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Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

The Vancouver Consensus: Antiretroviral medicines, medical evidence, and political will

Chris Beyrer, Deborah L Birx, Linda-Gail Bekker, Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, Pedro Cahn, Mark R Dybul, et al. *The Lancet*. Published: 8 August 2015.

In 1996, the global HIV community gathered in Vancouver, Canada, for the XI International AIDS Conference and shared the clear evidence that triple-combination antiretroviral treatment held the power to stem the tide of deaths from AIDS. The HIV treatment era had begun...[Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(15\)61458-1/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(15)61458-1/fulltext)[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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Money and medicine: Indivisible and irreconcilable

Eli Y. Adashi. *AMA Journal of Ethics*. Published: August 2015.

First there was barter. A well-cooked meal for a lanced boil. Cords of wood for a home visit. A chimney sweep for a gash treated. And then there was commodity money such as tobacco, not to mention wampum...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/2015/08/msoc1-1508.html>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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Does the National Health Insurance Scheme provide financial protection to households in Ghana?

Anthony Kusi, Kristian Schultz Hansen, Felix A Asante and Ulrika Enemark. BioMed Central. Published: 15 August 2015.

Excessive healthcare payments can impede access to health services and also disrupt the welfare of households with no financial protection. Health insurance is expected to offer financial protection against health shocks. Ghana began the implementation of its National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) in 2004. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/s12913-015-0996-8.pdf>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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The female condom learning curve: Patterns of female condom failure over 20 uses

Mags Bekinska, Jenni Smit, Ross Greener, Gilda Piaggio, Carol Joanis. Contraception Journal. Published: 26 September 2014.

Male and female condom (FC) functional performance failure declines with user experience. With the recent availability of a wider range of FCs, it is important to know if women with experience in using one type of FC are more proficient in using another type, even if the FC design is quite different...[Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.contraceptionjournal.org/article/S0010-7824\(14\)00694-5/fulltext](http://www.contraceptionjournal.org/article/S0010-7824(14)00694-5/fulltext)[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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Turbo-charging tobacco control in South Africa

Derek Yach, Eile Alexander. South African Medical Journal. Published: August 2015.

Tobacco continues to be the leading cause of death and disease worldwide. Globally, the prevalence of smoking among adults decreased between 1980 and 2012 from 41% to 31% for men and from 11% to 6% for women, yet the number of smokers increased to nearly 1 billion by 2012...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://hmpg.co.za/index.php/samj/article/download/8032/9607>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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Recent News

Vaccine hesitancy: A growing challenge for immunization programmes

WHO. Published: 18 August 2015.

People who delay or refuse vaccines for themselves or their children are presenting a growing challenge for countries seeking to close the immunization gap. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2015/vaccine-hesitancy/en/>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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A milestone in Africa: No polio cases in a year

New York Times. Published: 11 August 2015.

It has been one full year since polio was detected anywhere in Africa, a significant milestone in global health that has left health experts around the world quietly celebrating...[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/12/health/a-milestone-in-africa-one-year-without-a-case-of-polio.html?emc=edit_th_20150812&n=todaysh headlines&nli d=60640071&r=1[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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It's time to better understand what makes primary health care work

Devex. Published: 10 August 2015.

A mother carries her sick child into a health clinic. He has had a fever for three days, and she hopes it isn't serious. What happens next should be a given – but all too often isn't...[Read More »](#)

Source: <https://www.devex.com/news/it-s-time-to-better-understand-what-makes-primary-health-care-work-86677>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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ANC prescribes lower health bills

The Times. Published: 19 August 2015.

The ANC wants cheaper private healthcare. In the discussion documents for its national general council meeting to be held in October, the party asks its committees to research the matter. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/thetimes/2015/08/19/ANC-prescribes-lower-health-bills>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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Men equally at risk of HPV infection

Mail&Guardian. Published: 11 August 2015.

Experts argue that vaccinating boys as well as girls for the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) would have a dual advantage as it would protect both men and their female partners from infection. HPV is largely transmitted through sexual contact. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mg.co.za/article/2015-08-11-men-equally-at-risk-of-hpv-infection>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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We can eliminate HIV by 2030. Regular testing is a crucial part of the solution.

