing the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on Ending AIDS, to be held from 8 to 10 June 2016. The extraordinary accomplishments of the last 15 years have inspired global confidence that this target can be achievedClick Here»

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Conferences and Events

International AIDS Conference
When: 17 - 22 July 2016
Venue: International Convention Centre, Durban, South Africaa
URL: http://www.aids2016.org/

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Rural Health Conference
When: 6 - 9 August 2016
Venue: Fort England Hospital, Grahamstown, Eastern Cape, South Africa
URL: www.rhc2016.co.za

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5th Annual Outbreak Control and Prevention Africa Conference
When: 23 - 24 August 2016
Indaba Hotel, Johannesburg, South Africa
URL: www.intelligencetransferc.co.za

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Public Health Association of South Africa 2016 Conference
When: 19 - 22 September 2016
Venue: East London Convention Centre
E-Mail: deon.salomo@mrc.ac.za

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4th International Conference on HIV/AIDS, STDs and STIs
When: 3 - 5 October 2016
Venue: Orlando, Florida, USA
URL: http://hiv-aids-std.conferenceseries.com/

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Fourth Global Symposium on Health Systems Research
When: 14 - 18 November 2016
Venue: Vancouver, Canada
URL: http://www.csih.org/en/events/fourth-global-symposium-on-health-systems-research/

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Job Opportunities

National Department of Health: Appointment to the Expert Review Committees for the Adult Hospital Level and Tertiary and Quarternary Level Essential Medicines Lists
Closing date: 17 June 2016
Please view our website for more details
http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/

Khethimpilo: HAST Technical Support Coordinator

Closing date: 17 June 2016
Please view our website for more details
http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/hast-technical-support-coordinator

FHI360: Senior Program Officer

Closing date: 19 June 2016
Please view our website for more details
http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/senior-program-officer

ARESTA: HIV/AIDS Educator

Closing date:24 June 2016
Please view our website for more details
http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/hivaids-educator

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