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## Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

### **Long term virological, immunological and mortality outcomes in a cohort of HIV-infected female sex workers treated with highly active antiretroviral therapy in Africa**

*Charlotte Huet, Abdoulaye Ouedraogo, Issouf Konate, Isidore Traore, Francois Rouet, Antoinette Kabore, Anselme Sanon, Philippe Mayaud, Philippe Van de Perre and Nicolas Nagot. BMC Public Health 2011. Published: 14 September 2011.*

Concerns have been raised that marginalised populations may not achieve adequate compliance to antiretroviral therapy. Our objective was to describe the long-term virological, immunological and mortality outcomes of providing highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) with strong adherence support to HIV-infected female sex workers (FSWs) in Burkina Faso and contrast outcomes with those obtained in a cohort of regular HIV-infected women...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/11/700> [Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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### **Meeting global health challenges through operational research and management science**

*The Bulletin of the World Health Organization 1; 89(9): 683–688. Published: 1 September 2011.*

This paper considers how operational research and management science can improve the design of health systems and the delivery of health care, particularly in low-resource settings. It identifies some gaps in the way operational research is typically used in global health and proposes steps to bridge them...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3165975/?tool=pubmed>  
[Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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### **Linking public health training and health systems development in sub-Saharan Africa: Opportunities for improvement and collaboration**

*Sharon Fonn. Journal of Public Health Policy (2011) 32, S44–S51. Published: July 2011.*

Although population health can be improved through specific health interventions that target high burden diseases, these interventions must be offered within a functional health system for optimal effectiveness. The author argues that schools of Public Health in Africa should respond to the many systemic issues that confound improvements in population level health through reviewing approaches to health professional training that incorporates a public health approach, focusing on health systems research; collaboration, advocacy and networking; and strengthening health systems management. Institutional mechanisms to define joint research agendas and two-way exchanges between universities and national health systems are required...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jphp/journal/v32/n1s/full/jphp201137a.html>  
[Accessed: 16 September 2011]

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### **Can performance-based financing be used to reform health systems in developing countries?**

*The Bulletin of the World Health Organization 1; 89(9): 695–698. Published: 1 September 2011.*

Over the past 15 years, performance-based financing has been implemented in an increasing number of developing countries, particularly in Africa, as a means of improving health worker performance...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3165979/?tool=pubmed> [Accessed: 16 September 2011]

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## **Recent News**

### **UNAIDS reiterates critical role of South Africa in AIDS response**

*UNAIDS. Published: 10 September 2011.*

During a meeting with the newly appointed Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations, Ambassador Abdul Samad Minty, UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibé highlighted the critical role that South Africa has to play in the global response to HIV... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2011/september/20110909saambassador/>  
[Accessed: 16 September 2011]

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### **Varsity in HIV research**

*TimesLive. Published: 8 September 2011.*

The Mthatha area, largely excluded from major development efforts, could find itself receiving global attention following the launch of the HIV vaccine research unit at the old Mthatha general hospital complex. The main academic centre in the OR Tambo district municipality, Walter Sisulu University (WSU), has joined other South African universities in search of a vaccine that would finally overcome the pandemic...[Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.thenewage.co.za/28382-1016-53-Varsity\\_in\\_HIV\\_research](http://www.thenewage.co.za/28382-1016-53-Varsity_in_HIV_research)  
[Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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### **AIDS vaccine critical**

*Health-e. Published: 15 September 2011.*

Humans are not good at changing our sexual behaviour, which is why thousands of people who know they should use condoms are still getting HIV. Because of this, scientists have been searching for a vaccine – that one magical injection that could protect us from HIV no matter how risky our sexual behaviour...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20033258>  
[Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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### **SA gets ready for trial of successful Thai vaccine**

*Health-e. Published: 13 September 2011.*

Two years ago, the AIDS community was electrified by news that a vaccine had partially protected people against HIV. Now this vaccine will be tested in South Africa. This is according to scientists attending the International AIDS Vaccine conference, which opened Monday in Bangkok...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20033253> [Accessed: 16 September 2011]

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### **Primary health care gets an EU boost**

*Buanews. Published: 14 September 2011.*

South African primary health care (PHC) has received a multi-million rand donation from the European Union to assist the country in improving its access to public health services...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.buanews.gov.za/news/11/11091415251001> [Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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### **Non-communicable diseases take center stage**

*Buanews. Published: 116 September 2011.*

As South Africa begins to deal more effectively with HIV/Aids and TB, care and treatment of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) have become more important. "In Africa, NCDs are anticipated to overtake mortality from all other diseases (combined) by 2030. Globally, deaths due to NCDs are projected to increase by 17% over the next 10 years, but the greatest increase (24%) is expected in the African region,"... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.buanews.gov.za/news/11/11091216051001> [Accessed: 16 September 2011]

