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ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Uptake and Short-Term Retention in HIV Treatment Among Men in South Africa: The Coach Mpilo Pilot Project

Global Health: Science and Practice | February 2022

Mbuzeleni Hlongwa, Morna Cornell, Shawn Malone, Paris Pitsillides, Kristen Little et al

Gender disparities persist across the HIV care continuum in sub-Saharan Africa. Men are tested, linked, and retained at lower rates than women. Men experience more treatment interruptions, resulting in higher rates of virological failure and increased mortality. Peer support is an approach to improving men's engagement and retention in HIV treatment. We assessed uptake and early retention in HIV care among men in the 'Coach Mpilo' peer support pilot project in South Africa.

Estimates of the prevalence of undiagnosed HIV among children living with HIV in Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe from 2015 to 2017: an analysis of data from the cross-sectional Population-based HIV Impact Assessment Surveys

The Lancet HIV | February 2022

Chloe Teasdale, Rebecca Zimba, Elaine Abrams, Karampreet Sachathep, Felix Ndagije, et al

In 2020, there were an estimated 1.7 million children younger than 15 years living with HIV worldwide, but there are few data on the proportion of children living with HIV who are undiagnosed. We aimed to estimate the prevalence of undiagnosed HIV among children living with HIV in Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

What is the added value of incorporating pleasure in sexual health interventions? A systematic review and meta-analysis

Plos One | 11 February 2022

Mirela Zaneva, Anne Philpott, Arushi Singh, Gerda Larsson, Lianne Gonsalves

Despite billions of dollars invested into Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) efforts, the effect of incorporating sexual pleasure, a key driver of why people have sex, in sexual health interventions is currently unclear. We carried out a systematic review and meta-analysis following PRISMA guidelines across 7 databases for relevant articles published between 1 January 2005–1 June, 2020.

Process evaluation of peer-to-peer delivery of HIV self-testing and sexual health information to support HIV prevention among youth in rural KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa: qualitative analysis

BMJ | 14 February 2022

Oluwafemi Atanda Adeagbo, Janet Seeley, Dumsani Gumede, Sibongiseni Xulu, Nondumiso Dlamini, et al

Peer-to-peer (PTP) HIV self-testing (HIVST) distribution models can increase uptake of HIV testing and potentially create demand for HIV treatment and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). We describe the acceptability and experiences of young women and men participating in a cluster randomised trial of PTP HIVST distribution and antiretroviral/PrEP promotion in rural KwaZulu-Natal.

Knowledge and Attitudes Concerning Aducanumab Among Older Americans After FDA Approval for Treatment of Alzheimer Disease

JAMA Network | 14 February 2022

Julie Zissimopoulos, Mireille Jacobson, Yi Chen, Soo Borson

On June 7, 2021, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved aducanumab (Aduhelm), the first new drug for Alzheimer disease in decades. Response to the decision among clinical and research communities was immediate. Enthusiasm was outweighed by concerns that included uncertain efficacy, serious adverse effects, a broad target patient population, high costs, and potential association with demand for diagnostics. While the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has proposed a restrictive coverage decision, patients and their doctors may still choose aducanumab. Informed use decisions should weigh potential benefits and harms associated with the drug, which presumes that individuals understand these issues. Soon after aducanumab's approval, when publicity was high, we studied older Americans' understanding of aducanumab and attitudes toward its potential outcomes.

Long-Acting Cabotegravir for HIV Prevention

JAMA Network | 14 February 2022

Joshua Sharfstein, Amy Killelea, Derek Dangerfield

On December 20, 2021, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved long-acting cabotegravir, the first injectable medication to prevent HIV. Two randomized clinical trials that together included 7790 study participants demonstrated that long-acting cabotegravir was more likely to prevent HIV acquisition than daily oral medication for people at risk of sexually acquiring HIV, including men who have sex with men, heterosexual women, and transwomen. The advantage of the medication was attributed partly to the high efficacy of this and other integrase inhibitors and, in part, to better adherence for an injection compared with a once-daily pill regimen; whether this advantage remains outside of clinical trials remains unknown. It is hoped that this new tool for HIV prevention will accelerate progress toward the US goal of reducing new infections by 90% by 2030. However, the potential for public health benefit is jeopardized by the cost and complexity of the US health care system.

