

[HST Bulletin 14 June 2024](#)[View this email in your browser](#)

## CATEGORIES

[Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles](#)[Recent Public Health News](#)[Training and Resources](#)[Publications and Reports](#)[Conferences and Events](#)[Job Opportunities](#)

## ACADEMIC AND PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

### **Low clinical impact of HIV drug resistance mutations in oral pre-exposure prophylaxis: a systematic review and meta-analysis**

*Aids Research and Therapy* | 7 June 2024

Brian Eka Rachman, Siti Qamariyah Khairunisa, Citrawati Dyah Kencono Wungu, Tri Pudy Asmarawati, Musofa Rusli, et al

Despite the widespread use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in preventing human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) transmission, scant information on HIV drug resistance mutations (DRMs) has been gathered over the past decade. This review aimed to estimate the pooled prevalence of pre-exposure prophylaxis and its two-way impact on DRM

### **Magnitude and risk factors of mother-to-child transmission of HIV among HIV-exposed infants after Option B+ implementation in Ethiopia: a systematic review and meta-analysis**

*Aids Research and Therapy* | 7 June 2024

Wolde Facha, Takele Tadesse, Eskinder Wolka & Ayalew Astatkie

Mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) remains a major public health challenge in Ethiopia. The objective of this review was to assess the pooled magnitude of MTCT of HIV and its risk factors among mother-infant pairs who initiated antiretroviral therapy (ART) after Option B+ in Ethiopia.

### **Depression symptoms and suicidal ideation among HIV infected Rwandans: the mediating and moderating effects of complicated grief and substance abuse**

*Aids Research and Therapy* | 7 June 2024

Anualitha Uwiringiyimana, Japhet Niyonsenga, Kethina Gaju Lisette, Athanasie Bugenimana, Jean Mutabaruka, et al.

People with HIV/AIDS (PWA) have 7–36 times greater risk for completed suicide associated with

depression symptoms compared to general population. However, no study has sufficiently analyzed the mediating or moderating variables of the relationship between depression and suicidal ideation in Rwanda.

### **Varying behavioral differences and correlates of HPV infection among young adolescents in Benue state, Nigeria**

*BMC Public Health | 7 June 2024*

*Evelyn Erdoos Orya, Kayode Khalid Bello, Sidney Sampson, Esther Awazzi Envuladu & Hilary I. Okagbue*

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection is a significant public health concern globally, especially in low- and middle-income countries. In Africa, including Nigeria, HPV prevalence is high, contributing to a substantial burden of cervical cancer. Despite challenges, massive HPV vaccination campaigns in Africa show promise for preventing cervical cancer cases. In Benue State, Nigeria, limited research exists on several aspects of HPV knowledge and attitudes towards HPV among secondary school students.

### **The association between HIV infection, disability and lifestyle activity among middle-aged and older adults: an analytical cross-sectional study in Ivory Coast (the VIRAGE study)**

*BMC Public Health | 8 June 2024*

*Pierre Debeaudrap, Nadine Etoundi, Joseph Tegbe, Nelly Assoumou, Zelica Dialo, Aristophane Tanon, et al.*

People living with HIV (PLWH) live longer and face new health challenges resulting from the confluence of chronic HIV infection and the natural effect of aging and comorbidities. However, there is a dearth of information on the long-term impact of HIV infection on the health and wellbeing of PLWH in sub-Saharan Africa. This research aimed to fill this gap by reporting on physical, functional and social outcomes among PLWH treated at a referral center in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, and comparing them with those of a control group.

### **HIV Stigma, Health, and Violence: A Longitudinal Study among Adolescent Boys with HIV in Soweto, South Africa**

*Aids and Behaviour | 10 June 2024*

*Elizabeth M. Inman, Busisiwe Nkala-Dlamini, Avy Violari & Rachel Kidman*

There are over 1.4 million adolescents living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, the majority of whom acquired the virus through perinatal transmission (PHIV). HIV stigma is particularly high among adolescents living with HIV and is associated with several outcomes that worsen health and increase the risk of onward HIV transmission. We tested associations between internalized HIV stigma and four of these outcomes over a one-year period among a sample of adolescent boys living with PHIV in Soweto, South Africa. Participants ( $N=241$ ) answered questions about internalized HIV stigma at baseline. They completed weekly mobile surveys over the following year to answer questions about their experiences with depression, binge drinking, medication adherence, and violence victimization.

