

HST Bulletin



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ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

High-quality health systems in the Sustainable Development Goals era: time for a revolution

The Lancet Global Health Commission | Published: 5 September 2018.

Margaret E Kruk, Anna D Gage, Catherine Arsenaault, Keely Jordan, Hannah H Leslie, Sanam Roder-DeWan, Olusoji Adeyi, Pierre Barker, et al

Although health outcomes have improved in low-income and middle-income countries (LMICs) in the past several decades, a new reality is at hand. Changing health needs, growing public expectations, and ambitious new health goals are raising the bar for health systems to produce better health outcomes and greater social value. But staying on current trajectory will not suffice to meet these demands. What is needed are high-quality health systems that optimise health care in each given context by consistently delivering care that improves or maintains health, by being valued and trusted by all people, and by responding to changing population needs. Quality should not be the purview of the elite or an aspiration for some distant future; it should be the DNA of all health systems. Furthermore, the human right to health is meaningless without good quality care because health systems cannot improve health without it.

Improving management of tuberculosis in people living with HIV in South Africa through integration of HIV and tuberculosis services: a proof of concept study

BMC Health Services Research | Published: 14 September 2018.

Irit Sinai, Farley Cleghorn, Hans Friedemann Kinkel

South Africa's tuberculosis burden is the third highest globally and is closely associated with the country's devastating HIV epidemic. The separation of HIV and TB services in primary healthcare services in South Africa hampers TB case finding in patients who are co-infected with HIV and TB. This operational proof of concept study assessed an approach to improving tuberculosis detection and treatment by integrating tuberculosis management into HIV care.

Who are the male partners of adolescent girls and young women in Swaziland? Analysis of survey data from community venues across 19 DREAMS districts

PlosOne | Published: 14 September 2018.

Zahra Reynolds, Ann Gottert, Erin Luben, Bheki Mamba, Patrick Shabangu, Nsindiso Dlamini, Muhle

Dlamini, Sanyukta Mathur, Julie Pulerwitz

Adolescent girls and young women (AGYW, ages 15–24) are at high risk of HIV in Swaziland. Understanding more about their male sexual partners can inform HIV prevention efforts for both. Using the PLACE methodology across all 19 DREAMS implementation districts, 843 men ages 20–34 were surveyed between December 2016–February 2017. Surveys were conducted at 182 venues identified by community informants as places where AGYW and men meet/socialize. Descriptive and multivariate analyses examined characteristics and risk behaviors of male partners of AGYW.

The Empower Nudge lottery to increase dual protection use: a proof-of-concept randomised pilot trial in South Africa

Reproductive Health Matters | Published: 13 September 2018.

Omar Galárraga, Jane Harries, Brendan Maughan-Brown, Diane Cooper, Susan E Short, Mark N Lurie, Abigail Harrison

The objective of this study is to measure the preliminary efficacy of a pilot intervention, grounded in behavioural economics, increasing adherence of dual protection (simultaneous use of effective modern contraception and a barrier method, such as a condom) to protect against HIV, other sexually transmitted infections, and unintended pregnancy. Between 2015 and 2016, 100 women aged 18–40 years, seeking post-abortion care in Cape Town, South Africa were recruited to Empower Nudge, a randomised controlled trial to test a lottery incentive intervention designed to increase dual protection.

Lessons from a decade of voluntary medical male circumcision implementation and their application to HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis scale up

International Journal of STDs & AIDS | Published: 16 August 2018.

Jason B Reed, Rupa R Patel, Rachel Baggaley

Oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) has the ability to curb HIV incidence worldwide and bring us closer to ending the HIV epidemic. Scale up of PrEP service delivery has many similar challenges to those faced by voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) services roll-out. This article outlines ten important lessons learned during the scale up of VMMC services in sub-Saharan Africa and their application to current oral PrEP implementation efforts to promote faster expansion for public health impact.

Impacts of Climate Change on Health and Wellbeing in South Africa

Environmental Research and Public Health | Published: 31 August 2018.

Matthew F Chersich, Caradee Y Wright, Francois Venter, Helen Rees, Fiona Scorgie, Barend Erasmus

Given its associated burden of disease, climate change in South Africa could be reframed as predominately a health issue, one necessitating an urgent health-sector response. The growing impact of climate change has major implications for South Africa, especially for the numerous vulnerable groups in the country. We systematically reviewed the literature by searching PubMed and Web of Science.

Worldwide trends in insufficient physical activity from 2001 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 358 population-based surveys with 1.9 million participants

The Lancet | Published: 4 September 2018.

Regina Guthold, Gretchen A Stevens, Leanne M Riley, Prof Fiona C Bull

Insufficient physical activity is a leading risk factor for non-communicable diseases, and has a negative effect on mental health and quality of life. We describe levels of insufficient physical activity across countries, and estimate global and regional trends.

