

HST Bulletin



CATEGORIES

[Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles](#)

[HST in the News](#)

[Recent News](#)

[Training and Resources](#)

[Publications and Reports](#)

[Conferences and Events](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

The financing gaps framework: using need, potential spending and expected spending to allocate development assistance for health

Health Policy and Planning | Published: 5 February 2018.

Annie Haakenstad, Tara Templin, Stephen Lim, Jesse B Bump, Joseph Dieleman

As growth in development assistance for health levels off, development assistance partners must make allocation decisions within tighter budget constraints. Furthermore, with the advent of comprehensive and comparable burden of disease and health financing estimates, empirical evidence can increasingly be used to direct funding to those most in need. In our 'financing gaps framework', we propose a new approach for harnessing information to make decisions about health aid.

Perceptions of counsellors and youth-serving professionals about sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents in Soweto, South Africa

BMC | Published: 6 February 2018.

Mamakiri Mulaudzi, Busisiwe Nkala Dlamini, Jenny Coetzee, Kathleen Sikkema, Glenda Gray, Janan Janine Dietrich

Adolescents in South Africa remain vulnerable to HIV. Therefore, it is crucial to provide accessible adolescent-friendly HIV prevention interventions that are sensitive to their needs. This study aimed to investigate the perceptions of HIV counsellors and other youth-serving professionals about the barriers to providing adolescent youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services to adolescents in Soweto, South Africa. The study also explored how sexual and reproductive health services in South Africa could be improved to become more accessible to adolescents.

High risk exposure to HIV among sexually active individuals who tested negative on rapid HIV Tests in the Tshwane District of South Africa—The importance of behavioural prevention measures

PlosOne | Published: 2 February 2018.

Simnikiwe H Mayaphi, Desmond J Martin, Steve A S Olorunju, Brian G Williams, Thomas C Quinn, Anton C Stoltz

[This study aimed] to assess the prevalence of HIV risk behaviour among sexually active HIV sero-negative individuals in the Tshwane district of South Africa (SA). Demographic and HIV risk behaviour data were collected on a questionnaire from participants of a cross-sectional study that screened for early HIV infection using pooled nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT). The study enrolled individuals who tested negative on rapid HIV tests performed at five HIV counseling and testing (HCT) clinics, which included four antenatal clinics and one general HCT clinic.

Determinants of excellent/good self-rated health among HIV positive individuals in South Africa: evidence from a 2012 nationally representative household survey

BMC | Published: 30 January 2018.

M L H Mabaso, N P Zungu, T Rehle, S Moyo, S Jooste, K Zuma

In South Africa, HIV is increasingly becoming a chronic disease as a result of advances in HIV treatment and prevention in the last three decades. This has changed the perception from a life threatening to a potentially manageable disease. However, little is known about self-perceived health status of HIV-infected individuals. Self-rated health (SRH) has been shown to be a sensitive indicator of health-related changes directly linked to HIV, but can also be influenced by differences in social and material conditions. The aim of this paper was to identify determinants of excellent/good SRH among HIV-infected individuals using socio-demographic, life style and health related data.

Completion of the tuberculosis care cascade in a community-based HIV linkage-to-care study in South Africa and Uganda

Journal of the International AIDS Society | Published: 30 January 2018.

Adrienne E Shapiro, Alastair van Heerden, Torin T Schaafsma, James P Hughes, Jared M Baeten, Heidi van Rooyen, Elioda Tumwesigye, Connie L Celum, Ruanne V Barnab

Tuberculosis (TB) is the leading cause of HIV-associated mortality in Africa. As HIV testing, linkage to care and antiretroviral treatment initiation intensify to meet UNAIDS targets, it is not known what effect these efforts will have on TB detection and prevention. We aimed to characterize the TB care cascade of screening, diagnostic testing, treatment and provision of isoniazid preventive therapy (IPT) in a study of community-based HIV screening and linkage to care and determine whether symptom screening results affected progress along the cascade.

Exploring the care provided to mothers and children by community health workers in South Africa: missed opportunities to provide comprehensive care

BMC | Published: 23 January 2018.