### **Reach and impact of a nationwide media campaign in Ethiopia for promoting safe breastfeeding practices in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic**

*Aids and Behaviour | 10 June 2024*

*Abel Negussie, Bereket Tefera, Elyas Melaku Mazengia, Ariam Hailemariam, Ephrem Lejore, et al*

In response to the COVID-19 challenge and the consequent concerns and misconceptions about potential mother-to-child virus transmission, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), in collaboration with the Ethiopian Ministry of Health, launched a 3-month nationwide media campaign to promote appropriate and safe breastfeeding practices using national and regional television and radio channels, as well as social media. This study assesses the reach and impact of a media campaign in Ethiopia on improving mothers', partners'/caregivers', and the public's awareness of and practices related to appropriate and safe breastfeeding.

### **The Impact of COVID-19 on the HIV Cascade of Care in Botswana – An Interrupted Time Series**

*AIDS and Behavior | 10 June May 2024*

Globally, Botswana has one of the highest burdens of HIV. This study estimated the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the HIV cascade of care in Sub-Saharan Africa. We conducted an interrupted time series

analysis on national-level data to estimate the effect of COVID-19 on the numbers of HIV tests, positive HIV tests and ART initiations from April 2019 until March 2021.

### **Double malnutrition and associated factors in a middle-aged and older, rural South African population**

*BMC Nutrition* | 10 June May 2024

*Faheem Seedat, Stephen M. Tollman, Wayne Twine, Anne R. Cappola and Alisha N. Wade*

Double malnutrition (co-existing overnutrition and undernutrition) is increasingly prevalent in sub-Saharan Africa due to rapid epidemiological and nutritional transitions. In this region, studies of double malnutrition have largely been conducted at country and household level, with individual-level studies primarily limited to children and women of reproductive age. We investigated the prevalence and determinants of individual-level double malnutrition in middle-aged and older adults who constitute an increasing proportion of the sub-Saharan African population.

### **A Longitudinal Examination of HIV Risk Perception Accuracy among Sexual Minority Men with History of Childhood Sexual Abuse**

*AIDS and Behavior* | 10 June May 2024

*Tiffany R. Glynn, Norik Kirakosian, Amelia M. Stanton, Laura L. Westphal, Calvin Fitch, et al.*

Men who have sex with men (MSM) with history of childhood sexual abuse (CSA) are at high risk for HIV acquisition. One reason is posttraumatic responses compromise ability to accurately appraise risk for danger/vulnerability. Health behavior change models and related interventions assume risk perception can be changed in an enduring manner. Given paucity of studies examining how risk perception changes or sustains over time post-intervention, this underlying assumption is not confirmed. Among this particularly high-risk group who struggle with perceiving risk due to trauma-related cognitions, it may be accuracy of risk perception is fluid. The study primarily aimed to examine accuracy of HIV risk perception over time post-HIV prevention behavioral intervention.

### **Perceived risk for HIV acquisition and sexual HIV exposure among sexual and gender minorities: a systematic review**

*BMC Infectious Diseases* | 10 June 2024

*Hamid Vega-Ramirez, Centli Guillen-Diaz-Barriga, Paula M. Luz & Thiago S. Torres*

We conducted a systematic review to explore the relationship between perceived risk for HIV acquisition and sexual HIV exposure among sexual and gender minorities. We included 39 studies divided into (i) correlations or associations, (ii) models using sexual HIV exposure as the outcome, and (iii) models using perceived risk for HIV acquisition as the outcome. The sample size range was from 55 to 16,667 participants, primarily cisgender men who have sex with men (73.3%) and White (51.3%). Sexual HIV exposure and perceived risk for HIV acquisition assessments and recall time frames across studies differed markedly.

