

HST Bulletin



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

Regional Research–Policy Partnerships for Health Equity and Inclusive Development: Reflections on Opportunities and Challenges from a Southern African Perspective

Institute for Development Studies Bulletin | Published: 1 May 2019.

Nicola Yeates, Themba Moeti, Mubita Luwabelwa

This article critically reflects on the experience and lessons from a health-focused social policy research project (PRARI) involving a partnership spanning multiple countries across southern Africa and Europe. It asks what factors condition the efficacy of the partnership–policy nexus. The PRARI-SADC partnership case study used participatory action research (PAR) to create a regional indicators-based monitoring ‘toolkit’ of pro-poor health policy and change for the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

The article addresses the partnership drivers, features, methodological context, and process of the project, and the wider implications for constructing partnerships for social change impact.

Low intake of commonly available fruits and vegetables in socio-economically disadvantaged communities of South Africa: influence of affordability and sugary drinks intake

BMC Public Health | Published: 12 July 2019.

Kufre Joseph, Kululwa Ndayi, Lungiswa Tsolekile, David Sanders, Thandi Puoane

Consumption of fruits and vegetables reduces the risk of obesity, diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular mortality and all-cause mortality. The study assessed the pattern of intake and the factors that influence daily intake of commonly available fruits and vegetables in economically disadvantaged South African communities. This is a cross-sectional study nested on an ongoing longitudinal study in South Africa. Two communities (a rural and urban) of low socio-economic status were purposely selected from two of the nine provinces.

Effects of a School-Based Health Intervention Program in Marginalized Communities of Port Elizabeth, South Africa (the KaziBantu Study): Protocol for a Randomized Controlled Trial

JMIR Research Protocols | Published: 11 July 2019.

Ivan Müller, Danielle Smith, Larissa Adams, Ann Aerts, Bruce P Damons, Jan Degen, Stefanie Gall, Zaahira Gani, et al

The burden of poverty-related infectious diseases remains high in low- and middle-income countries, while noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) are rapidly gaining importance. To address this dual disease burden, the KaziBantu project aims at improving and promoting health literacy as a means for a healthy and active lifestyle. The project implements a school-based health intervention package consisting of physical education, moving-to-music, and specific health and nutrition education lessons from the KaziKidz toolkit. It is complemented by the KaziHealth workplace health intervention program for teachers.

Prevalence and sociodemographic correlates of common mental disorders among first-year university students in post-apartheid South Africa: implications for a public mental health approach to student wellness

BMC Public Health | Published: 10 July 2019.

Jason Bantjes, Christine Lochner, Wylene Saal, Janine Roos, Lian Taljaard, Daniel Page, Randy P Auerbach, Philippe Mortier et al

There is growing awareness of the need for effective prevention, early detection, and novel treatment approaches for common mental disorders (CMDs) among university students. Reliable epidemiological data on prevalence and correlates are the cornerstones of planning and implementing effective health services and adopting a public health approach to student wellness. Yet, there is a comparative lack of sound psychiatric epidemiological studies on CMDs among university students in low- and middle-income countries, like South Africa (SA). It is also unclear if historically marginalised groups of students are at

increased risk for mental health problems in post-apartheid SA. The objective of the study was to investigate the prevalence and sociodemographic correlates of lifetime and 12-month CMDs among university students in SA, with a particular focus on vulnerability among students in historically excluded and marginalised segments of the population.

Reflections from South Africa on the Value and Application of a Political Economy Lens for Health Financing Reform

Health Systems and Reform | Published: 8 July 2019.

Lucy Gilson

In this commentary, the framework is briefly applied to understand the 25-year history of debate and contestation around large scale health financing reform in South Africa. At the time of the first democratic elections in 1994, it was widely recognized that significant restructuring of the fragmented, inequitable and inefficient health system inherited from the apartheid era was needed.

Twenty-five years later it has, however, not yet been possible to secure sufficient political and popular support for any set of related proposals.