Utility of HIV support groups in advancing implementation research in resource-limited settings: experiences from an urban-setting HIV support group in Zimbabwe

AIDS Research and Therapy | 14 February 2022

Fine Mazambara, Dexter Chagwena, Tinashe Mudzviti, Samantha Sithole, Tsitsi Monera-Penduka, et al

Support groups for people living with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) have continued to evolve since their emergence over two decades ago. In addition to providing HIV education and fostering psychosocial support, recent efforts have shifted the focus to socio-economic activities and retention in care. The sense of urgency to adopt new treatment and prevention strategies in sub-Saharan Africa necessitates greater engagement of established HIV care programs, especially among researchers seeking to conduct implementation research, promote prevention strategies and optimize treatment as prevention. To maximize the utility of support groups in doing so, efforts to create an organized, collaborative framework should be considered. This paper aims to describe the process of refocusing an adult HIV peer-support group and illustrate how a structured program was strengthened to sustain implementation research in resource-limited settings, while promoting patient recruitment and retention. A multidisciplinary team of scientists supporting an HIV peer-support group spearheaded the implementation process that authored the successes, challenges and lessons documented over eight years. Psychosocial support, nutrition care and support, adherence education and income generating projects were the main

interventions employed. The initiative resulted in seven peer-reviewed publications, submission of 23 scientific abstracts, scientific dissemination at 12 international conferences. Eleven research studies and 16 income generating projects were successfully conducted over eight years. More than 900 patients participated in peer-support group activities every month and 400 were engaged in income generating activities. This multidisciplinary structured program was valuable in the retention and recruitment of patients for implementation research and benefits extended to psychosocial support, microeconomic projects, and improved nutrition. The support group contributed to strengthening implementation research through providing a platform for identification of research priorities, patient recruitment and retention in studies and dissemination of research findings.

Magnitude and determinants of male partner involvement in PMTCT service utilization of pregnant women attending public health facilities of Ethiopia, 2021: a systematic review and meta-analysis

AIDS Research and Therapy | 16 February 2022

Tamarat Melis and Yohannes Fikadu

Infant antiretroviral prophylaxis has an important role in reduction of Human immune virus transmission from mother to child during the postpartum period. Male partner involvement was considered as a priority aforementioned area needs to be enhanced in Prevention of Mother-To Child Transmission (PMTCT). PMTCT service utilization can minimize the risk of the transmission of HIV from mother to child and related mortalities. Adequate utilization and adherence to this service has been challenging for some of the women if their partners are not aware or do partners do not support the women. The aim of this study is to assess the magnitude and determinants of male involvement in PMTCT service in Ethiopia.

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RECENT PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS

COVID infection of three lions and a puma in private South African zoo points to need for wider surveillance

The Conversation | 9 February 2022

SARS-CoV-2 is the cause of the disease we know as COVID-19. While this disease has wreaked havoc on every human population worldwide, what isn't as well appreciated is that the virus can also infect a range of animals. The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) has reported outbreaks of SARS-CoV-2 in cats, dogs, ferrets, minks, otters, lions, tigers, pumas, snow leopards, gorillas, white-tailed deer, fishing cat, Binturong, South American coati, spotted hyena, Eurasian lynx and Canada lynx. Recently the virus was identified in pet hamsters following reverse zoonotic transmission from humans.

Africa transitioning out of pandemic phase of COVID, says WHO

Reuters | 10 February 2022

Africa is transitioning out of the pandemic phase of the COVID-19 outbreak and moving towards a situation where it will be managing the virus over the long term, the head of the World Health Organization on the continent said on Thursday. "I believe that we are transitioning from the pandemic phase and we will now need to manage the presence of this virus in the long term," Dr Matshidiso Moeti told a regular online media briefing. "The pandemic is moving into a different phase ... We think that we're moving now, especially with the vaccination expected to increase, into what might become a kind of endemic living with the virus," she said.

