



HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST BULLETIN

19 February 2010

In this issue

- **Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles**
 - [The tuberculosis challenge in a rural South African HIV programme](#)
 - [Linda-Gail Bekker: confronting the TB/HIV co-infection epidemic](#)
 - [Patent Pools for ARVs: Industry Perspectives from ASPEN](#)
 - [Gender, Climate Change and Health](#)
- **Recent News**
 - [447 cases of measles in Western Cape](#)
 - [Shot in the arm for HIV/AIDS treatment and for public-private partnerships](#)
 - [Debate on the President's State of the Nation Address](#)
 - [New treatment guidelines announced](#)
- **Reports**
 - [District Health Barometer 2008/09 draft chapters](#)
- **Publications**
 - [PMTCT strategic vision 2010-2015](#)
 - [A Guide to Tools for Assessments in Sexual and Reproductive Health](#)
- **Conferences**
 - [2nd Tuberculosis Conference](#)
 - [The 26th International Pediatric Association Congress of Pediatrics 2010](#)
 - [MedInfo 13th World Congress on Medical and Health Informatics 2010](#)
 - [First Global Symposium on Health Systems Research](#)
- **Training and Resources**
 - [19th WITS Skills Training Course](#)
 - [Post-Doctoral Fellowship: Gender and Population](#)
 - [Assessment tool for Measuring Transparency in the Public Pharmaceutical sector](#)
 - [Applications invited: IPHU short course](#)
- **Job Opportunities**
 - [Africa Health Placements](#)
 - [WGNRR Programme Assistant](#)
 - [Call for Interest from individuals wishing to apply for membership of the UNITAID-WHO Proposal Review Committee \(PRC\)](#)

Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

The tuberculosis challenge in a rural South African HIV programme

Catherine F Houliha. Portia C Mutevedzi. Richard J Lessells. Graham S Cooke. Frank C Tanser and Marie-Louise

South Africa remains the country with the greatest burden of HIV-infected individuals and the second highest estimated TB incidence per capita worldwide. Within South Africa, KwaZulu-Natal has one of the highest rates of TB incidence and an emerging epidemic of drug-resistant tuberculosis ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2334/10/23> [Accessed: 15 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Linda-Gail Bekker: confronting the TB/HIV co-infection epidemic

The Lancet, Volume 375, Issue 9714, Page 545. Published: 13 February 2010.

Bekker works among communities in Cape Town where clinics deliver services for TB and HIV. Her team is studying the dynamics of TB transmission in these populations, including the potential for nosocomial infection at health-care facilities. The Royal Society Pfizer Award will allow Bekker to continue this work at Nyanga Primary Health Clinic, using nebulised sputum samples to screen for TB, and to investigate the diversity and drug-resistance of TB strains in people with HIV on treatment, those not on treatment, and those without HIV. Bekker hopes the findings will have lessons for TB/HIV services throughout Southern Africa ...[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2810%2960217-6/fulltext?_eventId=login [Accessed: 15 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Patent Pools for ARVs: Industry Perspectives from ASPEN

Stavros Nicolaou. AIDS J. 2010; 4: 60–61. Published: 2010 January 19.

Affordability through reduced pricing is only one part of enhancing access to treatment in Public Health emergencies: Supply Security and the guarantee of supply consistency is the other. To the extent that Patent Pooling is able to create Regional African Manufacturing capability, Africans will support the concept. However, to the extent that it further decentralises manufacture away from the continent and increases Africa's dependence on imports, Patent Pooling can potentially weaken supply security and will continue to relegate Africa a Continent of dependency, rather than one that invests in its own capability ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2819695/?tool=pubmed> [Accessed: 15 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Gender, Climate Change and Health

WHO. Published: 2010.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has published a draft discussion paper titled "Gender, climate change and health". The draft discussion paper offers available information on the differential links between climate change and the health of women and men through the perspectives of direct and indirect health consequences, and the possible interaction of biological and social risk factors in determining these impacts. The paper aims to provide a framework for gendered health risk assessment and adaptation/mitigation actions in relation to climate change ...[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.who.int/globalchange/publications/reports/final_who_gender.pdf [Accessed: 15 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Recent News

447 cases of measles in Western Cape

IOL. Published: 11 February 2010.

The number of measles cases in the Western Cape has increased dramatically, and now stands at 447. According to the National Institute of Communicable Disease (NICD), there were at least 82 newly-confirmed laboratory cases in the province by Tuesday, bringing the number of cases to 447. Gauteng still has the highest burden, with 4 359 cases, followed by KwaZulu-Natal with 631, North West with 563, and then the Western Cape. In the past week, the Eastern Cape saw the highest number of newly confirmed cases. The 92 new cases there bring their total number of cases to 314. KwaZulu-Natal had 67 new cases and Gauteng 84, the institute said ...[More Information »](#)

Source: http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?set_id=1&click_id=125&art_id=vn20100211124839585C327588 [Accessed: 15 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Shot in the arm for HIV/AIDS treatment and for public-private partnerships

Tamar Kahn. Business Day. Published: 18 February 2010.