### **The role of gender in health insurance enrollment among geriatric caregivers: results from the 2022 informal caregiving, health, and healthcare survey in Ghana**

*BMC Public Health* | 11 June 2024

*Williams Agyemang-Duah, Michael Safo Oduro, Prince Peprah, Dina Adei & Jacob Opong Nkansah*

Female informal caregivers of older adults experience a higher burden of physical and mental health problems compared to their male counterparts due to the greater intensity of care they provide. This is likely to result in an imbalance in health needs, including health insurance enrollment, between male and female informal caregivers of older adults. However, to date, no study is available on the role of gender in health insurance enrollment among informal caregivers of older adults in Ghana. This study examines the association between gender and health insurance enrollment among informal caregivers of older adults in Ghana.

### **Utilization of machine learning for dengue case screening**

*BMC Public Health* | 11 June 2024

*Bianca Conrad Bohm, Fernando Elias de Melo Borges, Suellen Caroline Matos Silva, Alessandra Talaska Soares, Danton Diego Ferreira, et al.*

Dengue causes approximately 10,000 deaths and 100 million symptomatic infections annually worldwide, making it a significant public health concern. To address this, artificial intelligence tools like machine

learning can play a crucial role in developing more effective strategies for control, diagnosis, and treatment. This study identifies relevant variables for the screening of dengue cases through machine learning models and evaluates the accuracy of the models. Data from reported dengue cases in the states of Rio de Janeiro and Minas Gerais for the years 2016 and 2019 were obtained through the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (SINAN). The mutual information technique was used to assess which variables were most related to laboratory-confirmed dengue cases.

## **Assessment of non-communicable disease risk factors, functional performance, and health-related quality of life in adults: a comparative analysis in low-resourced urban and rural areas of South Africa**

*BMC Public Health | 12 June 2024*

*Fhatuwani W Ramalivhana, Tamrin Veldsman & Sarah J Mos*

Globally, disparities between non-communicable disease (NCD) risk factors, functional performance, and health-related quality of life (HRQoL) exist in people living in rural and low-resourced urban settings. Evidence of these health differences determined with objective NCD risk factors and functional performance measurements in South Africa, is scarce. Therefore, the study aimed to determine the differences in NCD risk factors, functional performance and HRQoL between rural and low-resourced urban areas.

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

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## **RECENT PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS**

### **Slow progress after decision to make TB prevention pills more widely available**

*Spotlight | 6 June 2024*

Many people who have the TB bug in their lungs are not ill with TB disease. Having the bug in your body, does mean however that you are at risk of falling ill, should the TB bacteria get the overhand in its battle with your immune system. Fortunately, we have medications that can kill TB bacteria before one falls ill. A recent World Health Organization (WHO) investment case, suggests such TB prevention therapy, commonly called TPT, reduces the risk of falling ill with TB in those exposed to the bug by 60% to 90% compared to people who do not get the treatment.

### **The Malnutrition Crisis: Prioritising The Health And Well-Being Of Future Generations**

*Health-e News | 6 June 2024*

As the dust settles on the recent elections, it is time for the new administration to confront a silent catastrophe that has plagued our nation for far too long – the malnutrition crisis. The haunting statistics reveal a grim reality: over 1.5 million children in South Africa suffer from stunted growth, a reflection of the chronic lack of proper nutrition and care during their crucial early years.

### **WATCH: In Eswatini, questions linger one year after HPV vaccine program launch**

*VOA News | 6 June 2024*

Cervical cancer is the most common cancer among women in the southern African nation of Eswatini, while globally it's the fourth most common. Despite this, a vaccination program in Eswatini that aims to prevent cervical cancer is meeting resistance. Nokukhanya Musi reports from Manzini, Eswatini.

