



HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST BULLETIN

22 July 2011

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Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

The Risk of Asbestos Exposure in South African Diamond Mine Workers

Gill Nelson, Jill Murray and James Ian Phillips. *Ann Occup Hyg* (2011) 55 (6): 569-577. Published: July 2011.

Asbestos is associated with South African diamond mines due to the nature of kimberlite and the location of the diamond mines in relation to asbestos deposits. Very little is known about the health risks in the diamond mining industry. The objective of this study was to explore the possibility of asbestos exposure during the process of diamond mining...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://annhyg.oxfordjournals.org/content/55/6/569.long> [Accessed: 22 July 2011]

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Exclusive breastfeeding promotion by peer counsellors in sub-Saharan Africa (PROMISE-EBF): a cluster-randomised trial

Thorkild Tylleskär, Debra Jackson, Nicolas Meda, Ingunn Marie S Engebretsen, Mickey Chopra, Abdoulaye Hama Diallo, Tanya Doherty, Eva-Charlotte Ekström, Lars T Fadnes, Ameen Goga, Chipepo Kankasa, Jørn I Klungsoyr, Carl Lombard, Victoria Nankabirwa, Jolly K Nankunda, Philippe Van de Perre, David Sanders, Rebecca Shanmugam, Halvor Sommerfelt, Henry Wamani, James K Tumwine, for the PROMISE-EBF Study Group. The Lancet Published: 12 July 2011.

Exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) is reported to be a life-saving intervention in low-income settings. The effect of breastfeeding counselling by peer counsellors was assessed in Africa...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2811%2960738-1/fulltext> [Accessed: 22 July 2011]

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Framing International Trade and Chronic Disease

Ronald Labonté, Katia S Mohindra, Raphael Lencucha. Globalization and Health 2011, 7:21. Published: 4 July 2011.

There is an emerging evidence base that global trade is linked with the rise of chronic disease in many low and middle-income countries (LMICs). This linkage is associated, in part, with the global diffusion of unhealthy lifestyles and health damaging products posing a particular challenge to countries still facing high burdens of communicable disease...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.globalizationandhealth.com/content/7/1/21/abstract> [Accessed: 22 June 2011]

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Diabetes in Sub Saharan Africa 1999-2011: Epidemiology and Public Health Implications. A systematic review.

Victoria Hall, Reimar W Thomsen, Ole Henriksen and Nicolai Lohse. BMC Public Health 2011, 11:564. Published: 14 July 2011.

Diabetes prevalence is increasing globally, and Sub-Saharan Africa is no exception. With diverse health challenges, health authorities in Sub-Saharan Africa and international donors need robust data on the epidemiology and impact of diabetes in order to plan and prioritise their health programmes. This paper aims to provide a comprehensive and up-to-date review of the epidemiological trends and public health implications of diabetes in Sub-Saharan Africa...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/11/564> [Accessed: 22 June 2011]

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HIV/AIDS themed issue

The Lancet. Published: 15 July 2011..

To coincide with the 6th International AIDS Society (IAS) conference on HIV pathogenesis, treatment, and prevention taking place in Rome 17-20 July, The Lancet publishes a collection of HIV/AIDS articles. Recent scientific progress and renewed high-level commitments have re-energised the HIV community with new opportunities to change the course of the epidemic...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.thelancet.com/themed-hiv-aids-2011> [Accessed: 22 June 2011]

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Recent News

South Africa's PMTCT programme reduces mother-to-child transmission to under 4%

Aidsmap. Published: 19 July 2011.

Nine years after the start of a national prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) programme, South Africa's mother-to-child HIV transmission (MTCT) rate is under 4% at four to eight weeks after birth, according to South Africa's first national PMTCT impact evaluation. Results from this evaluation were presented at the Sixth International AIDS Society conference in Rome...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://aidsmap.com/South-Africas-PMTCT-programme-reduces-mother-to-child-transmission-to-under-4/page/1880446/> [Accessed: 22 July 2011]

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ANC to push for state drugs maker

Business Day. Published: 20 July 2011.

