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ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Africa Rising, a Narrative for Life Expectancy Gains? Evidence from a Health Production Function

Annals of Global Health | Published: 29 April 2019.

Donald Salami, Ahmed Nabil Shaaban, Maria do Rosário Oliveira Martins

The narrative of Africa Rising has increasingly been called into scrutiny, not just as a debate for economic growth and development, but also as a possible link to the surge in life expectancy on the continent.

Theoretically, an increase in economic development tends to result in an increase in public health spending and subsequent better health outcomes.

Investigating the addition of oral HIV self-tests among populations with high testing coverage – Do they add value? Lessons from a study in Khayelitsha, South Africa

PlosOne | Published: 2 May 2019.

Hazel Ann Moore, Carol A Metcalf, Tali Cassidy, Damian Hacking, Amir Shroufi, Sarah Jane Steele, Laura Trivino Duran, Tom Ellman

HIV self-testing (HIVST) offers a useful addition to HIV testing services and enables individuals to test privately. Despite recommendations to the contrary, repeat HIV testing is frequent among people already on anti-retroviral treatment (ART) and there are concerns that oral self-testing might lead to false negative results. A study was conducted in Khayelitsha, South Africa, to assess feasibility and uptake of HIVST and linkage-to-care following HIVST.

Alone But Supported: A Qualitative Study of an HIV Self-testing App in an Observational Cohort Study in South Africa

AIDS and Behaviour | Published: 2 May 2019.

Ricky Janssen, Nora Engel, Aliasgar Esmail, Suzette Oelofse, Anja Krumeich, Keertan Dheda, Nitika Pant Pai

HIV self-testing has the potential to improve test access and uptake, but concerns remain regarding counselling and support during and after HIV self-testing. We investigated an oral HIV self-testing strategy together with a mobile phone/tablet application to see if and how it provided counselling and support, and how it might impact test access. This ethnographic study was nested within an ongoing observational cohort study in Cape Town, South Africa.

The prevalence of malnutrition and growth percentiles for urban South African children

BMC Public Health | Published: 2 May 2019.

Lukhanyo H Nyati, John M Pettifor, Shane A Norris

Low- and middle-income countries (LMIC) are experiencing a double-burden of malnutrition characterised by high prevalence of both under- and over-nutrition. We set out using data from the mixed-longitudinal Birth-to-Twenty Plus (Bt20+) birth cohort, to evaluate the patterns of malnutrition and growth in a large South African (SA) city by; (i) assessing the prevalence of undernutrition from birth to 5 years of age and overweight and obesity from ages 2 to 21 years in black and white, male and female children, and (ii) determining percentiles for height, weight, BMI, waist and hip circumferences and comparing the centiles to American and Dutch references.

Views from the borderline: Extracts from my life as a coloured child of Deaf adults, growing up in apartheid South Africa

African Journal of Disability | Published: 24 April 2019.

Jane Harrison, Brian Watermeyer

Over 90% of Deaf parents have hearing children, but there are very few, if any, studies that have explored the life worlds of hearing children of Deaf adults (CODAs) in South Africa. This article is an account of part of the life experiences of a female hearing child who was born and raised by her Deaf parents in apartheid South Africa in the 1980s. This study used auto-ethnography to explore the socialisation of a female

coloured CODA during the height of South Africa's apartheid era, in order to shed light on intersectional influences on identity and selfhood. The study was intended to contribute to the limited knowledge available on the life circumstances of CODAs in Global South contexts.

Geographic Information Systems, spatial analysis, and HIV in Africa: A scoping review

PlosOne | Published: 3 May 2019.

Danielle C Boyda, Samuel B Holzman, Amanda Berman, M Kathryn Grabowski, Larry W Chang

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and spatial analysis are emerging tools for global health, but it is unclear to what extent they have been applied to HIV research in Africa. To help inform researchers and program implementers, this scoping review documents the range and depth of published HIV-related GIS and spatial analysis research studies conducted in Africa. A systematic literature search for articles related to GIS and spatial analysis was conducted through PubMed, EMBASE, and Web of Science databases. Using pre-specified inclusion criteria, articles were screened and key data were abstracted. Grounded, inductive analysis was conducted to organize studies into meaningful thematic areas.

Do physiotherapists have a role to play in the Sustainable Development Goals? A qualitative exploration

South Africa Journal of Physiotherapy | Published: 25 April 2019.

Sholena Narain, Desmond Mathye

While physiotherapists appear to be ideally positioned as key role players in achieving the health- and education-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), few studies have examined the complete scope of physiotherapy practice in addressing the SDGs. Considering the broad scope of physiotherapy practice, physiotherapists are a valuable resource that the South African government can utilise to address their workforce shortages in achieving inclusive primary education, promoting gender equality, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, and combating HIV and AIDS, and other diseases.