### **PrEP in pictures: these photos highlight factors influencing women's use of PrEP in Kenya**

*Aidsmap | 7 June 2024*

In a study conducted in rural Kenya, young women, their male partners and male peers were given cameras to capture factors in their community that influenced the use of PrEP among young women. The photographs taken by young women indicated that male influence restricted the use of PrEP, with men

seen as barriers rather than supporters. Women also perceived that they had little autonomy over their choice to use PrEP. In 2019, researchers from the Impact Research and Development Organization in Kisumu, Kenya, provided study participants with inexpensive digital cameras. They were trained on how to use them and given guidance on ethics when taking photographs. Young women were tasked with eight photo assignments that focused on identifying factors influencing their PrEP use, while men's four photo assignments focused on identifying ways men support or hinder young women's PrEP use.

## **Assisted partner services for people who inject drugs in Kenya boost HIV testing and aid linkage to care**

*aidsmap | 7 June 2024*

Assisted partner services, which contact partners of people with HIV and invite them for testing, are highly effective in diagnosing people unaware of their HIV status and offer a promising model for reaching the partners of people who inject drugs, a study carried out in Kenya has found. The study findings are published in the May edition of *Lancet Global Health*. Assisted partner services provide testing and linkage to care for the partners of people who have already tested positive for HIV. These types of services are sometimes also referred to as partner notification, contact tracing or index testing.

## **OPEN LETTER | Minister of Health Joe Phaahla, make TB a political priority**

*Spotlight | 7 June 2024*

In this open letter to Minister of Health Dr Joe Phaahla, TB activists call for the disease to be made a political priority and demand multisectoral departmental accountability. They outline six demands for implementation by the end of this year. The letter was submitted on the final day of the South African TB Conference being held this week in Durban. Dear Honourable Minister Dr Joe Phaahla, TB is the leading cause of death from an infectious disease in South Africa and we have noted that only 4 out of around 70 political parties contesting in the national elections have mentioned TB as an important health priority that needs to be addressed in their manifestos. The elections outcome indicates a seismic shift that says one thing about the South African voters. They said to ALL political parties #Sikhathele about you taking us for a ride. We are tired of empty promises that keep the poor majority as beggars for services, including lack of political will to end TB.

## **Cholera can kill you within hours if left untreated: how to recognise the symptoms and protect yourself**

*The Conversation | 9 June 2024*

Cholera is a deadly disease caused by the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*, associated with poor sanitation and limited access to clean water. But it has also been found in seemingly clean places, including affluent neighbourhoods, hotels and restaurants with poor hygiene practices such as handling food with dirty hands and using contaminated water to wash utensils and prepare food. Cholera outbreaks in Africa have affected 18 countries over the last two years. In southern and eastern Africa, more than 6,000 people have died and nearly 350,000 cases have been reported since a series of outbreaks began in late 2021.

## **UKZN's groundbreaking study into HIV in infants**

*The Witness | 10 June 2024*

Research by scientists from the Universities of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), together with their overseas counterparts, shows that male infants are more likely to achieve HIV cure/remission than female infants. The research was published in the peer-reviewed journal *Nature Medicine* recently.

## **Supporting Research for Older Adults Living with HIV**

*HIV.gov | 10 June 2024*

During the early years of the AIDS epidemic four decades ago, life expectancy for a person diagnosed with HIV was just three years due to a lack of effective treatments. Today, thanks to major therapeutic advances, people living with HIV are leading much longer and healthier lives. This significant progress has, however, led to a new challenge. More than 50% of those living with HIV in the United States are older than 50 years of age, and as a result of the virus and related long-term treatment, many experience early onset of age-related conditions such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, metabolic disorders, kidney disease, and cognitive issues.

## **Promising HIV infants study welcomed**



*IOL | 10 June 2024*

Experts have welcomed findings that indicate that male infants are more likely to achieve HIV cure/remission after anti-HIV therapy was initiated at birth. But there has been a call for the research to be done on a broader scale. The study, which was published in the peer-reviewed journal *Nature Medicine*, included scientists from the Universities of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) and Oxford, the Africa Health Research Institute at UKZN, as well as the Ragon Institute of Mass General, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology Harvard in the US.