The Guardian. Published: 10 August 2015.

The big announcement out of the AIDS conference in Vancouver last month was that early treatment of HIV is better than delayed treatment, with half the rate of death and complications. When I was discussing it with a patient shortly after, he was surprised that this counted as news. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/aug/08/eliminate-hiv-by-2030-regular-testing>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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Pathology wage deal averts disruption

Bdive. Published: 20 August 2015.

The National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS) and the National Education Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) have struck a one-year wage agreement, ensuring uninterrupted diagnostic pathology services for patients. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.bdlive.co.za/national/labour/2015/08/20/pathology-wage-deal-averts-disruption>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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Meningitis C vaccine shortage prompts fears of major outbreak in Africa

The Guardian. Published: 18 August 2015.

International public health organisations are appealing to pharmaceutical companies to help stem the rising number of cases of meningitis C... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2015/aug/18/fears-meningitis-c-major-outbreak-africa-vaccine-shortage>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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We want condoms in Gauteng schools, say Soweto groups

Health-e News. Published: 14 August 2015.

Soweto civil society groups say Gauteng Education MEC Panyaza Lesufi should provide the province's pupils with prophylaxis. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/2015/08/14/we-want-condoms-in-gauteng-schools-say-soweto-groups/>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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Health for youth to be cellphone closer

SABC. Published: 18 August 2015.

Young people will soon be able to access health information on their cellphones as the Health Department launches a mobile app for young people this week. [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.sabc.co.za/news/a/2587980049862f78936dbf392092d020/Health-for-youth-to-be-cellphone-closer-20150818>[Accessed: 21 August 2015]

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Training and Resources

Drug Information

WHO. Published: 10 July 2015.

WHO Drug Information provides an overview of topics of current relevance relating to drug development and regulation. [Click Here»](#)

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Policy brief – Transgender people and HIV

WHO. Published: July 2015.

This technical brief summarises essential information and existing WHO recommendations for HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care among transgender populations. [Click Here»](#)

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Books, Publications, Reports and Manuals

South African Health Review 2015/16 – Call for chapters

Health Systems Trust

The South African Health Review (SAHR), published annually by Health Systems Trust (HST) for 18 years, is an accredited peer-reviewed journal that is widely respected as an authoritative source of research, analysis and reflection on health systems. [Click Here»](#)

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The critical role of communities in reaching global targets to end the AIDS epidemic

UNAIDS. Published: 2015.

This report draws on multiple sources to document the many ways in which communities are advancing the response to AIDS, and the evidence for the effectiveness of these responses. Core areas of community-based activities include advocacy, service provision, community-based research and financing; each of these areas is illustrated by examples of community-based actions. [Click Here»](#)

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Conferences and Events

South African Disability 2015 Expo and Conference

When: 17-19 September 2015

Venue: The Pavilion on the Waterfront, Cape Town, South Africa

URL: <http://www.ingadaevents.co.za/current/disability-cape-town>

It is the only public showcase on the African continent where people with any kind of disability, their caregivers, families and friends can find the manufacturers, distributors, suppliers and service providers that offer everything necessary to improve the quality of life. The event advocates the full equality and participation of persons with disabilities into society and to empower and equip people by making a meaningful contribution to their lives.

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Hospital Association of South Africa 2015 Conference

When: 21-23 September 2015

Venue: Cape Town International Convention Centre, Cape Town, South Africa

URL: <http://www.conferencehasa.co.za>

The Hospital Association of South Africa's (HASA) 2015 annual conference will return to familiar ground, once again taking place at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC). The 2015 conference theme – "Harmonising Healthcare. Shift. Synchronise. Symphony" – speaks to the need for all healthcare stakeholders to explore practical ways in which to bring harmony to all facets of the sector in order to establish a sustainable quality healthcare system that will be able to better serve the citizens of our nation.

