

HST Bulletin



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ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Young Women's Ratings of Three Placebo Multipurpose Prevention Technologies for HIV and Pregnancy Prevention in a Randomized, Cross-Over Study in Kenya and South Africa

AIDS and Behavior | Published: 20 March 2018.

Alexandra M Minnis, Sarah T Roberts, Kawango Agot, Rachel Weinrib, Khatija Ahmed, Kgahliso Manenzhe, Fredrick Owino, Ariane van der Straten, the TRIO Study Team

End-user input is critical to inform development of multipurpose prevention technology (MPT) products that prevent HIV and pregnancy. The TRIO Study, conducted in Kenya and South Africa, enrolled 277 HIV-negative women aged 18–30 in a randomized cross-over study to use each placebo MPT (daily oral tablets, monthly injections, and monthly vaginal ring) for one month. At the end of each month, participants rated how much they liked using the product on a 5-point Likert scale (5 = liked very much). We compared mean ratings using paired t-tests and examined sociodemographic-, attribute-, and behavior-related characteristics associated with ratings using multivariable linear regression and data from in-depth interviews.

Participants' accrual and delivery of HIV prevention interventions among men who have sex with men in sub-Saharan Africa: a systematic review

BMC | Published: 20 March 2018.

Daniel Nyato, Evodius Kuringe, Mary Drake, Caterina Casalini, Soori Nnko, Amani Shao, Albert Komba, Stefan D Baral, et al

Across sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), HIV disproportionately affects men-who-have-sex-with-men (MSM) compared with other men of the same age group in the general population. Access to HIV services remains low among this group although several effective interventions have been documented. It is therefore important to identify what has worked well to increase the reach of HIV services among MSM.

Health-industry linkages for local health: reframing policies for African health system strengthening

Health Policy and Planning | Published: 19 March 2018.

Maureen Mackintosh, Julius Mugwagwa, Geoffrey Banda, Paula Tibandebage, Jires Tunguhole, Samuel

Wangwe, Mercy Karimi Njeru

The benefits of local production of pharmaceuticals in Africa for local access to medicines and to effective treatment remain contested. There is scepticism among health systems experts internationally that production of pharmaceuticals in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) can provide competitive prices, quality and reliability of supply. Meanwhile low-income African populations continue to suffer poor access to a broad range of medicines, despite major international funding efforts. A current wave of pharmaceutical industry investment in SSA is associated with active African government promotion of pharmaceuticals as a key sector in industrialization strategies. We present evidence from interviews in 2013–15 and 2017 in East Africa that health system actors perceive these investments in local production as an opportunity to improve access to medicines and supplies. We then identify key policies that can ensure that local health systems benefit from the investments.

The future of the NHS: no longer the envy of the world?

The Lancet | Published: 17 March 2018.

Elias Mossialos, Alistair McGuire, Michael Anderson, Emma Pitchforth, Astrid James, Richard Horton

The UK's National Health Service (NHS) is one of the most comprehensive public health-care systems in the world and has provided free, high-quality care to millions of people since its inception. It was established on July 5, 1948, with the National Health Service Act based on the bold assumption within the 1942 Beveridge Report that a post-war UK would have "a national health service for prevention and for cure of disease and disability" that "will ensure that for every citizen there is available whatever medical treatment he requires, in whatever form he requires".

Impact of Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hand Washing with Soap on Childhood Diarrhoeal Disease: Updated Meta-Analysis and –Regression

Tropical Medicine and International Health | Published: 18 March 2018.

Jennyfer Wolf, Paul R Hunter, Matthew C Freeman, Oliver Cumming, Thomas Clasen, Jamie Bartram, Julian P T Higgins, Richard Johnston, et al

Safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene are protective against diarrhoeal disease; a leading cause of child mortality. The main objective was an updated assessment of the impact of unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene (WaSH) on childhood diarrhoeal disease. Methods: We undertook a systematic review of articles published between 1970 and February 2016. Study results were combined and analysed using meta-analysis and meta-regression.

Effect of an interactive text-messaging service on patient retention during the first year of HIV care in Kenya (WeTel Retain): an open-label, randomised parallel-group study

The Lancet | Published: 18 January 2018.

Mia Liisa van der Kop, Samuel Muhula, Patrick I Nagide, Prof Lehana Thabane, Lawrence Gelmon, Patricia Opondo Awiti, Bonface Abunah, Lennie Bazira Kyomuhangi, et al

Retention of patients in HIV care is crucial to ensure timely treatment initiation, viral suppression, and to avert AIDS-related deaths. We did a randomised trial to determine whether a text-messaging intervention improved retention during the first year of HIV care.

Laughter therapy as an intervention to promote psychological well-being of volunteer community care workers working with HIV-affected families

SAHARA-J: Journal of Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS | Published: 23 November 2018.

