



3 February 2012

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## Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

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### **Aligning vertical interventions to health systems: a case study of the HIV monitoring and evaluation system in South Africa**

*Mary Kawonga, Duane Blaauw and Sharon Fonn. Health Research Policy and Systems 2012, 10:2. Published: 26 January 2012.*

This study aims to assess the extent to which the HIV M&E system is integrated with the overall health system M&E function at district level. It describes implementation of the HIV M&E system, determines the extent to which it is integrated with the district health information system (DHIS), and evaluates factors influencing the extent of HIV M&E integration...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content/10/1/2/abstract> [Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **Measles control in sub-Saharan Africa: South Africa as a case study**

*Verguet S, Jassat W, Hedberg C, Tollman S, Jamison DT, Hofman KJ. Vaccine. Published: 9 January 2012.*

Due to intensified measles immunization efforts, measles mortality has decreased substantially worldwide, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated a 92% decrease in measles-related deaths in the WHO AFRO region for the period 2000–2008...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.hst.org.za/publications/measles-control-sub-saharan-africa-south-africa-case-study> [Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **Patient- and provider-level risk factors associated with default from tuberculosis treatment, South Africa, 2002: a case-control study**

*Alyssa Finlay, Joey Lancaster, Timothy H Holtz, Karin Weyer, Abe Miranda and Martie van der Walt. BMC Public Health 2012. Published: 20 January 2012.*

Persons who default from tuberculosis treatment are at risk for clinical deterioration and complications including worsening drug resistance and death. Our objective was to identify risk factors associated with tuberculosis (TB) treatment default in South Africa...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/12/56/abstract> [Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **Removing user fees in the health sector: a review of policy processes in six sub-Saharan African countries**

*Bruno Meessen, David Hercot, Mathieu Noirhomme, Valéry Ridde, Abdelmajid Tibouti, Christine Kirunga Tashobya and Lucy Gilson. Health Policy Plan. (2011) 26 (suppl 2): ii16-ii29.*

In recent years, governments of several low-income countries have taken decisive action by removing fully or partially user fees in the health sector. In this study, we review recent reforms in six sub-Saharan African countries: Burkina Faso, Burundi, Ghana, Liberia, Senegal and Uganda. The review describes the processes and strategies through which user fee removal reforms have been implemented and tries to assess them by referring to a good practice hypotheses framework...[Read More »](#)

Source: [http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/content/26/suppl\\_2/ii16.full](http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/content/26/suppl_2/ii16.full) [Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **Health research systems: promoting health equity or economic competitiveness?**

*Bridget Pratt and Bebe Loff. Bull World Health Organ. 2012 January 1; 90(1): 55–62. Published: January 2012..*

International collaborative health research is justifiably expected to help reduce global health inequities.

Investment in health policy and systems research in developing countries is essential to this process but, currently, funding for international research is mainly channelled towards the development of new medical interventions...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3260576/?tool=pubmed>  
[Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **"Now we are in a different time; various bad diseases have come." Understanding men's acceptability of male circumcision for HIV prevention in a moderate prevalence setting.**

*Angela Kelly, Martha Kupul, Lisa Fitzgerald, Herick Aeno, James Neo, Richard Naketrumb, Peter Siba, John M Kaldor and Andrew Vallely. BMC Public Health 2012, 12:67. Published: 22 January 2012.*

Adult male surgical circumcision (MC) has been shown to reduce HIV acquisition in men and is recommended by the WHO for inclusion in comprehensive national HIV prevention programs in high prevalence settings. Only limited research to date has been conducted in countries experiencing moderate burden epidemics, where the acceptability, operational feasibility and potential epidemiological impact of MC remain unclear...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/12/67/abstract>[Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **Health Facility Characteristics and Their Relationship to Coverage of PMTCT of HIV Services across Four African Countries: The PEARL Study**

*Didier K. Ekouevi, Elizabeth Stringer, David Coetzee, Pius Tih, Tracy Creek, Kathryn Stinson, Andrew O. Westfall, Thomas Welty, Namwanga Chintu, Benjamin H. Chi, Cathy Wilfert, Nathan Shaffer, Jeff Stringer, and Francois Dabis. PLoS One. 2012; 7(1). Published: 20 January 2012.*

Health facility characteristics associated with effective prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) coverage in sub-Saharan are poorly understood. Using data from the PEARL Study, we examine how facility and service characteristics predict maternal-infant coverage with NVP at the time of delivery...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3262794/?tool=pubmed>[Accessed: 20 January 2012]