Study on true impact of Covid-19 on spread of HIV under way

IOL | 11 February 2022

The 6th edition of the South African HIV Prevalence, Incidence, Behaviour and Communications survey will this year focus on the impact of Covid-19 on the spread of HIV. The survey, launched by the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) and its partners, has been conducted every five years to gather information on HIV incidence, prevalence and other related indicators. It was introduced by Nelson Mandela in 2001. The data gathered during the survey has through the years been used to determine not only the prevalence of HIV in the country, but also the antiretroviral treatment exposure, viral load suppression, HIV drug resistance and risk behaviours in South Africa, in order to shape the country's policy.

Africa CDC – Mastercard Partnership Helps Improve Vaccine Uptake – Only 0.5% of Doses Received are Wasted

Health Policy Watch | 11 February 2022

A partnership between Africa CDC and MasterCard Foundation, which has included visits to countries with model vaccination programmes, such as Rwanda and Morocco, is making a difference to other African countries facing challenges in getting jabs into arms. That and other measures aimed at supporting more rapid African roll out of COVID-19 vaccines are proving effective, said Dr John Nkengasong, Director of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) on Thursday. Meanwhile, WHO African Regional officials said that only 0.5% of COVID-19 vaccines received on the continent had actually gone to waste — despite the fact that another recent report suggesting that up to 35% of doses so far received are still awaiting distribution.

South Africa's mRNA hub progress is foundation for self-reliance

World Health Organization | 11 February 2022

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Buti Manamela, Deputy Minister of Higher Education and Training of the Republic of South Africa, Dr Blade Nzimande, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology of South Africa, Dr Joe Phaahla, Minister of Health of South Africa and Meryame Kitir, Minister of Development Cooperation and Urban Policy of Belgium today visit a number of public and private sector partners that are collaborating to develop and build WHO's global mRNA vaccine technology transfer hub in South Africa. For most of 2021, limited global vaccine supply led to huge disparities in COVID-19 vaccine access, leaving billions of people – especially in low- and middle-income countries – unprotected against serious disease and death from COVID-19. Low levels of vaccine coverage also provided the ideal conditions for new variants to develop. While supply has now increased, access to any new formulations of COVID-19 vaccines – tailored specifically to new variants – will likely also be inequitable because manufacturing capacity remains limited to only a small handful of companies and countries.

Co-discoverer of HIV, Luc Montagnier, has died at the age of 89

UNAIDS | 11 February 2022

the French virologist and co-discoverer of HIV, Luc Montagnier, sadly died this week. He was an expert on retroviruses and a pioneer in HIV science. He founded and directed the Viral Oncology Unit at the Pasteur Institute in France, where he led the team that discovered HIV, research that was first published in the journal *Science* in 1983. He was one of the earliest advocates for promoting HIV prevention and treatment and for fighting against stigma and discrimination against people living with and affected by HIV. In 2008, he was jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery of HIV. “Luc Montagnier dedicated his life to science and his co-discovery of HIV paved the way for research into and development of antiretroviral medicines, which have saved the lives of millions of people around the world,” said Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director of UNAIDS. “UNAIDS sends its heartfelt condolences to his family and friends at this difficult time.”

Vietnam to lift COVID-19 restrictions on international flights

eNCA Monday | 14 February 2022

Vietnam will lift coronavirus restrictions on international flights for fully vaccinated passengers from Tuesday, the country's aviation authority said in a statement. The communist nation has virtually closed itself to the world since March 2020 due to the pandemic, dealing a severe blow to its vital tourism sector. Authorities have slowly eased the curbs in recent months, with visitors trickling in under a bubble arrangement since November.

EpiPens: People in South Africa often can't access this lifesaving allergy treatment

Spotlight | 14 February 2022

Epinephrine auto-injectors, often known by the commercial name EpiPen, can be life-savers for people suffering severe allergic reactions, but the treatments are difficult to find in South Africa and expensive. Mariaan Schoeman was recently away from her Johannesburg home when she was stung by a bee and struggled to breathe. She received emergency assistance for the unexpected allergic reaction, but when she tried to find an autoinjector for possible future attacks, it took her weeks and visits to multiple pharmacies in several cities to locate one.

