



HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST BULLETIN

8 July 2011

In this issue...

- **Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles**
 - Human resources for maternal, newborn and child health: from measurement and planning to performance for improved health outcomes
 - Advancing health care equity through improved data collection
 - 'Pregnancy comes accidentally – like it did with me': Reproductive decisions among women on ART and their partners in rural Uganda
 - Global pharmacovigilance for antiretroviral drugs: Overcoming contrasting priorities
- **Recent News**
 - Hospital gets incubators after deaths
 - Health minister moots 'three levels of care'
 - Regulate health costs: Motosoledi
 - NHI to be phased in over 14 years
 - South Africans shirk medical insurance
 - Western Cape Department of Health walks away with Top Performing Government Award
 - Debunking the spending backlash
 - Crucial HIV drug in short supply
 - Reproductive services could open door to HIV prevention
 - Risk factors for HIV vary between African cities, need tailored responses
- **Training and Resources**
 - Masters (MSc) and Postgraduate Diploma in Child Health
 - Gender equality e-learning course
 - Call for proposals: Small Grants opportunity from UNPFII's Trust Fund for the Second Decade
 - Improving Routine Health Information System Performance
- **Reports and Publications**
 - Millenium Development Goals Report 2011
 - Chronic care for HIV and noncommunicable diseases: How to leverage the HIV experience
 - Positive Health, Dignity and Prevention. A policy framework
 - Global plan towards the elimination of new HIV infections among children by 2015 and keeping their mothers alive
 - Report on the World Social Situation 2011
- **Conferences**
 - AAC African Conference 2011
 - RuDASA Rural Health Conference 2011
 - 7th PHASA 2011 Conference
- **Job Opportunities**
 - AHP – African Health Placements
 - University of Cape Town – Data Quality Officer
 - Africare – Technical Advisor (TB/HIV) Integration
 - Africare – Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
 - Nelson Mandela Children's Fund – Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

Human resources for maternal, newborn and child health: from measurement and planning to performance for improved health outcomes

Neeru Gupta, Blerita Maliqi, Adson Franca, Frank Nyonator, Muhammad A Pate, David Sanders, Hedia Belhadj and Bernadette Daelmans. Human Resources for Health 2011, 9:16. Published: 24 June 2011.

There is increasing attention, globally and in countries, to monitoring and addressing the health systems and human resources inputs, processes and outputs that impede or facilitate progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals for maternal and child health. We reviewed the situation of human resources for health (HRH) in 68 low- and middle-income countries that together account for over 95% of all maternal and child deaths...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.human-resources-health.com/content/9/1/16/abstract> [Accessed: 8 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Advancing health care equity through improved data collection

Joel S. Weissman, and Romana Hasnain-Wynia. *N Engl J Med* 2011; 364:2276-2277. Published: 16 June 2011.

Health care reform's promise will not be realized if it fails to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in care. The first step toward monitoring, identifying, and targeting the underlying causes of disparities is for health care organizations to collect and analyze data that adequately describe their populations... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1103069> [Accessed: 8 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

'Pregnancy comes accidentally - like it did with me': Reproductive decisions among women on ART and their partners in rural Uganda

Rachel King, Kenneth Khana, Sylvia Nakayiwa, David Katuntu, Jaco Homsy, Pille Lindkvist, Eva Johansson and Rebecca Bunnell. *BMC Public Health* 2011, 11:530. Published: 5 July 2011.

As highly active antiretroviral therapy (ART) restores health, fertility and sexual activity among HIV-infected adults, understanding how ART influences reproductive desires and decisions could inform interventions to reduce sexual and vertical HIV transmission risk... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/11/530> [Accessed: 6 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Global pharmacovigilance for antiretroviral drugs: Overcoming contrasting priorities

Bakare N, Edwards IR, Stergachis A, Pal S, Holmes CB, et al. (2011). *PLoS Med* 8(7): e1001054. Published: 5 July 2011.

As of 2010, over 5 million people worldwide have access to antiretroviral drugs (ARVs). With increased access comes a greater need to monitor and promote the safety and effectiveness of these essential medicines. Few resource-limited countries have all the structures, systems, or resources necessary to support medicines safety activities... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.1001054> [Accessed: 22 June 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Recent News

Hospital gets incubators after deaths

Dipuo Sedibe. *Health-e News*. Published: 7 July 2011.

The Health Department has ordered new incubators for Jubilee Hospital in North West after an exposé in The Star revealed that five babies had died due to faulty incubators. Gauteng Health Department spokesman Simon Zwane said the incubators were due to be delivered this week. ... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20033206> [Accessed: 8 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Health minister moots 'three levels of care'

Business Day. Published: 5 July 2011.

Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi yesterday revealed a proposal to introduce three levels of healthcare in SA, with a focus on underserved areas such as rural regions and schools. The proposal came at the Board of Healthcare Funders, annual conference, where Dr Motsoaledi called for the regulation of healthcare fees... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=147549> [Accessed: 8 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Regulate health costs: Motsoaledi

TimesLive. Published: 5 July 2011.

Private healthcare prices in South Africa have to be regulated, Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi said. Speaking at the Board of Healthcare Funders conference at Sun City, Motsoaledi called for a pricing negotiation forum, saying healthcare in South Africa was "predatory". He said the health structure was worse now than during apartheid.... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/thetimes/2011/07/04/regulate-health-costs-motsoaledi> [Accessed: 8 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

NHI to be phased in over 14 years

IOL. Published: 29 June 2011.

Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi says the National Health Insurance system will be phased in over 14 years. Speaking at the fifth Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) central committee meeting on Wednesday, Motsoaledi said such systems had to be phased in over time. Cosatu and its allies, the ruling African National Congress and the SA Communist Party have been pushing for a universal health care system to be implemented in the country... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.iol.co.za/business/business-news/nhi-to-be-phased-in-over-14-years-1.1090875> [Accessed: 6 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Western Cape Department of Health walks away with Top Performing Government Award

Western Cape Department of Health. Published: 29 June 2011.

On Thursday night, 23 June 2011, Prof Craig Househam, Head of the Western Cape Department of Health, won the Top Performing Government Leader Award at the Annual African Access Business Awards held at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg. The awards is considered the premier awards event for South African businesses... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2011/jun/20/africa-cervical-cancer> [Accessed: 6 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

South Africans shirk medical insurance

Mail & Guardian. Published: 29 June 2011.

The figures are staggering. About 84% of South Africans have no medical aid, which suggests that most families are using already overburdened public health-care facilities. A National Health Insurance Scheme is still being considered but, in the meantime, the vast majority of citizens are struggling. Lower- and middle-income earners either do not belong to a medical aid or have reduced their cover.... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mq.co.za/article/2011-06-29-south-africans-shirk-medical-insurance> [Accessed: 8 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Debunking the spending backlash

Plusnews. Published: 7 July 2011.

National AIDS programmes are feeling the pinch as the international community and governments rethink their prioritization of AIDS over other infectious diseases. The withdrawal of support for the fight against HIV is gaining momentum and it is time to get angry, according to Francois Venter, head of the Southern Africa HIV Clinicians Society. He spoke to IRIN/PlusNews about debunking the five major claims fuelling the backlash against global HIV expenditure, drawing on work by University of Cape Town professor Nicoli Nattrass and long-time HIV activist Gregg Gonsalves.... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.plusnews.org/report.aspx?reportid=93170> [Accessed: 8 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Crucial HIV drug in short supply

Business Day. Published: 28 June 2011.

Pharmaceutical company confirms widespread shortage in public hospitals of its antifungal drug amphotericin B, branded as Fungizone US pharmaceutical company Bristol Meyers Squibb confirmed doctors, reports of a widespread shortage in South African public hospitals of its antifungal drug amphotericin B, branded as Fungizone. It is the drug of choice for treating cryptococcal meningitis, as alternatives are less effective or unaffordable to the state... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=146973> [Accessed: 6 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Reproductive services could open door to HIV prevention

PlusNews. Published: 27 June 2011.

In theory, it should go something like this: pregnant woman tests HIV-positive as part of prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT) services at her antenatal clinic, and tells dad-to-be; dad tests for HIV and they support each other, start treatment if need be, and prevent HIV transmission to baby or dad. It seldom turns out that way... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.plusnews.org/report.aspx?ReportID=93084> [Accessed: 6 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Risk factors for HIV vary between African cities, need tailored responses

Aidsmap. Published: 4 July 2011.

A comparative study in three large cities in southern Africa has found big differences in risk factors for acquisition of HIV infection, emphasising the importance of locally tailored HIV prevention strategies and up-to-date information on local risk factors. The study looked at behavioural risk factors associated with acquiring HIV infection in 5000 sexually active women in Harare, Durban and Johannesburg... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://aidsmap.com/page/1859601/> [Accessed: 8 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Training and Resources

Masters (MSc) and Postgraduate Diploma in Child Health

*Division of Community Paediatrics, University of Witwatersrand
Closing date for applications: 30 September 2011*

The Division of Community Paediatrics, University of Witwatersrand, will once again be offering the Masters (MSc) and Postgraduate Diploma in Child Health in 2012. This two-year part-time course is designed to prepare students for leadership positions as regional clinicians, managers (at district, provincial or national level), researchers, health educators, or service co-ordinators in the field of maternal and child health. All relevant course information is available on the website, as well as specific information regarding application procedures.