“Life continues”: Patient, health care and community care workers perspectives on self-administered treatment for rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis in Khayelitsha, South Africa

PlosOne | Published: 14 September 2018.

Erika Mohr, Leigh Snyman, Zodwa Mbakaz, Judy Caldwell, Virginia DeAzevedo, Yulene Kock, Laura Trivino Duran, Emilie Venables

Self-administered treatment (SAT), a differentiated model of care for rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis (RR-TB), might address adherence challenges faced by patients and health care systems. This study explored patient, health-care worker (HCW) and community care worker (CCW) perspectives on a SAT pilot programme in South Africa, in which patients were given medication to take at home with the optional support of a CCW.

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RECENT NEWS

The progressive case for delaying NHI

Daily Maverick | 18 September 2018.

With a wave of populism and an election around the corner, there is a risk that we will not navigate the tricky waters ahead with sufficient care and end up blundering into dead ends or running those still functioning parts of our healthcare system on to the rocks.

'Fewer people will afford medical aid'

IOL | 18 September 2018.

AfroCentric Investment Corporation chief executive Antoine van Buuren [on Monday] said that the biggest challenge in healthcare was the affordability of medical aid. Van Buuren said fewer people would be able to afford medical aid, as the country had slipped into recession after gross domestic product fell in the second quarter.

Scientists warn of global crisis over failure to tackle tuberculosis

The Guardian | 17 September 2018.

With 10 million new cases each year, outcome of UN summit in New York could prove crucial.

Almost 40% of South Africans dangerously inactive — WHO study

Medical Brief | 19 September 2018.

A quarter of the world's adults are doing too little exercise, putting them at risk of cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, dementia, and some cancers – and there has been no improvement over the past 15 years.

Eastern Cape health department bleeds an unbudgeted R260-million

Times Live | 17 September 2018.

The Eastern Cape departments of health and education are facing hundreds of lawsuits, with Eastern Cape Premier Phumulo Masualle admitting last week that the health department had paid more than R250-million in claims in one year.

Personal, home-based consumption of cannabis is decriminalised

Daily Maverick | 18 September 2018.

The highest court of the land ruled on Tuesday that it was unconstitutional to continue to criminalise marijuana intended for personal and private use.

Africa's population growth puts poverty progress at risk – Gates

IOL | 19 September 2018.

Rapid population growth in some of Africa's poorest countries could put at risk future progress towards reducing global poverty and improving health, according to a report by the philanthropic foundation of Bill Gates.

High rates of smoking in people with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa

AidsMap | 13 September 2018.

Having HIV is associated with a greater likelihood of cigarette smoking and using smokeless tobacco, according to research conducted in 25 sub-Saharan African countries and published in *Nicotine and Tobacco Research*.

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TRAINING AND RESOURCES

90-90-90 Compendium Volume 4: Zulu and Xhosa translations

Health Systems Trust | Published: August 2018.

This volume of Health Systems Trust's 90-90-90 Compendium offers a handy resource for community health workers and caregivers, community-based and faith-based organisations, and other networked

associations, to share with their clients and constituencies. The publication is now available in both Zulu and Xhosa.

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PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Global Tuberculosis Report 2018

World Health Organisation | Published: 18 September 2018.

TB remains the world's deadliest infectious disease, according to a new report.

In 2017, 1.6 million people around the world died of tuberculosis (TB) which persists as the globe's top infectious disease killer, despite being preventable and curable.

This is according to the World Health Organisation's (WHO) latest Global Tuberculosis Report, which includes data from 205 countries and territories, published on Tuesday. Deaths are down slightly from the 1.7 million in 2016, but the disease still claims 4000 lives every day.

The Goalkeepers Report 2018

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation | Published: 18 September 2018.

The Goalkeepers Report is published every year and charts the progress toward the Global Goals. This year's report focuses on youth population growth that will affect future world progress. To put it bluntly, decades of stunning progress in the fight against poverty and disease may be on the verge of stalling. This is because the poorest parts of the world are growing faster than everywhere else; more babies are being born in the places where it's hardest to lead a healthy and productive life. If current trends continue, the number of poor people in the world will stop falling—and could even start to rise.

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CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

5th Global Symposium on Health Systems Research

8-12 October 2018

ACC Liverpool, United Kingdom

HIV Clinicians Society Conference

24-27 October 2018

Gallagher Convention Centre, Johannesburg

Free State Annual Provincial Research Day

8-9 November 2018

Location TBA

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

mothers2mothers: Project Manager - Nelspruit

Closing Date: 30 September 2018

Lily of the Valley: Senior Child and Youth Care Worker

Closing Date: 30 September 2018

Malamulele Onward: Therapist

Closing Date: 19 October 2018

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