The African National Congress (ANC) has instructed the Cabinet lekgotla to implement the creation of a state-owned pharmaceutical company in an attempt to improve access to medication at public healthcare facilities and cut government spending...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.businessday.co.za/Articles/Content.aspx?id=148712> [Accessed: 22 July 2011]

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HIV spread driven by number of partners, rather than concurrency

Health-e News. Published: 15 July 2011.

The spread of HIV is driven more by how many sexual partners a person has in their lifetime rather than having more than one lover at a time. This is according to extensive research conducted over five years by scientists from the Africa Centre in Umkhanyakude district in rural KwaZulu-Natal. ...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20033210> [Accessed: 22 July 2011]

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Rome IAS conference is landmark moment for HIV science, say experts

Aidsmap. Published: 19 July 2011..

The Sixth International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention opened on Sunday night in Rome amid great excitement, with scientific leaders proclaiming that the conference will be a landmark moment in the history of HIV research. "We are at a scientific watershed in the global AIDS response," said IAS 2011 International Chair and International AIDS Society President Elly Katabira...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://aidsmap.com/Rome-IAS-conference-is-landmark-moment-for-HIV-science-sav->

[experts/page/1877981/](#) [Accessed: 22 July 2011]

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UNAIDS Executive Director's speech at the first Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Health

UNAIDS. Published: 15 July 2011.

Through this transition, the five BRICS countries are bringing a new voice, a new perspective and new solutions to today's global challenges. It is a voice with incredible economic, technological and innovative strength behind it, and at the same time, a voice intimately connected to the needs and interests of the developing world....[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/speech/2011/20110711_SP_BRICS-health-ministers_en.pdf [Accessed: 22 July 2011]

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UNAIDS and WHO hail new results showing that a once-daily pill for HIV-negative people can prevent them from acquiring HIV

UNAIDS. Published: 13 July 2011.

New data from studies in Kenya, Uganda and Botswana confirm major role of antiretroviral medicine in preventing heterosexual HIV transmission GENEVA, 13 July 2011—Results announced today from two studies reveal that a daily antiretroviral tablet taken by people who do not have HIV infection can reduce their risk of acquiring HIV by up to 73%....[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/pressreleaseandstatementarchive/2011/july/20110713psprep/> [Accessed: 19 July 2011]

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Primary health care gets 112 new community service doctors

The New Age. Published: 12 July 2011.

The provincial health department has started strengthening the primary health care services as promised in the last financial year by deploying 112 community service doctors in clinics and district hospitals. The practitioners have been placed in the 50 poorest wards in the province. Health MEC Ntombi Mekiwe said the move would change community perceptions about quality of care at the state facilities...[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.thenewage.co.za/22756-1009-53-Primary_health_care_gets_112_new_community_service_doctors [Accessed: 19 July 2011]

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Minister finally gets going with universal health plan

Business Day. Published: 14 July 2011.

Motsoaledi picks up baton dropped by predecessors for more than decade to bring NHI to life, writes Tamar Kahn NATIONAL Health Insurance (NHI) has technically been on the political agenda since 1994, when the African National Congress (ANC) proposed a mandatory insurance scheme in its health plan, but it has taken more than a decade for the issue to become headline news....[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=148319> [Accessed: 22 July 2011]

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Cape health MEC working on partnership deal to offer dialysis

Business Day. Published: 28 June 2011.

Pharmaceutical company confirms widespread shortage in public hospitals of its antifungal drug amphotericin B, branded as Fungizone US pharmaceutical company Bristol Meyers Squibb confirmed doctors, reports of a widespread shortage in South African public hospitals of its antifungal drug amphotericin B, branded as Fungizone. It is the drug of choice for treating cryptococcal meningitis, as alternatives are less effective or unaffordable to the state...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=146973> [Accessed: 19 July 2011]

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WHO warns against the use of inaccurate blood tests for active tuberculosis

PlusNews. Published: 27 June 2011.