Institutional tuberculosis infection control in a rural sub-district in South Africa: A quality improvement study

African Journal of Primary Healthcare & Family Medicine | Published: 26 June 2019.

Martha B Mekebeb, Klaus von Pressentin, Louis S Jenkins

Tuberculosis (TB) is a major global health challenge, and South Africa is one of the high-burden countries. A national TB infection control (TBIC) guideline has stipulated three areas of infection control at health facilities: work practice and administrative control, environmental control, and personal protection for health workers. The aim of this study was to identify the gaps and address the challenges in institutional TBIC.

Knowledge, attitudes and peer influences related to pregnancy, sexual and reproductive health among adolescents using maternal health services in Ugu, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

BMC Public Health | Published: 11 July 2019.

Desiree Govender, Saloshni Naidoo, Myra Taylor

Knowledge and practices of sexual and reproductive healthcare is pivotal to the Safe Motherhood Initiative; however, only a few studies have investigated adolescent mothers' knowledge of sexual and reproductive health in light of the above initiative. Research should thus focus on the knowledge and attitudes of adolescent girls as well as peer influences related to pregnancy and sexual and reproductive health among adolescents, as the findings may highlight vital health interventions that should be introduced. The aim of this study was thus to determine the knowledge, personal attitudes and peer influences related to pregnancy, sexual and reproductive health among adolescents who attended

maternal health services in a district hospital in Ugu, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

Priority setting towards achieving under-five mortality target in Africa in context of sustainable development goals: an ordinary least squares (OLS) analysis

Global Health Research and Policy | Published: 26 June 2019.

Michael Acheampong, Chukwudi Ejiogor, Abraham Salinas-Miranda, Bryana Wall, Qiuyan Yu

Africa reduced its under-5 mortality rate (U5MR) by more than 50% during the MDGs era. However, it still has by far the highest average U5MR in the world – 81 deaths compared to a global average of 43 deaths per 1000 births, with eight of the ten countries in the world with the highest child mortality rates. The primary objective of our study was to examine the socioeconomic, healthcare, and environmental determinants that most account for U5MR disparities between African countries.

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

RECENT PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS

WHO & UN Emergencies Leadership Call For Major Funding Infusion To End Ebola Outbreak

Health Policy Watch | 15 July 2019.

In the wake of a new Ebola case in the border city of Goma, WHO and its UN partners are calling on donors to make major new funding commitments to halt the outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) – while WHO will reconvene an expert Emergency Committee to consider if the outbreak should be considered a “public health emergency of international concern.”

Could a National Health Insurance Fund be just months away?

Daily Maverick | 15 July 2019.

The time for talk is over, said Zweli Mkhize in his first budget speech as health minister. But if you thought that Cabinet’s approval of the National Health Insurance Bill was the end of discussions, here’s why you’re wrong, writes Laura Lopez Gonzalez for the Bhekisisa Centre for Health Journalism.

NHI: Doctors will treat everyone, regardless of their ability to pay

Times Live | 12 July 2019.

Doctors, nurses, dentists and hospitals will treat everyone when National Health Insurance (NHI) is rolled out, selecting them on the basis of how sick they are, rather than on their ability to pay, says health minister Dr Zweli Mkhize.

Wits, UJ and Tuks in talks with govt to roll out ARVs on campus

IOL | 17 July 2019.

The universities of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and Pretoria have revealed that they were in talks with the Gauteng Department of Health in a bid to roll out ARVs and the Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) pill.

This follows a recent announcement at the Cape University of Technology (CPUT), where the university became the first in the Western Cape province to roll out ARVs on campus.

HPV vaccine for boys 'will prevent thousands of cancers'

BBC | 9 July 2019.

Health officials say the HPV vaccine for 12 to 13-year-old boys, starting after the summer, will prevent 29,000 cancers in UK men in the next 40 years.

Global Action Plan For Health: Addressing Determinants Of Health Key To SDG Progress

Health Policy Watch | 11 July.