Please visit: http://www.wits.ac.za/academic/health/clinicalmed/paediatrics/services/commpaeds/community-paediatrics/9584/community_paediatrics.html

[back to top ↑](#)

Gender equality e-learning course

UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNIFEM.

This is an inter-agency course that has been developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM, now part of UN Women). The four agencies developed this course together to raise awareness of gender issues and dynamics and to ensure that their staff achieves a consistent level of knowledge. This course will contribute to a common understanding of terminology, core principles and effective approaches that will help agencies work together on gender programming.

For more information: <http://www.unicef.org/gender/training/content/scoIndex.html>

[back to top ↑](#)

Call for proposals: Small Grants opportunity from UNPFII's Trust Fund for the Second Decade

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Bureau of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), acting as the Advisory Group for the projects for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples established the Trust Fund for the Second Decade to promote, support and implement the objectives of the Decade. The Fund gives priority to projects concerning the main areas of the Second Decade: culture, education, health, human Rights, the environment and social and economic development.

For more information: <http://www.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/call-proposals-small-grants->

[opportunity-unpfiis-trust-fund-decade/#ixzz1RjgONKC1](#)

[back to top ↑](#)

Improving Routine Health Information System Performance

School of Health Systems and Public Health, University of Pretoria, the MEASURE Evaluation Project, and Health Information Systems Programme (HISP).

This module contains a complete training course on improving Routine Health Information Systems (RHIS) performance. It is an international course on comprehensive assessment of information use with an emphasis on accurate data use for evidence-based decision-making at all levels..

Please visit: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/training/materials/rhis>

[back to top ↑](#)

Reports and Publications

Millenium Development Goals Report 2011

UN. Published: July 2011.

The MDG Report 2011 highlights development successes, and says many are due in part to continued economic growth in some developing countries and targeted efforts in critical MDG areas, such as health. Increased funding from many sources, it says, has expanded key programmes, such as treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=38965&Cr=MDGs&Cr1=> [Accessed: 8 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Chronic care for HIV and noncommunicable diseases: How to leverage the HIV experience

UNAIDS. Published: May 2011.

Many countries with a high burden of HIV infection also face burgeoning epidemics of noncommunicable diseases. Similar to HIV, noncommunicable diseases are most frequent in low- and middle-income countries, and the age-adjusted death rates from noncommunicable diseases are nearly twice as high in low- and middle-income countries as in high-income countries. People living with HIV often also have high rates of noncommunicable diseases. With HIV programmes rapidly expanding, people with HIV are living longer and ageing, and are developing non-HIV-related chronic conditions similar to the rest of the population...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/unaidspublications/2011/> [Accessed: 6 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Positive Health, Dignity and Prevention. A policy framework

UNAIDS. Published: 2011.

The primary goals of Positive Health, Dignity and Prevention are to improve the dignity, quality, and length of life of people living with HIV; which, if achieved will, in turn, have a beneficial impact on their partners, families, and communities, including reducing the likelihood of new infections...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/unaidspublications/2011/> [Accessed: 6 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Global plan towards the elimination of new HIV infections among children by 2015 and keeping their mothers alive

UNAIDS. Published: June 2011.

This Global Plan provides the foundation for country-led movement towards the elimination of new HIV infections among children and keeping their mothers alive. The Global Plan was developed through a consultative process by a high level Global Task Team convened by UNAIDS and co-chaired by UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibé and United States Global AIDS Coordinator Ambassador Eric Goosby. It brought together 25 countries and 30 civil society, private sector, networks of people living with HIV and international organizations to chart a roadmap to achieving this goal by 2015...[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/unaidspublications/2011/> [Accessed: 6 July 2011]

Report on the World Social Situation 2011

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Published: 2011.

The Report on the World Social Situation 2011: The Global Social Crisis, published by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), finds many governments did not pay sufficient attention to the social implications of the global economic crisis. The report says economic policies considered in isolation from their social consequences often create dire results for people's nutrition, health and education, which, in turn, adversely affect long-term economic growth.....[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://social.un.org/index/ReportontheWorldSocialSituation/2011/MediaKit.aspx> [Accessed: 6 July 2011]

[back to top ↑](#)

Conferences

AAC African Conference 2011

When: 1 - 4 August 2011

Venue: Birchwood Hotel and O. R. Tambo Conference Centre, Boksburg, South Africa.

