



CATEGORIES

[Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles](#)

[Recent Public Health News](#)

[Training and Resources](#)

[Publications and Reports](#)

[Conferences and Events](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Evidence map of knowledge translation strategies, outcomes, facilitators and barriers in African health systems

BMC Health Research Policy and Systems | Published: 7 February 2019.

Amanda Edwards, Virginia Zweigenthal, Jill Olivier

The need for research-based knowledge to inform health policy formulation and implementation is a chronic global concern impacting health systems functioning and impeding the provision of quality healthcare for all. This paper provides a systematic overview of the literature on knowledge translation (KT) strategies employed by health system researchers and policy-makers in African countries.

The Global Syndemic of Obesity, Undernutrition, and Climate Change: The Lancet Commission report

The Lancet | Published: 27 January 2019.

Boyd A Swinburn, Vivica I Kraak, Steven Allender, Vincent J Atkins, Phillip I Baker, Jessica R Bogard, Hannah Brinsden, Alejandro Calvillo, et al

Malnutrition in all its forms, including obesity, undernutrition, and other dietary risks, is the leading cause of poor health globally. In the near future, the health effects of climate change will considerably compound these health challenges. This Commission recommends comprehensive actions to address obesity within the context of The Global Syndemic, which represents the paramount health challenge for humans, the environment, and our planet in the 21st century.

Beyond health care providers' recommendations: understanding influences on infant feeding choices of women with HIV in the Eastern Cape, South Africa

International Breastfeeding Journal | Published: 31 January 2019.

Oladele Vincent Adeniyi, Anthony Idowu Ajay, Moshood Issah, Eyitayo Omolara Owolabi, Daniel Ter Goon, Gordana Avramovic, John Lambert

Despite the array of studies on infant feeding practices of HIV-infected women, gaps still exist in the understanding of the underlying reasons for their infant feeding choices. Potential for behavioural change exists, especially in the light of the 2016 updated World Health Organization guideline on HIV and infant feeding. The aim of this paper is to determine the rate of adoption of exclusive breastfeeding in this cohort, examine the determinants of infant feeding choices of HIV-infected women and assess the underlying reasons for these choices.

Prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and associated factors among HIV positive educators: Findings from the 2015/6 survey of Health of Educators in Public Schools in South Africa

PlosOne | Published: 8 February 2019.

Nompumelelo Precious Zungu, Musawenkosi Lionel Mabaso, Faith Kumalo, Salome Sigida, Lungelo Mlangeni, Njeri Wabiri, Charles Chasela

In many sub-Saharan African countries, confronting the dual epidemic of HIV and NCDs is a public health priority especially in high HIV burden countries such as South Africa. Evidence shows that poor health as a consequence of NCDs and HIV among the workforce increases absenteeism and leads to decrease in productivity. However, the prevalence of these co-occurring chronic conditions and associated factors is unknown in the educator workforce. Improved understanding has implications for their management and wellbeing of educators. This paper reports the prevalence of selected NCDs and associated factors among HIV positive educators in South Africa using the 2015/6 survey of Educators in Public Schools in South Africa.

ART adherence and viral suppression are high among most non-pregnant individuals with early-stage, asymptomatic HIV infection: an observational study from Uganda and South Africa

Journal of the International AIDS Society | Published: 12 February 2019.

Jessica E Haberer Bosco M Bwana Catherine Orrell Stephen Asiimwe Gideon Amanyire Nicholas Musinguzi Mark J Siedner Lynn T Matthews, et al

The success of universal antiretroviral therapy (ART) access and aspirations for an AIDS-free generation depend on high adherence in individuals initiating ART during early-stage HIV infection; however, adherence may be difficult in the absence of illness and associated support. From March 2015 to October 2017, we prospectively observed three groups initiating ART in routine care in Uganda and South Africa: men and non-pregnant women with early-stage HIV infection (CD4 > 350 cells/ μ L), pregnant women with early-stage HIV infection and men and non-pregnant women with late-stage HIV infection (CD4 < 200 cells/ μ L).

Integrating hypertension screening at the time of voluntary HIV testing among adults in South Africa

PlosOne | Published: 8 February 2019.

Paul K. Drain , Ting Hong, Anjum Hajat, Meighan Krows, Sabina Govere, Hilary Thulare, Mahomed Yunus S. Moosa, Ingrid Bassett, Connie Celum

Guidelines recommend integrating hypertension screening for HIV-infected adults, but blood pressure measurements may be dynamic around the time of HIV testing.

We measured a seated resting blood pressure in adults (≥ 18 years) prior to HIV testing, and again after receiving HIV test results, in an ambulatory HIV clinic in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. We assessed sociodemographics, smoking, body mass index, diabetes, substance abuse, and anxiety/depression. We used blood pressure categories defined by the Seventh Joint National Committee (JNC 7) classifications, which includes normal, pre-hypertension, stage 1 hypertension, and stage 2 hypertension.

