

# HST Bulletin



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## ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

### **The integration of the global HIV/AIDS response into universal health coverage: desirable, perhaps possible, but far from easy**

*BMC Globalization and Health | Published: 18 June 2019.*

*Gorik Ooms, Krista Kruja*

The international community's health focus is shifting from achieving disease-specific targets towards aiming for universal health coverage. Integrating the global HIV/AIDS response into universal health coverage may be inevitable to secure its achievements in the long run, and for expanding these achievements beyond addressing a single disease. However, this integration comes at a time when international financial support for the global HIV/AIDS response is declining, while political support for universal health coverage is not translated into financial support. To assess the risks, challenges and opportunities of the integration of the global HIV/AIDS response into national universal health coverage

plans, we carried out assessments in Indonesia, Kenya, Uganda and Ukraine, based on key informant interviews with civil society, policy-makers and development partners, as well as on a review of grey and academic literature.

### **‘We must treat them like all the other people’: Evaluating the Integrated Key Populations Sensitivity Training Programme for Healthcare Workers in South Africa**

*Southern African Journal of HIV Medicine | Published: 30 April 2019.*

*Zoe Duby, Francisco Fong-Jaen, Busisiwe Nkosi, Benjamin Brown, Andrew Scheibe*

Sensitisation training can reduce judgemental and discriminatory attitudes amongst healthcare workers. The ‘Integrated Key Populations Sensitivity Training Programme for Healthcare Workers in South Africa’ aimed to improve access to appropriate and non-judgemental health services for ‘key populations’, specifically men who have sex with men, sex workers and people who use drugs, through the sensitisation of healthcare workers. The aim of this study was to evaluate the effects of the integrated key population sensitisation training intervention for healthcare workers, conducted between 2013 and 2014 in South Africa.

### **Mapping evidence of intervention strategies to improving men’s uptake to HIV testing services in sub-Saharan Africa: A systematic scoping review**

*BMC Infectious Diseases | Published: 6 June 2019.*

*Mbuzeleni Hlongwa, Tivani Mashamba-Thompson, Sizwe Makhunga, Khumbulani Hlongwana*

HIV testing serves as a critical gateway for linkage and retention to care services, particularly in sub-Saharan African countries with high burden of HIV infections. However, the current progress towards addressing the first cascade of the 90–90-90 programme is largely contributed by women. This study aimed to map evidence on the intervention strategies to improve HIV uptake among men in sub-Saharan Africa.

### **“I take my pills every day, but then it goes up, goes down. I don’t know what’s going on”:** Perceptions of HIV virological failure in a rural context in Mozambique. A qualitative research study

*PlosOne | Published: 17 June 2019.*

*Ivan Alejandro Pulido Tarquino, Emilie Venables, Jose Manuel de Amaral Fidelis, Ruggero Giuliani, Tom Decroo*

HIV prevalence in Mozambique is estimated to be 13.2%. Routine viral load for HIV monitoring was first implemented in the rural area of Tete in 2014. Programmatic data showed an unexpected high proportion of high viral load results, with up to 40% of patients having a viral load above 1000 copies/ml. This qualitative study aimed to explore perceptions about virological failure and viral load monitoring from the perspective of HIV positive patients on first-line antiretroviral therapy (ART) and health-care workers.

### **Assessing urban-rural differences in the relationship between social capital and depression among Ghanaian and South African older adults**

*PlosOne | Published: 19 June 2019.*

*Dzifa Adjaye-Gbewonyo , George W Rebok, Alden L Gross, Joseph J Gallo, Carol R Underwood*

Research has demonstrated benefits of social capital on depression, but variations in this relationship by geographic characteristics such as urbanicity have rarely been investigated.

Using survey data on 4,209 Ghanaian and 3,148 South African adults aged 50 and above from the World Health Organization (WHO) Study on Global AGEing and Adult Health (SAGE), exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses were conducted to extract dimensions of social capital from survey items. Structural equation models with the extracted factors were then used to estimate the associations between social capital and depression in each sample and assess differences between urban and rural settings with measurement and structural invariance tests.

### **Exploring the Potential Health Risks Faced by Waste Pickers on Landfills in South Africa: A Socio-Ecological Perspective**

*International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health | Published: 11 June 2019.*

*Catherina J Schenck, Phillip F Blaauw, Jacoba MM Viljoen, Elizabeth C Swart*

Landfill and street waste pickers in South Africa are responsible for collecting substantial volumes of recyclable material, saving municipalities millions and contributing to a generally healthier and cleaner environment. Yet waste pickers continue to operate on the fringes of the economy and are exposed to many risks, particularly health risks which have a direct impact on the sustainability of their livelihoods. This article, using a mixed-methods approach, explores the health risks to which waste pickers working on nine different landfills in the country are exposed. The socio-ecological framework was used to analyse and present the results. A key finding was that waste picking, by its very nature, lends itself to innumerable health risks, but that these can be lessened through concerted and collaborative efforts on the part of landfill operators, local authorities and other stakeholders.

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## **RECENT PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS**

### **Major R&D Funding Needed To Reach 2030 Goal for Ending TB Epidemic**

*Health Policy Watch | 17 June 2019.*

Nine months after a historic high-level UN meeting where countries pledged to end the global tuberculosis epidemic by 2030, a chronic lack of R&D financing jeopardises that ambitious goal, said expert panelists at a briefing on the TB R&D landscape last week in Geneva, hosted by South Africa's Permanent Mission to the UN.