A new plan to improve collaboration across 12 United Nations and multilateral agencies to support UN member states to reach 2030 targets on health includes not only the ambitious aim of reducing bureaucracy and increasing efficiency, but of working better across sectors to address environmental, commercial and social factors that harm health.

Wiping out hunger in Africa could cost just \$5bn. What are we waiting for?

The Guardian | 15 July 2019.

Ripping off the bandage of food aid and investing in self-sufficiency is the only way to fight malnutrition. Billions are spent on humanitarian aid, yet nearly 60 million children across Africa go to bed hungry. Efforts to alleviate the constant cycle of droughts, poverty and war have caused new problems. The biggest of these is a crippling dependency on food aid that is undermining much of the continent's efforts to feed itself.

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

TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Publication of final versions of various guidelines

SAHPRA | 5 July 2019.

SAHPRA is pleased to announce the publication of multiple guidelines (including Tranche 1 and Tranche 2 documents). Thank you to industry for your comments, which were duly considered. Please note that the implementation date of the Professional Information (PI) and Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) Guidelines is contingent on regulation amendments currently out for comment. The implementation date of the Variations Addendum is contingent on the go-live of the Digital Variations Portal. Development of the portal is underway, and additional communication will follow. Timelines for submitting in eCTD and eSubmission format will be detailed in the Roadmap (2.26), an updated version of which will be published shortly.

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

PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

TREATS Annual Review 2018

TREATS consortium | 17 July 2019.

The first TREATS annual review 2018 outlines the project's key achievements so far and initial qualitative findings; building the foundations for a strong research project which will support the global ambition to end TB. In the first year of the project, the TREATS Study Advisory Group was formed and Community Advisory Boards were established in Zambia and South Africa to provide communities with an active voice in the TREATS project design and help to share its findings. In Zambia, the enrolment of participants for the infection cohort study – which will follow participants over two years to monitor TB incidence – began in July 2018. The target enrolment was achieved in all eight sites by November, with 4,111 households and 2,655 participants (aged 15-24 years) enrolled. Enrolment in South Africa also started in November, with 1,462 households and 322 participants enrolled.

Communities at the Centre

UNAIDS | 16 July 2019.

UNAIDS URGES INCREASED POLITICAL LEADERSHIP TO END AIDS AS PROGRESS SLOWS AND AVAILABLE FUNDING DROPS BY NEARLY US\$ 1 BILLION

UNAIDS new report shows how boosting community support can help to jumpstart progress . The pace of progress in reducing new HIV infections, increasing access to treatment and ending AIDS-related deaths is slowing down according to a new report released by UNAIDS. UNAIDS' Global AIDS Update, Communities at the Centre, shows a mixed picture with some countries making impressive gains while others are experiencing rises in new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths.

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

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

SAMA Conference

8-10 August 2019

Elangeni Hotel, Durban, South Africa

Rural Health Conference

5-7 September 2019

Kapenta Bay Hotel and Conference Resort, Port Shepstone, KwaZulu-Natal

Healthcare Innovation Conference

16-17 October 2019

Gallagher Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa

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

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

Health Systems Trust: Youth Ambassadors

Closing Date: 24 July 2019

Health Systems Trust: Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) Practitioner

Closing Date: 24 July 2019

Health Systems Trust: District Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

Closing Date: 24 July 2019

Health Systems Trust: Area Monitoring and Evaluation Officers

Closing Date: 24 July 2019

Health Systems Trust: Data Quality Monitoring Officers

Closing Date: 24 July 2019

Health Systems Trust: Deputy Monitoring and Evaluation Managers

Closing Date: 24 July 2019

Health Systems Trust: District Data Management Officers

Closing Date: 24 July 2019

Health Systems Trust: Facility Team Leaders

Closing Date: 24 July 2019

Health Systems Trust: Emerging Public Health Practitioner Award 2019

Closing Date: 31 July 2019

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



Copyright © 2019 HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

hst@hst.org.za

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Health Systems Trust · 34 Essex Terrace · Westville · Durban, KZN 3630 · South Africa

