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Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

Cost and impact of scaling up interventions to save lives of mothers and children: Taking South Africa closer to MDGs 4 and 5

Lumbwe Chola, Yogan Pillay, Peter Barron, Aviva Tugendhaft, Kate Kerber and Karen Hofman. Global Health Action. Published: 21 April 2015.

South Africa has made substantial progress on child and maternal mortality, yet many avoidable deaths of mothers and children still occur. This analysis identifies priority interventions to be scaled up nationally and projects the potential maternal and child lives saved...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.globalhealthaction.net/index.php/gha/article/view/27265>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Thinking shift on health systems: From blueprint health programmes towards resilience of health systems; comment on "Constraints to applying systems thinking concepts in health systems: A regional perspective from surveying stakeholders in eastern Mediterranean countries"

Karl Blanchet. *International Journal of Health Policy and Management*. Published: May 2015.

International health is still highly dominated by equilibrium approaches. The emergence of systems thinking in international health provides a great avenue to develop innovative health interventions adapted to changing contexts. The public health community, nevertheless, has the responsibility to translate concepts related to systems thinking and complexity into concrete research methods and interventions...[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.ijhpm.com/article_2975_616.html[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Evidence for informing health policy development in low-income countries (LICs): Perspectives of policy actors in Uganda

Juliet Nabyonga-Orem, Rhona Mijumbi. *International Journal of Health Policy and Management*. Published: May 2015.

Although there is a general agreement on the benefits of evidence informed health policy development given resource constraints especially in Low-Income Countries (LICs), the definition of what evidence is, and what evidence is suitable to guide decision-making is still unclear...[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.ijhpm.com/article_2984_0.htm[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Health reform requires policy capacity

Pierre-Gerlier Forest; Jean-Louis Denis; Lawrence D. Brown; David Helms. *International Journal of Health Policy and Management*. Published: May 2015.

Among the many reasons that may limit the adoption of promising reform ideas, policy capacity is the least recognized.[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.ijhpm.com/article_3012_0.htm[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Accounting for quality: On the relationship between accounting and quality improvement in healthcare

BioMed Central. Published: 23 April 2015.

Accounting - that is, standardized measurement, public reporting, performance evaluation and managerial control - is commonly seen to provide the core infrastructure for quality improvement in healthcare...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6963/15/178>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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The health-systems response to violence against women

Claudia García-Moreno, Kelsey Hegarty, Ana Flavia Lucas d'Oliveira, Jane Koziol-McLain, Manuela Colombini, Gene Feder. *The Lancet*. Published: 18 April 2015.

Health systems have a crucial role in a multisector response to violence against women. Some countries have guidelines or protocols articulating this role and health-care workers are trained in some settings, but generally system development and implementation have been slow to progress...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2814%2961837-7/fulltext>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Prevention of violence against women and girls: A new chapter

Udani Samarasekera, Richard Horton. *The Lancet*. Published: 18 April 2015.

In Margaret Atwood's novel, *The Handmaid's Tale*, set in the near future, a totalitarian state has come to power in the USA having cracked down on women's rights, forbidding them to own property or hold jobs. In this futuristic dystopia, women have strict roles in society...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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The impact of HIV care and support interventions on key outcomes in low- and middle-income countries: A literature review

Kaplan JE, Hamm TE, Forhan S, Saadani Hassani A, Bang G, Weyant E, Tchuente M, Langley C, Lapidus-Salaiz I, Bateganya MH. *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*. Published: 15 April 2015.

The US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Adult Care and Support interagency technical working group (TWG) reviewed available evidence on the impact of non-ART adult care and support interventions on key outcomes to assist PEPFAR country teams in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC) as they make care and support programme decisions...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://journals.lww.com/jaids/Fulltext/2015/04151>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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"Students want HIV testing in schools": A formative evaluation of the acceptability of HIV testing and counselling at schools in Gauteng and North West Provinces in South Africa

Sphiwe Madiba, Mathilda Mokgatle. *BMC Public Health*. Published: 17 April 2015.

The proposal by the South African Health Ministry to implement HIV testing and counselling (HTC) at schools in 2011 generated debates about the appropriateness of such testing. However, the debate has been between the Ministries of Education and Health, with little consideration of the students...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/s12889-015-1746-x.pdf>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Pharmacovigilance in India, Uganda and South Africa with reference to WHO's minimum requirements

Karen Maigetter, Allyson M. Pollock, Abhay Kadam, Kim Ward, Mitchell G. Weiss. *International Journal of Health Policy and Management*. Published: April 2015.

