



9 December 2011

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Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

Africa's health: could the private sector accelerate the progress towards health MDGs?

Luis G Sambo and Joses M Kirigia. International Archives of Medicine 2011, 4:39. Published: 25 November 2011.

This article provides an overview of the state of public health, summarizes 2010-2015 WHO priorities, and explores the role that private sector could play to accelerate efforts towards health MDGs in the African Region...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.intarchmed.com/content/4/1/39/abstract>[Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Towards universal health coverage: the role of within-country wealth-related inequality in 28 countries in sub-Saharan Africa

Ahmad Reza Hosseinpoor, Cesar G Victora, Nicole Bergen, Aluisio JD Barros & Ties Boerma. Bulletin of the World Health Organization 2011;89:881-890. Published: 4 October 2011.

Established in 2000, the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) represent a global commitment to eliminating poverty. MDG 4 and MDG 5 are devoted to child and maternal health, with 2015 targets of a two-thirds reduction in the 1990 mortality rate for children under 5 years of age, a three-quarters reduction in the 1990 maternal mortality rate and universal access to reproductive health services...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/89/12/11-087536/en/index.html>
[Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Trends in Health Policy and Systems Research over the Past Decade: Still Too Little Capacity in Low-Income Countries

Taghreed Adam, Saad Ahmad, Maryam Bigdeli, Abdul Ghaffar, John-Arne Røttingen. PLoS ONE 6(11). Published: November 2011.

The past decade has seen several high-level events and documents committing to strengthening the field of health policy and systems research (HPSR) as a critical input to strengthening health systems. Specifically, they called for increased production, capacity to undertake and funding for HPSR. The objective of this paper is to assess the extent to which progress has been achieved, an important feedback for stakeholders in this field...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0027263>[Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Food security in South Africa: a review of national surveys

Demetre Labadarios, Zandile June-Rose Mchiza, Nelia Patricia Steyn, Gerda Gericke, Eleni Maria Winifred Maunder, Yul Derek Davids & Whadi-ah Parker. Bulletin of the World Health Organization 2011;89:891-899. Published: 4 October 2011.

Food insecurity has emerged as a global crisis following the global economic meltdown. According to the 2004 report of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on the state of food insecurity in the world, more than 814 million people in developing countries are undernourished. Of these people, 204 million live in countries of sub-Saharan Africa, including South Africa...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/89/12/11-089243/en/index.html>[Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention: The Cost, Impact, and Challenges of Accelerated Scale-Up in Southern and Eastern Africa (Collection)

Plos Medicine. Published: 29 November 2011.

This sponsored collection of nine new articles, includes four reviews and five research articles, published in PLoS Medicine and PLoS ONE, in conjunction with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The collection highlights how scaling up voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) for HIV prevention in eastern and southern Africa can help prevent HIV, not only at individual but also at community and population level, as well as leading to substantial cost savings for countries as a result of averted treatment and care costs...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.ploscollections.org/article/browse/issue.action?issue=info:doi/10.1371/issue.pcol.v01.i11>[Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Recent News

Zuma's new Aids plan to include TB

Mail & Guardian. Published: 1 December 2011.

The new national strategic plan (NSP) against HIV and Aids will focus on tuberculosis (TB) as well, said President Jacob Zuma on Thursday. Zuma presented the five-year plan at a national World Aids day event in Port Elizabeth. "This was done because the co-infection between HIV and TB in our country is very high ... We cannot afford to deal with HIV and TB separately," he said... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mg.co.za/article/2011-12-01-new-aids-plan-to-include-tb--zuma/>
[Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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One in three women at clinics are HIV-positive

IOL. Published: 30 November 2011.

Nearly one in three women attending public sector antenatal clinics in SA were likely to be HIV-positive. And the country continues to have high HIV infection rates among 15- to 24-year-old pregnant women and increasingly so among 10- to 14-year-olds, the latest Department of Health survey has revealed...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.iol.co.za/the-star/one-in-three-women-at-clinics-are-hiv-positive-1.1189038>
[Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Husbands a 'big problem' in HIV transmission

Times Live. Published: 30 November 2011.