Irene Hatzipapas, Maretha J Visser, Estie Janse van Rensburg

The study explores the experiences of volunteer community care workers working with HIV-affected families, participating in laughter therapy. Laughter therapy is being used as an intervention to positively influence individuals experiencing various forms of emotional distress. Community care workers play a vital role in the support of the HIV/AIDS-infected and -affected members in communities. The nature of this type of work and their limited training contributes to high levels of secondary trauma and emotional exhaustion. The purpose of the study was firstly, to explore the effects of working with orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) on the community care workers and secondly, to establish the impact that laughter therapy has to positively combat stresses of working within the care workers' environment.

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RECENT NEWS

'ATM Pharmacy' gives drugs to HIV/AIDS patients in South Africa

Africa News | 16 March 2018.

South Africa on [15 March] launched an ATM-like vending machine to dispense medicines to patients with chronic illnesses such as HIV/AIDS.

Deadly listeria could herald tighter food safety rules in South Africa

Reuters | 16 March 2018.

A huge and deadly outbreak of listeria in South Africa could alter the country's approach to food-borne disease and prompt improvements in food safety standards, a leading health official said on Friday.

WHO supports 16 African countries to protect against Listeriosis

World Health Organisation | 20 March 2018.

Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo – The World Health Organization has reached out to 16 African nations to provide support for preparedness and response to a listeriosis outbreak that started in South Africa in 2017 but is now threatening other countries on the continent.

Male pill could be on horizon as trials yield positive results

The Guardian | 18 March 2018.

Scientists behind contraceptive say they have overcome hurdles that have stalled development.

Dikgang Moseneke orders state to pay R1.2m for each victim of Esidimeni tragedy

BD Live | 19 March 2018.

Retired deputy chief justice Dikgang Moseneke has ordered the state to pay the families of the victims of the Life Esidimeni tragedy R1.2m each.

#LifeEsidimeni: What the public didn't see at the arbitration hearings

IOL | 19 March 2018.

The decision of Former Deputy Chief Justice Moseneke in the Life Esidimeni Arbitration is an important landmark following more than two years of resistance, negotiation, confrontation, heart break and horror.

Shortchanging global health now will cost us later

Stat | 21 March 2018.

The White House recently released a report outlining the progress and investments the U.S. has made to make the world safer from the threat of epidemics. But the key to epidemic preparedness and response is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, whose operations abroad will radically scale back due to looming funding cuts.

Ready for the WhatsApp Revolution in Health Care Communications?

Vital | 20 March 2018.

Twenty percent of the world's population is using it already. Time for us to catch up.

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TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Good Practice Guide: Gender-transformative HIV programming

International HIV/AIDS Alliance | 26 February 2018.

This guide is one of a series of good practice guides, and contains information, strategies and resources to help HIV programmers identify and meet the needs of women and girls in all their diversity.

Safety and Security Toolkit: Strengthening the Implementation of HIV Programs for and with Key Populations

International HIV/AIDS Alliance | 19 March 2018.

This toolkit aims to help implementers of HIV programmes for key populations, who often operate in hostile and unsafe environments, to address safety and security challenges in their programme implementation. The toolkit has three sections: first is a review of safety and security challenges and their

impact on HIV programming, and promising practices and recommendations to address these challenges. Secondly, three practical checklists help programme implementers systematically identify strengths and weaknesses in their efforts to protect organisations, individuals, and implementation sites. Last is an annotated bibliography of safety and security resources.

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PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Australian clinical trial handbook: Guidance on conducting clinical trials in Australia using 'unapproved' therapeutic goods

Australian Government Department of Health | March 2018.

This handbook provides guidance on the legislative, regulatory and good clinical practice (GCP) requirements when conducting clinical trials in Australia using 'unapproved' therapeutic goods. It assists trial sponsors, Human Research Ethics Committees (HRECs), investigators and approving authorities (institutions) to understand their roles and responsibilities under the therapeutic goods legislation.

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CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Adherence 2018 (13th International Conference on HIV Treatment and Prevention Adherence)

8-10 May 2018

Loews Miami Beach Hotel, Miami, Florida, USA

INTEREST Conference

29 May – 1 June 2018

Kigali, Rwanda

African Capital Cities Sustainability Forum

5-7 June 2018

CSIR International Conference Centre, Tshwane, Gauteng

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

Beyond Zero: Monitoring and Evaluation Manager

Closing Date: 28 March 2018

Knysna Sedgefield Hospice: Professional Nurse

Closing Date: 29 March 2018

Sexual Reproductive Justice Coalition (SRJC): Media and Communications Officer

Closing Date: 31 March 2018

Cape Mental Health: Field Social Worker

Closing Date: 3 April 2018

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