Pharmacovigilance (PV) data are crucial for ensuring safety and effectiveness of medicines after drugs have been granted marketing approval. This paper describes the PV systems of India, Uganda and South Africa based on literature and Key Informant (KI) interviews and compares them with the World Health Organization's (WHO's) minimum PV requirements for a Functional National PV System.[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.ijhpm.com/article_2985_0.html[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Recent News

Transforming the health system, one kunjani at a time

Health Systems Trust. Published: 30 April 2015.

Sarah Davids believes that the use of a simple word, "kunjani", has the power to transform lives...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.hst.org.za/news/transforming-health-system-one-kunjani-time>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Table Mountain Aerial Cableway joins hands with the community

Stellenbosch University. Published: 30 April 2015.

Several hundred community health workers and staff from the Desmond Tutu TB Centre (DTTC) at Stellenbosch University celebrated a near perfect autumn day as they took the cable car up Table Mountain, many of them for the first time...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.hst.org.za/news/table-mountain-aerial-cableway-joins-hands-community>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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SA joins new Global TB Vaccine Research Partnership

SABC. Published: 22 April 2015.

The year 2015 will see the development of a new Global TB Vaccine Partnership (GTBV) in a quest to advance clinical candidates for further research and development to prevent and treat Tuberculosis...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.sabc.co.za/news/a/9c9d0780481aa0f7b3b6f378423ca9af/SA-joins-new-Global-TB-Vaccine-Research-Partnership-20150422>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Global vaccination targets 'off-track' warns WHO

WHO. Published: 22 April 2015.

Progress towards global vaccination targets for 2015 is far off-track with 1 in 5 children still missing out on routine life-saving immunizations that could avert 1.5 million deaths each year from preventable diseases...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2015/global-vaccination-targets/en/>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

2015]

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Caesarean sections should only be performed when medically necessary

WHO. Published: 10 April 2015.

Caesarean section is one of the most common surgeries in the world, with rates continuing to rise, particularly in high- and middle-income countries...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2015/caesarean-sections/en/>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Checkpoint: Clinic patient cards out HIV positive parents

eNCA. Published: 31 March 2015.

I'd received a call from a friend of a friend, telling me about how some rural clinics in the Eastern Cape had disclosed the HIV status of several women without consulting them. To do this in an area where there are such high levels of stigma and discrimination can be extremely damaging for the individual concerned...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.enca.com/south-africa/checkpoint-clinic-patient-cards-out-hiv-positive-parents>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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First HIV home test approved for sale in UK

aidsmap. Published: 24 April 2015.

The BioSure HIV Self Test, designed to be used by untrained users at home was granted a CE mark yesterday, making it the first HIV home test which can be legally sold in the United Kingdom. The test is simple to perform and tests for the presence of HIV antibodies in a drop of blood.[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.aidsmap.com/First-HIV-home-test-approved-for-sale-in-UK/page/2964537/>[Accessed: 30 April 2015]

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Training and Resources

Perinatal deaths in South Africa, 2011-2013

Statistics SA. Published: 16 April 2015.

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has identified a need to publish statistics on perinatal deaths. This information is based on administrative records captured on death notification forms collected from the South African civil registration system maintained by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA).[Click Here»](#)

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Botswana Workshop and Symposium

When: 27-29 July 2015

Venue: University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana

URL: <http://muria.nmmu.ac.za/Botswana-Workshop-and-Symposium-27-29-July-2015>

The workshop and symposium are intended to develop and progress medicines utilisation research in Africa.[Click Here»](#)

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Books, Publications, Reports and Manuals

Community-based antiretroviral therapy delivery: Experiences from MSF

UNAIDS. Published: 22 April 2015.

This document presents experiences of how community-based antiretroviral therapy (ART) delivery can improve both the level of access to treatment and the quality of health outcomes for people living with HIV.[Click Here»](#)

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Conferences and Events

7th SA AIDS Conference: Reflection, Refocus and Renewal

When: 9-12 June 2015

Venue: Durban International Convention Centre, South Africa

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

This Conference comes at a critical time in global health, as 2015 marks the end of the MDGs and the

beginning of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda. The theme of the Conference this year: Reflection, Refocus and Renewal provides a unique opportunity to reflect on what we have done across the entire spectrum of our programmes in the response to HIV, including the structural and social determinants which fuel this epidemic.