## **Faster tests, shorter treatments: How new tech could help slow down drug-resistant TB**

*News24 | 10 June 2024*

From early next year, the health department could look to start using tests that can show if the genetic make-up of TB germs has changed in such a way that they could be resistant to antibiotics. This is from a presentation by the department's chief TB director at the 8th South African TB Conference in Durban on Wednesday. Tests like these can help to slow down resistance to bedaquiline, an antibiotic that can slash treatment time for a form of TB that doesn't respond to the usual regimen by two-thirds.

## **New Oral Antibiotic Works Against Drug-Resistant Gonorrhea**

*Medscape | 10 June 2024*

A first-in-class antibiotic zoliflodacin is non-inferior to standard of care (SOC) in the treatment of uncomplicated gonorrhea and also shows activity against resistant forms of the infection, a phase 3 clinical trial has shown. The single-dose oral suspension also had a high microbiological cure rate at urogenital and extragenital sites of infection, and safety was comparable with the standard treatment of ceftriaxone plus azithromycin.

## **Strengthening Partnerships to End AIDS in Children**

*WHO | 10 June 2024*

Angola is facing a generalised epidemic of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), with sexual transmission being the main form of spread. According to the Multiple Health Indicator Survey, the prevalence rate in the general population aged 15 to 49 is 2 per cent higher in women than in men. The HIV epidemic is mainly concentrated in urban areas and has a higher prevalence and incidence in the east and south of the country, which includes the province of Lunda Norte. The 7th National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan (PEN7) considers Lunda Norte one of the five priority provinces for accelerating and strengthening joint monitoring, technical support and supervision.

## **Nigeria's Kwara state rolls out HPV vaccine to enthusiastic reception**

*Gavi | 11 June 2024*

From governors' wives to religious leaders, health workers to youth advocates, Kwara state pulled together to boost uptake of the cancer-blocking jab. Their efforts paid off, Afeez Bolaji found. Balkis Muftau, 12, shut her eyes tightly as a tiny needle penetrated her upper left arm, but the shot was over in moments. Muftau dabbed the spot with a piece of cotton wool and made her way back towards fellow pupils at Adeta Primary School who stood in line for the single-dose human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination.

## **#InTheSpotlight | HIV prevention injections exist, but hardly anyone can get them**

*Spotlight | 11 June 2024*

HIV prevention injections have been registered for use in South Africa, but their high price and limited supply means that for the next few years, while awaiting more affordable generics, very few people will be able to get the jabs. In this Spotlight special briefing, Catherine Tomlinson looks at the difficult choices facing the country if we want to offer the injection to more people more quickly. The calls we make could have global implications.

## **Addressing The Effects Of Poor Water Quality On Women's Health In Tanzania**

*Africa.com | 11 June 2024*

Tanzania grapples with a severe water and sanitation crisis that profoundly affects a significant portion of its 65 million inhabitants. Astonishingly, a staggering 88% of the population, equivalent to 58 million

individuals, lacks access to safe drinking water, while 74%, or 49 million people, endure the absence of adequate toilets. This crisis is compounded by various challenges, including chronic underfunding of government initiatives, extreme weather events driven by climate change, such as altered water patterns and erratic rainfall, and the relentless growth of the population, particularly among those living in poverty.

## **One Mpox patient dead, four more cases confirmed, says health minister Joe Phaahla**

*Times Live | 11 June 2024*

Five cases of Mpox (monkeypox) have been confirmed in South Africa, with one fatality in Gauteng. The patient died in Tembisa Hospital on Monday, health minister Joe Phaahla said on Wednesday. All the patients are male, aged between 30 and 39. All cases are through local transmission as none had travelled abroad, he said. The man who died lived in Gauteng and though he was originally from KwaZulu-Natal, he had not been home since December.

## **CDC recommends PEP for bacterial STIs, which are becoming increasingly resistant to antibiotics**

*IOL | 11 June 2024*

The Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shared new guidelines earlier this week to help fight the rise of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). These guidelines advise using a preventive antibiotic called doxycycline post-exposure prophylaxis (doxy-PEP) to stop syphilis, gonorrhoea and chlamydia. The CDC recommends that doctors talk to gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender women (TGW) who've had at least one bacterial STI in the last 12 months about using doxy-PEP.

