

HST Bulletin



CATEGORIES

[HST in the News](#)

[Recent News](#)

[Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles](#)

[Training and Resources](#)

[Publications and Reports](#)

[Conferences and Events](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

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.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

RECENT NEWS

Condom efficacy may have been underestimated, new CDC study suggests

AIDS Map | 4 July 2018.

A new meta-analysis (Johnson) of the efficacy of condoms in preventing HIV transmission via anal sex between gay men has found a considerably higher estimate of their efficacy than two previous analyses.

As drug resistance grows, combining antibiotics could turn up new treatments

STAT | 4 July 2018.

Combining certain antibiotics could help them pack a one-two punch against harmful bacteria, according to a new study published Wednesday in Nature.

Health workers say they are undervalued and poorly equipped

Ground Up | 6 July 2018.

The South African Human Rights Commission hosted a dialogue on the impact of strikes by health workers.

Health Market Inquiry: 'Nothing we don't already know', says Health Minister

Medical Brief | 11 July 2018.

The four-year long Competition Commission Health Market Inquiry's findings reveal what Health Minister Dr Aaron Motsoaledi says he already knew – that South Africa's private healthcare has become so expensive, even those on medical aid can't afford it.

Vaping industry slams new tobacco bill

Health-e News | 11 July 2018.

Ignorant and not based on scientific evidence. This is how vaping activists describe the latest bill on tobacco, which they say is based on fear of the unknown.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Community mobilization to modify harmful gender norms and reduce HIV risk: results from a community cluster randomized trial in South Africa

Journal of the International AIDS Society | Published: 4 July 2018.

Audrey Pettifor, Sheri A Lippman, Ann Gottert, Chirayath M Suchindran, Amanda Selin, Dean Peacock, Suzanne Maman, Dumisani Rebombo, et al

Community mobilization (CM) is increasingly recognized as critical to generating changes in social norms and behaviours needed to achieve reductions in HIV. We conducted a CM intervention to modify negative gender norms, particularly among men, in order to reduce associated HIV risk.

Continuity of care with doctors—a matter of life and death? A systematic review of continuity of care and mortality.

Continuity of care with doctors—a matter of life and death? A systematic review of continuity of care and mortality

BMJ Open | Published: 28 June 2018.

Denis J Pereira Gray, Kate Sidaway-Lee, Eleanor White, Angus Thorne, Philip H Evans

Continuity of care is a long-standing feature of healthcare, especially of general practice. It is associated with increased patient satisfaction, increased take-up of health promotion, greater adherence to medical advice and decreased use of hospital services. This review aims to examine whether there is a relationship between the receipt of continuity of doctor care and mortality.

Using mHealth to improve tuberculosis case identification and treatment initiation in South Africa: Results from a pilot study

PlosOne | Published: 3 July 2018.

Noriah Maraba, Christopher J Hoffmann, Violet N Chihota, Larry W Chang, Nazir Ismail, Sue Candy, Edwin Madibogo, Marc Katzwinkel, et al

Tuberculosis (TB) incidence in South Africa is among the highest globally. Initial loss to follow-up (ILFU), defined as not starting on TB treatment within 28 days of testing positive, is undermining control efforts.

We assessed the feasibility, acceptability, and potential of a mHealth application to reduce ILFU.

Maternal priorities for preventive therapy among HIV-positive pregnant women before and after delivery in South Africa: a best-worst scaling survey

Journal of the International AIDS Society | Published: 4 July 2018.

Hae-Young Kim, David W Dowdy, Neil A Martinson, Jonathan E Golub, John F P Bridges, Colleen F Hanrahan

Pregnant women newly diagnosed with HIV during pregnancy are often lost to follow up and their adherence rates drop after delivery. We quantified changes in priorities related to isoniazid preventive therapy (IPT) and antiretroviral therapy (ART) among pregnant women living with HIV.

Does gentle assisted pushing or giving birth in the upright position reduce the duration of the second stage of labour? A three-arm, open-label, randomised controlled trial in South Africa

BMJ Global Health | Published: 29 June 2018.