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## **Recent News**

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### **Shortage of dentists raises risk of cancer**

*Times Live. Published: 24 January 2012.*

South Africans are increasingly exposed to the risks of mouth and throat cancer because of a chronic shortage of dentists. According to the South African Dental Association, there are possibly fewer than 3500 practising dentists in the country...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/local/2012/01/24/shortage-of-dentists-raises-risk-of-cancer>  
[Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **KZN biggest culprit in lab cash crisis**

*IOL. Published: 1 February 2012.*

At least six National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS) labs have been shut because of the service's cash crunch. And KwaZulu-Natal is the country's worst culprit...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.iol.co.za/mercury/kzn-biggest-culprit-in-lab-cash-crisis-1.1225109> [Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **Gauteng grapples with hospitals and 'haircuts'**

*Mail & Guardian. Published: 24 January 2012*

The Gauteng provincial government is taking steps to decentralise the management of essential services so that hospitals have more control over their daily running... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mg.co.za/article/2012-01-24-gauteng-to-decentralise-hospital-management/> [Accessed: 2

February 2012]

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### **Doctors in limbo as E Cape orders health lockdown**

*Mail & Guardian. Published: 26 January 2012.*

The Eastern Cape health department has been ordered to stop the appointment of all new doctors and cut its budget by R205-million, in a move that may leave as many as 400 junior doctors, who are currently performing community service, in limbo... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mg.co.za/article/2012-01-26-doctors-in-limbo-as-e-cape-orders-health-lockdown/> [Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **Gordhan expected to shed light on National Health Insurance scheme**

*The Citizen. Published: 29 January 2012.*

Although no one can predict with certainty what Gordhan will announce, Muneer Hassan, project director of tax at Saica, which represents chartered accountants, says it expects the minister to shed light on National Health Insurance (NHI)...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.citizen.co.za> [Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **HIV-Related Deaths Slow Economy**

*IPS. Published: 27 January 2012.*

If there was no HIV/AIDS, South Africa would have 4.4 million more people than today, the size of a major city. This significant slow-down in population growth is causing a slow down in economic growth and resulting in social ills, researchers warn..[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=106572> [Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **KZN scientist makes HIV/Aids breakthrough**

*IOL. Published: 25 January 2012.*

Differences in the rate of development of Aids among HIVinfected people have led KZN investigators to identify a tiny subset of "HIV controllers" who possess rare protective genes that incapacitate the virus. It is hoped these new discoveries may ultimately lead to a vaccine against HIV/Aids....[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.iol.co.za/> [Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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### **HIV-Aids researcher awarded R6m prize**

*The New Age. Published: 25 January 2012.*

University of KwaZulu-Natal's Prof Thumbi Ndung'u is one of 28 biomedical scientists from 12 countries chosen for a prestigious award from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's inaugural international early career scientist on Tuesday..[Read More »](#)

Source: [http://www.thenewage.co.za/41359-1008-53-HIVAids\\_researcher\\_awarded\\_R6m\\_prize](http://www.thenewage.co.za/41359-1008-53-HIVAids_researcher_awarded_R6m_prize) [Accessed: 2 February 2012]

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## **Training and Resources**

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### **Universal Health Care Forward - New Website**

*The Results for Development Institute.*

The Results for Development Institute has launched a new website on universal health coverage, UHC Forward, featuring news, events, and publications related to the global UHC movement.[Click here](#) to visit the website.

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### **Gender Justice and Local Government Summit and Awards**

*When: 16-18 April 2012.*

*Where: Johannesburg.*

Gender Links invites entries from local councils, associations, community-based organisations and activists for its third Gender Justice Local Government Summit and Awards. The summit is the premiere regional event for showcasing local level efforts to end gender violence and empower women. [Click here](#) for more information

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### **The HSRC Seminar Series: Feats of Family Functioning in a Public Sector Anti-Retroviral Treatment Programme in Free State province, South Africa**

*When: 29 February 2012.*

*Where: Pretoria, Durban and Cape Town.*

You are cordially invited to attend an HSRC seminar presented by Professor Frikkie Booysen (University of the Free State). The discussion will present a greater understanding of families' role in effective and sustainable ARV treatment programmes in the context of UNAIDS's new Treatment 2.0 response to the epidemic, including its fifth pillar, community mobilization.