Good sex can be safer sex, say WHO researchers

BBC News | 14 February 2022

Teaching people about achieving sexual pleasure can help sell safe-sex messages, say researchers from the World Health Organization. Programmes using this approach improve condom use more than ones that focus only on the dangers of unprotected sex, their study has found. They say enjoyment - rather than fear - is a healthy motivator. Sex can be safe as well as enjoyable, according to one of the research project's co-authors. Billions of dollars are spent around the world each year on sexual and reproductive health and rights services, yet many programs do not address one of the fundamental reasons many people have sex - to feel good. Anne Philpott, a public-health professional, set up The Pleasure Project - the group that worked with the WHO team - in 2004, as a result of the frustration of "endless Aids meetings where no one talked about people's motivations for having sex". She said: "Pleasure is arguably the most powerful motivating factor for having sex and yet has been absent from sex education or sexual-health interventions.

The only logical choice': anti-vaxxers who changed their minds on Covid vaccines

The Guardian | 14 February 2022

Nearly one-third of US parents are opposed to vaccinating their kids against Covid – so one-time vaccine skeptics are helping families find evidence-based answers. Alexis Danielsen sat down and rolled up her sleeve. When the shot went into her arm, one thought flooded her mind: "Finally!" It was May 2021, and she was receiving her first Covid shot – in fact, her first immunization of any kind. She was 39. Haley Bryson post-Covid. For about two months, Haley had experienced some combination of headache, fatigue, stomachache, sore throat, earache or breathlessness. 'The scariest thing': the children living with long Covid. Danielsen grew up in an anti-vaccine household, views she held well into adulthood. When her son was born, she declined all vaccines for him. Then she hit a personal crisis, and started rethinking all her beliefs – including on vaccinations. It was like pulling on a thread and watching an entire sweater unravel, she said. "The Covid vaccine was the only logical choice after really re-evaluating what I believe in, what I actually believe is true," Danielsen said.

Want to systematically apply gender analysis? Use a gender analysis matrix

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine | 14 February 2022

A gender lens can and should be applied to all health research and intervention topics that involve people. This is because gender power relations affect everybody. Despite this, there has been a historic neglect of gender-based analysis in health. There is also the problem that a gender lens is often applied in an unsystematic way. A gender analysis matrix is a tool to help you systematically apply a gender lens.

Vaccination protection continues to be safest option compared to dependence on antibodies alone

Daily Maverick | 14 February 2022

A recent study by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that people who had previously contracted Covid-19 were better protected against the Delta variant than those who had been vaccinated without prior infection, but experts have warned against using the data, which comes with many caveats, to cast doubt on the need to get vaccinated and question vaccine mandates.

Why Covid-19 vaccines are a freaking miracle

Stat News | 14 February 2022

Two years into the Covid-19 pandemic, it's easy to lament all that has come to pass. The devastating losses. The upending of what we regarded as normal ways of life. The sheer relentlessness of it all. But let's stop for a moment and consider something else that may have escaped you: You have witnessed — and you are a beneficiary of — a freaking miracle. That miracle is the development, testing, manufacturing, and global distribution of Covid vaccines. If you're reading this article, it's a safe bet that you've been vaccinated. You may even have had three doses. Many of your family members, friends, colleagues, neighbors, even strangers you pass on the street are probably in the same boat. At this point if they aren't vaccinated and boosted, it's by choice.

A losing battle: Why mortality rates in one province rocketed during the Covid-19 second wave

Daily Maverick | 14 February 2022

It was a fight they were never going to win. In December 2020, seasoned emergency responder Dr Imtiaz Sooliman from Gift of the Givers said outright that the second Covid-19 wave in the Eastern Cape was a “total disaster”. This was due to a deadly combination of patients arriving at the hospital, already severely hypoxic (low levels of oxygen in their blood) because of Covid pneumonia, overwhelmed staff members, a persistent stigma attached to treating Covid-19 patients and complete systemic collapse aggravated by the inept presence of then Health MEC, Sindiswa Gomba, who would later be fired. To save some lives, Sooliman said at the time, it was necessary to act with great speed. Now details of the fatal and futile battle, valiantly fought by an ever-diminishing contingent of health workers in a collapsing department where oxygen supply was patchy and years of neglect had taken its final toll, has emerged in an audit conducted to ascertain the reasons behind the sky-high death rate in the Eastern Cape during the Covid-19 pandemic.