G Justus Hofmeyr, Joshua P Vogel, Mandisa Singata, Ndema Abu Habib, Sihem Landoulsi, A Metin Gülmezoglu

Gentle assisted pushing (GAP) is an innovative method of applying gentle, steady pressure to a woman's uterine fundus during second stage of labour. This randomised trial evaluated GAP in an upright position, compared with upright position alone or routine practice (recumbent posture).

Child and adolescent mental health policy in South Africa: history, current policy development and implementation, and policy analysis

BMC International Journal of Mental Health Systems | Published: 26 June 2018.

Stella Mokitimi, Marguerite Schneider and Petrus J de Vries

Mental health problems represent the greatest global burden of disease among children and adolescents. There is, however, lack of policy development and implementation for child and adolescent mental health (CAMH), particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) where children and adolescents represent up to 50% of populations. South Africa, an upper-middle income country is often regarded as advanced in health and social policy-making and implementation in comparison to other LMICs. It is, however, not clear whether this is the case for CAMH.

The increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases in low-middle income countries: the view from Malawi

International Journal of General Medicine | Published: 28 June 2018.

M Gowshall, SD Taylor-Robinson

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are the leading cause of death globally, the majority of these being due to cardiovascular disease, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases, or diabetes. Mortality from many NCDs continues to increase worldwide, with a disproportionately larger impact in low-middle income countries (LMIs), where almost 75% of global deaths occur from these causes. As a low-income African country that consistently ranks amongst the world's poorest nations, Malawi as a case study demonstrates how transition due to societal change and increasing urbanization is often accompanied by a rise in the rate of NCDs. This review aims to examine the effects of the major NCDs in Malawi to help inform future public health care policy in the region.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

TRAINING AND RESOURCES

UNAIDS campaign: RESPECT AND DIGNITY

UNAIDS | 2018.

UNAIDS has launched a new initiative to highlight the imperative need to treat people with respect and dignity in order to achieve positive social change, including ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030. When there is respect and dignity, people are not judged for who they are, where they are born, who they love or who they choose to be. Respect and dignity ensures that people are individuals. They are not defined by their economic, social or HIV status, their actions or their behaviours. When there is respect and dignity, people can thrive!

Visit respect.unaids.org to read all messages on the message wall, write your own message about respect and dignity and watch the campaign videos and other social media materials.

Community-based indicators for HIV Programmes

MEASURE Evaluation | 2018.

Community-based information systems (CBIS) are key to understanding how HIV programs are working to control the epidemic at the local level in countries with high burden. MEASURE Evaluation developed this collection of indicators to guide community-based HIV programs in monitoring their performance and thereby enhance informed decision making by governments, major donors, and implementing partners.

Med Talkz

Old Mutual | Ongoing.

Medtalkz is South Africa's new open access medical education channel. South Africa is privileged to have an active CME landscape with excellent speakers and content. This content only reaches those who attend the event. This is a waste of valuable information. After recording just a handful of events Medtalkz has already accumulated over 100 world class presentations. This illustrates the magnitude of information that is lost to the profession. Access videos from around the country on this site.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Delivering Quality Health Services – a Global Imperative for Universal Health Coverage

OECD, World Bank & World Health Organisation | 5 July 2018.

This document describes the essential role of quality in the delivery of health care services. As nations commit to achieving universal health coverage by 2030, there is a growing acknowledgement that optimal health care cannot be delivered by simply ensuring coexistence of infrastructure, medical supplies and health care providers. Improvement in health care delivery requires a deliberate focus on quality of health services, which involves providing effective, safe, people-centred care that is timely, equitable, integrated and efficient. Quality of care is the degree to which health services for individuals and populations increase the likelihood of desired health outcomes and are consistent with current professional knowledge.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

The Diploma in Geriatric Medicine Conference 2018 (South African Geriatrics Society)

24-26 August 2018

Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani Hotel, Durban, South Africa

RareX Rare Disease conference

13-16 September 2018

Johannesburg, South Africa

Early Career Scientist Conference 2018

25-29 September 2018

Sunport Takamatsu Convention Center, Takamatsu, Kagawa, Japan

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

Health Systems Trust: Computer Instructor (FRESH Project)

Closing Date: 13 July 2018

SA Federation for Mental Health: Mental Health Trainer

Closing Date: 16 July 2018

Health Systems Trust: Head of Business Development and Communications

Closing Date: 20 July 2018

[\(Return to Top\)](#)



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