

HST Bulletin



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ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Next generation clinical guidance for primary care in South Africa – credible, consistent and pragmatic

PlosOne | Published: 30 March 2018

Shingai Machingaidze, Karen Grimmer, Quinette Louw, Tamara Kreda, Taryn Young, Jimmy Volmink

Agreed international development standards underpin high quality de novo clinical practice guidelines (CPGs). There is however, no international consensus on how high quality CPGs should 'look'; or on whether high quality CPGs from one country can be viably implemented elsewhere. Writing de novo CPGs is generally resource-intensive and expensive, making this challenging in resource-poor environments. This paper proposes an alternative, efficient method of producing high quality CPGs in such circumstances, using existing CPGs layered by local knowledge, contexts and products.

What should the African health workforce know about disasters? Proposed competencies for strengthening public health disaster risk management education in Africa

BMC | Published: 2 April 2018.

Olushayo Olu, Abdulmumini Usman, Kalula Kalambay, Stella Anyangwe, Kuku Voyi, Christopher Garimoi Orach, Akliu Azazh, Mala Ali Mapatano, et al

As part of efforts to implement the human resources capacity building component of the African Regional Strategy on Disaster Risk Management (DRM) for the health sector, the African Regional Office of the World Health Organization, in collaboration with selected African public health training institutions, followed a multistage process to develop core competencies and curricula for training the African health workforce in public health DRM. In this article, we describe the methods used to develop the competencies, present the identified competencies and training curricula, and propose recommendations for their integration into the public health education curricula of African member states.

Contracting out to improve the use of clinical health services and health outcomes in low- and middle-income countries

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews | Published: 3 April 2018.

Willem A Odendaal, Kim Ward, Jesse Uneke, Henry Uro-Chukwu, Dereck Chitama, Yusentha

Balakrishna, Tamara Kredo

Contracting out of governmental health services is a financing strategy that governs the way in which public sector funds are used to have services delivered by non-governmental health service providers (NGPs). It represents a contract between the government and an NGP, detailing the mechanisms and conditions by which the latter should provide health care on behalf of the government. Contracting out is intended to improve the delivery and use of healthcare services. This Review updates a Cochrane Review first published in 2009.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in an era of stalled HIV prevention: Can it change the game?

BMC | Published: 2 April 2018.

Robyn Eakleil, Francois Venter, Helen Rees

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV prevention has evolved significantly over the years where clinical trials have now demonstrated the efficacy of oral PrEP, and the field is scaling-up implementation. The WHO and UNAIDS have made PrEP implementation a priority for populations at highest risk, and several countries have developed guidelines and national plans accordingly, largely based on evidence generated by demonstration projects. PrEP presents the opportunity to change the face of HIV prevention by offering a new option for protection against HIV and disrupting current HIV prevention systems. Nevertheless, as with all new technologies, both practical and social requirements for implementation must be taken into account if there is to be sustained and widespread adoption, which will also apply to forthcoming prevention technologies.

The Tablets, Ring, Injections as Options (TRIO) study: what young African women chose and used for future HIV and pregnancy prevention

Journal of the International AIDS Society | Published: 30 March 2018.

Ariane van der Straten, Kawango Agot, Khatija Ahmed, Rachel Weinrib, Erica N Browne, Kgahlisho Manenzhe, Fredrick Owino, Jill Schwartz, Alexandra Minnis on behalf of the TRIO Study Team

Preventing HIV and unintended pregnancies are key global health priorities. To inform product rollout and to understand attributes of future multipurpose prevention technologies (MPT) associated with preference and use, we evaluated three placebo delivery forms: daily oral tablets, a monthly vaginal ring, and two monthly intramuscular injections in TRIO, a five-month study among young Kenyan and South African women.

Integration of postpartum healthcare services for HIV-infected women and their infants in South Africa: A randomised controlled trial

PlosMedicine | Published: 30 March 2018.

Landon Myer, Tamsin K Phillips, Allison Zerbe, Kirsty Brittain, Maia Lesosky, Nei-Yuan Hsiao, Robert H Remien, Claude A Mellins, et al

As the number of HIV-infected women initiating lifelong antiretroviral therapy (ART) during pregnancy increases globally, concerns have emerged regarding low levels of retention in HIV services and suboptimal adherence to ART during the postpartum period. We examined the impact of integrating postpartum ART for HIV+ mothers alongside infant follow-up within maternal and child health (MCH) services in Cape Town, South Africa.

Extending beyond Policy: Reaching UNAIDS' Three "90"s in Malawi

Frontiers in Public Health | Published: 16 March 2018.

Zengani Chirwa, Florence Kayambo, Lolade Oseni, Marya Plotkin, Cyndi Hiner, Chimwemwe Chitsulo, Kelly Curran, Thokozani Kalua, Stacie C Stender

Malawi, like other countries with a generalized HIV epidemic, is striving to reach the ambitious targets set by UNAIDS known as the three 90's for testing, provision of antiretroviral therapy and viral suppression. Assisted by Malawi's progressive policies on HIV/AIDS, it appears possible that Malawi will attain these targets, but only by employing innovative program approaches to service delivery which help fill policy gaps. This article describes how a dedicated cadre of layperson testers and HIV-positive peers appears to have helped attain increases in HIV and viral load testing and retention in care in four districts in Malawi, and situates these innovations in a policy framework analysis.

