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## Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

### Counting the cost of child mortality in the World Health Organization African region

*Joses M. Kirigia, Rosenabi Deborah Karimi Muthuri, Juliet Nabyonga-Orem and Doris Gatwiri Kirigia. BioMed Central. Published: 6 November 2015.*

Worldwide, a total of 6.282 million deaths occurred among children aged less than 5 years in 2013. About 47.4 % of those were borne by the 47 Member States of the World Health Organization (WHO) African Region. Sadly, even as we approach the end date for the 2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), only eight African countries are on track to achieve the MDG 4 target 4A of reducing under-five mortality by two thirds between 1990 and 2015. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/15/1103>[Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### Not too little, not too much: Problems of selecting oral antibiotic dose for children

*J A Bielicki, C I S Barker, S Saxena, I C K Wong, P F Long, M Sharland. British Medical Journal. Published: 3 November 2015.*

Globally, antibiotics are the most common drugs used to treat acutely ill children. Antibiotic doses should be selected to achieve optimal killing of bacteria with minimal undesirable effects, such as drug toxicity or the selection of resistant pathogens. Given the challenges associated with increasing antibiotic resistance, optimal use of antibiotics for children is important for global antimicrobial stewardship. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.bmj.com/content/351/bmj.h5447>[Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **Global Nutrition Report 2015**

*Hawkes C, Haddad L, Udomkesmalee E. Public Health Nutrition. Published: 2015.*

As we move into the post-2015 era of the Sustainable Development Goals, the world faces many seemingly intractable problems. Malnutrition should not be one of them. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.phn.ng/pdfs/data-nutrition.pdf> [Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **Implementation of information and communication technologies for health in Bangladesh**

*Sheik Mohammed Shariful Islam, Reshman Tabassum. Bulletin of the World Health Organization. Published: 31 August 2015.*

Despite substantial improvements in health in recent years, Bangladesh faces several challenges, including limited and inequitable access to health services, lack of adequate resources to meet the demands of the population and an increasing burden of non-communicable diseases. Information and communications technologies - such as health information systems, mobile devices to support health systems (mHealth) and telemedicine services - can contribute to the improvement of health systems in developing countries. Here we describe the implementation of an eHealth policy in Bangladesh. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/93/11/15-153684/en/> [Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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## **Recent News**

### **Bedaquiline: The first new drug in decades to treat TB is now available in South Africa**

*NICD Communiqué. Published: October 2015.*

For the first time in 40 years a new anti-tuberculosis drug with a novel mechanism of action has become available. Bedaquiline (BDQ) is a diarylquinoline antimycobacterial drug and specifically inhibits mycobacterial adenosine triphosphate synthase. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://nicd.ac.za/assets/files/TB%20update.pdf> [Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **Hormonal contraception safe for women with HIV and may have important health benefits**

*aidsmap. Published: 6 November 2015.*

HIV-positive women can safely use hormonal contraception, according to research published in the online edition of the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes. Hormonal implants and injectable contraceptives were associated with a reduced mortality risk, and use of injectables delayed the need for antiretroviral therapy (ART). Pregnancy did not increase the risk of death or the need to start ART, while breastfeeding was protective against both these outcomes. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.aidsmap.com/Hormonal-contraception-safe-for-women-with-HIV-and-may-have-important-health-benefits/page/3007515/> [Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **Drug stock outs plague mental health patients**

*Health-e News. Published: 27 October 2015.*

Elizabeth Mahlangu is living with HIV. When her Daveyton clinic runs out of her antidepressant, it can her R110 to refill her prescription at a private pharmacy. All too often, those like Mahlangu suffer in silence, says the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC). [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/2015/10/27/drug-stock-outs-plague-mental-health-patients/> [Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **The blame game at Mthatha Depot**

*Section27. Published: 21 October 2015.*

Drug stock-outs are a national crisis and the Eastern Cape has felt the effect even more acutely in the last few years a result of catastrophic decision-making by the Eastern Cape Department of Health. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.nspreview.org/2015/10/21/the-blame-game-at-mthatha-depot/> [Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **Working at accessing medicines**

*Daily News. Published: 2 November 2015.*

South Africa has a long and proud history in addressing the barriers that patents present in the access to medicines. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.iol.co.za/dailynews/opinion/working-at-accessing-medicines-1.1939203#.VjjNFMvotdg>[Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **NHI work founders on slow spending**

*Times Live. Published: 4 November 2015.*

The Department of Health spent only 21% of a conditional grant for National Health Insurance pilot districts. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/thetimes/2015/11/04/NHI-work-founders-on-slow-spending>[Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **Health Budget Review and Recommendations Report**

*Parliamentary Monitoring Group. Published: 27 October 2015.*

The Budgetary Review and Recommendations Report of the Portfolio Committee on Health provided an assessment of the performance of the Department of Health (DoH) on its budget allocation and service delivery performance for the 2014/15 financial year. [Read More »](#)

Source: <https://pmg.org.za/committee-meeting/21710/>[Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **Competition Commission extends private healthcare inquiry timetable**

*BDlive. Published: 20 October 2015.*

The Competition Commission has extended the timetable for its private healthcare market inquiry, and now plans to start public hearings on February 1, almost a year after they were originally slated to get underway. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.bdlive.co.za/business/healthcare/2015/10/20/competition-commission-extends-private-healthcare-inquiry-timetable>[Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **Motsoaledi finds HPCSA in state of 'dysfunction'**