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3rd International Association of Social Sciences and Humanities in HIV (ASSHH) Conference

When: 6-9 July 2015

Venue: Stellenbosch, South Africa

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

A warm welcome to the 3rd Conference of the Association for the Social Sciences and Humanities in HIV (ASSHH). As Conference Co-chairs, we have worked hard to develop an exciting programme for the meeting, which will bring together critically informed and theoretically engaged scholars and practitioners from a wide range of social science and humanities disciplines. Our goal as in previous meetings is to ask the kinds of critical questions it is sometimes difficult to pose in other settings, and to contribute to new and creative ways of thinking about the HIV epidemic.

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AIDSImpact 2015 – 12th International Conference

When: 28-31 July 2015

Venue: Amsterdam, Netherlands

URL: <http://www.aidsimpact.com/2015/>

AIDSImpact is an international behavioral and psychosocial science conference that addresses issues related to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care, focusing both globally and on specific communities and countries hardest hit by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. AIDSImpact first convened in Amsterdam in 1991. Now, in 2015 the 12th AIDSImpact conference returns to the city.

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3rd International Conference on Epidemiology and Emerging Diseases

When: 4-6 August 2015

Venue: Valencia, Spain

URL: <http://epidemiology.conferenceseries.com/>

Epidemiology 2015 will be held from 4-6 August 2015 at Valencia, Spain with the support and collaboration of editorial board members and scientific partners. The main motto of this conference is to bring all the renowned Epidemiologists, Clinicians, Public Health practitioners, Biostatisticians, Healthcare Policymakers, Industry experts, Researchers and Students under a common roof.

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Global Forum on Research and Innovation for Health 2015

When: 24-27 August 2015

Venue: Manila, Philippines

URL: <http://www.forum2015.org>

Forum 2015 is a unique global platform to promote the role of research and innovation in creating better health, enhancing equity and stimulating development. Join other policy-makers, business and non-profit leaders, international organizations, academic and research institutions, social entrepreneurs and key stakeholders, as we work together to shape the global health research agenda locally, regionally and globally.

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5th Conference of the International Society for Child Indicators

When: 2-4 September 2015

Venue: University of Cape Town, South Africa

URL: <http://isc2015.org/>

The 5th Conference of the International Society for Child Indicators will be held on 2-4 September 2015 in the Kramer Law Building, University of Cape Town. Researchers, practitioners, policy makers and child advocates from across the world will gather for three days to share and discuss the latest child indicator research and implications for policy and interventions.

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SVRI Workshops

When: 15-17 September 2015

Venue: Stellenbosch, South Africa

URL: <http://www.svri.org/forum2015/>

The Sexual Violence Research Initiative is proud to announce the 4th international conference, the SVRI Forum 2015. The Forum brings together researchers, gender activists, funders, policy makers, service providers, practitioners and survivors from around the world and will showcase innovation to end sexual violence, intimate partner violence and child abuse, and strengthen responses to survivors in low- and middle-income countries.

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Rural Doctors Association of South Africa (RuDASA)

When: 23-26 September 2015

Venue: Mpumalanga, South Africa

URL: <http://www.rudasa.org.za/>

An annual RuDASA conference has been organised almost every year since 1996, and attracts a range of rural health professionals from all over the country. The conference is a much-anticipated, vibrant forum which combines a mixture of sessions ranging from clinical skills updates for and by a wide range of health professionals to emotive discussions and workshops on issues such as justice and equity.

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Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA) Conference

When: 7-9 October 2015

Venue: Southern Sun Elangeni, Durban, South Africa

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

The 11th Annual Conference of the Public Health Association of South Africa takes place between 7-9 October 2015 in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal. With 2015 being the target date for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the conference will provide an opportunity to reflect on the challenges faced by South Africa and Africa in trying to achieve the MDGs. The focus of the conference though will be on moving forward and identifying potential solutions both within and outside the health system in order to improve the health status of our population. This is reflected in the theme of conference "Health and Sustainable Development: The Future".

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9th Action Learning, Action Research (ALARA) and 13th Participatory Action Research World Congress

When: 4-7 November 2015

Venue: St. George Hotel and Conference Centre, Centurion (Pretoria), South Africa

URL: <http://www.alarassociation.org/pages/events/alara-world-congress-2015>

The theme of this World Congress is a challenge to Action Learning / Action Research practitioners the world over, whether working in resource rich or more socio-economically challenged contexts, to explain how they are contributing to the creation of a fairer world.

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Job Opportunities

Health Systems Trust: SharePoint Administrator

Closing Date: 15 May 2015

Please view our website for more details

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/sharepoint-administrator>

FHI 360: HIV Prevention Specialist

Closing Date: 8 May 2015

Please view our website for more details

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/hiv-prevention-specialist>

Zoë Life: Volunteers

Closing Date: 1 October 2015

Please view our website for more details

<http://www.hst.org.za/jobs/volunteers>

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