Unfaithful husbands are to blame for the upward trend of HIV prevalence among older women, says Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi. Although young people have more power to negotiate condom use with their sexual partners and are better protected from HIV, Motsoaledi said "in the married couples it is men who are causing these problems". National HIV prevalence survey results from 2010, released by the Department of Health...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/specialreports/hivaids/2011/11/30/husbands-a-big-problem-in-hiv-transmission> [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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An expanded arsenal against HIV – but money shortages to implement it

Health-e News. Published: 5 December 2011.

For the first time, the global AIDS community is talking about stopping the AIDS within a couple of decades—and it seems possible... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20033357> [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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ICASA 2011 to focus on ownership, commitment and support to the AIDS response in Africa

UNAIDS. Published: 4 December 2011.

The XVI International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (ICASA 2011) opened on Sunday 4 December in Addis Ababa. Delegates from across the world are convening in Ethiopia to discuss the HIV-related challenges

faced by Africa, as well as future strategies for consolidation and development of national AIDS responses...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2011/december/20111204icasaopening/> [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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High-Level Taskforce to tackle gender inequality

UNAIDS. Published: 8 December 2011.

A new High-Level Taskforce on Women, Girls, Gender Equality and HIV for Eastern and Southern Africa was launched at the 16th International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (ICASA)...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2011/december/20111208uawomen/> [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Sex classes for pre-teens

Times Live. Published: 5 December 2011.

The government is pushing for children as young as 10 to be given sex classes at primary schools. A survey by the Department of Health revealed last week that the prevalence of HIV in pregnant girls aged between 10 and 14 had risen by 9.1%. Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi is finalising the plan...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.timeslive.co.za/local/2011/12/05/sex-classes-for-pre-teens> [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Male Circumcision a Route to Gender Equality

IPS. Published: 1 December 2011

Although at first glance male circumcision may not be the most obvious entrée to get people talking about gender equality, activists in the Western Cape in South Africa are attempting to do just that. This comes as South Africa takes part in the global 16 Days of Activism for "No Violence Against Women and Children" campaign, which runs from Nov. 25 to Dec. 10... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=106049> [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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First batch of clinical associates graduates

Business Day. Published: 9 December 2011.

The first group of 25 students has completed the Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice degree and graduated from the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) yesterday to enter the health service as a new category of professional known as clinical associate... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=160807> [Accessed: 9 December 2011]

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Health scores grade C

The New Age. Published: 30 November 2011.

An audit of the province's public healthcare facilities found most of them to be lacking in standards and norms. The province has 287 healthcare facilities, which include 31 hospitals that comprise 24 district hospitals, six regional hospitals and one academic hospital. The rest are 26 private hospitals, nine community health centres and 221 primary healthcare centres...[Read More »](#)

Source: http://www.thenewage.co.za/36508-1018-53-Health_scores_grade_C [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Quality health essential for NHI

Buaneews. Published: 7 December 2011.

Health Minister Dr Aaron Motsoaledi has conceded that the quality of services offered by the public health care system needs to be urgently addressed if the National Health Insurance (NHI) is to succeed...[Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.buaneews.gov.za/news/11/11120714251002> [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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'Health is not about deep pockets'

IOL. Published: 8 December 2011.

Investing in a strong primary healthcare system, eliminating fragmentation and containing hospital prices. These are some of the key lessons that the national Health Department can draw on from other developing countries as it prepares for the rollout of the National Health Insurance (NHI) scheme... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/gauteng/health-is-not-about-deep-pockets-1.1194846> [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Stats SA records lower number of registered deaths

Mail & Guardian. Published: 30 November 2011.

The number of deaths registered in 2009 dropped by 3.8% from 2008 with tuberculosis the main cause of death by natural causes, Statistics South Africa said on Wednesday. This was followed by influenza and pneumonia, with HIV/Aids seventh. By category, the leading cause of death by natural causes for children under the age of 15 was intestinal infectious diseases. This was according to the Statistics South Africa report Mortality and Causes of Death in South Africa 2009... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://mg.co.za/article/2011-11-30-stats-sa-records-lower-number-of-registered-deaths/> [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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TB at top of the list of killers

IOL. Published: 1 December 2011.