In theory, it should go something like this: pregnant woman tests HIV-positive as part of prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT) services at her antenatal clinic, and tells dad-to-be; dad tests for HIV and they support each other, start treatment if need be, and prevent HIV transmission to baby or dad. It seldom turns out that way...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.plusnews.org/report.aspx?ReportID=93084> [Accessed: 19 July 2011]

Training and Resources

Journal of Public Health Policy launches a special issue: Public health, health sector reforms and policy implementation in South Africa

Journal of Public Health Policy

The journal issue focuses on South African health sector reforms designed to improve population health outcomes. It commemorates more than two decades of the existence of the Centre for Health Policy, School of Public Health, University of Witwatersrand.

Please visit: <http://www.palgrave-journals.com/php/index.html>

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Population, Health and Environment M&E Training Tool Kit

Measure Evaluation - USAID Global Health Bureau.

This training tool kit aims to increase the M&E capacity, skills and knowledge of those who plan, implement, and evaluate innovative, integrated health and community development programs in low-resource settings. The tool kit provides managers, technical specialists, and M&E staff with user-friendly, modifiable training components to adapt for a specific developing-country and programmatic context.

Please visit: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/tools/population-health-and-environment/population-health-and-environment-training-materials>

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Evaluating HIV/AIDS Prevention Projects: A Manual for Nongovernmental Organizations

Measure Evaluation - USAID Global Health Bureau..

The purpose of this manual is to demystify the evaluation process, especially for staff who are not specialized in evaluation techniques. This manual will guide users in both designing and implementing evaluations of HIV/AIDS prevention projects. The principal audience for this manual is nongovernmental organizations, who deal with their own set of problems, advantages and challenges compared to other public health stakeholders, yet who all want to slow and stop the spread of HIV and AIDS.

Please visit: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/tools/hiv-aids/evaluating-hiv-aids-prevention-projects>

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Reports and Publications

Good participatory practice: Guidelines for biomedical HIV prevention trials 2011

UNAIDS. Published: July 2011.

The good participatory practice (GPP) guidelines provide trial funders, sponsors, and implementers with systematic guidance on how to effectively engage with stakeholders in the design and conduct of biomedical HIV prevention trials. In the GPP guidelines, "design and conduct of biomedical HIV prevention trials" refers to activities required for the development, planning, implementation, and conclusion of a trial, including dissemination of trial results...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/unaidspublications/2011/> [Accessed: 22 July 2011]

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Time to act: Save a million lives by 2015 - Prevent and treat tuberculosis among people living with HIV

UNAIDS. Published: July 2011.

We live in a time of unprecedented hope for the 33.3 million people living with HIV worldwide. Antiretroviral therapy (ART) offers the promise of a full and fulfilling life. Now people living with HIV can raise their families, work and pursue their dreams. But a thief is in our midst—one that is routinely robbing people, and the countries they live in, of their futures. Every minute, three people living with HIV have their lives snatched away by tuberculosis (TB). Africa, hit hard by HIV, is also hit hard by TB. TB is the main cause of death in people living with HIV...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/unaidspublications/2011/> [Accessed: 19 July 2011]

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Protecting access to generic medicines

Equinet and Seatini. Published: July 2011.

Recent developments at national and international levels with regards to anti-counterfeiting legislation and actions have raised debate about such laws not undermining access to affordable generic drugs. This policy brief produced by EQUINET, SEATINI and TARSC points to the separate measures and mandates needed to combat firstly fraudulent trade mark and intellectual property (IP) infringement in counterfeit medicines by IP authorities, secondly to ensure that any anti-counterfeit measures protect TRIPS flexibilities, including for access to generic medicines...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.seatini.org/> [Accessed: 19 July 2011]

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An Exploratory Analysis of HIV Treatment Research and Development Investments in 2009

UNAIDS. Published: July 2011.

This report is a preliminary assessment of global investments in research and development (R&D) devoted to the discovery and development of new therapies and treatment strategies for HIV. As part of a broader effort to track and analyze HIV/AIDS spending, UNAIDS commissioned the Treatment Action Group (TAG) and AVAC to measure global R&D spending for HIV treatment, starting with the year 2009...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/unaidspublications/2011/> [Accessed: 19 July 2011]

Achieving sexual and reproductive health and rights for women and girls through the HIV response

UNAIDS. Published: July 2011.