The legal determinants of health: harnessing the power of law for global health and sustainable development

The Lancet | Published: 30 April 2019.

Prof Lawrence O Gostin, John T Monahan, Jenny Kaldor, Mary DeBartolo, Eric A Friedman, Katie Gottschalk, Susan C Kim, Prof Ala Alwan, et al

Health risks in the 21st century are beyond the control of any government in any country. In an era of globalisation, promoting public health and equity requires cooperation and coordination both within and among states. Law can be a powerful tool for advancing global health, yet it remains substantially underutilised and poorly understood. Working in partnership, public health lawyers and health professionals can become champions for evidence-based laws to ensure the public's health and safety.

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RECENT PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS

Vote4Health: Five appointments to watch after May 8

Daily Maverick | 8 May 2019.

Apart from a potential change of health minister, several other key health leadership roles may change after South Africa's 8 May elections. We've identified five key positions that we will be keeping a particularly close eye on.

Health under the spotlight as South Africa takes to the polls

The Lancet | 4 May 2019.

South Africa's leading parties are debating options for health care—but a tendency to reject blame for failures on migration is worrisome. Munyaradzi Makoni reports.

#SAElections2019: Should Motsoaledi stay?

Health-e News | 6 May 2019.

Passionate and principled, the Health Minister has led massive victories over HIV during the past decade. But as South Africa attempts to introduce complex changes to our health system, is it time for an operations person rather than a firefighter?

SA wins reprieve from US on HIV/AIDS funding

BD Live | 2 May 2019.

US President's Emergency Fund for AIDS Relief agrees to continue funding treatment programme as long as the US Congress approves and certain conditions are met.

Multi-month scripting of ART at scale pays off

Medical Brief | 1 May 2019.

As ministries of health and their partners move to scale up differentiated service delivery (DSD) for HIV treatment, one approach is taking the spotlight. Multi-month scripting (MMS) is a facility-based, individual-focused DSD model, in which recipients of care who are doing well on antiretroviral therapy (ART) receive larger amounts of ART at each visit, enabling their appointments to be spaced at longer intervals.

Meet the Canadian doctor who prescribes money to low-income patients

Vox | 3 May 2019.

Gary Bloch became a doctor because he wanted to help people who were less privileged than him. For years, he tried his best to treat patients coping with poverty and homelessness.

But no matter how many blood tests he ordered and prescriptions he wrote, many of his patients' health problems persisted. He realized it was because he wasn't addressing the issue that most plagued them: poverty.

How Rwanda could be the first country to wipe out cervical cancer

Mosaic | 7 May 2019.

The East African country's campaign to end cervical cancer through the HPV vaccine has had to overcome cultural taboos and rumours about infertility – but it's saving lives.

As patients tell apps they're feeling suicidal, digital health startups scramble to respond

STAT | 25 March 2019.

Digital health apps, which let patients chat with doctors or health coaches or even receive likely medical diagnoses from a bot, are transforming modern health care. They are also — in practice — being used as suicide crisis hotlines.

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TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Global Health Training Centre

The Global Health Network

The Training Centre brings together a wealth of training materials and resources from across The Global Health Network for all your research training and continued professional development needs. This platform is completely free, accessible to all and aims to provide research staff of all roles, all regions and all disease areas with the 'how-to' training materials required to safely conduct high quality research. Use the portals below and the navigation tabs above to discover all the available content.

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PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Towards measuring the extent of food security in South Africa: an examination of hunger and food inadequacy

STATS SA | Published: 28 March 2019.

This report presents the extent of food security in South Africa by looking at households' involvement in agricultural activities, households' level of adequacy in accessing food as well as households' experiences of hunger. The report is based on the results of the General Household Survey conducted by Statistics South Africa in 2017. Food security consists of four dimensions, namely availability, accessibility, utilization and stability; however, due to data limitations, this report will mainly focus on examining issues related to food availability and accessibility.

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CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

SAMA Conference 2019

8-10 August 2019

Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani, Durban, South Africa

3rd National Pharmacy Conference

3-6 October 2019

Sun City, South Africa

World Health Summit

27-29 October 2019

Berlin, Germany

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

University of Pretoria: Departmental Administrator B - School of Health Systems and Public Health

Closing Date: 14 May 2019

CHIVA South Africa: Clinical Nurse Mentor

Closing Date: 15 May 2019

CHIVA South Africa: Psychosocial Advisor

Closing Date: 15 May 2019

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