



# HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST BULLETIN

20 December 2013

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## Dear Subscribers,

The HST Bulletin will be taking a break over the festive period. The next Bulletin will be published on 17 January 2014.

*Best wishes for the festive season and a prosperous New Year,*  
**The HST Bulletin Editorial Team**

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## Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

### Healthcare reform: Implications for knowledge translation in primary care

*Ann Dadich and Hassan Hosseinzadeh. BMC Health Services Research 2013, 13:490. Published: 25 November 2013.*

The primary care sector represents the linchpin of many health systems. However, the translation of evidence-based practices into patient care can be difficult, particularly during healthcare reform. The aim of this paper is to determine what works to facilitate evidence-based sexual healthcare within the primary care sector... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6963/13/490/abstract>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### The impact of chronic disease self-management programs: Healthcare savings through a community-based intervention

*SangNam Ahn, Rashmita Basu, Matthew Lee Smith, Luohua Jiang, Kate Lorig, Nancy Whitelaw and Marcia G Ory. BMC Public Health 2013, 13:1141. Published: 6 December 2013.*

Among the most studied evidence-based programs, the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) has been shown to help participants improve their health behaviors, health outcomes, and reduce healthcare utilization. However, there is a lack of information on how CDSMP, when nationally disseminated, impacts healthcare utilization and averts healthcare costs... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/13/1141/abstract>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### Strengthening the HIV cascade to ensure an effective future ART response in sub-Saharan Africa

*Darshini Govindasamy, Katharina Kranzer and Nathan Ford. Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg. Published: 26 November 2013.*

Timely linkage to antiretroviral therapy (ART) care is critical for reducing HIV-related morbidity, mortality and transmission. Studies investigating interventions to improve linkage to, and retention in, pre-ART care in sub-Saharan Africa were reviewed... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://trstmh.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2013/11/26/trstmh.trt105.long>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### Outcomes of antiretroviral treatment programmes in rural Lesotho: Health centres and hospitals compared

*Labhardt ND et al. Journal of the International AIDS Society 2013, 16:18616. Published: 21 November 2013.*

Lesotho was among the first countries to adopt decentralization of care from hospitals to nurse-led health centres (HCs) to scale up the provision of antiretroviral therapy (ART). We compared outcomes between patients who started ART at HCs and hospitals in two rural catchment areas in Lesotho... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3838571/pdf/JIAS-16-18616.pdf>[Accessed: 20 December 2013.]

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### What is actually measured in process evaluations for worksite health promotion programs: A systematic review

*Debbie Wierenga, Luuk H Engbers, Pepijn Van Empelen, Saskia Duijts, Vincent H Hildebrandt and Willem Van Mechelen. BMC Public Health 2013, 13:1190. Published: 17 December 2013.*

This review aims to: (1) further our understanding of the quality of process evaluations alongside effect evaluations for WHPPs, (2) identify barriers/facilitators affecting implementation, and (3) explore the relationship between effectiveness and the implementation process... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/13/1190/abstract>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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## Recent News

### **ARV treatment helps reduce TB in HIV patients: study**

*SABC. Published: 18 December 2013.*

A University of Cape Town study has found that antiretroviral treatment helps reduce incidents of tuberculosis in HIV-infected people, as well as the mortality of those infected with both diseases. The study was conducted on adults enrolled in a public sector treatment programme in the Free State...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.sabc.co.za/news/a/afb9cb80423a5f03b420fe56d5ffbd92/ARV-treatment-helps-reduce-TB-in-HIV-patients-study-20131812>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **US health policy weighs on SA's HIV patients**

*Mail&Guardian. Published: 18 December 2013.*

A forthcoming report, written by the US advocacy group Health Global Access Project (Health Gap) and the University of Pennsylvania, suggests that potentially tens or even hundreds of thousands of HIV patients may experience treatment interruptions as a result of a key change in policy for one of the world's largest HIV funders...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mg.co.za/article/2013-12-18-us-health-policy-weighs-on-sa-hiv-aids-patients>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **Nelson Mandela's activism remembered at AIDS and STIs conference**

*IRIN. Published: 9 December 2013.*

AIDS conference opening ceremonies are usually a buzzing cacophony of noise, protest and activity. But the 17th International Conference on AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in Africa, held in Cape Town, South Africa, has kicked off on a more sombre note. The death of Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa and noted AIDS activist, had speakers at the opening ceremony reflecting on his contribution to the global AIDS response...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.irinnews.org/report/99288/nelson-mandela-s-activism-remembered-at-aids-and-stis-conference>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **Finding new ways to make viral load testing cheaper**

