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ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Building capacity in primary care rehabilitation clinical practice guidelines: a South African initiative

BMC Health Policy and Systems | Published: 29 September 2018.

Q Louw, K Grimmer, J M Dizon, S Machingaidze, H Parker, D Ernstzen

The large number of South Africans with disability who cannot access good quality rehabilitation presents a public health and human rights challenge. A cost-effective, efficient approach is required to address this. Implementation of high-quality, contextually relevant clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) could be a solution; however, this requires significant investment in innovative capacity-building.

Cash transfers and the social determinants of health: a conceptual framework

Health Promotion International | Published: 1 October 2018.

Ebenezer Owusu-Addo, Andre M N Renzaho, Ben J Smith

Cash transfers (CTs) can play a significant role in tackling the social determinants of health (SDoH), but to date there is a lack of conceptual framework for understanding CTs linkages to the SDoH. This article proposes a framework that identifies the linkages between CTs and SDoH, discusses its implications, and argues for active involvement of health promoters in CT design, implementation and evaluation.

Social support factors associated with psychological resilience among women survivors of intimate partner violence in Gauteng, South Africa

Global Health Action | Published: 1 October 2018.

Mercilene T Machisa, Nicola Christofides, Rachel Jewkes

Women's experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV) increase their risk for mental ill health. However, some women exposed to IPV and adversity are psychologically resilient and function well despite these exposures. We conducted a study to investigate the factors that are associated with psychological resilience among abused women, using data collected in a household survey conducted in Gauteng province of South Africa.

Potential effect of household contact management on childhood tuberculosis: a mathematical modelling study

The Lancet | Published: 25 September 2018.

Peter J Dodd, Courtney M Yuen, Mercedes C Becerra, Paul Revill, Helen E Jenkins, James A Seddon

Tuberculosis is recognised as a major cause of morbidity and mortality in children, with most cases in children going undiagnosed and resulting in poor outcomes. Household contact management, which aims to identify children with active tuberculosis and to provide preventive therapy for those with HIV or those younger than 5 years, has long been recommended but has very poor coverage globally. New guidelines include widespread provision of preventive therapy to children with a positive tuberculin skin test (TST) who are older than 5 years.

Healthcare service delivery to refugee children from the Democratic Republic of Congo living in Durban, South Africa: a caregivers' perspective

BMC Medicine | 27 September 2018.

Anna Meyer-Weitz, Kwaku Oppong Asante, Bukenge J Lukobeka

Refugees are generally considered a vulnerable population, with refugee children (newborn and young children) being particularly so. Access to healthcare for this population remains a challenge. The main purpose of this study was to explore refugee caregivers' perceptions of their children's access to quality health service delivery to their young children in Durban, South Africa.

Health system reforms in five sub-Saharan African countries that experienced major armed conflicts (wars) during 1990–2015: a literature review

Global Health Action | Published: 1 October 2018.

Chol Chol, Joel Negin, Alberto Garcia-Basteiro, Tesfay Gebregzabher Gebrehiwot, Berhane Debru, Maria Chimpolo, Kingsley Agho, Robert G Cumming, Seye Abimbola

Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) has had more major armed conflicts (wars) in the past two decades – including 13 wars during 1990–2015 – than any other part of the world, and this has had an adverse effect on health systems in the region. [The objective of this study was] to understand the best health system practices in five SSA countries that experienced wars during 1990–2015, and yet managed to achieve a maternal mortality reduction – equal to or greater than 50% during the same period – according to the Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group (MMEIG). Maternal mortality is a death of a woman during pregnancy, or within 42 days after childbirth – measured as maternal mortality ratio (MMR) per 100,000 live births.

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RECENT NEWS

Historic UN TB declaration ‘falls short’ say activists

Health-e News | 27 September 2018.

Civil society groups have criticised the United Nations declaration on tuberculosis (TB) ratified [on 26 Sept] saying it ‘falls short’ on critical issues in the fight against the world’s top infectious killer.