Predictors of discordant latent tuberculosis infection test results amongst South African health care workers

BMC Infectious Diseases | Published 8 February 2019.

Shahieda Adams, Rodney Ehrlich, Roslynn Baatjies, Nandini Dendukuri, Zhuoyu Wang, Keertan Dheda

The tuberculin skin test (TST) and interferon-gamma-release-assays (IGRAs) are utilized in screening programmes for presumed latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) in health care workers (HCWs). However, inter-test comparison yields high rates of discordance, which is poorly understood. The aim of the study was therefore to identify factors associated with discordance amongst HCWs in a TB and HIV endemic setting.

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

RECENT PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS

Wits RHI launch Africa's first HPV vaccine impact evaluation project

Medical Brief | 13 February 2019.

Wits Reproductive Health and HIV Institute is the successful recipient of two awards from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia for over the next five years. These will fund a study to evaluate the impact of 2-dose and 1-dose human papillomavirus vaccination schedules on community level HPV prevalence in South African adolescent girls.

President's plan for fixing health delayed again

BD Live | 12 February 2019.

After missing a number of deadlines, devising a health compact as a precursor to the ANC's promised NHI, 'still needs more time'.

This is putting SA's women in the grave, so what's health department doing about it?

Bhekisisa | 12 February 2019.

Pregnancy in South Africa is getting safer, but still not safe enough. Here's what the health department says they're doing about it.

How To Demand A Medical Breakthrough: Lessons From The AIDS Fight

NPR | 9 February 2019.

In the summer of 1985, Mike Petrelis was savoring life as young, openly gay man in New York City... Then one day, Petrelis noticed a sort of blotch on his arm. He went to a doctor, who ran a new kind of test, and gave Petrelis the verdict: "You have AIDS."

WHO sketches dire state of mental health treatment in SA

Medical Brief | 13 February 2019.

Chances are, in South Africa, if you're suffering from a serious mental illness you will struggle to see a psychiatrist. City Press reports that at 1.52 psychiatrists per 100,000 population, the reality is that many patients will rarely be seen by one. If you're a parent of a child who needs psychiatric evaluation, you will struggle even harder because, according to the newly released World Health Organisation (WHO) country profiles on mental health, there are only 0.08 child psychiatrists per 100 000 population.

Facebook under pressure to halt rise of anti-vaccination groups

The Guardian | 12 February 2019.

Experts are calling on company to counter closed groups where members can post misinformation without challenge.

'Sexist' data is holding women back, Bill and Melinda Gates say

Thompson Reuters Foundation | 12 February 2019.

Gender inequality is one of the greatest barriers to human progress, the United Nations said last year. Sexist" data is making it harder to improve women and girls' lives, the world's leading philanthropic couple

Bill and Melinda Gates said on Tuesday in an open letter.

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

TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Provider Training Package: Effective Delivery of Oral PrEP for Adolescent Girls and Young Women

PrEP Watch | 8 August 2018.

The slides have been developed for all categories of healthcare providers involved in the provision of PrEP. The slides are adaptable depending on the participants and have been developed with this flexibility in mind. Please use the slide package as a guide and resource and adapt it to fit the needs of your country, participants and available time.

Drivers of the Hyperepidemics of HIV in South Africa: Pt. 2, Biological Risk Factors

Take as Directed Podcast | 2018.

Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim is one of the world's leading AIDS researchers and has made pioneering contributions to understanding the HIV epidemic in young people, especially among young women. She joined [Take as Directed] for a two-part series to explain her latest research into epidemic hot spots in KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa, focusing on both the structural and biological risk factors that facilitate the spread of HIV in young women. In Part 2, she describes her recent findings about biological factors that can simultaneously increase a woman's risk of HIV acquisition and decrease the efficacy of HIV prevention tools.

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

PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Global status report on road safety 2018

World Health Organisation | December 2018.

The Global status report on road safety 2018, launched by WHO in December 2018, highlights that the number of annual road traffic deaths has reached 1.35 million. Road traffic injuries are now the leading killer of people aged 5-29 years. The burden is disproportionately borne by pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists, in particular those living in developing countries. The report suggests that the price paid for mobility is too high, especially because proven measures exist. Drastic action is needed to put these measures in place to meet any future global target that might be set and save lives.

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

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

IEA-Africa Region 5th Regional Conference

14-17 March 2019

Maputo, Mozambique

20th International Workshop on Clinical Pharmacology of HIV, Hepatitis & other Antiviral Drugs

14-16 May 2019

The Netherlands

10th IAS Conference on HIV Science (IAS 2019)

21-24 July 2019

Mexico City, Mexico

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

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

NACOSA : Nurse Mentor

Closing Date: 17 February 2019

Health Systems Trust: Finance Manager

Closing Date: 22 February 2019

Health Systems Trust: Grants and Compliance Officer

Closing Date: 25 February 2019

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



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