The Treasury has set aside an extra R8,4bn for HIV/AIDS over the next three years, reflecting its commitment to improving the quality of services for people affected by the disease and doubling the number of patients getting life-saving antiretroviral therapy ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.businessday.co.za/Articles/Content.aspx?id=94117> [Accessed: 18 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Debate on the President's State of the Nation Address

Aaron Motsoaledi, MP. DOH. Published: 15 February 2010.

The issue of quality of our health care services, specifically in the public sector is ever in the minds and lips of our people. It does appear quite frequently on pages of our newspapers, just as it did this past weekend. It is also echoed in the electronic media time and again ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.doh.gov.za/docs/sp/sp0215-f.html> [Accessed: 18 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

New treatment guidelines announced

PlusNews. Published: 16 February 2010.

New national treatment guidelines are set to make the world's largest antiretroviral (ARV) programme even bigger as South Africa extends treatment to more HIV-positive infants, pregnant women and people battling HIV-tuberculosis (TB) co-infection ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.plusnews.org/report.aspx?ReportID=88126> [Accessed: 16 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Reports

District Health Barometer 2008/09 draft chapters live online.

District health managers and policy makers across South Africa and world-wide will can now enjoy internet access to draft chapters of the District Health Barometer 2008/09. In keeping abreast with the latest international publishing trends, draft chapters of the District Health Barometer 2008/09 are being published on the HST website and later on CD. This will allow interested parties, researchers, health managers and policy makers to access chapters as they are made available, rather than having to wait for a printed publication ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.hst.org.za/news/20041957> [Accessed: 15 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Publications

PMTCT strategic vision 2010-2015

WHO.

Preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV to reach the UNGASS and Millennium Development Goals This publication reflects an important part of WHO's health sector response to HIV/AIDS and will contribute directly to the new Outcome framework of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). The purpose of this document is to define WHO's commitment to global and country support to scale up access to prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV services and integrate these services with maternal, newborn and child health programmes ...[More Information »](#)

Source: http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/mtct/strategic_vision/en/index.html [Accessed: 15 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

A Guide to Tools for Assessments in Sexual and Reproductive Health

UNFPA. Published: 2010

Fifteen years after ICPD, a large global family of development workers committed to universal access to sexual and reproductive health continue to work on improving the lives and expanding the choices of individuals and couples. Reproductive health is a human right, yet reproductive health conditions are the leading cause of death and illness in women of childbearing age worldwide. At least 200 million women who want to plan their families or space their births lack access to safe and effective contraception ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.unfpa.org/public/publications/pid/4778> [Accessed: 15 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Conferences

2nd Tuberculosis Conference

1-4 June 2010. ICC Durban, South Africa.

The 2nd SA TB Conference in Durban, South Africa from 1 to 4 June 2010 will focus on partnerships and how solidarity among the state, private sector and civil society at all levels and structures can increase access to services and prevent people dying from a curable disease. Forging Strategic Partnerships to Fight TB and HIV is the theme for this Conference, which will build on the awareness and commitment made by 1657 people that contributed to the success of the 1st SA TB Conference in 2008. The organisers invite abstract submissions for the 2010 Conference in the following three tracks:

Track 1: Basic Science

Track 3: Patient and Civil Society Mobilisation and Advocacy

Abstract submission and early registration closes on 21 January 2010.

More information can be found at <http://www.tbconference.co.za>

[back to top](#)

The 26th International Pediatric Association Congress of Pediatrics 2010

4-9 August 2010. Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa.

Three leading paediatric associations, IPA, SAPA, and UNASPA, are uniting to host the 26th International Paediatric Association Congress of Paediatrics.

More than 5,000 participants are expected to attend this landmark event, the first IPA Congress to be held in Sub-Saharan Africa. Just five years before the due date of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), IPA 2010 will unite paediatricians and health professionals working towards the MDGs target to reduce child mortality by two thirds before 2015. [Registration Details »](#)

Source: <http://www.kenes.com/ipa/mailshot/ms3.htm?ref3=db1> [Accessed: 13 October 2009]

[back to top](#)

MedInfo 13th World Congress on Medical and Health Informatics 2010

12-15 September 2010. Cape Town, South Africa.

This will be the first time MEDINFO is held in Africa. It promises to boost exposure to grassroots healthcare delivery and the underpinning health information systems. This will open the door to new academic partnerships into the future and help to nurture a new breed of health informaticians. [Registration Details »](#)

Source: www.medinfo2010.org [Accessed: 13 October 2009]

[back to top](#)

First Global Symposium on Health Systems Research

16-19 November 2010, Montreux, Switzerland.

