

# HST Bulletin



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## ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

### **The City of Johannesburg can end AIDS by 2030: modelling the impact of achieving the Fast-Track targets and what it will take to get there**

*Journal of the International AIDS Society | Published: 23 January 2018.*

*Robyn M Stuart, Nicole Fraser-Hurt, Cliff C Kerr, Emily Mabusela, Vusi Madi, Fredrika Mkhwanazi, Yogan Pillay, Peter Barron, et al*

In 2014, city leaders from around the world endorsed the Paris Declaration on Fast-Track Cities, pledging to achieve the 2020 and 2030 HIV targets championed by UNAIDS. The City of Johannesburg – one of South Africa's metropolitan municipalities and also a health district – has over 600,000 people living with HIV (PLHIV), more than any other city worldwide. We estimate what it would take in terms of programmatic targets and costs for the City of Johannesburg to meet the Fast-Track targets, and demonstrate the impact that this would have.

### **Status of HIV Epidemic Control Among Adolescent Girls and Young Women Aged 15–24 Years — Seven African Countries, 2015–2017**

*Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report | Published: 12 January 2018.*

*Kristin Brown, Daniel B Williams, Steve Kinchen, Suzue Saito, Elizabeth Radin, Hetal Patel, Andrea Low, Stephen Delgado, et al*

In 2016, an estimated 1.5 million females aged 15–24 years were living with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection in Eastern and Southern Africa, where the prevalence of HIV infection among adolescent girls and young women (3.4%) is more than double that for males in the same age range (1.6%). Progress was assessed toward the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) 2020 targets for adolescent girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa (90% of those with HIV infection aware of their status, 90% of HIV-infected persons aware of their status on antiretroviral treatment [ART], and 90% of those on treatment virally suppressed [HIV viral load <1,000 HIV RNA copies/mL]) using data from recent Population-based HIV Impact Assessment (PHIA) surveys in seven countries.

### **Boosting ART uptake and retention among HIV-infected pregnant and breastfeeding**

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*Meena Srivastava, David Sullivan, B Ryan Pheips, Surbhi Modi, Laura N Broyles*

With the rapid scale-up of antiretroviral treatment (ART) in the “Treat All” era, there has been increasing emphasis on using differentiated models of HIV service delivery. The gaps within the clinical cascade for mothers and their infants suggest that current service delivery models are not meeting families' needs and prompt re-consideration of how services are provided. This article will explore considerations for differentiated care and encourage the ongoing increase of ART coverage through innovative strategies while also addressing the unique needs of mothers and infants.

### **A fuzzy set qualitative comparative analysis of 131 countries: which configuration of the structural conditions can explain health better?**

*International Journal for Equity in Health | Published: 22 January 2018.*

*Toktam Paykani, Hassan Rafiey and Homeira Sajjadi*

According to the recommendations of the World Health Organization Commission On Social Determinants of Health (CSDH) for intersectoral action on health, the well-being of and equity in health within a population are achieved via a complex fusion of policies and actions. In this study, following the CSDH's approach and considering set-theoretic relations, we aimed to unravel this complexity and answer the kinds of questions that are outside the scope of conventional variable-oriented approach.

### **The Public Health Community Platform, Electronic Case Reporting, and the Digital Bridge**

*Journal of Public Health Management and Practice | Published: 1 March 2018.*

*Mary Ann Cooney, Michael F Iademarco, Monica Huang, William R MacKenzie, Arthur J Davidson*

At the intersection of new technology advancements, ever-changing health policy, and fiscal constraints, public health agencies seek to leverage modern technical innovations and benefit from a more comprehensive and cooperative approach to transforming public health, health care, and other data into action. State health agencies recognized a way to advance population health was to integrate public health with clinical health data through electronic infectious disease case reporting. The Public Health Community Platform (PHCP) concept of bidirectional data flow and knowledge management became the foundation to build a cloud-based system connecting electronic health records to public health data for a select initial set of notifiable conditions. With challenges faced and lessons learned, significant progress was made and the PHCP grew into the Digital Bridge, a national governance model for systems change, bringing together software vendors, public health, and health care. As the model and technology advance together, opportunities to advance future connectivity solutions for both health care and public health will emerge.

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## **RECENT NEWS**

### **New medicine dispensing model a hit in Mpumalanga**

*Health-e News | 25 January 2018.*

The new, recently introduced Central Chronic Medicines Dispensing and Distribution (CCMDD) programme for patients on antiretrovirals and other chronic medication has already proven to be a major benefit.

### **Why some HIV-positive people develop AIDS quicker than others is now clearer**

*BD Live | 19 January 2018.*

HIV/AIDS researchers have never understood why people infected with HIV developed AIDS at different times, but now they suspect that it all has to do with their genes.

### **We found ways to shorten the turnaround time for diagnosing babies with HIV**

*The Conversation Africa | 17 January 2018.*

They say timing is everything. And in sub-Saharan Africa, where roughly a third of untreated HIV infected babies die before they reach the age of one, a timely diagnosis is everything.

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*Health-e News* | 22 January 2018.

How do we create a generation of young women who know their rights and young men who are less likely than their fathers to raise their fists? The Department of Basic Education believes we can learn from Sweden, and improve sexuality education in schools to teach learners about gender inequality, power, violence, and rape culture.