Once again that rampant killer TB has claimed the most lives in SA. Tuberculosis killed 82 821 people in the country in 2009, according to Statistics SA's latest findings. It accounted for 14.5 percent out of a total of 572 673 deaths registered with the Department of Home Affairs in 2009... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/tb-at-top-of-the-list-of-killers-1.1190074> [Accessed: 8 December 2011]

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Training and Resources

Call for Proposals: UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

The United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women is accepting applications for its 16th grant cycle (2011) from government authorities, civil society organizations and networks - including non-governmental, women's and community-based organizations and coalitions, and operational research institutions - and UN Country Teams (in partnership with governments and civil society organizations) [Click Here](#) for more information.

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ACTION:Social Determinants of Health

Website: <http://www.actionsdh.org/>

ACTION:SDH houses knowledge on the social determinants according to the five social determinants of health action areas identified in the World Conference on Social Determinants of Health in October 2011. It also provides a platform for discussion of action on the social determinants of health. We invite all in the social determinants of health community to register on ACTION:SDH. We are also actively seeking partners interested in collaborating in building up the tool, together with its users for more information.

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2012 Red Ribbon Award

The call for nominations for the 2012 Red Ribbon Award is now open. Ten community-based organizations will be selected through a community-led process and invited to attend the XIX International AIDS Conference in Washington, DC from 22 to 27 July 2012 where they will have the opportunity to showcase their work. All ten organizations will receive US\$10,000 each. [Click Here](#) for more information.

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Reports and Publications

National Strategic Plan on HIV, STIs and TB 2012 - 2016

National Department of Health (South Africa). Published: 2011.

South Africa's Strategic Plan for AIDS, STIs and TB. The plan's target is that by 2016 80% of people are on ARV treatment, that deaths from TB have been halved, and that new HIV infections are cut by 50%. This plan is unique, because millions of people's lives depend on its successful implementation. Already there are over a million people on treatment. By the time the plan is complete that number must be three million. [Click Here for Full Report »](#)

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2010 National Antenatal Sentinel HIV and Syphilis Prevalence Survey in South Africa

National Department of Health (South Africa). Published: 2011.

The Survey is used to estimate the national prevalence of HIV and Syphilis infection among pregnant women and then establish HIV prevalence estimate among the adult population of 15-49 year olds.

[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

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“We'll Show You You're a Woman”: Violence and Discrimination against Black Lesbians and Transgender Men in South Africa

Human Rights Watch. Published: 2011.

This 93-page report is based on more than 120 interviews conducted in six provinces. Human Rights Watch found that lesbians and transgender men face extensive discrimination and violence in their daily lives, both from private individuals and government officials.

[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

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Joint Strategic Action Framework to Accelerate the Scale-Up of Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention in Eastern and Southern Africa

UNAIDS. Published: 2011.

This document articulates a joint five-year framework for use among Ministries of Health (MoHs) and diverse country, regional and global stakeholders to accelerate the scale-up of voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) for HIV prevention in selected priority countries of eastern and southern Africa. It is intended to guide key stakeholders to collaborate and coordinate efforts for promoting country ownership, expanding coverage of this effective HIV prevention intervention, and contributing to "getting to zero" new infections. [Click Here for Full Report »](#)

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Newsletter of the District Health System

National Department of Health (South Africa). Published: 2011.

In this issue activities are outlined that should be part of the routine functions of the district health management team, led by the district manager.

[Click Here for Full Report »](#)

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Conferences

3rd Annual Healthcare Summit: Addressing the issues surrounding healthcare reform in South Africa

When: 24 – 26 January 2012

Venue: Convention Dynamics, Isando, Johannesburg

URL: <http://www.iir.co.za/detail.php?e=2394>

The Healthcare Summit is a three-day event that deals with all the current issues facing the stakeholders in the healthcare industry. This year's Summit will focus on the latest developments surrounding healthcare reform in South Africa in both private and public sectors and in particular the impact the NHI is likely to have on the industry.

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Future eHealth Leaders Summit

When: 21 - 25 February 2012

Venue: Cape Town, South Africa

URL: <http://www.futurehealthleaders.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. You will be able to enhance your personal development and create new approaches to your leadership challenges.

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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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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".

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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.

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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Senior Researcher

Health Systems Trust

Closing date: 12 December 2011

Health Systems Trust (HST) wishes to appoint a Senior Researcher working from our Cape Town, Johannesburg or Durban office.

Please view our website for more details

<http://www.hst.org.za/content/senior-researcher>

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