*IRIN: published: 13 December 2013.*

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends routine viral load monitoring six months after starting the drugs, and then once a year to make sure the treatment is working, and to find treatment failures that must be switched to a different regimen, or to identify recipients who need support to stick to their medication. However, an MSF survey of 23 resource-limited countries found that the test was available in only four of them, while virtually all countries included viral load monitoring in their treatment guidelines...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.irinnews.org/report/99326/finding-new-ways-to-make-viral-load-testing-cheaper>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **Global health initiatives HIV treatment in South Africa has had "astounding" benefits**

*Aidsmap. Published: 12 December 2013.*

The roll-out of antiretroviral therapy (ART) in South Africa has achieved "astounding" results, a mathematical model published in the online edition of the Journal of Infectious Diseases shows. Each person who started HIV therapy between 2004 and 2011 had an individual gain in life expectancy of 11 to 13 years...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.aidsmap.com/HIV-treatment-in-South-Africa-has-had-astounding-benefits/page/2810573/>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **Shift in mood towards HIV**

*Mail&Guardian. Published: 11 December 2013.*

The mood of participants and topics of conversations at the the 17th International Conference on Aids and STIs in Africa (Icasa) taking place in Cape Town this week is notably different. Save for a few short protests Icasa has been tame, in part reflective of massive progress made in the past decade...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mq.co.za/article/2013-12-11-shift-in-mood-towards-hiv>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **Nurses at forefront of HIV fight**

*TimesLive. Published: 2 December 2013.*

On World Aids Day in 2010, President Jacob Zuma announced that adults with a CD4 count of less than 350, and all infected babies under 12 months, would be treated with antiretrovirals. The only way South Africa could make its ARV-treatment programme the world's biggest was to use nurses instead of doctors to treat and monitor HIV patients... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/thetimes/2013/12/02/nurses-at-forefront-of-hiv-fight>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **Trailblazing move to take HIV treatment out of clinics**

*Health-e News. Published: 2 December 2013.*

Some of South Africa's 2.4 million HIV patients will be able to get antiretroviral (ARV) outside of health clinics in a move the Department of Health hopes will help address stock outs... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/2013/12/02/trailblazing-move-take-treatment-clinics-shops/>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **Cancer institute charts course**

*Health-e News. Published 5 December 2013.*

Stellenbosch University recently launched the African Cancer Institute (ACI) to build African countries' abilities to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/2013/12/05/cancer-institute-charts-course/>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **Terms of healthcare inquiry get nod**

*BDLive. Published: 2 December 2013.*

Reaction from industry players to the significantly broadened scope of the Competition Commission's market inquiry into the private healthcare sector was mostly positive when the final terms of reference were published... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.bdlive.co.za/business/healthcare/2013/12/02/terms-of-healthcare-inquiry-get-nod>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **Firm warns on state role in private health**

*BDLive. Published: 17 December 2013.*

A month before the Competition Commission begins its inquiry into South Africa's private healthcare industry, research firm Econex has become the latest to warn that while some regulatory intervention may be required, direct government intervention in private health delivery is not necessarily a good thing... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.bdlive.co.za/business/healthcare/2013/12/17/firm-warns-on-state-role-in-private-health>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **NHI could push public spending on health to new heights**

*Health-e News. Published: 4 December 2013.*

South Africa's HIV treatment programme costs around R1,6-billion extra every year, according to Mark Blecher, Treasury's Chief Director for Health and Social Development. The country currently spends about four percent of its gross domestic product (GDP) on public health services, and a quarter of this is devoted to HIV... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/2013/12/04/nhi-push-public-spending-health-new-heights/>[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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### **Brazil and Thailand got it right - can SA really make NHI work?**

*Mail&Guardian. Published: 13 December 2013.*

In 1988, less than half of Brazil's population had health coverage, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO). But by 2008, it estimated that 75% were covered. By the early 2000s, nearly a decade ahead of schedule, Thailand had beaten or was on track to meet all of its millennium development goals, according to the United Nations Development Programme... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mq.co.za/article/2013-12-13-brazil-and-thailand-got-it-right-can-sa-really-make-nhi->

[work](#)[Accessed: 20 December 2013]

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## Training and Resources

### **UCLA Law - Sonke Health & Human Rights Fellowships for South Africans**

*When: 15 February 2014*

*Where: University of California, Los Angeles School of Law*

This course provides specialised training to top graduates from South African law schools for careers as impact-oriented public interest lawyers in the areas of health, human rights, HIV prevention, and gender equality. [Click Here>>](#)