School-aged children: Healthy eating equals brainpower

Health-E News | 14 February 2022

A study has revealed that school-aged children who eat more fruit and vegetables, have a better mental well-being. However, healthy eating isn't an option for the majority of South African kids and experts believe the only way forward is to expand the monthly child support grant and strengthen the National School Nutrition Program (NSNP). Research from the University of East Anglia's Health & Social Care Partners (UEAHSCP) confirmed that: “Higher fruit and vegetable consumption was significantly associated with better mental well-being in secondary pupils. Also, the type of breakfast and lunch consumed, by both primary and secondary pupils, was significantly associated with well-being.”

A Woman Is Cured of H.I.V. Using a Novel Treatment

The New York Times | 15 February 2022

She's the third person ever to be cured. Researchers announced that the new approach holds the potential for curing more people of racially diverse backgrounds.

Towards a life of dignity for people living with disabilities

UNAIDS | 15 February 2022

Arriving at a health centre but not being able to physically access it. Needing information about your health but not being able to read it. Asking your doctor for family-planning advice but having to have the advice translated into sign language by a third party, resulting in a lack of confidentiality and privacy. These are only a few of the challenges faced by the 1 billion people who live with disabilities worldwide when trying to access health-care services. However, people living with disabilities have the same right to health as everyone else. Disability prevalence is rising, owing to ageing populations and the increase in chronic health conditions, among other factors. Through long-term access to antiretroviral therapy, living longer with chronic HIV is increasingly possible, but may occur alongside other co-morbidities and the risk of disability.

Investments in HIV, health and pandemics are vital for economic recovery in Africa

UNAIDS | 15 February 2022

Global health and financing leaders and experts have come together at a high-level virtual event to tackle one of the most pressing issues facing the world today—health security. The event, “Investing in health is investing in economic recovery: Financing for HIV, stronger public health systems, and pandemic preparedness and response” was held ahead of the sixth Africa - European Union (EU) Summit which is taking place on 17 and 18 February. While hosting 16% of the global population, and facing 26% of the global disease burden, Africa accounts for only 2% of global health spending. Despite the 2001 Abuja Commitment of governments to allocate 15% of their budget to health, the average is still only 7%. Speakers discussed how Africa has been left behind in the COVID-19 response, with less than 12% of people in Africa fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Insufficient access to vaccines, medicines and technologies, and weak health systems have impeded the realization of the right to health of all Africans during the pandemic. In addition, fiscal constraints and unsustainable debt burdens, are hindering the path to recovery.

Sex during pregnancy: Everything you need to know

Health-E News | 15 February 2022

Being intimate with your partner might seem strange now that you're pregnant. But don't stress – there is nothing to worry about when having sex during pregnancy, and most importantly, your baby is safe. It's understandable if you're feeling uneasy and have plenty of questions. Fortunately, sex has several benefits while expecting, but there are some guidelines to follow when you and your partner get in the mood. With the help of Dr. Palesa Kennedy, an obstetrician, and gynecologist at Rahima Moosa Hospital, we have all your questions covered.

US and Africa Plan to Harness PEPFAR Networks to Increase COVID Vaccine Uptake

Health Policy Watch | 15 February 2022

The US and Africa intend to use the well-established community networks supported by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) to improve the uptake of COVID-19 vaccines in Africa. The initiative would build upon the infrastructure developed since PEPFAR entered as a major player on the African AIDS scene in 2003. In addition, USAID has launched an initiative called Global VAX to support the World Health Organization (WHO) target of vaccinating 70% of the world's population by mid-year against COVID-19, and will soon be announcing priority countries in Africa. This is according to US State official Mary Beth Goodman, who briefed African journalists on Tuesday on the COVID-19 Global Action Meeting convened by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Monday.

