



# HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST BULLETIN

30 October 2009

## In this issue

- **Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles**
  - Pre-requisites for National Health Insurance in South Africa: Results of a national household survey
  - Duration, Pattern of Breastfeeding and Postnatal Transmission of HIV: Pooled Analysis of Individual Data from West and South African Cohorts
  - Environmental Determinants of Asthma among School Children aged 13 to 14 in and around Polokwane, Limpopo Province, South Africa
  - Global immunization: status, progress, challenges and future
- **Recent News**
  - Experts review Motsoaledi's first three months
  - Global money shortage undermines AIDS fight
  - HIV-positive inmates speak out
  - My long wait and fight for treatment
- **Reports**
  - Right to Food and Nutrition Watch 2009
  - Global health risks: mortality and burden of disease attributable to selected major risks.
- **Conferences**
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA) 2009 Conference
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Africa Conference on Sexual Health and Rights 2010
  - The 26<sup>th</sup> International Pediatric Association Congress of Pediatrics 2010
  - MedInfo 13<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Medical and Health Informatics 2010
- **Training and Resources**
  - Building future health systems to deliver primary health care
  - Introduction to health systems online course
- **Job Opportunities**
  - Africa Health Placements
  - Health Systems Trust - Provincial Co-ordinators
  - University of Witwatersrand -Clinical Lecturer: Primary Care (1 Year Contract)
  - TADSA - Grants Manager

## Academic and Peer Reviewed Articles

**Pre-requisites for National Health Insurance in South Africa: Results of a national household**

Diane McIntyre, Jane Goudge, Bronwyn Harris, Nonhlanhla Nxumalo, Moremi Nkosi. *South African Medical Journal*, Vol 99, No 10. Published: October 2009.

National Health Insurance (NHI) is currently high on the health policy agenda. The intention of this financing system is to promote efficiency and the equitable distribution of financial and human resources, improving health outcomes for the majority. However, there are some key pre-requisites that need to be in place before NHI can achieve these goals... [Read More](#)

Source: <http://www.samj.org.za/index.php/samj/article/view/3662> [Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

### **Duration, Pattern of Breastfeeding and Postnatal Transmission of HIV: Pooled Analysis of Individual Data from West and South African Cohorts**

Renaud Becquet, Ruth Bland, Val~~erie~~ane Leroy, Nigel C. Rollins, Didier K. Ekouevi, Anna Coutoudis, Fran~~çois~~s Dabis, Hoosen M. Coovadia, Roger Salamon and Marie-Louise Newell *PLoS One*. 2009; 4(10): e7397. Published online 16 October 2009.

HIV can be transmitted from mother to infant during pregnancy, delivery or postnatally through breastfeeding, and is a major cause of child mortality in sub-Saharan Africa. Mother-to-child transmission of HIV occurring around delivery can be largely prevented by peri-partum antiretroviral regimens. As a consequence, HIV transmission through breast milk has emerged as a more important mode of paediatric acquisition in African breastfeeding populations, and its prevention remains challenging... [Read More](#)

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2759081/?tool=pubmed> [Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

### **Environmental Determinants of Asthma among School Children aged 13 to 14 in and around Polokwane, Limpopo Province, South Africa**

Kidi Rose Maluleke and Zeleke Worku *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2009 September; 6(9): 23542374. Published: 3 September 2009.

Asthma has become a public health issue since the 1960s. Factors associated with asthma are environmental and genetic. This study is based on a random sample of 742 students aged 13 to 14 attending various schools at Polokwane, in the Province of Limpopo in South Africa. Survey logistic regression and multi-level analyses were used for data analysis. The study identifies three key determinants of asthma at the district, school and individual levels. The study shows that persistent cough (OR = 4.01), exposure to smoke at the household level (OR = 2.39) and lack of access to flush toilets at the household level (OR = 1.89) are key predictors of asthma in children. Variability at the level of districts accounts for 46% of total variance. Variability at the level of schools accounts for 33% of total variance... [Read More](#)

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2760414/?tool=pubmed> [Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

### **Global immunization: status, progress, challenges and future**

Philippe D, Jean-Marie OB, Marta GD, Thomas C. *BMC International Health and Human Rights* 2009, 9(Suppl 1). Published: 14 October 2009.

