



HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST BULLETIN

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Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

The Abu Dhabi cardiovascular program: The continuation of Framingham

C Hajat, O Harrison. Progress in Cardiovascular Diseases 2010; 53: 28-38.

Abu Dhabi is the largest of the seven emirates making-up the UAE. The historic depth and pace of growth have brought tremendous benefits to the population including an increase in life expectancy at birth to 78 years; however, early data suggested a substantial increase in CVD, lifestyle-related cancers, and road deaths. Data during the last decade has suggested a rising burden from CVD risk, including hypertension and diabetes, in all Gulf Cooperation Council countries, but the UAE more so than expected from benchmark countries.

Genesis of the Abu Dhabi CVD initiative: Several factors prompted the development of the program, for example: extreme CVD burden in the region; relatively contained population generating statistical power; single health and research regulator facilitating the alignment of research, clinical, and public health priority areas; and strong track record in public health initiatives, helping build capacity and raise population health literacy. To begin the response to the Emirate's high burden of CVD, the "Weqaya" Population-wide Screening Program was launched in 2008...[Read More »](#)

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Changes in the burden of malaria in sub-Saharan Africa?

Wendy Prudhomme O'Meara, Judith Nekesa Mangeni, Rick Steketee, Prof Brian Greenwood. The Lancet Infectious Diseases. Published: 15 July 2010.

The burden of malaria in countries in sub-Saharan Africa has declined with scaling up of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. To assess the contribution of specific malaria interventions and other general factors in bringing about these changes, we reviewed studies that have reported recent changes in the incidence or prevalence of malaria in sub-Saharan Africa. Malaria control in southern Africa (South Africa, Mozambique, and Swaziland) began in the 1980s and has shown substantial, lasting declines linked to scale-up of specific interventions...[Read More »](#)

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Diabetes in sub-Saharan Africa

Jean Claude N Mbanya, Prof Ayesha A Motala, Eugene Sobngwi, Felix K Assah, Sostanie T Enoru. *The Lancet*. Volume 375, Issue 9733, Pages 2254 - 2266. Published:26 June 2010.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, prevalence and burden of type 2 diabetes are rising quickly. Rapid uncontrolled urbanisation and major changes in lifestyle could be driving this epidemic. The increase presents a substantial public health and socioeconomic burden in the face of scarce resources. Some types of diabetes arise at younger ages in African than in European populations. Ketosis-prone atypical diabetes is mostly recorded in people of African origin, but its epidemiology is not understood fully because data for pathogenesis and subtypes of diabetes in sub-Saharan African communities are scarce...[Read More »](#)

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Hypertension: Detection and Management in South Africa

Brian Rayner. *Nephron Clin Pract* 2010;116:c269–c273. Published: 16 July 2010.

High blood pressure in South Africa is estimated to have caused 46,888 deaths and 390,860 disability-adjusted life years in 2000. Detection and management of hypertension remains suboptimal due to inadequate public health care facilities. Mass migration of rural blacks to urban areas and rapid changes in lifestyle and risk factors account for the rising prevalence of hypertension, but genetic factors may also play an important contributory role...[Read More »](#)

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Strengthening Health Systems at Facility-Level: Feasibility of Integrating Antiretroviral Therapy into Primary Health Care Services in Lusaka, Zambia

Topp SM, Chipukuma JM, Giganti M, Mwango LK, Chiko LM, et al. *PLoS ONE* 5(7): e11522. Published: 2010.

HIV care and treatment services are primarily delivered in vertical antiretroviral (ART) clinics in sub-Saharan Africa but there have been concerns over the impact on existing primary health care services. This paper presents results from a feasibility study of a fully integrated model of HIV and non-HIV outpatient services in two urban Lusaka clinics...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0011522>

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Recent News

SA keen on speedy roll-out of Aids gel

Mail&Guardian. Published: 21 July 2010.