Depression Remains Overlooked and Underfunded; Experts Call to Reduce Global Burden

Health Policy Watch | 16 February 2022

With about half of people suffering from depression in high income countries untreated or undiagnosed, with this number rising to 80-90% in low- and middle-income countries, a Lancet and World Psychiatric Association Commission have called for a unified response against this global crisis to reduce the burden of depression. Depression is estimated to impact 5% of adults globally, with its onset most frequent in young people. COVID-19 has caused 'mass trauma' worldwide and has further worsened mental health for millions, creating additional challenges with isolation, bereavement, uncertainty, hardship, and limited access to healthcare. To combat the crisis, the Commission's 'Time for united action on depression' calls for a concerted and collaborative front from all – government, healthcare providers, researchers, and people living with depression, to improve care and prevention, fill knowledge gaps, and increase awareness for one of the leading causes of avoidable suffering and premature death worldwide.

When Physicians Spread Unscientific Information About COVID-19

Jama Network | 16 February 2022

In a poll of 2200 US adults conducted in December 2021 for the de Beaumont Foundation, a philanthropy that focuses on policy and public health, 78% said physicians who intentionally spread COVID-19 misinformation should be disciplined. Professional medical societies and specialty boards agree, yet few physicians have been disciplined for espousing COVID-19 claims for which evidence is lacking. For example, in October 2021, Howard Goldman, MD, of Delray Beach, Florida, filed a complaint with the Florida Department of Health's Medical Quality Assurance Program about a physician he alleged "spread doubt about the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines, promoted the use of unproven and possibly dangerous medications to treat COVID-19, [and] questioned the value of face masks in preventing the spread of the pandemic." The subject of Goldman's complaint was internist Joseph Ladapo, MD, PhD, Florida's Surgeon General and head of the Florida Department of Health.

Excess death rate in SA during Covid reaches one in 25 people older than 60 years

Business Times | 17 February 2022

Excess deaths during the Covid-19 pandemic account for one in 200 South Africans overall and one in 25 over-60s. The milestones were reached with the addition of 681 excess deaths in the week ending February 12, according to researchers at the SA Medical Research Council (MRC). The team produces weekly reports on the number of deaths in excess of the total predicted based on historical trends, and estimates between 85% and 95% are due to Covid-19. Since May 2020, when the number of deaths reached abnormal levels, excess deaths in SA's population of about 59.6-million have totalled 297,847, the MRC team said in its latest report on Wednesday.

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TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Subscribe to the Health Systems Trust Bulletin

The Health Systems Trust (HST) produces a weekly bulletin on Fridays focusing on key public health news, peer-reviewed journal articles and other important primary healthcare resources.

Subscribe to the Health Systems Trust 60percent

HST produces a weekly online publication, 60percent, which keeps subscribers abreast with the latest news and developments pertaining to HIV-related maternal, adolescent, child and youth health. The name 60percent signifies that southern Africa is responding to a feminised HIV/AIDS epidemic, with at least 60% of those living with HIV being women. Subscribe to 60percent by simply visiting HST's website (<https://www.hst.org.za>), scroll to the bottom of the page, hit the SUBSCRIBE button, and follow the prompts. Let's keep you posted!

HSTi offers accredited and non-accredited short courses and full programmes

The Health Systems Training Institute (HSTi) is the training arm of the Health Systems Trust (HST), a leading force in the South African public health sector. HST was established in 1992, on the brink of democracy in South Africa, and has since played a significant role in strengthening the national primary health system through health research, informatics, clinical support, capacity-building and training.

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PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

WHO | Questions and Answers: COVID-19 vaccines and pregnancy

These questions and answers are intended to provide answers to health providers and the public on COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy.

The latest update for the 11th Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) is now online!

The World Health Organization (WHO) Eleventh Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) has now come into effect, with the latest update going online today.

Global Health Centre Policy Brief I 2022

The publication covers why and how to reflect universal health coverage in the Pandemic Treaty.

U=U: A rationale to use in advocacy for people living with HIV

The public health rationale is a strategy to use when advocating to increase access and remove barriers to treatment, care, and services for people living with HIV worldwide. The public health rationale is simple. When people living with HIV have the treatment, care, and services they need to stay undetectable, they stay healthy and cannot transmit HIV through sex. Undetectable = Untransmittable, or U=U. This is often referred to as treatment as prevention.