Diabetes and TB: Top killer diseases feed on each other

Daily Maverick | 1 October 2018.

Over one week, two UN high level meetings were held on health matters – with virtually no interaction between the two. But diabetes, cancer and depression have a major impact on tuberculosis. If we treat them in silos, we won’t overcome them.

Heads of State commit to lead response to beat noncommunicable diseases, promote mental health

World Health Organisation | 27 September 2018.

Heads of state and government [on 27 September] committed to 13 new steps to tackle noncommunicable diseases including cancers, heart and lung diseases, stroke, and diabetes, and to promote mental health and well-being.

Is this the Bill the alcohol industry doesn’t want you to see?

Bhekisisa | 3 October 2018.

South Africa is one of the hardest drinking countries in the world, but legislation to stop it been under wraps for over five years.

New tuberculosis vaccine raises hopes

GroundUp | 28 September 2018.

A new vaccine to prevent tuberculosis in young people and adults has been announced. One of the world's most prestigious medical journals, the New England Medical Journal, published the results of a GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) trial on Tuesday.

Funding of SA's science researchers continues to fall

Business Day | 27 September 2018.

The NRF announced in 2017 that it was forced to cut grants for top scientists to restructure one of its most important funding programmes.

Zimbabwe to vaccinate 1.4 million people against cholera in Harare

World Health Organisation | 3 October 2018.

The Government of Zimbabwe with the support of the World Health Organization (WHO) and partners is launching an oral cholera vaccination (OCV) campaign to protect 1.4 million people at high risk of cholera in Harare. The immunization drive is part of efforts to control a cholera outbreak, which was declared by the health authorities on 6 September 2018.

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TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Podcast: Combination Prevention and AIDS 2018

Px Pulse (AVAC) | 29 August 2018.

In this episode, featuring Ambassador Deborah Birx, [Px Pulse] takes a look at one area of great importance that was center stage at [July's] AIDS 2018 conference in Amsterdam: primary prevention. Hear Brad Jones of Weill Cornell Medical College pose a basic question about T cells and what his research could teach us about the immune system. Advocate Dorothy Okatch of the NGO Young 1ove sizes up the challenges for prevention in her country Botswana, where gains in treatment have been lauded. But first, [Px Pulse] talks to the head of PEPFAR (the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief), Ambassador Deborah Birx, who oversees one of the biggest programs for HIV/AIDS in the world.

Webinar: Foundations for Global Health Practice

Friday 12 October 2018 | 12pm ET - 1pm ET (6pm South Africa Standard Time).

Global health is influenced by so many aspects of life and is, by its scope, interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral in nature. Join the Consortium of Universities for Global Health for a webinar sharing best practices, and a discussion of the challenges associated with global health education. Brian W. Simpson will moderate the session featuring Lori DiPrete Brown, editor of the Foundations for Global Health Practice; Ann Kurth, dean of the Yale School of Nursing; Quentin Eichbaum, a professor of Medicine at Vanderbilt University.

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PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals in South Africa: Challenges & Opportunities

South African SDG Hub | Published: 6 August 2018.

In this publication, contributors from government, academia and development partners reflect on the effective implementation of the SDGs in South Africa. The publication also contains some of the most recent data on South Africa's implementation of the SDGs.

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CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

HIV Clinicians Society Conference 2018

24-27 September 2018

Gallagher Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa

Global Health Security 2019

18-20 June 2018

Sydney International Convention Centre, Sydney, Australia

IAS Conference on HIV Science 2019

21-24 July 2019

Centro Citibanamex, Mexico City, Mexico

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

Health Systems Trust: Provincial Epidemiologist

Closing Date: 9 October 2018

Health Systems Trust: Administrator

Closing Date: 9 October 2018

FHI 360: Linkages Project - Vacancies

Closing Date: 12 October 2018

SABR: Programme Manager / Healthcare Professionals

Closing Date: 20 October 2018

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