This report has a strategic emphasis on the innovation that is being led by women living with HIV and features pioneering endeavours that reflect community and key stakeholder interpretation and understanding of how this intersection is defined. It profiles initiatives that have emerged from within the HIV sector as it broadens out to encompass a sexual and reproductive health and rights approach, as well as initiatives that have emerged from within the women's health and rights sector as the latter has taken on HIV-related services and programmes; showing that both sectors are taking steps to integrate services and build synergies.....[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/unaidspublications/2011/> [Accessed: 19 July 2011]

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Conferences

RuDASA Rural Health Conference 2011

When: 8-10 September 2011

Venue: Village of Rhodes in the Eastern Cape.

URL: <http://www.ruralhealthconference2011.co.za/>

This year's Rural Health Conference, titled "Making Primary Health Care Better". The conference will be focusing on primary health care and its integration into district systems, as well as on the role of the multidisciplinary team in primary health care. There will also be many practical skills sessions, as well as a track for student presentations and rural health advocacy. Abstracts for presentations and posters are welcomed from all medical and allied health practitioners, as well as students of these disciplines. Presentation topics should relate to rural health and primary health care. Closing date for abstract submissions is 16 July 2011.

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2011 Gender Symposium

When: 1-3 November 2011

Venue: Cairo, Egypt

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

In line with its mandate to promote high-level scientific and academic debates on various aspects of socioeconomic development in Africa, the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) hereby announces the 2011 edition of its Gender Symposium which will be held from 1st to 3rd November, 2011 in Cairo, Egypt. The Gender Symposium is a forum organized annually by CODESRIA to discuss gender issues in Africa, and the theme of this year's edition is Gender and the Media in Africa.

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7th PHASA 2011 Conference

When: 28 - 30 November 2011

Venue: Sandton Convention Centre, Gauteng, South Africa

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

The 2011 PHASA conference will have as its focus, a scientific debate and discussion on health inequities and the role of public health leadership, education and practice in reducing health equity gaps. The theme of the conference is "Closing the health equity gap: Public health leadership, education and practice". An exciting programme of local and international speakers is being put together. Speakers will include policy-makers, leading local and international academics and representatives of international organizations. Abstract submission deadline is closed.

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Job Opportunities

AHP - African Health Placements

AHP is a not-for-profit project that aims to support the recruitment and retention of healthcare workers in South Africa. AHP is focused on assisting healthcare professionals make the right choice for their future in South Africa. No placement fees are charged.

Please view the website for more details <http://www.ahp.org.za> or contact on 011 328 1300

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Project Administrator

AIDS Foundation of South Africa

Closing Date: 26 July 2011.

The AIDS Foundation of South Africa (AFSA) is a nonprofit organisation that acts as an interface between donors, CBOs and NGOs working in the HIV and AIDS sector, enabling organisations to implement relevant and effective interventions to improve the health status and well-being of their communities and target populations.

Please view our website for more details <http://www.hst.org.za/content/project-administrator>

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Training and Services Delivery Improvement Coordinator

Ipas South Africa

Closing Date: 29 July 2011.

Ipas is an international NGO that has worked for more than three decades to increase women's ability to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights, to expand women's access to high quality reproductive health services, and to reduce deaths and injuries of women from unsafe abortion. Ipas South Africa seeks to appoint a Training and Services Delivery Improvement (TSDI) Coordinator, based in Johannesburg.

Please view our website for more details <http://www.hst.org.za/content/training-and-services-delivery-improvement-coordinator>

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Deputy National Manager

Operation Hunger

Closing Date: 30 July 2011.

Operation Hunger is a nonprofit organisation that works to create partnerships between vulnerable households and caring people to combat malnutrition which, when suffered by children, undermines the nation's health, education and economic potential. Operation Hunger seeks to appoint a Deputy National Manager, based in Delmenville, Johannesburg, to pro-actively lead, manage and oversee all development, administrative, financial and project activities regionally.

Please view our website for more details <http://www.hst.org.za/content/deputy-national-manager>

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