## **City of Cape Town warns public to avoid seals after rabies case confirmed**

*News24 | 11 June 2024*

The City of Cape Town is advising the public to stay away from seals as far as possible after a Cape Fur Seal off the coast at Big Bay has tested positive for rabies. The Western Cape Provincial Veterinary Services has confirmed the Cape Fur Seal died on 22 May and the laboratory results came in on 7 June. "As such, the public must take extra precaution to stay away from Cape Fur Seals as far as possible, and to not, under any circumstances, allow their dogs close to these animals," the City says.

## **Zimbabwe: Flu Bout Not Covid-19 Related – Govt**

*allAfrica | 12 June 2024*

The present surge in cases of flu affecting many people is caused by the common cold associated with the winter season and has nothing to do with Covid-19, Government has said. Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services Minister, Dr Jenfan Muswere, said this yesterday while delivering a post-Cabinet briefing. He said Cabinet received a report on the influenza-like illness in Zimbabwe from Health and Child Care Minister, Dr Douglas Mombeshora.

## **Is germline targeting the future of HIV vaccine development?**

*aidsmap | 12 June 2024*

Despite four decades of effort, traditional vaccine approaches have been unable to prevent HIV acquisition. Because the virus mutates rapidly and hides from the immune system, most experts think more sophisticated vaccine strategies will be necessary and that the research and development process will probably take years. One novel strategy, known as germline targeting, uses a series of primer and booster vaccines to train B cells – the immune system's antibody factories – to recognise HIV and produce broadly neutralising antibodies (bnAbs) that can deactivate the virus.

## **How a badly run municipality led to a health centre having to halve its opening hours**

*Bhekisisa | 12 June 2024*

Until 2022, the Ngcobo Community Health Centre in the rural Eastern Cape was a 24/7 facility. But now it closes at 7pm, depriving the community of emergency health services at night. A spiraling crime rate and dry taps conspired to make it impossible for health workers to operate at night. But neither the local municipality, police or provincial health department say they're to blame.

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

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## TRAINING AND RESOURCES

### **Call for Applications, Albertina Sisulu Executive Leadership Program in Health (ASELPH) Fellowship, A University of Pretoria Postgraduate Diploma in Health Systems Management in Executive Leadership, Application Deadline, 30 June 2024**

The Albertina Sisulu Executive Leadership Program in Health (ASELPH) is a unique collaborative program through the University of Pretoria that was jointly developed and initially implemented with contributions from the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, and the National and Provincial Departments of Health in South Africa. A key aim is to improve the South African health system through the training of health workers to become exceptional executive leaders, who are better able to drive local health system strengthening and performance.

The Program is focussed on developing Executives (middle and senior health system managers or clinicians) for the unique environment and challenges of the South African health system; this 120 credit (1200 learning hours) postgraduate diploma covers modules in Leadership, Ethics, Strategic Planning, Health sector Transformation, Decentralization & health service re-engineering; Complex Problem Solving, Financial Management, Human Resources For Health, Quality Improvement, Strategic Marketing and Communication and Monitoring and Evaluation. Innovative teaching and learning approaches include peer learning, case study methodology, reflective learning and mentorship. Each Fellow completes a research project and 12 core and elective modules. These are provided through a hybrid learning approach which includes pre-module online work, a 3-day contact class per module at the University of Pretoria and post module assignments. In all, there are approximately 35 contact class days in 6 blocks (Mon-Sat) over a calendar year.

This is a call for applications for the 7<sup>th</sup> cohort of the Albertina Sisulu Executive Leadership Program in Health starting in January 2025 at the University of Pretoria. This is a part-time Postgraduate Diploma in Health Systems Management in Executive Leadership.

Target Group: Those in middle and senior management and leadership positions, including clinicians, in the health system are encouraged to apply. Applicants from NGOs, technical agencies and the private health sector are also welcome to apply for the training programme. Preference is for current public health sector employees.