Vaccines have made a major contribution to public health, including the eradication of one deadly disease, small pox, and the near eradication of another, poliomyelitis. Through the introduction of new vaccines, such as those against rotavirus and pneumococcal diseases, and with further improvements in coverage, vaccination can significantly contribute to the achievement of the health-related United Nations Millennium

UNICEF as a framework for strengthening national immunization programmes and protect as many people as possible against more diseases by expanding the reach of immunization, including new vaccines, to every eligible person. This paper briefly reviews global progress and challenges with respect to public vaccination programmes... [Read More](#)

Source: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-698X/9/S1/S2> [Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

## Recent News

### Experts review Motsoaledi's first three months

*SAMJ Vol. 99, No. 10. Published: October 2009.*

Hes riding a wave of professional goodwill, positive feedback and public desire to see him tame the monster of a public health system hes inherited, but have Dr Aaron Motsoaledis first 120 days as Health Minister justified the hope hes carrying?... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.samj.org.za/index.php/samj/article/viewFile/3740/2505> [Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

### Global money shortage undermines AIDS fight

*Kerry Cullinan. Health-e News. Published: 20 October 2009.*

A shortage of money is threatening the AIDS battle at the very time when progress is being made against the epidemic and vaccine research is showing promise. This is according to Professor Peter Piot, former head of the United Nations AIDS Programme (UNAIDS) who was addressing the AIDS vaccine conference which opened in Paris yesterday ... [Read More »](#)

Source: <http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20032534> [Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

### HIV-positive inmates speak out

*Plus News. Published: 20 October 2009.*

Just over three years ago, a group of HIV-infected inmates at Westville Correctional Centre, near the South African port city of Durban, won a High Court battle that forced the government to provide them with life-prolonging antiretroviral (ARV) treatment... [Read More](#)

Source: <http://www.plusnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=86660#> [Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

### My long wait and fight for treatment

*Sipokazi Maposa. IOL. Published: 19 October 2009.*

It can take at least three hours for a new patient to get a file opened at the Nyanga clinic - and, as I discovered firsthand, that's not without a fight. The clinic is one of three investigated after one-year-old Unabantu Mali died when his grandmother could not get him medical help. I arrived at the clinic just after 8am and finally made it to the reception counter at 8.35am ... [Read More »](#)

[Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

## Reports

### **Right to Food and Nutrition Watch 2009**

*Brot für die Welt, Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO) and FIAN International*  
Published: October 2009.

The 2009 report focuses on the question of Who controls the governance of the world food system? a burning issue in light of the current World Food Crisis. For the first time in history, the number of undernourished people in the world has surpassed the tragic figure of 1 billion. The gap between promises and reality is increasing as the international community and national governments are painfully far from realising the World Food Summit targets to halve the proportion of chronically hungry people in the world by the year 2015. It is clear that the global governance of the World Food System needs to be remodelled in order to effectively overcome hunger and its causes... [Full Report »](#)

Source: <http://www.fian.org/resources/documents/rfn-watch/right-to-food-and-nutrition-watch-2009>

[Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

### **Global health risks: mortality and burden of disease attributable to selected major risks.**

*Department of Health Statistics and Informatics in the Information, Evidence and Research Cluster of the World Health Organization (WHO). Published: 2009 .*

A response to the need for comprehensive, consistent and comparable information on health risks at global and regional level. Global health risks is a comprehensive assessment of leading risks to global health. It provides detailed global and regional estimates of premature mortality, disability and loss of health attributable to 24 global risk factors... [Full Report »](#)

Source: [http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global\\_burden\\_disease/global\\_health\\_risks/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global_burden_disease/global_health_risks/en/index.html) [Accessed: 27 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