### **New study finds no link between HIV infection and contraceptive methods**

*World Health Organisation | 13 June 2019.*

A large clinical research study conducted in four African countries found no significant difference in risk of

HIV infection among women using one of three highly effective, reversible contraceptive methods.

### **Your Youth Day reality check: 'Life for young women navigating puberty is gruesome'**

*Bhekisisa | 13 June 2019.*

We've proven Depo Provera doesn't make it easier to contract HIV. But African women are still left with too few contraceptive choices.

### **AIDS drug shortage in Limpopo, says TAC**

*GroundUp | 12 June 2019.*

Global shortage of essential antiretroviral lamivudine, reports Department of Health. The Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) says it has found stockouts of AIDS medicines, known as antiretrovirals, at Limpopo health facilities.

### **Increase public health funding, civil society urges government**

*BD Live | 18 June 2019.*

Institute for Economic Justice and Section 27 say that despite high medical inflation and rising disease burden funding for health has been cut.

### **Nobel Prize winner Tu Youyou may have found solution to malaria drug resistance**

*South China Morning Post | 17 June 2019.*

A top Chinese scientist says her team has found a way to tackle resistance to malaria drug artemisinin, state media reported on Monday. Tu Youyou, who won the 2015 Nobel Prize for medicine for discovering the treatment, announced the development on Friday at a public health forum in Beijing, according to state news agency Xinhua.

### **What if AI in health care is the next asbestos?**

*STAT News | 19 June 2019.*

Artificial intelligence is often hailed as a great catalyst of medical innovation, a way to find cures to diseases that have confounded doctors and make health care more efficient, personalized, and accessible. But what if it turns out to be poison?

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## **TRAINING AND RESOURCES**

### **South African National Department of Health PHC Facilities Site**

*National Department of Health | June 2019.*

The site provides information on primary health care facilities in the public health sector. You can search for a Primary Health Care facility in one of the following ways:

1. Search by selecting a Province and District
2. Search by typing the Facility name

### **AWaRe Antimicrobial Tool**

*World Health Organisation | 19 April 2019.*

AWaRe is a useful tool to reduce antimicrobial resistance and ensure access. The AWaRe tool was developed by the WHO Essential Medicines List to contain rising resistance and make antibiotic use safer and more effective. It classifies antibiotics into three groups – Access, Watch and Reserve – and specifies which antibiotics to use for the most common and serious infections, which ones should be available at all times in the healthcare system, and those that must be used sparingly or preserved and used only as a last resort.

### **Integrated Healthcare for Children with Developmental Disabilities**

*FutureLearn | Begins July 2019.*

This is a free online course from the International Centre for Evidence in Disability at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. Over this 3 week course, you will explore how to deliver appropriate, high-quality healthcare for children with development disabilities.

By the end of the course you will be able to:

- Describe developmental disability and the impact of impairment on children and their families
- Explain how early intervention can improve long-term outcomes for children with developmental disabilities
- Identify the specialist and general healthcare needs of children with developmental disabilities
- Investigate the barriers and solutions to improve a child's access to healthcare services
- Explore the importance of working in equal partnership with children and their families
- Reflect on the broader needs and fundamental rights of children with developmental disabilities
- Discuss how to collaborate with other service providers

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## **PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS**

### **Eswatini Service Availability and Readiness Assessment (SARA)**

*Eswatini Ministry of Health | 5 April 2019.*

The Service Availability and Readiness Assessment (SARA) effort builds on previous and current approaches designed to assess health service delivery in Eswatini. The SARA methodology takes into account best practices and lessons learned from the many countries that have implemented health facility assessments of service availability and readiness. SARA is designed to assess and monitor the availability of health services in countries and how prepared health facilities are to provide these services.

This survey aims to generate evidence to inform and enhance health sector planning and management and is built upon the almost similar previous assessment approaches.

### **Eswatini Quality of Care Review Report 2017/18**

*Eswatini Ministry of Health | 17 April 2019.*

The Quality of Care Review was conducted in a nationally-representative sample of 20 facilities found in the 4 regions of the country. The sample comprised of public, private and non-governmental health facilities, and results were stratified by facility level, operating authority and ownership. The assessment involved reviewing patient and facility records in a sample of health facilities on the quality of care provided for HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria. A review team collected the required data at health facilities by administering data collection tools with responsible personnel at these facilities.

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## **CONFERENCES AND EVENTS**

### **1st International Blizard/ Queen Mary tuberculosis symposium**

26-27 June 2019

Tradate, Italy

### **10TH IAS Conference on HIV Science (IAS 2019)**

21-24 July 2019

Mexico City, Mexico

### **Healthcare Innovation Summit Africa 2019**

16-17 October 2019

Gallagher Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa

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## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Please click on the job title for more information.

### **Irene Homes: Senior Nursing Professional**

Closing Date: 21 June 2019

### **Save the Children: Health & Nutrition Thematic Head - Senior Manager**

Closing Date: 30 June 2019.

**FHI360: Associate Director: Monitoring & Evaluation - Eswatini**

Closing Date: 15 July 2019.

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