Minimum Requirements for Admission are a three-year University Bachelor's Degree (NQF 7 or above) and a minimum of four years management experience in the health sector.

While university funding support is not provided, **Partial or Full Tuition Bursaries** may be available for public health sector employees through respective provincial or HWSETA bursaries, while it is anticipated that relevant Departments of Health will cover travel and accommodation costs. This includes applicants from provincial health services as well as municipal health services.

Preference is for current South African public health sector employees and will be for those who have not had any previous post graduate training in public health, management or leadership programs and/or those who have not benefited from any prior health sector financial support for any form of training.

**Application and Selection Process:** All SA public health sector officials eligible for consideration will be subjected to a joint Provincial DOH / ASELPH Recruitment, Interview and Selection process. Applications, together with supporting documents (ID, CV, motivation letter and copy of qualifications labelled with prospective applicant's student number) must be submitted online at:

[https://upnet.up.ac.za/psc/upapply/EMPLOYEE/SA/c/UP\\_OAP\\_MENU.UP\\_OAP\\_LOGIN.GBL](https://upnet.up.ac.za/psc/upapply/EMPLOYEE/SA/c/UP_OAP_MENU.UP_OAP_LOGIN.GBL)

For further information contact Mr Lesiba Mpati at [lesiba.mpati@up.ac.za](mailto:lesiba.mpati@up.ac.za)



## Subscribe to the Health Systems Trust 60percent

HST produces a weekly online publication, 60percent, which keeps subscribers abreast with the latest news and developments pertaining to HIV-related maternal, adolescent, child and youth health. The name 60percent signifies that southern Africa is responding to a feminised HIV/AIDS epidemic, with at least 60% of those living with HIV being women. Subscribe to 60percent by simply visiting HST's website (<https://www.hst.org.za>), scroll to the bottom of the page, hit the SUBSCRIBE button, and follow the prompts. Let's keep you posted!

<https://www.hst.org.za/Pages/Subscription.aspx>

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

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## PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

**Call for Abstracts** – The *Journal of the International AIDS Society* (JIAS) invites abstracts for the below supplements: "**Person-centred HIV prevention: Supporting people vulnerable to HIV acquisition through tailored programming, service delivery and prevention products**" to be launched in September 2025.

Guest Editors: Iskandar Azwa, Marie-Claude Lavoie, Andrew Mujugira

Deadline for abstract submissions: 14 June 2024

More information [here](#).

**"Differentiated service delivery – beyond HIV treatment for integration and other health needs"** to be launched in July 2025 in conjunction with IAS 2025, the 13th IAS Conference on HIV Science.

Guest Editors: Anna Grimsrud, Charles B. Holmes, Linda Sande

Deadline for abstract submissions: 28 June 2024

More information [here](#).

### Call for papers - HIV and TB co-infection – closing date 20 December 2024

**BMC Infectious Diseases** is calling for submissions to their Collection on HIV and TB co-infection. This collection seeks to explore the complex relationship between tuberculosis (TB) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), two prominent pathogens within the domain of infectious diseases. They invite submissions on co-infection research, interventions, and perspectives from various stakeholders aiming to advance understanding and improve outcomes in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and control of HIV and TB co-infection, covering topics such as epidemiology, pathogenesis, clinical management, drug interactions, public health approaches, socioeconomic determinants, therapeutics innovation, community engagement, and health systems strengthening.

<https://bmcinfectdis.biomedcentral.com/>

### DISTRICT HEALTH BAROMETER 2022/2023

The 16th edition of the DHB provides information across a wide range of district health services, covers over 30 indicators and continues to provide policy-makers, health workers, planners, researchers, academics and stakeholders a unique overview of the performance of public health services in South Africa. By providing a detailed analysis of health indicators, trends, and challenges at the district level, the DHB equips district managers and other stakeholders with the data necessary to identify priorities, plan and implement targeted interventions, and monitor progress. This year's Barometer also includes a chapter on air quality and health as we introduce environmental drivers of health in the publication in response to the effects of climate change on health.