*Mail & Guardian. Published: 6 November 2015.*

A task team set up by Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi has found the HPCSA has failed to function effectively. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mg.co.za/article/2015-11-06-motsoaledi-finds-hpcs-a-in-state-of-dysfunction>[Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **Report finds Free State health services 'ineffective'**

*Mai & Guardian. Published: 10 November 2015.*

A commission of inquiry into the Free State's healthcare has found that the province's lack of services endanger the lives of vulnerable people. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mg.co.za/article/2015-11-10-00-report-finds-free-state-health-services-ineffective>[Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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### **BRICS health ministers commit to put the BRICS countries on the Fast-Track to end the AIDS epidemic**

*UNAIDS. Published: 30 October 2015.*

At the first BRICS (Brazil, Russian Federation, India, China and South Africa) meeting since the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, the BRICS ministers of health have adopted the Moscow Declaration, which makes bold new commitments on cooperation for global health. Commitments include strengthening linkages between the Sustainable Development Goals and public health, collaboration on the goal for tuberculosis elimination and strengthened access to affordable, quality, efficacious and safe medicines. [Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2015/october/20151030\\_BRICS](http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2015/october/20151030_BRICS)[Accessed: 13 November 2015]

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## **Training and Resources**

## Centre for Statistical Analysis and Research (CESAR-Africa): A Comprehensive Statistics Course Using Stata

When: 23-27 November 2015

Venue: Johannesburg.

URL: <http://www.cesar-africa.com/a-comprehensive-statistics-course-using-stata-3/f>

The course objectives include introducing participants to Stata and Stata files including do-files (which allows for quality control, quick reproducibility of analysis) and log-files (which stores data management and analysis outputs)

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## Books, Publications, Reports and Manuals

### Children's Institute: The Child Gauge 2015 Report

UCT. Published: 2015.

The South African Child Gauge is an annual publication of the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town. It aims to report on and monitor the situation of children in South Africa, in particular the realisation of their rights. The publication focuses on a different theme each year. [Click Here»](#)

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### Global Tuberculosis Report 2015

WHO. Published: 28 October 2015.

The fight against tuberculosis is paying off, with this year's death rate nearly half of what it was in 1990. Nevertheless, 1.5 million people died from TB in 2014. Most of these deaths could have been prevented, according to WHO's Global tuberculosis report 2015, which was released today in Washington. [Click Here»](#)

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## Conferences and Events

### NRF Science for Society Lecture Series

When: 1 December 2015

Venue: University of KwaZulu-Natal, Howard College, Durban, South Africa

URL: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1g7Z2HsSq9OdIMqoLCyjUNy7ldR28AcxES2VbE2QkQTQ/viewform>

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### 3rd Global Female Condom Conference 2015

When: 1-3 December 2015

Venue: Coastlands Umhlanga Hotel and Convention Centre, Durban, South Africa

URL: <http://www.femalecondoms4all.org/conference2015/>

This workshop will present and review the existing evidence (published and unpublished) on the use of female condoms to prevent pregnancy, STIs and HIV. The discussions will focus on the gaps in research, developing a research agenda and the need for building a stronger evidence base for female condoms...

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### Third International Conference on Global Public Health 2015

When: 10-11 December 2015

Venue: Colombo, Sri Lanka

URL: <http://www.health3000.org>

Global Public Health 2015 is an interactive platform to connect and reconnect colleagues around the world. Meet the participants from 2012, 2014 conferences as well as new participants in our conferences. GPH 2015 conference is the premier knowledge building event and the largest annual public health gathering in the Global South.

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### Denosa 3rd South African Nurses' Conference

When: 24-26 February 2016

Venue: Birchwood Conference Centre, Boksburg, Gauteng

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

DENOSA is hosting the Third South African Nurses' Conference from the 24th to the 26th February 2016. This is a biannual event born out of a need to build capacity and create an enabling environment for South African nurses to effectively and positively influence health policy. It further affords the cadre an opportunity to critically analyze the South African health system and propose solutions. Become part of history.

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### HST Conference 2016

When: 4-6 May 2016

Venue: Birchwood Conference Centre, Boksburg, Gauteng

URL: <http://www.hstconference2016.org.za>

Health Systems Trust (HST) is hosting a conference from 4-6 May 2016 at the Birchwood Conference Centre, Boksburg, Gauteng. Under the banner of Strengthened health systems for sustainable development: sharing, supporting, synergising, the event is designed to advance the global public health agenda in improving health outcomes.

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### **TeamSTEPPS National Conference**

When: 8-10 June 2016

Venue: Washington DC, USA

URL: <http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/education/curriculum-tools/teamstepps/2016proposals.html>

Disseminate your innovative ideas and help improve patient care at the year's premier event to promote teamwork and communication in the health care environment. TeamSTEPPS can be used as the meeting point where different interdisciplinary groups from diverse health care settings come together. Better teamwork and communication between these groups can lead to more comprehensive care coordination.

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## **Job Opportunities**

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### **AIDS Consortium: Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting Manager**

Closing date: 16 November 2015

**Please view our website for more details**

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/monitoring-evaluation-reporting-manager>

### **Save the Children International: Temporary Project Manager - Migration**

Closing date: 20 November 2015

**Please view our website for more details**

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/temporary-project-manager-migration>

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