A Wilford, S Phakathi, L Haskins, N A Jama, N C Horwood

Community health workers (CHWs) provide maternal and child health services to communities in many low and middle-income countries, including South Africa (SA). CHWs can improve access to important health interventions for isolated and vulnerable communities. In this study we explored the performance of CHWs providing maternal and child health services at household level and the quality of the CHW-mother interaction.

Determinants of HIV infection among adolescent girls and young women aged 15–24 years in South Africa: a 2012 population-based national household survey

BMC | Published: 26 January 2018.

Musawenkosi Mabaso, Zinhle Sokhela, Neo Mohlabane, Buyisile Chibi, Khangelani Zuma, Leickness Simbayi

South Africa is making tremendous progress in the fight against HIV, however, adolescent girls and young women aged 15–24 years (AGYW) remain at higher risk of new HIV infections. This paper investigates socio-demographic and behavioural determinants of HIV infection among AGYW in South Africa.

The Influence of Family Physicians Within the South African District Health System: A Cross-Sectional Study

Annals of Family Medicine | Published: January/ February 2018.

Klaus B von Pressentin, Robert J Mash, Laurel Baldwin-Ragaven, Roelf Petrus Gerhardus Botha, Indiran Govender, Wilhelm Johannes Steinberg, Tonya M Esterhuizen

Evidence of the influence of family physicians on health care is required to assist managers and policy makers with human resource planning in Africa. The international argument for family physicians derives mainly from research in high-income countries, so this study aimed to evaluate the influence of family

physicians on the South African district health system.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

HST IN THE NEWS

Teen pregnancies down, TB cure up

Health-e News | 1 February 2018.

Teen pregnancies have dropped, while our cure rate for tuberculosis (TB) is the highest in a decade. XDR patients have to take a combination of pills and injections to try to cure their TB, often with terrible side effects. Less than seven percent of all hospital births were to teen mothers in 2016/17, with the lowest in Gauteng (less than five percent). In contrast, a decade ago almost 15% of teenage girls were likely to fall pregnant, according to the District Health Barometer 2016/17 (DHB), which was launched this week.

State is also 'captured' by incompetence

Health-e News | 5 February 2018.

Twenty three years after South Africa's first democratic elections, many Eastern Cape residents still live in dire poverty – held hostage as much by incompetent officials as corrupt ones. Is there any political will to turn the country's poorest municipalities around?

The privilege of being heard

Daily Maverick | 6 February 2018.

Day Zero is fast approaching in Cape Town and the people of Cape Town are angry. Outraged even. Had I not witnessed what I had in the Eastern Cape last week, I may be outraged too. Instead, I reflect that outrage is yet another form of privilege. In order to rant and rage, you must have some kind of benchmark for injustice – a point of comparison – to understand a situation with and without water. The people of Canzibe, in the heart of the rural Eastern Cape, know no such privilege.

Maternal deaths spike on HIV

Herald Live | 8 February 2018.

Bay has one of the highest rates in SA but hospital staff shortages 'not a factor'. HIV is taking a horrifying toll on young, pregnant women in the province, with many of them arriving at Dora Nginza Hospital with full-blown Aids. The spike in maternal deaths over the last year – noted in the District Health Barometer released last week – was related to HIV-infected, pregnant women who received no ARVs and were then, in the end stages of the disease, sent to the hospital to die, sources said.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

RECENT NEWS

PEPFAR — 15 Years and Counting the Lives Saved

The New England Journal of Medicine | 25 January 2018.

In the long history of successful public health initiatives, such as those leading to the eradication of smallpox, the elimination of polio throughout most of the world, and the marked reduction globally in vaccine-preventable childhood diseases, few programs have matched the impact of one that began in 2003, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, or PEPFAR. This innovative program has had an unprecedented impact on the pandemic of HIV and AIDS.

WHO Independent Global High-level Commission on NCDs

World Health Organisation | 1 February 2018.

Leaders in health, politics and development have accepted to participate in the first-ever WHO Independent Global High-level Commission on Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs), which aims to identify and propose bold and practical ways to curb the world's leading causes of death and illness.

How the placenta can shed light on HIV mothers and their babies

The Conversation | 6 February 2018.