[Click Here](#) for more information.

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## **Reports and Publications**

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### **South African District Hospital Performance Assessments**

*Health Systems Trust. Published: 2011.*

These reports aim to provide health managers at all levels within the health services, with a useful screening tool for assessing District hospital management performance. Hospitals across all nine provinces of South Africa were assessed. The reports provide managers with a snap shot of how a facility is performing in key areas of hospital management.

[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

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### **The World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development**

*The World Bank. Published: 2011.*

The lives of women around the world have improved dramatically, at a pace and scope difficult to imagine even 25 years ago. Women have made unprecedented gains in rights, education, health, and access to jobs and livelihoods.

[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

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### **Evidence from Participatory Research on Community Health Systems for HIV treatment and support in East and southern Africa**

*Training and Research Support Centre (TARSC). Published: 2011.*

The Community based systems in HIV treatment (CoBaSys) programme aims to understand and support conditions for community empowerment in services providing treatment for people living with HIV in east and southern Africa (ESA).

[Click Here for Full Report»](#)

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## **Conferences**

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### **Future eHealth Leaders Summit**

*When: 21 - 25 February 2012*

*Venue: Cape Town, South Africa*

*URL: <http://www.futureehealthleaders.org>*

Future eHealth Leaders provides you with a unique learning experience outside your familiar setting. It promotes collaboration between diverse countries and regions, mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe. This provides participants with rich opportunities and inspiration by linking with experienced colleagues who work in vastly

different contexts and circumstances.

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### **Healthcare in Africa**

*When: 6-7 March 2012*

*Venue: Cape Town, South Africa*

*URL: <http://cemea.economistconferences.com/event/healthcare-africa>*

Healthcare in Africa will bring together influential healthcare stakeholders from government, providers, suppliers and patient groups to confront and explore key issues around healthcare systems in Africa. You'll be able to participate in interactive brainstorming sessions, hear cutting-edge case studies, and hear from a range of inspiring speakers.

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### **Forum 2012**

*When: 24-26 April 2012*

*Venue: Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa*

*URL: <http://www.forum2012.org/>*

Forum 2012 is the beginning of an exciting new series of the well-known and respected Global Forum for Health Research meetings. Under the theme of "Beyond Aid... Research and Innovation as key drivers for Health, Equity and Development", COHRED and the Global Forum for Health Research will focus on potentials, solutions, and developing capacities –specifically in low- and middle-income countries and emerging economies.

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### **3rd SA TB Conference**

*When: 12-15 June 2012*

*Venue: ICC, Durban, South Africa*

*URL: <http://www.tbconference.co.za/>*

The 3rd TB Conference will build on the momentum of the previous TB conferences and give communities an opportunity to assess progress towards reaching TB/HIV targets. Thus, giving meaning to the theme for the 2012 TB Conference: "Reaching the target". Due to large public interest, the abstract submission closing date has been extended to 3 February 2012.

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### **Third People's Health Assembly**

*When: 6-11 July 2012*

*Venue: University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa*

*URL: <http://www.phmovement.org/en/pha3>*

The People's Health Assembly (PHA), organised by the People's Health Movement (PHM), is a global event bringing together health activists from across the world to share experiences, analyse global health situation, develop civil society positions and to develop strategies which promote health for all.

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### **Second Global Symposium on Health Systems Research**

*When: 31 October-3 November 2012*

*Where: Beijing, People's Republic of China*

*URL: <http://www.hsr-symposium.org>*

The Second Global Symposium on Health Systems Research call for abstracts is now open. The Symposium will focus on the science to accelerate universal health coverage around the world. It will cover three main themes: Knowledge Translation, State-of-the-Art Health Systems Research, and Health Systems Research Methodologies.

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## **Job Opportunities**

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### **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.  
The following positions with AHP are currently available:

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

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#### **Technical Officer – District AIDS Council**

*Futures Group and Engender Health*

*Closing date: 10 February 2012*

SHIPP and EngenderHealth seek to appoint Technical Officer – Seconded to the District Aids Council (DAC), based in Gauteng.

Please view our website for more details  
<http://www.hst.org.za/content/technical-officer-dac>

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#### **Project Manager**

*Wits Consortium*

*Closing date: 27 February 2012*

The WHC seeks to appoint a Project Manager, based in Braamfontein, Johannesburg.

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

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