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CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Call for Papers | International Journal of Public Health

Public health and primary care; is 1+1=1?

Public health and primary care have both long been considered to be corner stones of health systems. Although both aim to improve the health of populations, they differ in target group (population vs. individual), approach (promote and prevent vs. diagnose and treat) and methods (risk reduction vs. care). Whether considering the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, the rise in non-communicable diseases, poor mental health, or the impact of environmental changes (e.g., climate change) or demographic shifts (e.g.,

migration and aging), there is an urgent need for better coordination and harmonization of public health and primary care in all of these areas. In fact, could these two types of health services contravene basic mathematics and be combined into one? With this call for papers, we invite articles presenting both positive and negative examples of the collaboration and integration between public health and primary care. The Call is open from 15 December 2021 until 31 August 2022. IJPH double-blind peer-review rules and author's guidelines apply.

CDC Evaluation Fellowship Program

Application for the Evaluation Fellowship Program is now open until February 22, 2022 11:59 pm EST. Register and attend one of the informational webinars for Fellow applicants to have your questions answered about the CDC Evaluation Fellowship Program and the application process.

Invitation to Front Line in Focus Webinar: Unlocking the Power of Nurse Leadership

Date: Feb 23, 2022

Time: 08:00 AM in Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Description: Women make up 70% of the global health workforce and 90% of all nurses, yet they only occupy 25% of health leadership positions. Nurses face complex barriers as they climb the ladder to advance in their careers. One persistent challenge is the perception of gender roles in the workplace. As a recent IntraHealth International report on nurse leadership states, nursing is perceived as a "feminine" and "nurturing" profession. The devaluation of "women's work" makes it difficult for nurses, of all genders, to secure leadership positions. What will it take for nurses to be perceived as leaders? What will it take for nurses to perceive themselves as leaders? Join the Johnson & Johnson Center for Health Worker Innovation for a Front Line in Focus webinar that brings together frontline health workers, civil society groups, academia and more for a conversation to explore key solutions to improve access to leadership opportunities for nurses. In a 90-minute session, this event will begin with opening remarks to set the context for a panel discussion, composed of nurses from all level/working in a variety of settings, across geographies, in discussion about the why nurse leadership is essential; barriers they face in career advancement; how they have overcome barriers; and what additional tools are needed. The panel could conclude with each panelist sharing in a sentence what makes them hopeful for the future of health.

Virtual conference: Equitable leadership in global health partnerships | Decolonising Global Health Workshop led by LSHTM TB Centre

Date: Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Time: 11:00 - 14:45

Programme

11.00-12.25: Session 1 - Researchers' experience of remaining barriers

13.00-14.45: Session 2 - Approaches to overcome these barriers

Date and time zone is UK

Recent calls to decolonise global health (DGH) have highlighted the continued existence of colonial structures in research into diseases of public health importance in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Marketing the \$55 billion formula milk industry

Event 1: Wednesday 23 February 2022 10:00 – 11:30 CET | Geneva, Switzerland

Event 2: Wednesday 23 February 2022 17:00 – 18:30 CET | Geneva, Switzerland

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and partners will launch a new report, How the marketing of formula milk influences our decisions on infant feeding. This report - the largest of its kind to date - draws on the experiences of over 8,500 women and 300 health professionals across eight countries. It exposes the aggressive marketing practices used by the formula milk industry, and highlights impacts on families' decisions about how to feed their babies and young children.

Click here to register for event 1: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/marketing-the-55-billion-formula-milk-industry-event-1-tickets-256402706397>

Click here to register for event 2: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/marketing-the-55-billion-formula-milk-industry-event-2-tickets-256714669487>

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Advisor: CCPAC Project: HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING (HSS) UNIT

Closing Date: 2022-02-22

Information System Support Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Specialists (5 positions): HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING (HSS) UNIT

Closing Date: 2022-02-22

Professional Nurse Clinician – DO ART Project: HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING (HSS) UNIT

Closing Date: 2022-02-22

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