



# HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST BULLETIN

13 May 2011

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## Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

### Public Health Perspectives of Preeclampsia in Developing Countries: Implication for Health System Strengthening

Kayode O. Osungbade and Olusimbo K. J. *Pregnancy*. 2011; 2011: 481095. Published: 4 April 2011.

Review of public health perspectives of preeclampsia in developing countries and implications for health system strengthening. Preeclampsia has remained a significant public health threat in both developed and developing countries contributing to maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality globally. However, the impact of the disease is felt more severely in developing countries where, unlike other more prevalent causes of maternal mortality (such as haemorrhage and sepsis), medical interventions may be ineffective due to late presentation of cases...[Read More >](#)

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3087154/?tool=pubmed> [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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### Stillbirths: Where? When? Why? How to make the data count?

Joy E Lawn, Hannah Blencowe, Robert Pattinson, Simon Cousens, Rajesh Kumar, Ibinabo Ibiebele, Jason Gardosi, Louise T Day, Cynthia Stanton *The Lancet*, Volume 377, Issue 9775, Pages 1448 - 1463. Published: 23 April 2011.

Despite increasing attention and investment for maternal, neonatal, and child health, stillbirths remain invisible—not counted in the Millennium Development Goals, nor tracked by the UN, nor in the Global Burden of Disease metrics. At least 2.65 million stillbirths were estimated worldwide in 2008. 98% of stillbirths occur in low-income and middle-income countries, and numbers vary from 2.0 per 1000 total births in Finland to more than 40 per 1000 total births in Nigeria and Pakistan...[Read More >](#)

Source: <http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2810%2962187-3/fulltext> [Accessed: 12 May 2011].

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### **ICT applications as e-health solutions in rural healthcare in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa**

*Ruxwana,N.L.; Herselman,M.E.; Conradie,D.P.Health Information Management Journal. Published: 2010.*

This paper describes a study which focused on factors perceived to influence the uptake and use of Information and Communication Technology solutions (ICTs) as e-health solutions in selected rural Eastern Cape healthcare centres (South Africa), and on structural variables relating to these facilities and processes. Attention was also given to two psychological variables that may underlie an individual's acceptance and use of ICTs: usefulness and ease of use...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=58005> [Accessed: 13 May 2011]

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### **Vaccination: rattling the supply chain**

*Bulletin of the World Health Organization 2011;89:324–325. Published: May 2011.*

The introduction of new vaccines, combined with a push to expand immunization globally to reach every child, is straining vaccine supply chains to the limit. New thinking on the way vaccines are delivered is needed...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/89/5/11-030511/en/index.html> [Accessed: 13 May 2011]

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## **Recent News**

### **Study concludes, initiation of antiretroviral treatment protects uninfected sexual partners from HIV infection**

*HIV Prevention Trials Network. Published: 12 May 2011.*

Men and women infected with HIV reduced the risk of transmitting the virus to their sexual partners through initiation of oral antiretroviral therapy (ART), according to findings from a large multinational clinical study conducted by the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN), a global partnership dedicated to reducing the transmission of HIV through cutting-edge biomedical, behavioral, and structural interventions...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://hst.org.za/news/20042018> [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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### **Your vote is not a cure for hospitals**

*Tamar Khan. Business Day. Published: 13 May 2011.*

Voters regularly confront politicians treading the election campaign trail with complaints about the poor service they get at local clinics and hospitals, where long queues, rude staff and medicine shortages are all too common. While they are well within their rights to challenge politicians, it is questionable how many voters realise that Wednesday's local government elections will have little direct impact on the quality of the health services they receive. Few municipalities bear responsibility for anything more onerous than environmental health.... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=142642> [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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### **School HIV tests on hold**

*Sne Masuku. TimesLive. Published: 12 May 2011.*

The introduction of the government's HIV tests on schoolchildren has been delayed by legal and confidentiality concerns, but officials insist a pilot project will kick off "any time this year". After the national Department of Health announced the planned testing in January, a pilot project to test pupils, voluntarily, was due to start at several schools in February. But it was shelved because crucial ethical and legal questions had not been answered...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/local/article1063135.ece/School-HIV-tests-on-hold> [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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### **Condom march brings public and HIV prevention commissioners onto the streets in South Africa**