As an innovation for the publication, an online interactive dashboard has been developed. This dashboard

will include all the indicators that have been compiled in the publication along with accompanying narratives on the key findings for the most recent year of data. It provides userled navigation, with the ability to drill down geographically from provincial to district level. Users will be able to decide what indicators to focus on, over what time window, and at the level of aggregation they choose. There are also timesliders available to navigate the most recent 5 years of data.

<https://www.hst.org.za/publications/Pages/-District-Health-Barometer-2022-2023.aspx>

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

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## CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

### **International Conference on Health Administration and Public Health Systems**

The International Conference On Health Administration And Public Health Systems (ICHAPHS-24) at Port Elizabeth, South Africa strives to serve all those engaged in the discipline of Health Administration And Public Health Systems as an avenue for growth and community-building. At this event, all stakeholders - participants, keynote speakers, presenters, volunteers, and others, will get access to best-in-class resources, infrastructure, and opportunities that will help them accomplish every one of their professional objectives irrespective of how diverse and varied they are. The organizers of the International Conference On Health Administration And Public Health Systems (ICHAPHS-24) are of the firm belief that in order to play an active part in the progress of Health Administration And Public Health Systems, the key is to foster its spirit of community. This is exactly why apart from knowledge-dissemination events solely aimed at propagating the latest expertise and know-how, International Conference On Health Administration And Public Health Systems (ICHAPHS-24) will also feature numerous networking and socializing events where participants will get to engage with their peers, get advice from keynote speakers and other presenter's questions, and rub shoulders with the academic elite in their respective specializations.

When: 4 – 5 July 2024

Where: Port Elizabeth

For more information: <https://asar.net.in/event/index.php?id=2282042>

### **International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) Conference**

FIP holds the World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, which takes place in a different country each year. In addition to this annual congress, FIP hosts the Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress every three to four years. At the annual congress thousands of pharmacists meet, learn, share and exchange views. Our varied programme, offering something for everyone, makes this congress the premier international event in pharmacy each year. The theme for this year's congress is "Innovating for the Future of Health Care".

When: 1 – 4 September 2024

Where: Cape Town, South Africa

For more information: <https://capetown2024.fip.org/>

### **World Congress of Epidemiology**

When: 24 – 27 September 2024

Where: Cape Town, South Africa

For more information: <https://www.wce2024.org/>

### **Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA) 2024 conference**

**This year's theme: 'Partnerships for Public Health: Sculpting a Healthier Future Together'**

The Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA) hosts an annual conference, with the aim of engaging public health practitioners from around the country, region and world to share their experiences and research, discuss topical public health issues, and mentor public health students and young researchers.

The 2024 PHASA Conference provides an opportune setting for engaging with the most recent public health research and evidence, for rethinking current models of research translation, for identifying barriers and opportunities for change, and for exploring new strategies for knowledge exchange and dissemination.

Join fellow public health experts, academics, researchers, students, non-governmental organisations, and civil society members at this year's annual PHASA Conference; as we transform the ways we think about and approach priority areas of public health research, policy, and practice, to ultimately improve health outcomes for all.

For more information please visit the conference website: <https://phasa.samrc.ac.za/>

### **Become a member of the Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA)**

The Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA) is a voluntary organisation of individuals passionate about population health improvements and the reduction of health inequities, and whose work focuses on the prevention of disease, the promotion of health, and the improved functioning of the country's health care system.

<https://phasa.org.za/index.php/get-involved/membership>

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

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## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Differentiated Models of Care (DMoC) Co-ordinator**

Closing Date: 20 June 2024

Go to: [https://www.hst.org.za/Pages/Differentiated-Models-of-Care-\(DMoC\)-Co-Ordinator-%E2%80%93-eThekweni-District0607-3589.aspx](https://www.hst.org.za/Pages/Differentiated-Models-of-Care-(DMoC)-Co-Ordinator-%E2%80%93-eThekweni-District0607-3589.aspx)

### **Psychosocial Advisor**

Closing Date: 20 June 2024

Go to: <https://www.hst.org.za/Pages/Psychosocial-Advisor---.aspx>

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

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