



Dear Subscribers,

The HST Bulletin will be taking a break over the festive period. The next Bulletin will be published on 13 January 2017. Best wishes for the festive season and a prosperous New Year.

The HST Bulletin Editorial Team

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ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Antibiotic Resistance in the Food Chain: A Developing Country-Perspective

Frontiers in Microbiology | Published: 23 November 2016.

Satoru Suzuki (ed)

Antibiotics are now “endangered species” facing extinction due to the worldwide emergence of antibiotic resistance (ABR). Food animals are considered as key reservoirs of antibiotic-resistant bacteria with the use of antibiotics in the food production industry having contributed to the actual global challenge of ABR. There are no geographic boundaries to impede the worldwide spread of ABR. If preventive and containment measures are not applied locally, nationally and regionally, the limited interventions in one country, continent and for instance, in the developing world, could compromise the efficacy and endanger ABR containment policies implemented in other parts of the world, the best-managed high-resource countries included.

A Framework for Health Communication Across the HIV Treatment Continuum

Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes (JAIDS) | Published : 1 January 2017.

Stella Babalola, Lynn M Van Lith, Elizabeth C Mallalieu, Zoe R Packman, Emily Myers, Kim Seifert Ahanda, Emily Harris, Tilly Gurman, Maria-Elena Figueroa

As test and treat rolls out, effective interventions are needed to address the determinants of outcomes

across the HIV treatment continuum and ensure that people infected with HIV are promptly tested, initiate treatment early, adhere to treatment, and are virally suppressed. Communication approaches offer viable options for promoting relevant behaviors across the continuum.

The quality of rapid HIV testing in South Africa: an assessment of testers' compliance

African Health Sciences | Published 3 September 2016.

Aziza Mwisongo, Karl Peltzer, Neo Mohlabane, and Bomkazi Tutshana

The aim of this study was to assess the quality of rapid HIV testing in South Africa.

Population-level decline in BMI and systolic blood pressure following mass HIV treatment: Evidence from rural KwaZulu-Natal

Obesity Society | Published: 7 December 2016.

Pascal Geldsetzer, Andrea B. Feigl, Frank Tanser, Dickman Gareta, Deenan Pillay, Till Bärnighausen

Clinic-based studies have shown that patients with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) gain weight after initiation of antiretroviral therapy (ART). This study aimed to determine whether the scale-up of ART was associated with a population-level increase in body mass index (BMI) and blood pressure (BP) in a community with high HIV and obesity prevalence.

Using mHealth for HIV/TB Treatment Support in Lesotho: Enhancing Patient-Provider Communication in the START Study

Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes (JAIDS) | Published: 1 January 2017.

Yael Hirsch-Moverman, Amrita Daftary, Katharine A Yuengling, Suzue Saito, Moeketsi Ntoane, Koen Frederix, Llang B Maama, Andrea A Howard

mHealth is a promising means of supporting adherence to treatment. The Start TB patients on ART and Retain on Treatment (START) study included real-time adherence support using short-text messaging service (SMS) text messaging and trained village health workers (VHWs). We describe the use and acceptability of mHealth by patients with HIV/ tuberculosis and health care providers.

Counseling Framework for HIV-Serodiscordant Couples on the Integrated Use of Antiretroviral Therapy and Pre-exposure Prophylaxis for HIV Prevention

Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes (JAIDS) | Published: 1 January 2017.

Jennifer F Morton, Connie Celum, John Njoroge, Agnes Nakyanzi, Imeldah Wakhungu, Edna Tindimwebwa, Snaidah Ongachi, Eric Sedah, et al

For HIV-serodiscordant couples, integrated delivery of antiretroviral therapy (ART) for HIV-positive partners and time-limited pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for negative partners virtually eliminates HIV transmission. Standardized messaging, sensitive to the barriers and motivators to HIV treatment and prevention, is needed for widespread scale-up of this approach.

Psychosocial risk and protective factors associated with perpetration of gender-based violence in a community sample of men in rural KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

The South African Medical Journal | Published: 1 December 2016.

N Mngoma, S Fergus, A Jeeves, R Jolly

Rates of gender-based violence (GBV) in South Africa (SA) are among the highest in the world. In societies where social ideals of masculinity encourage male dominance and control over women, gender power imbalances contribute to male perpetration and women's vulnerability. The drivers that cause men to perpetrate GBV and those that lead to HIV overlap and interact in multiple and complex ways. Multiple risk and protective factors for GBV perpetration by males operate interdependently at a number of levels; at the individual level, these include chronic anxiety and depression, which have been shown to lead to risky sexual behaviours.

Socioeconomic and modifiable predictors of blood pressure control for hypertension in primary care attenders in the Western Cape, South Africa

The South African Medical Journal | Published: 1 December 2016.

N Folb, M O Bachmann, E D Bateman, K Steyn, N S Levitt, V Timmerman, C Lombard, T A Gaziano, L R Fairall

Low socioeconomic status is associated with the risk of hypertension. There are few reports of the effect of socioeconomic and potentially modifiable factors on the control of hypertension in South Africa (SA). [This study was conducted] to investigate associations between patients' socioeconomic status and characteristics of primary healthcare facilities, and control and treatment of blood pressure in hypertensive patients.