*UNAIDS. Published: 6 May 2011.*

A vibrant gathering took place outside the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) in Site B in Khayelitsha on 4 May, as members of the public joined with high-level commissioners from the UNAIDS Commission on HIV Prevention to scale-up the use of condoms in communities most severely affected by HIV. Donning 'HIV Positive' t-shirts and dancing in unison to the music both on and off stage, Khayelitsha residents and others celebrated condoms as a barrier against the spread of the virus...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2011/may/20110506acondommarch/> [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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### **Early HIV Therapy Sharply Curbs Transmission**

*Donald G. McNeil Jr. New York Times. Published: 12 May 2011.*

People infected with the virus that causes AIDS are far less likely to infect their sexual partners if they are put on treatment immediately instead of waiting until their immune systems begin to deteriorate, according to preliminary results from a large clinical trial released Thursday...[Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/13/health/research/13hiv.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/13/health/research/13hiv.html?_r=1) [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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### **SANAC tackles TB**

*Khopotso Bodibe. Health-e News. Published: 05 May 2011.*

The extent of tuberculosis and HIV co-infection rates in South Africa, where studies show that in some parts of the country, like in Khayelitsha in the Western Cape for example, about 73% of HIV-infected people also have TB, has firmly placed tuberculosis on the agenda of the South African National AIDS Council (SANAC)...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20033146> [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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## Training and Resources

### University of Stellenbosch and the UN Special Rapporteur on Disability.

19 May 2011. Cape Town.

The topic of the third in a series of public debates is 'Disability and Transport in South Africa: Developing access to pivotal resource in building citizenship'. It will be held on Thursday 19 May 2011 at 18h30 for 19h00 held at The River Club (Zambezi Room), Liesbeek Parkway, Observatory, Cape Town.

For more information: <http://hst.org.za/events/8623>

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### Africa Initiative Graduate Research Grant

Deadline: 31 May 2011.

The Africa Initiative Graduate Research Grant program supports short-term academic placements for students enrolled in a Master's or PhD program at select African universities. The program offers grants of up to CAD\$10,000 each to fifteen students per year to conduct research for up to four months at select Canadian universities. As part of their application for the grant, applicants are expected to self-identify professors and experts they would like to work with at select universities in Canada and will be required to submit an official letter of support from the university where they wish to be based.

For more information: <http://www.africaportal.org/content/students-enrolled-university-africa>

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## Reports and Publications

### The World Medicines Situation Report 2011

The World Health Organization. Published: 2011.

The third edition of the World Medicines Situation Report brings together new data on 24 key topics relating to pharmaceutical production and consumption, innovation, regulation and safety - in one place. Topics include selection, procurement, supply management, rational use, financing and pricing. Cross-cutting chapters cover household medicines use, access and human rights, good governance, human resources and national medicines policies...[Click Here for Full Report](#) »

Source: [http://www.who.int/medicines/areas/policy/world\\_medicines\\_situation/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/medicines/areas/policy/world_medicines_situation/en/index.html) [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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### Global status report on non-communicable diseases 2010

World Health Organization. Published: April 2011.

This report sets out the statistics, evidence and experiences needed to launch a more forceful response to the growing threat posed by non-communicable diseases (NCD). While advice and recommendations are universally relevant, this report gives particular attention to conditions in low- and middle-income countries, which now bear nearly 80% of the burden from diseases like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer and chronic respiratory diseases. The health consequences of the worldwide epidemic of obesity are also addressed in this report...[Click Here for Full Report](#) »

Source: [http://www.who.int/nmh/publications/ncd\\_report2010/en/](http://www.who.int/nmh/publications/ncd_report2010/en/) [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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### Social Determinants Approaches to Public Health: from Concept to Practice

World Health Organization. Published: 2011.