In Women's Eyes: Key Barriers to Women's Access to HIV Treatment and a Rights-Based Approach to their Sustained Well-Being

There is rightly a huge global effort to enable women living with HIV to have long productive lives, through treatment access. However, many women living with HIV experience violence against women (VAW), in both domestic and health care settings. The ways in which VAW might prevent treatment access and adherence for women has not to date been reviewed coherently at the global level, from women's own perspectives. Meanwhile, funding for global health care, including HIV treatment, is shrinking. To optimize women's health and know how best to optimize facilitators and minimize barriers to access and adherence, especially in this shrinking funding context, we need to understand more about these issues from women's own perspectives.

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RECENT NEWS

Largest ever study on impact of TB and HIV interventions on sub-Saharan African TB burden

Medical Brief | 4 April 2018.

The impact of a combined TB and HIV intervention in tackling tuberculosis when delivered to the entire population of 14 urban, high prevalence communities in South Africa and Zambia, is to be measured in a new £10.5m multi-partner project.

Meet the man leading the charge against the global HIV/AIDS epidemic

The Washington Post | 27 March 2018.

Dr. Tedd Ellerbrock, chief of the HIV Care and Treatment Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has played a vital role in building, expanding and improving the U.S.-led program that provides medicine and assistance to more than 13 million people worldwide living with HIV/AIDS. In a conversation with Tom Fox, Ellerbrock talked about the importance of the CDC's mission, the dedication of the staff and his own journey to bring modern medicine to the developing world.

Better health services rest on building trust among healthcare workers

The Conversation | 28 March 2018.

A health system that communities experience as uncaring and unaccountable undermines and ultimately destroys trust in the health system. The most visible signs of a dysfunctional health system are the performance of its healthcare workers, specifically those working at the interface with communities. This includes nurses, doctors and community health workers.

Why People Don't Take Lifesaving Medications

The Atlantic | 27 March 2018.

People are remarkably bad at getting on and sticking with drug regimens—even when those drugs stop AIDS.

She's got a radical approach for the age of superbugs: Don't fight infections. Learn to live with them

STAT | 18 May 2018

As her father lay dying of sepsis, Janelle Ayres spent nine agonizing days at his bedside. When he didn't beat the virulent bloodstream infection, she grieved. And then she got frustrated. She knew there had to be a better way to help patients like her dad. In fact, she was working on one in her lab.

A clue for how to reduce HIV transmission when using hormonal contraceptives

The Conversation Africa | 21 March 2018.

More women are affected by human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) than any other life-threatening infectious agent. This makes it crucial to identify all factors increasing the risk of HIV infection.

Did a freak wave in Durban just expose cracks in government's HIV know-how?

Bhekisisa | 3 April 2018.

Misconceptions about HIV infection and injection drug use could shut down the only project working to

curb it.

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TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Managing complications in pregnancy and childbirth: a guide for midwives and doctors – 2nd ed.

World Health Organization, UNICEF, United Nations Population Fund | 2017.

Since the first edition was published in 2000, *Managing Complications in Pregnancy and Childbirth* has been translated into several languages and today is used widely in training for and the provision of emergency obstetric care. The new edition brings the guidance in the manual into line with WHO's current recommendations for emergency obstetric and newborn care.

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PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Overcoming Poverty and Inequality in South Africa: An Assessment of Drivers, Constraints and Opportunities

The World Bank | March 2018

This report is an analysis of South Africa's progress in reducing poverty and inequality since 1994, with 2006 to 2015 as a reference period. Its aim is to understand the dynamics of poverty and inequality in the country, to identify the drivers of progress for the purpose of further policy actions in this area.

Supplement: Adolescent Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision: Vital Intervention Yet Improvements Needed

Clinical Infectious Diseases | 15 April 2018.

Global experts recognize the need to transform conventional models of healthcare to create adolescent responsive health systems. As countries near 80% coverage of voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) for those aged 15–49 years, prioritization of younger men becomes critical to VMMC sustainability. This special supplement reporting 9 studies focusing on adolescent VMMC programming and services comes at a critical time. Eight articles report how well adolescents are reached with the World Health Organization's minimum package for comprehensive human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Tanzania, analyzing motivation, counseling, wound healing, parental involvement, female peer support, quality of in-service communication, and providers' perceptions, and one presents models for achieving high VMMC coverage by 2021.

Perinatal deaths in South Africa 2016

Stats SA | 27 March 2018.

Perinatal deaths are a combination of registered stillbirths and early neonatal deaths occurring during the first week of life. Information of perinatal deaths that occurred in South Africa for the year 2016 are highlighted in this statistical release. It also presents perinatal deaths that were registered during the 2016/2017 processing phase, which had occurred during the period 1997 to 2015, to show trends and patterns in the occurrence and registration of perinatal deaths. Information in this release is from perinatal deaths registered and collated through the national civil registration system maintained by the Department of Home Affairs.

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CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

MERH 2018 Congress (1st World Conference on Migration, Ethnicity, Health and Race)

17-19 May 2018

Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom

Africa Innovation Summit 2018

6-8 June 2018
Kigali Convention Centre, Kigali, Rwanda

SA TB Conference 2018

12-15 June 2018
Durban International Conference Centre, Durban, South Africa

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

Edendale Hospital: Clinical Nurse Practitioner (Primary Health Care)

Closing Date: 20 April 2018

Queen Nandi Regional Hospital: Medical Specialist (Obstetrics & Gynaecology)

Closing Date: 27 April 2018

Lambabo: Enrolled Nurse

Closing Date: 4 May 2018

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