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Rural Doctors Association of South Africa (RuDASA)

When: 23-26 September 2015

Venue: Mpumalanga, South Africa

URL: <http://www.rudasa.org.za/>

An annual RuDASA conference has been organised almost every year since 1996, and attracts a range of rural health professionals from all over the country. The conference is a much-anticipated, vibrant forum which combines a mixture of sessions ranging from clinical skills updates for and by a wide range of health professionals to emotive discussions and workshops on issues such as justice and equity.

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South African Association of Community Pharmacists (SAACP) Symposium

When: 25-26 September 2015

Venue: Birchwood Hotel and Conference Centre, Johannesburg

URL: <http://www.saacpsymposium.co.za>

SAACP is the professional body representing the community pharmacy sector of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa, and needs to take the lead in marketing the unique role and contribution of community pharmacists in healthcare delivery now and in the future in South Africa. This Symposium is the first stepping

stone in influencing policies and legislation governing the professional role of community pharmacists.

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Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA) Conference

When: 7-9 October 2015

Venue: Southern Sun Elangeni, Durban, South Africa

URL: <http://www.phasaconference.org.za>

The 11th Annual Conference of the Public Health Association of South Africa takes place between 7-9 October 2015 in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal. With 2015 being the target date for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the conference will provide an opportunity to reflect on the challenges faced by South Africa and Africa in trying to achieve the MDGs.

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9th Action Learning, Action Research (ALARA) and 13th Participatory Action Research World Congress

When: 4-7 November 2015

Venue: St. George Hotel and Conference Centre, Centurion (Pretoria), South Africa

URL: <http://www.alarassociation.org/pages/events/alara-world-congress-2015>

The theme of this World Congress is a challenge to Action Learning / Action Research practitioners the world over, whether working in resource rich or more socio-economically challenged contexts, to explain how they are contributing to the creation of a fairer world.

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9th World Congress on Developmental Origins of Health and Disease

When: 8-11 November 2015

Venue: Cape Town International Convention Centre, South Africa

URL: <http://www.dohad2015.org/>

The 9th World Congress in Cape Town, South Africa, will bring together scientists, clinical researchers, obstetricians, paediatricians, public health professionals and policy leaders from around the world. These experts will address, head-on, the many challenges that currently impact the health of mothers, babies in the womb, infants, children and adolescents, as well as explore solutions, interventions and policies to optimise health across the life of people. The 9th World Congress, the first to be held in Africa, presents an incredible opportunity to feature the vastly relevant DOHaD research to African researchers, clinicians and policy leaders. This important event is expected to attract more than 1 200 participants and will showcase over 350 speakers.

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18th International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa

When: 29 November to 4 December 2015

Venue: Rainbow Towers Hotel & Conference Centre, Harare, Zimbabwe

URL: <http://icasa2015zimbabwe.org/overview/icasa-2015-background/>

As ICASA Zimbabwe coincides with the MDG target year, the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa is offering the strategic first forum for post-MGD to leaders, activists, scientists and community to take stock of the outcomes of the MDG high level meeting challenges and to pave the way for a new, innovative and efficient approach towards an Africa AIDS free generation.

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6th Child Health Priorities Conference: Walk the Talk

When: 3-5 December 2015

Venue: University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg Campus, South Africa

Contact: infochpc2015@gmail.com

The theme of the conference this year is "Walk the Talk" and the focus will be the recommendations that have arisen from the Ministerial Committees looking at Maternal, Newborn and Child Mortality.

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Sparking Population Health Solutions 2016

When: 25-26 April 2016

Venue: Shaw Centre Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada

URL: <http://bit.ly/1ePNrmp>

Global health problems cannot be solved one person at a time. Policies, programs, and how resources are distributed all contribute to preventing disease, promoting health and addressing the determinants of health. Population health research has catalyzed new ways of thinking about why some people are healthy (and others are not) by shining the light on the social, cultural and environmental factors that determine health and disease. We now have a wealth of new knowledge from the investments we've made. So what's next? Join us in the conversation.

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Job Opportunities

MatCH: Medical Officer

Closing Date: 25 August 2015

Please view our website for more details

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/medical-officer>

Witkoppen Health and Welfare Centre: Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist

Closing Date: 28 August 2015

Please view our website for more details

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/monitoring-and-evaluation-specialist>

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