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#### **Poor access to cancer treatment**

*Health-e. Published: 15 September 2011.*

Cancer patients relying on the state health system are increasingly struggling to access timeous treatment or their diagnosis and treatment is delayed until it is too late, cancer advocacy and support organisations have warned...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20033256> [Accessed: 16 September 2011]

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#### **Health minister eyes 'junk food' industry**

*TimesLive. Published: 13 September 2011.*

Fast-food companies will soon be forbidden from marketing their "unhealthy" products on TV during children's programmes. Free toys handed out with fast-food meals as part of a "kiddies package" might also be prohibited as part of the Department of Health's plans to regulate the "junk food industry"...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/local/2011/09/13/health-minister-eyes-junk-food-industry> [Accessed: 28 August 2011]

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#### **Pneumonia study begins**

*Times Live. Published: 116 September 2011.*

The University of the Witwatersrand has partnered up with six research institutions in Africa and Asia to conduct a study on pneumonia, the world's biggest killer of young children. The study, co-ordinated by the International Vaccine Access Centre at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, will look at current and future causes of childhood pneumonia in some of the hardest-hit populations...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/local/2011/09/12/pneumonia-study-begins> [Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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#### **NHI to address inequity in healthcare system - Health DG**

*Moneyweb. Published: 12 September 2011.*

Private healthcare costs have once again come in for a drubbing – this time from Health Department Director General, Precious Matsoso who was speaking about the proposed National Health Insurance system at Wits University Medical School for the Steve Biko Institute of Bioethics...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.moneyweb.co.za/mw/view/mw/en/page292520?oid=551699&sn=2009+Detail&pid=287226> [Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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#### **Pushing up VAT 'the least damaging way to fund NHI'**

*Mail & Guardian. Published: 12 September 2011..*

An increase in Value Added Tax (VAT) would go a long way in helping to meet the government's goal of funding an effective National Health Insurance (NHI) within 14 years, experts say. Several economists who spoke to the Mail & Guardian on Monday feel that raising the tax on all purchased goods would be the most effective way of financing the NHI...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mq.co.za/article/2011-09-12-push-up-vat-its-the-right-thing-to-do> [Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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#### **Medical aids swell**

*The New Age. Published: 9 September 2011.*

Medical schemes are growing stronger in South Africa despite commitment by the government to introduce the National Health Insurance (NHI) that will cover all citizens, in April. The number of people who were active medical aid members increased by almost 260,000 last year when compared to the year before, according to latest statistics taken from the Council of Medical Schemes annual report released this week...[Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.thenewage.co.za/Detail.aspx?news\\_id=28461&cat\\_id=1007](http://www.thenewage.co.za/Detail.aspx?news_id=28461&cat_id=1007) [Accessed: 16 September 2011]

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#### **Tokollo District Hospital scores COHSASA accreditation**

*Health-e. Published: 6 September 2011.*

Tokollo District Hospital, situated in the small farming town of Heilbron in the Free State province, has become the latest district hospital in South Africa to receive international standards accreditation by the Council for Health Service Accreditation of Southern Africa (COHSASA)...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20033246> [Accessed: 16 September 2011]

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#### **Service Delivery: Rural healthcare on track**

*The New Age. Published: 12 September 2011.*

Quality healthcare in South Africa is concentrated in the urban areas. For the 46% of the country's population who live in rural areas, access to adequate health facilities is more often than not an exception to the rule. Only 27% of general practitioners, 25% of medical specialists, 7% of dentists and 6% of psychologists practise in rural public health facilities. Stepping into this service delivery void is the Phelophepa Health Train, founded by Transnet in 1994...[Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.thenewage.co.za/blogdetail.aspx?mid=186&blog\\_id=%201234](http://www.thenewage.co.za/blogdetail.aspx?mid=186&blog_id=%201234) [Accessed: 16 September 2011]

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### Health spending shambles

*Times Live. Published: 7 September 2011.*

The health departments of Limpopo, Mpumalanga and Eastern Cape are underspending on vital forensic pathology, hospital revitalisation and HIV and Aids grants, parliament's Select Committee on Appropriations has been told...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/local/2011/09/07/health-spending-shambles>  
[Accessed: 16 September 2011]

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## Training and Resources

### Discovery Foundation Awards for 2012

Applications for the Discovery Foundation Awards for 2012 are open. Do you know someone deserving who is helping to advance healthcare and making a difference in the lives of those in their care? Read more about each of the Foundation Awards and how to apply for 2012.

[Click Here](#) for further information.