The thirteen case studies contained in this publication were commissioned by the research node of the Knowledge Network on Priority Public Health Conditions (PPHC-KN), a WHO-based interdepartmental working group associated with the WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health. The publication is a joint product of the Department of Ethics, Equity, Trade and Human Rights (ETH), Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP), and Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research (AHPSSR). The case studies describe a wealth of experiences with implementing public health programmes that intend to address social determinants and to have a great impact on health equity. They also document the real-life challenges in implementing such programmes, including the challenges in scaling up, managing policy changes, managing intersectoral processes, adjusting design and ensuring sustainability...[Click Here for Full Report \[Approx. 2.3Mb\]](#) »

Source: <http://apps.who.int/bookorders/anlais/detart1.jsp?sesslan=1&codlan=1&codco=15&codcch=803> [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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### Getting ahead of the wave: Lessons for the next decade of the AIDS response.

MSF. Published: May 2011.

A report released today by the international medical humanitarian organisation Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) revealed that several countries hardest hit by the AIDS epidemic are improving HIV treatment to reduce deaths and illness – but a lack of support from donors prevents many from making vital changes. This fragile progress needs sustained support, but the two biggest AIDS donors, the US and UK, are opposing a critical HIV treatment target ahead of next month's AIDS Summit in New York at a time when mounting evidence shows that HIV treatment can also prevent HIV infections...[Click Here for Full Report](#) »

Source: <http://www.msf.org/msf/articles/2011/05/msf-report-fragile-progress-as-several-countries-upgrade-to-better-aids-treatment.cfm> [Accessed: 12 May 2011]

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## Conferences

### RuDASA Rural Health Conference 2011

When: 8-10 September 2011

Venue: Village of Rhodes in the Eastern Cape.

URL: <http://www.ruralhealthconference2011.co.za/>

This year's Rural Health Conference, titled 'Making Primary Health Care Better'. The conference will be

focusing on primary health care and its integration into district systems, as well as on the role of the multidisciplinary team in primary health care. There will also be many practical skills sessions, as well as a track for student presentations and rural health advocacy. Abstracts for presentations and posters are welcomed from all medical and allied health practitioners, as well as students of these disciplines. Presentation topics should relate to rural health and primary health care. Closing date for abstract submissions is 16 July 2011.

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### **7th PHASA 2011 Conference**

*When: 28 - 30 November 2011*

*Venue: Sandton Convention Centre, Gauteng, South Africa*

*URL: <http://www.phasaconference.org.za/index.html>*

The 2011 PHASA conference will have as its focus, a scientific debate and discussion on health inequities and the role of public health leadership, education and practice in reducing health equity gaps. The theme of the conference is "Closing the health equity gap: Public health leadership, education and practice". An exciting programme of local and international speakers is being put together. Speakers will include policy-makers, leading local and international academics and representatives of international organizations. Abstract submission deadline is 4 July 2011.

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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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### **Care for Caregiver Programme Coordinator**

*AIDS Response Trust*

*Closing Date: Friday 20 May 2011*

The AIDS Response Trust works in the care-based sector in the Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape and Limpopo Provinces. Its vision is a caring, compassionate and stigma free society that acts in solidarity to ensure that the wellness of all infected and affected by HIV and AIDS is valued and promoted. The AIDS Response Trust seeks to appoint a Care for Caregiver Programme Coordinator, based in Observatory, Cape Town.

Please view the website for more details <http://www.nqopulse.org/opportunity/aids-response-trust-care-caregiver-programme-coordinator>

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### **Linking Learning and Lobbying Programme Coordinator**

*AIDS Response Trust*

*Closing Date: Friday 20 May 2011.*

The AIDS Response Trust works in the care-based sector in the Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape and Limpopo Provinces. Its vision is a caring, compassionate and stigma free society that acts in solidarity to ensure that the wellness of all infected and affected by HIV and AIDS is valued and promoted. The AIDS Response Trust seeks to appoint a Linking Learning and Lobbying Programme Manager, based in Observatory, Cape Town, to promote and advocate for carers to enjoy a better work environment, through building solidarity and learning platforms and networks, and to lobby decision-makers together with strategic partners.

Please view the website for more details <http://www.nqopulse.org/opportunity/aids-response-trust-linking-learning-and-lobbying-programme-coordinator>

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Health Systems Trust  
PO Box 808, Durban, 4000  
Tel: 031 266 9090 Fax: 031 266 9199 Email: [editor@hst.org.za](mailto:editor@hst.org.za)

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