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### **WHO launches MiNDbank**

*World Health Organization*

MiNDbank is an online platform bringing together country and international resources, covering mental health, substance abuse, disability, general health, human rights and development. [Click Here>>](#)

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## Reports and Publications

### **WHO Malaria Report**

*World Health Organization. Published: 2013.*

The World Malaria Report 2013 summarizes information received from malaria-endemic countries and other sources, and updates the analyses presented in the 2012 report. It also highlights the progress made towards global malaria targets set for 2015... [Click Here>](#)

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### **Handbook on Health Inequality Monitoring with a special focus on low- and middle-income countries**

*World Health Organization. Published: 2013.*

The World Health Organization developed the Handbook on health inequality monitoring: with a special focus on low- and middle-income countries to provide an overview for health inequality monitoring within low- and middle-income countries, and act as a resource for those involved in spearheading, improving or sustaining monitoring systems... [Click Here>](#)

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### **Towards an AIDS-Free Generation Children and AIDS: Sixth Stocktaking Report, 2013**

*UNICEF. Published: 2013.*

This Sixth Stocktaking Report focuses on the response to HIV and AIDS among children in low- and middle-income countries. It is structured around the first and second decades of a child's life... [Click Here>](#)

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### **AVAC Report 2013: Research & Reality**

*AVAC. Published: 2013.*

In the last few years we've seen major advances, but also have had sobering realizations about the difficulties of developing new HIV prevention options that can succeed both in trials and programs in the real world... [Click Here>](#)

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### **Access to Antiretroviral Therapy in Africa: Status Report on Progress Towards the 2015 Targets**

*UNAIDS. Published: 2013.*

Achieving the vision of zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths requires that everyone needing HIV treatment has access to life-saving medication and access to HIV prevention services... [Click Here>](#)

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## Conferences

### **Third International Conference of the African Health Economics and Policy Association (AfHEA)**

*When: 11-13 March 2014*

*Venue: Nairobi, Kenya*

*URL: <https://afhea.confex.com/afhea/intl14/cfp.cgi>*

This conference will examine the Post-2015 African Health Agenda and UHC: Opportunities and Challenges.

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#### **4th SA TB Conference**

*When: 10-13 June 2014*

*Venue: ICC Durban*

*URL: <http://www.tbconference.co.za>*

With the rollout of new molecular diagnostics and new TB drugs, we now bear witness to the dawn of a new age in the fight against TB. Meaningful impact will only be achieved with integration of all our efforts. We call on everyone working in all spheres of TB-HIV drug discovery, clinical management, patient advocacy, government policy and the basic sciences to attend this meeting.

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#### **20th International AIDS Conference**

*When: 20-25 July 2014*

*Venue: Melbourne, Australia*

*URL: <http://www.aids2014.org/>*

The AIDS 2014 programme will present new scientific knowledge and offer many opportunities for structured dialogue on the major issues facing the global response to HIV. A variety of session types - from abstract-driven presentations to symposia, bridging and plenary sessions - will meet the needs of various participants.

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#### **Third Global Symposium on Health Systems Research**

*When: 30 September to 3 October 2014*

*Venue: Cape Town, South Africa*

*URL: <http://hsr2014.healthsystemsresearch.org/>*

The theme of the symposium is the science and practice of people-centred health systems, chosen to enable participants to address current and critical concerns of relevance across countries in all parts of the world. Researchers, policy-makers, funders, implementers and other stakeholders, from all regions and all socio-economic levels, will work together on the challenge of how to make health systems more responsive to the needs of individuals, families and communities.

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## **Job Opportunities**

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#### **Nurses: HIV Counselling and Testing**

*Employer: Health Systems Trust*

*Closing Date: 30 December 2013*

**Please view our website for more details**

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/nurses-hiv-counselling-and-testing>

#### **Provincial Co-ordinator: National Lotteries Board Project**

*Employer: Health Systems Trust*

*Closing Date: 30 December 2013*

**Please view our website for more details**

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/provincial-co-ordinational-lotteries-board-project>

#### **Programme Coordinator**

*Employer: Jabulani Rural Health Foundation*

*Closing Date: 27 December 2013*

**Please view our website for more details**

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/programme-coordinator>

#### **Lecturer**

*Employer: Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation*

*Closing Date: 31 December 2013*

**Please view our website for more details**

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/lecturer>

#### **NHI Citizen Journalists**

*Employer: Health-e News*

*Closing Date: 31 December 2013*

**Please view our website for more details**

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/citizen-journalists-select-nhi-districts>

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