### **SA higher education institutions rolling out PrEP**

*Medical Brief* | 24 January 2018.

1 October, 2017 is set to become a memorable day in some higher-education institutions, writes Thuthukile Mbatha at Section27 in a Spotlight report. Mbatha writes: "It marks the day that Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) was first rolled out at select campus health clinics as a new, highly effective HIV-prevention method.

### **Deadly fungus found in the Western Cape**

*Time Live* | 25 January 2018.

A mysterious new fungus, widespread in the Western Cape, kills half the people it infects. The fungus, *Emergomyces africanus*, was detected in soil samples at 11 locations as far apart as Simon's Town, Malmesbury and Kleinmond. It was also found in 10% of air samples collected over 50 weeks on a rooftop in Bellville, in Cape Town's northern suburbs.

### **Universal health coverage law approved in Egypt**

*The Lancet* | 20 January 2018.

A universal health coverage law expanding access to health care in Egypt was approved by parliament, ahead of presidential elections. Sharmila Devi reports. International observers and Egyptian medics have hailed a new universal health coverage law that received parliamentary approval in mid-December after years of discussion and planning. They are awaiting further details about implementation and funding. The news came 4 months ahead of the next presidential elections, which are scheduled to be held in late March.

### **Finalists announced for SA's first e-health innovation programme**

*Medical Brief* | 24 January 2018.

South Africa's first dedicated digital health accelerator, Digital Health Cape Town (DHCT), has announced the finalists for their inaugural Accelerator Programme designed to foster local e-health innovation. The selected finalists have each developed innovative e-health solutions that address real-world problems.

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## **TRAINING AND RESOURCES**

### **Shining a light on the health behaviours of South Africans**

*National Income Dynamics Study* | 1 November 2017.

How we behave affects our health and our health impacts on the economy. The National Income Dynamics Study (NIDS) is making a key contribution to helping policy makers understand the health outcomes and health behaviours of South Africans over time. This video reports on key research findings from the first three waves of NIDS, South Africa's first and only national longitudinal (panel) study that provide unique insights into the livelihoods of South Africans over time.

### **Medical Academic**

*Continuing Professional Development Website*

Medical Academic offers healthcare professionals the opportunity to access clinical content generated by Medical Chronicle, Specialist Forum, Frontshop Pharmacy Magazine and the SA Ophthalmology Journal. Medical Academic hosts articles that have been accredited for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) by approved accreditors. CPD articles enable healthcare professionals to stay up to date with industry standards, treatments and diagnosis. The content presented on Medical Academic is independently sourced and often presented by key opinion leaders in their respective fields.

UNESCO | 2018.

The International technical guidance on sexuality education (the Guidance) was developed to assist education, health and other relevant authorities in the development and implementation of school-based and out-of-school comprehensive sexuality education programmes and materials. It is immediately relevant for government education ministers and their professional staff, including curriculum developers, school principals and teachers. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), youth workers and young people can also use the document as an advocacy or accountability tool, for example by sharing it with decision-makers as a guide to best practices and/or for its integration within broader agendas, such as the SDGs.

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## PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

### **South African Health Review 2018 Call for Abstracts**

*Health Systems Trust | Deadline: 30 January 2018.*

The editorial team of the 2018 SAHR is currently seeking abstracts that give consideration to advances made in the health system over the past 21 years, and reflect on areas of improvement for the future. In particular, abstracts that address the following range of topics are requested:

- Human resources for health (e.g. community health workers, production and distribution of health care workers; planning and forecasting, task shifting etc.)
- Responses to the prevention and management of non-communicable diseases
- Progress and challenges towards implementing universal health coverage

### **A Mixed-Methods Study of the Nature and Extent of the Alcohol Trade in Khayelitsha**

*Western Cape Department of Community Safety | 1 August 2017.*

The study describes the nature and extent of the alcohol trade in Khayelitsha, community perceptions and receptiveness to available interventions, including pricing, enforcement and marketing interventions. It juxtaposes key risk factors and harms drawn from empirical data alongside perceptions of these risks and harms.

### **Communicating Risk in Public Health Emergencies: A WHO Guideline for Emergency Risk Communication (ERC) policy and practice**

*World Health Organisation | 10 January 2018.*

Recent public health emergencies, such as the Ebola virus disease outbreak in West Africa (2014–2015), the emergence of the Zika virus syndrome in 2015–2016 and multi-country yellow fever outbreaks in Africa in 2016, have highlighted major challenges and gaps in how risk is communicated during epidemics and other health emergencies. The recommendations in these guidelines provide overarching, evidence-based guidance on how risk communication should be practised in an emergency.

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## CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

### **6th Global Congress for Qualitative Health Research**

12-15 March 2018

Sun City, Northwest Province, South Africa

### **22nd International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2018)**

23-27 July 2018

RAI Amsterdam Convention Centre, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

### **2nd International Workshop on HIV Adolescence**

10-12 October 2018

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## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

**Medecins Sans Frontiers :Registered Nurse - School program**

Closing date: 29th of January 2018

**CHAI: Associate, Monitoring and Evaluation(M&E)/ Health Information Systems (HIS)**

Closing Date: 31 January 2018

**Director: Comprehensive HIV & AIDS Care Management and Treatment**

Closing Date: 2 February 2018

**Breede River Hospice: General Manager**

Closing Date: 15 February 2018

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