South Africa is considering rolling out use of a vaginal gel which can protect women against HIV during sex before it is officially licensed by drug regulators, Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi said on Tuesday... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.mg.co.za/article/2010-07-21-sa-keen-on-speedy-rollout-of-aids-gel>

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HIV infection rates for over-50s growing quickly

Sarah Boseley. *The Guardian*. Published: 21 July 2010.

People over 50 are as much at risk from unsafe sex as the young, the Health Protection Agency warns today, as it reveals evidence that the numbers becoming infected with HIV in that age group have more than doubled in seven years... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/jul/21/hiv-infection-rates-over-50s-growing-quickly>

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Seven strategies for smarter HIV programmes

PlusNews. Published: 22 July 2010

Speaking at the International AIDS Conference earlier this week, former US President Bill Clinton told delegates that the credit crunch meant HIV programmes would need to work "faster, better and cheaper".

IRIN/PlusNews has put together a list of ways HIV service providers could cut costs and improve their efficiency....

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WHO's 16 tactics to get more health workers to rural areas

Mark Mascolini. *International AIDS Society* Published: 19 July 2010

Attracting health workers to rural areas and retaining them in non urban sites are the goals of a 16-point program proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO). As the XVIII International AIDS Conference gets under way, the recommendations are particularly timely because high proportions of HIV-infected people in countries most affected by the epidemic live in rural areas. AIDS policy planners point to health worker shortages as a key obstacle to better HIV diagnosis and care in most hard-hit countries...[Read More »](#)

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Child mortality falls after mothers receive HIV drugs

Keith Alcom. Aidsmap. Published: 20 July 2010

Children born to mothers with HIV in a rural district of KwaZulu Natal were 75% less likely to die before the age of five if their mothers received antiretroviral therapy, researchers from the Africa Centre reported on Monday July 20th at the Eighteenth International AIDS Conference in Vienna.

The impact of HIV spending on other major health problems, particularly the Millennium Development Goals on child (MDG 4) and maternal mortality (MDG 5), has been limited to date, despite the compelling evidence of the impact of HIV on child and maternal mortality, particularly in southern Africa (see International AIDS Society position paper, Making Motherhood and Childhood Safer)... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://aidsmap.com/page/1492855/>

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Training and Resources

Implementation Science Research Programme - One year traineeship for South African Health Professionals in Implementation Science Research, KwaZulu Natal

Caprisa.

Closing date: 6 August, 2010.

This training programme is funded by the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief which has moved away from an emergency response approach to promoting sustainable country programs. The one year traineeship offers unique, prestigious and challenging training opportunities to promising researchers and health professionals in the field of implementation science.

For more information: <http://www.hst.org.za/news/20041997>

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Publications

Environmental Scan: Mapping HIV Research Priorities for Women and Children

International AIDS Society, Switzerland

This environmental scan covers three broad research areas: Clinical Research – Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) and Paediatric Treatment ; Clinical Research – Women and Antiretroviral Therapy; and Operations Research – Delivering Treatment to Women. [Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: http://www.iasociety.org/Web/WebContent/File/ILF_Environmental_Scan_July2010.pdf (NB. Direct link to PDF approx. 2.5mb)

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Making Motherhood and Childhood Safer: Scaling Up AIDS Services Accelerates Progress Towards All Health Goals

International AIDS Society, Switzerland

This study presented at AIDS 2010, carried out by the Africa Centre in KwaZulu Natal, extends research presented last year at the Fifth International AIDS Society conference in Cape Town and conducted by the same research group in the same district, which showed that antiretroviral therapy for mothers reduced mortality in children under two years of age... [Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: http://www.iasociety.org/Web/WebContent/File/MCH_paper_June_2010.pdf (NB. Direct link to PDF approx. 2.6mb)

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Conferences

Operational Hospital Management Conference 2010

4-6 August 2010. The Indaba Hotel, Fourways, Johannesburg

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

The Operational Hospital Management Conference is the leading conference in South Africa aimed at improving performance and the quality of services at public hospitals. The conference offers a tangible learning and sharing opportunity for all management levels within our public hospitals and health care sector and has effectively achieved this for the past six years through identifying real challenges and problems that are faced by management in the public health sector.

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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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