The World Health Organization and partners will convene the inaugural global symposium on health systems research on 16-19 November 2010. Researchers, policy-makers, funders, and other stakeholders representing diverse constituencies will gather in Montreux, Switzerland to share evidence, identify significant knowledge gaps, and set a research agenda that reflects the needs of low and middle-income countries. The first symposium will be dedicated to improving the scientific evidence needed by health policy-makers and practitioners to inform their decisions related to accelerating universal health coverage. [Registration Details »](#)

Source: <http://www.hsr-symposium.org/> [Accessed: 04 February 2010].

[back to top](#)

Training and Resources

19th Wits Skills Training Course

University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.

Division of Rural Health, Department of Family Medicine.

The next Wits Clinical Skills Course will be held on Friday 19 March 2010. Participants have the chance to do 5 skills stations of 80 minutes each during the day. As always, the focus will be on practical skills relevant to rural hospital and primary care practice... [More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.hst.org.za/events/8528> [Accessed: 18 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Assessment tool for Measuring Transparency in the Public Pharmaceutical sector

WHO.

The tool represents the first step of a three-phase approach within The Good Governance for Medicines (GGM) programme started in late 2004, in line with the WHO Global Medicines Strategy 2004-2007. The GGM programme goal is to contribute to the health systems strengthening and prevent corruption by promoting good governance in the pharmaceutical sector. The purpose of the national assessment is to provide countries with a comprehensive picture of the level of transparency and potential vulnerability to corruption of the functions of the pharmaceutical sector ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.who.int/medicines/areas/policy/goodgovernance/AssessmentInstrumentMeastranspENG.PDF> [Accessed: 16 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Post-Doctoral Fellowship: Gender and Population

International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), Washington, DC.

ICRW is offering a post-doctoral fellowship for a social scientist with gender and population expertise at its Washington, DC office. This fellowship is geared toward early career Ph.D professionals who would like to conduct research within an action research organization and network with a wide range of experts on gender, population and development ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.icrw.org/html/jobs/Fellowships/Gender-and-Population-Fellowship.html> [Accessed: 16 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Applications invited: IPHU short course

Kisumu, Kenya. 12-28 April 2010.

The International People's Health University (IPHU) of the People's Health Movement and The Great Lakes University of Kisumu (GLUK) are pleased to announce "The Struggle for Health ", a 10 day short course for health activists. The course will be conducted in English and a limited number of scholarships for travel and accommodation will be available for qualified applicants from Sub-Saharan Africa and Kenya ...[More Information »](#)

Source: <http://www.phmovement.org/iphu/en/kisumu/announce> [Accessed: 18 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

Job Opportunities

AHP - African Health Placements

We are 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:

Government Hospitals with all recruitment needs.

No placement fees are charged. Please view the website for more details <http://www.ahp.org.za> or contact on 011 328 1300

[back to top](#)

WGNRR Programme Assistant

Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights wishes to recruit to two Programme Associates under 30 years old (PA) to work in the Manila Office, The Philippines, for a period of 6 months. We wish to recruit one PA from Latin America and one from Africa. These posts are intended for individuals who seek the opportunity to gain experience of working overseas within an international network. Please, send CV and cover letter (no more than 2 sides of A4) explaining why you wish to apply for the post and how you feel you meet the personnel specification to Coordinator@wgnrr.org by 28 February 2010. Should you wish to enquire more about the post please email office@wgnrr.org

[back to top](#)

Call for Interest from individuals wishing to apply for membership of the UNITAID-WHO Proposal Review Committee (PRC)

UNITAID

UNITAID is a global health initiative, established to provide sustainable, predictable and additional funding to significantly impact on market dynamics to reduce prices and increase the availability and supply of high quality medicines, diagnostics and related commodities for the treatment of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, primarily for populations in low-income and lower-middle income countries. This is a transparent "call for interest" from individuals wishing to apply for membership of their Proposal Review Committee ("PRC"); an independent, impartial team of experts tasked with providing technical expertise to UNITAID on proposals and related projects submitted to UNITAID for funding. Details of how to submit an application are at <http://www.unitaid.eu/en/Requests-for-proposals-RFP.html> with individual TORs and expertise criteria.

Source: <http://www.unitaid.eu/en/Requests-for-proposals-RFP.html> [Accessed: 16 February 2010]

[back to top](#)

[Forward this email](#) to a friend. Not interested anymore? [Unsubscribe](#).

Health Systems Trust
PO Box 808, Durban, 4000
Tel: 031 266 9090 Fax: 031 266 9199 Email: editor@hst.org.za

Copyright and Disclaimer

The copyright in the compilation of this bulletin, its name and logo is owned by the Health Systems Trust. You may not reproduce this bulletin, or its name or the Health Systems Trust's logo or its trademarks including those of any other third party that appears in this bulletin, in any form, or for commercial purposes or for purposes of advertising, publicity, promotion, or in any other manner implying their endorsement, sponsorship of, or affiliation with any product or service, without the Health Systems Trust's prior express written permission.

All information in this bulletin is provided in good faith but is relied upon entirely at your own risk. By making use of this bulletin and its information you agree to indemnify the Health Systems Trust, its Board of Trustees, Employees and Service Providers from all liability arising from its use.