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### Masters (MSc) in Child Health

*Witwatersrand University*

*Closing date: 30 September 2011.*

The Division of Community Paediatrics, University of Witwatersrand will once again be offering the Masters (MSc) in Child Health in 2012. This two-year part-time course is designed to prepare students for leadership positions as regional clinicians, managers (at district, provincial or national level), researchers, health educators, or service co-ordinators in the field of maternal and child health. For more information contact Wiedaard Stiemming at [Wiedaard.Stiemming@wits.ac.za](mailto:Wiedaard.Stiemming@wits.ac.za) or tel. +27 (11) 481 5197.

[Click Here](#) for further information.

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### MRC/HIVAN Forum 27 September 2011: Preventing Suicide among LGBTI people: A Psychological and Human Rights

*Venue: Seminar Room, MRC Building, 491 Peter Mokaba Road (Ridge Road), Overport, Durban*

*Date: Tuesday, 27 September 2011*

*Time: 12h15 - 14h00*

This presentation by the Durban Lesbian and Gay Community and Health Centre provides insight into the pressures and circumstances, which result in LGBTI people committing suicide. The discussion will encompass prevalence of suicide in this community by age, race, sexual orientation and gender within South Africa and internationally; suggest coping mechanisms and ways in which suicide can be prevented as well as provide details of where help is currently available at a fee or free.

For more information contact Stewart Kilburn at +27 (0)31 260 3331 or [kilburns1@hiv911.org.za](mailto:kilburns1@hiv911.org.za)

For more information: <http://www.hiv911.org.za>

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## Reports and Publications

### Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) Annual Report 2010-2011

*Council for Medical Schemes.*

The report contains a review of medical schemes operations in the 2010 financial year as well as the activities of the CMS in the 2010-2011 financial year, and clearly shows the need for continued and strengthened regulation of medical schemes...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.medicalschemes.com/Publications.aspx> [Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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### Levels & Trends in Child Mortality Report 2011

*UNICEF. Published: September 2011.*

The annual report on child mortality found that in sub-Saharan Africa, the region with the highest number of under-five deaths in the world, the speed at which the under-five mortality rate is declining doubled from 1.2 per cent a year during 1990-2000 to 2.4 per cent a year during 2000-2010. [Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source:  
<http://www.unicef.org>

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### Health Workers Reach Index

*Save the Children. Published: September 2011.*

A major new health workers index by Save the Children has ranked the best and worst countries for a child to fall sick in — with Chad and Somalia at the bottom and Switzerland and Finland at the top. The index measures not only how many health workers there are, but also their reach and impact...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.savethechildren.org.uk> [Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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### Noncommunicable diseases country profiles 2011

*WHO. Published: September 2011.*

The report features information about the noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) situation in 193 countries. This includes details of what proportion of each country's deaths are due to diseases such as cancer, heart and lung diseases, and diabetes...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: [http://www.who.int/nmh/publications/ncd\\_profiles2011/en/](http://www.who.int/nmh/publications/ncd_profiles2011/en/) [Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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### **Boys and Girls in the Life Cycle: Sex-disaggregated data on a selection of well-being indicators, from early childhood to young adulthood**

UNICEF. Published: September 2011.

This report presents the most comprehensive compilation to date of sex-disaggregated statistics on children and young people in the developing world. It examines a selection of indicators that are currently available to measure well-being and assess children's rights...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.unicef.org> [Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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### **Roll Back Malaria Partnership: Progress and Impact Series**

WHO. Published: September 2011.

This report shows that a disease-specific partnership can improve maternal and child health, and suggests it can deliver broad health benefits while relieving overburdened health systems. It also shows that a community of organizations can succeed where single ones failed in the past...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.hst.org.za/publications/roll-back-malaria-partnership-progress-and-impact-series> [Accessed: 15 September 2011]

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## **Conferences**

### **2011 Gender Symposium**

When: 1-3 November 2011

Venue: Cairo, Egypt

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

In line with its mandate to promote high-level scientific and academic debates on various aspects of socioeconomic development in Africa, the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) hereby announces the 2011 edition of its Gender Symposium which will be held from 1st to 3rd November, 2011 in Cairo, Egypt. The Gender Symposium is a forum organized annually by CODESRIA to discuss gender issues in Africa, and the theme of this year's edition is Gender and the Media in Africa.

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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.

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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.

The following positions with AHP are currently available:

Please view the website for more details <http://www.ahp.org.za> or contact on 011 328 1300

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### **International GBV Project Co-ordinator to coordinate UN Trust Fund Multi-Country Men and GBV project in Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Kenya**

Sonke Gender Justice (Cape Town or Johannesburg based).

Closing date: 15 October 2011.

Sonke is looking for a committed and innovative individual to join its International Programme Unit as the International GBV Project Co-ordinator. He/she will provide project management and technical input for a new gender-based violence (GBV) project funded by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women.

Please view our website for more details

<http://www.hst.org.za/content/international-gbv-project-co-ordinator-coordinate-un-trust-fund-multi-country-men-and-gbv-pr>

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