Universal Health Coverage—looking to the future

The Lancet | Published: 10 December 2016.

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is defined by WHO and the World Bank as when “all people receive the health services they need without suffering financial hardship when paying for them”. UHC is central to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted in September, 2015, with a specified target in SDG 3—ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages. The SDGs are interconnected but good health underlies them all. UHC has been acknowledged by the World Bank, WHO, the G7, and multiple governments as fundamental for realising the goal of sustainable development.

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RECENT NEWS

WHO Joins launch of South Africa's Health Standards Compliance Complaints Management Call Centre

WHO | 2 December 2016.

The World Health Organization yesterday [28 November 2016] joined South Africa's Office of Health Standards Compliance (OHSC) in launching the country's Complaints Management Call Centre which will receive and register public complaints relating to non-compliance with prescribed norms and standards for health establishments.

PEPFAR commits \$24m to accelerating MMC efforts in SA

Medical Brief | 7 December 2016.

The US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) has committed to providing \$24m to accelerate medical male circumcision (MMC) efforts in South Africa over the next five years, says an R News report.

New trial investigates use of Tivicay against vertical HIV transmission

Healio | 4 December 2016.

An \$8.9 million grant recently awarded to researchers at the University of Liverpool will support a trial examining the efficacy of Tivicay in preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV, according to a press release.

Sub-Saharan Africa's 'exceptional' progress against HIV – surveys

Medical Brief | 7 December 2016.

National surveys in Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Zambia reveal exceptional progress against HIV, with decreasing rates of new infection, stable numbers of people living with HIV, and more than half of all those living with HIV showing viral suppression through use of antiretroviral medication.

South Africa's HIV/AIDS Crisis: why drug resistance matters

Health-E News | 9 December 2016.

Great strides have been taken to deal with HIV/AIDS in South Africa, but now drug resistance may become a serious problem. International institutions and governments create the impression that things are going well and we are in control of the pandemic. But we're not, says Dr Bent Steenberg Olsen.

It's time to stop treating sexual violence as just coincidental to HIV infections

Bhekisisa | 12 December 2016.

A national policy on sexual assault has been in draft form for years. Now, the country now has the chance to put survivors of sexual violence first.

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TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Better Off Knowing

Health Systems Trust | Published: 14 December 2016.

Better off knowing is an HIV and TB awareness campaign with the aim of encouraging people to know their HIV status. Recently re-launched, this new, easily navigable website offers advice on how to get tested, get treated and live longer.

Patient and Family Engagement in Primary Care

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) | Published: Ongoing.

Research shows that when patients are engaged in their health care, it can lead to measurable improvements in safety and quality. To promote stronger engagement, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is developing a guide to help patients, families, and health professionals in primary care settings work together as partners to promote improvements in care.

New WHO data portal to help track progress towards universal health coverage

WHO | Published: 7 December 2016.

To mark Universal Health Coverage Day, WHO today [12 December 2016] launched a new data portal to track progress towards universal health coverage (UHC) around the world. The portal shows where countries need to improve access to services, and where they need to improve information.

USAID's Health Systems Benchmarking Tool (HSBT)

USAID | Published: July 2016.

USAID's Office of Health Systems (OHS) tracks health indicators for low- and middle-income countries, including indicators for maternal, neonatal, and child health, family planning, and HIV and AIDS. The Health System Benchmarking Tool (HSBT) helps to standardize this tracking process and provide answers to emerging policy and programmatic questions.

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PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Healthy Mother Healthy Baby

Health Systems Trust | Published: December 2016.

This new HST leaflet provides useful information to HIV-positive mothers about health tests that they should undergo during their pregnancy.

National Indicator Data Sets

National Department of Health | Published: November 2016.

This colour-coded resource is designed to assist in maximising the accuracy and understanding of the data to be collected in health facilities in South Africa.

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CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

4th International Research Conference on Science, Health and Medicine 2017 (IRCSHM 2017)

4 – 5 January 2017

Hyatt Place Hotel, Al Rigga, Dubai, UAE

International Conference on Applied Science, Healthcare Management (ICASHM 2017)

4 – 5 January 2017

Hotel Nikko San Francisco, San Francisco, United States

Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI)

13 – 19 February 2017

Washington State Convention Centre, Seattle, Washington, USA

31st International Papillomavirus Conference (HPV 2017)

28 - 4 March 2017

Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa

Building Children's Nursing for Africa Conference

28 - 30 March 2017

The River Club, Observatory, Cape Town, South Africa

15th World Congress on Public Health

3 - 7 April 2017

The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, Australia

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

mothers2mothers: 4x Vacancies

Closing Date: 23 December 2016

South African Red Cross Society: 5x Vacancies

Closing Date: 23 December 2016

MSF Southern Africa: Learning Unit Administration and Resources Officer

Closing Date: 10 January 2017



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