In many parts of the world, the human placenta (the after birth) is discarded once a baby is born and

considered waste... But scientists have started to wake up to the fact that the placenta has many important cells – and that they are able to gain valuable insights into a baby's development by harnessing modern technologies to understand this transient organ.

State to pay Life Esidimeni victims' families R200,000 each

Times Live | 8 February 2018.

The state has resolved to pay out R200,000 to each Life Esidimeni tragedy claimant as compensation for their emotional trauma, funeral arrangements and any other remedy.

Cape Town's water crisis is already posing a risk to public health

Quartz | 7 February 2018.

The water crisis hitting Cape Town is increasing the danger of diseases that surge when people do not wash their hands.

One year on, Global Observatory on Health R&D identifies striking gaps and inequalities

World Health Organisation | February 2018.

Each year, hundreds of billions of dollars are spent on research and development (R&D) into new or improved health products and processes, ranging from medicines to vaccines to diagnostics. But the way these funds are distributed and spent is often poorly aligned with global public health needs.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Violence Info: A global knowledge platform for preventing violence

World Health Organisation | 2017.

The Violence Prevention Information System (Violence Info) collates published scientific information on the main types of interpersonal violence. This includes information on prevalence, consequences, risk factors, and prevention and response strategies. It also describes what countries report about their actions to address violence. This version contains most of the major features, but remains a work in progress with more studies to be added.

Engaging Men and Boys in Family Planning: A Strategic Planning Guide

Family Planning High Impact Practices | 2018.

This document is intended to lead program managers, planners, and decision-makers through a strategic process to identify effective investments for engaging men in efforts to improve sexual and reproductive health. In this guide, male engagement refers to the involvement of men and boys in family planning programs across life stages, including addressing gender norms and gender equality.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

District Health Barometer 2016/17

Health Systems Trust | 30 January 2018.

Health Systems Trust is pleased to present the 12th edition of the District Health Barometer (DHB), which covers 52 districts and includes a total of 47 financial and health indicators, 11 of which are new. This annual publication provides an overview of the performance of public health services in South Africa and has become an important planning and management resource for health service providers, managers, researchers and policy makers in the country.

Practitioner Expertise to Optimize Community Health Systems: Harnessing Operational Insight

Community Health Worker Impact | 2017.

To harness the potential of community health workers (CHWs) to extend health services to poor and marginalized populations and avoid the pitfalls of the post-Alma-Ata period, there is an urgent need to better understand how CHW programs can be optimized. Six organizations – Hope Through Health, Last

Mile Health, Living Goods, Muso, Partners In Health, and Possible – have developed high-impact CHW programs with governments and communities across the globe. Understanding that several operational questions are unresolved by current academic evidence, they have come together to create a report identifying insights from their implementation experience.

Extended Deadline: South African Health Review 2018 Call for Abstracts

Health Systems Trust | December 2017.

The editorial team of the 2018 SAHR is currently seeking abstracts that give consideration to advances made in the health system over the past 21 years, and reflect on areas of improvement for the future. In particular, abstracts that address the following range of topics are requested:

- Human resources for health (e.g. community health workers, production and distribution of health care workers; planning and forecasting, task shifting etc.)
- Responses to the prevention and management of non-communicable diseases
- Progress and challenges towards implementing universal health coverage

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Global Health & Innovation Conference

14-15 April 2018

Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA

Digital Health World Congress

8-9 May 2018

Kensington Conference and Events Centre, London, United Kingdom

RareX Rare Disease Conference

13-16 September 2018

Johannesburg, South Africa

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Please click on the job title for more information.

Health Systems Trust: Clinical Trial Study Lead (Cape Town)

Closing Date: 9 February 2018

National Department of Health: Director – Comprehensive HIV & AIDS Care Management and Treatment

Closing Date: 10 February 2018

Health Systems Trust: Provincial Epidemiologist

Closing Date: 16 February 2018

Health Systems Trust: Community Linkage Officers (6 districts)

Closing Date: 16 February 2018

[\(Return to Top\)](#)



Copyright © 2018 HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

hst@hst.org.za

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Health Systems Trust · 34 Essex Terrace · Westville · Durban, KZN 3630 · South Africa

MailChimp