URL: <http://web.up.ac.za/default.asp?jpkCategoryID=14922&subid=14922&jpklookid=9&ArticleID=231>

The Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communication, together with INTERFACE* with the support of ISAAC (The International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication) is pleased to host the 2nd regional African AAC Conference from 1-4 August 2011, in Boksburg, South Africa. The main conference will be hosted over 3 days (2nd-4th August, 2011). A full-day research symposium will be held on the 1st of August 2011. The main conference will consist of 3 strands. These represent the different contexts in which AAC intervention takes place and highlight the relevant stakeholders involved in the process of AAC intervention, research and service delivery.

[back to top ↑](#)

RuDASA Rural Health Conference 2011

When: 8-10 September 2011

Venue: Village of Rhodes in the Eastern Cape.

URL: <http://www.ruralhealthconference2011.co.za/>

This year's Rural Health Conference, titled "Making Primary Health Care Better". The conference will be focusing on primary health care and its integration into district systems, as well as on the role of the multidisciplinary team in primary health care. There will also be many practical skills sessions, as well as a track for student presentations and rural health advocacy. Abstracts for presentations and posters are welcomed from all medical and allied health practitioners, as well as students of these disciplines. Presentation topics should relate to rural health and primary health care. Closing date for abstract submissions is 16 July 2011.

[back to top](#) ↑

7th PHASA 2011 Conference

When: 28 - 30 November 2011

Venue: Sandton Convention Centre, Gauteng, South Africa

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

The 2011 PHASA conference will have as its focus, a scientific debate and discussion on health inequities and the role of public health leadership, education and practice in reducing health equity gaps. The theme of the conference is "Closing the health equity gap: Public health leadership, education and practice". An exciting programme of local and international speakers is being put together. Speakers will include policy-makers, leading local and international academics and representatives of international organizations. Abstract submission deadline is closed.

[back to top](#) ↑

Job Opportunities

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.

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

[back to top](#) ↑

Data Quality Officer

University of Cape Town.

Closing Date: 11 July 2011.

The Centre for Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Research (CIDER) seeks to appoint a Data Quality Officer for this project initially on a one-year contract appointment. The incumbent will have two primary functions. Firstly, he/she will review, validate and improve the quality of key PMTCT indicator data reported via the district health information system used at antenatal services. Secondly, he/she will play a central role in improving the data from the sites through training and support of site staff.

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

[back to top](#) ↑

Technical Advisor (TB/HIV) Integration

Africare

Closing Date: 15 July 2011.

Africare's InjongoYethu Phase II Project is expanding its support to communities and government services in response to HIV and AIDS in the Chris Hani District Municipality in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa. Africare seeks to appoint a Technical Advisor (TB/HIV) Integration, based in East London.

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

[back to top](#) ↑

Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

Africare

Closing Date: 15 July 2011.

Africare's Injongo Yethu Phase II Project is expanding its support to communities and government services in response to HIV and AIDS in the Chris Hani District Municipality in the Eastern Cape. Africare seeks to appoint a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Officer, based in Makana, Grahamstown.

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

[back to top](#) ↑

Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist

Nelson Mandela Children's Fund

Closing Date: 18 July 2011.

NMCF seeks to appoint a Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (RMES), based in Johannesburg. S/he will strategically work with and support the Senior Researcher (SR) in improving research, monitoring, evaluation and documentation for the Fund.

Please view our website for more details <http://www.hst.org.za/content/research-monitoring-and-evaluation-specialist>

[back to top](#) ↑

[Forward this email](#) to a friend. Not interested anymore? [Unsubscribe](#).
Health Systems Trust
PO Box 808, Durban, 4000
Tel: 031 266 9090 Fax: 031 266 9199 Email: editor@hst.org.za

Copyright and Disclaimer

The copyright in the compilation of this bulletin, its name and logo is owned by the Health Systems Trust. You may not reproduce this bulletin, or its name or the Health Systems Trust's logo or its trademarks including those of any other third party that appears in this bulletin, in any form, or for commercial purposes or for purposes of advertising, publicity, promotion, or in any other manner implying their endorsement, sponsorship of, or affiliation with any product or service, without the Health Systems Trust's prior express written permission. All information in this bulletin is provided in good faith but is relied upon entirely at your own risk. By making use of this bulletin and its information you agree to indemnify the Health Systems Trust, its Board of Trustees, Employees and Service Providers from all liability arising from its use.