## Conferences

### **The 5<sup>th</sup> Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA) 2009 Conference**

*30 November - 2 December 2009 Durban, South Africa.*

Assessment of progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) during 2008 (the midpoint) revealed a mixed picture: many health goals remain off target, and huge inequities remain between and within countries. Existing evidence suggests that very few, if any, of the MDGs will be achieved in sub-Saharan Africa. The 2009 PHASA Conference is therefore aptly focused on the MDGs and measuring their progress from a public health perspective. An exciting programme is being put together of local and international speakers, including policy makers, leading local and international academics and international organisations, such as the World Health Organisation (WHO). [Registration Details »](#)

Source: <http://hst.org.za/news/20041943> [Accessed: 14 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Africa Conference on Sexual Health and Rights 2010**

*8-15 February 2010. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.*

The 4<sup>th</sup> African Conference on Sexual Health and Rights is part of a long-term process of building and fostering regional dialogue on sexual rights and health that leads to concrete action to influence policy particularly that of the African Union and its bodies.

On behalf of the Scientific Committee, the Organizing Committee for the 4<sup>th</sup> Africa Conference on Sexual Health and Rights would like to invite Abstracts (oral presentations and posters) exploring the overall theme of the Conference "Sexuality and HIV & AIDS in Africa". More information can be found at

<http://www.africasexuality.org/>

Any queries/request for additional information should be sent to: [4srhconference@ippfaro.org](mailto:4srhconference@ippfaro.org)

Abstract Submission Deadline: 30th September 2009

[back to top](#) ↑

#### **The 26<sup>th</sup> International Paediatric Association Congress of Paediatrics 2010**

*4-9 August 2010 Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa.*

Three leading paediatric associations, IPA, SAPA, and UNASPA, are uniting to host the 26<sup>th</sup> International Paediatric Association Congress of Paediatrics.

More than 5,000 participants are expected to attend this landmark event, the first IPA Congress to be held in Sub-Saharan Africa. Just five years before the due date of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), IPA 2010 will unite paediatricians and health professionals working towards the MDGs target to reduce child mortality by two thirds before 2015. [Registration Details](#) »

Source: <http://www.kenes.com/ipa/mailshot/ms3.htm?ref3=db1> [Accessed: 13 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

#### **MedInfo 13<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Medical and Health Informatics 2010**

*12-15 September 2010 Cape Town, South Africa.*

This will be the first time MEDINFO is held in Africa. It promises to boost exposure to grassroots healthcare delivery and the underpinning health information systems. This will open the door to new academic partnerships into the future and help to nurture a new breed of health informaticians. [Registration Details](#) »

Source: [www.medinfo2010.org](http://www.medinfo2010.org) [Accessed: 13 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

## **Training and Resources**

### **Building future health systems to deliver primary health care**

*Eldis.*

This key-issues guide unpacks some of the challenges for the future of PHC and highlights promising models of health system arrangement and service delivery that are improving access for the poorest and most marginalised. It focuses on 4 main areas: the increasing marketisation of health and how governments respond; the challenge of responding to progressive and chronic illnesses; the emergence of new epidemics and the globalisation of public health responses and the pressure to keep up with new treatments and technologies.

[Click Here](#) to Access

Source: <http://www.eldis.org/go/topics/resource-guides/health-systems/primary-health-care> [Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

### **Introduction to health systems online course**

*The Future Health Systems Research Programme Consortium.*

This is a 10 unit short course developed by David Bishai of Johns Hopkins University and the Health Systems Board under the sponsorship of Future Health Systems.

[Click Here](#) for access

Source: <http://www.futurehealthsystems.org/health%20systems%20course/hscindex.htm> [Accessed: 26 October 2009]

[back to top](#) ↑

## **Job Opportunities**

### **AHP - African Health Placements**

We are 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.
- Supporting S.A. NGOs with a focus on HIV/AIDS and TB Clinics as well as rural and urban Government Hospitals with all recruitment needs.

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](#) ↑

### **Provincial Co-ordinators (X2) Strengthening Health Systems for Integrated Primary Health Care**

*Health Systems Trust - KwaZulu-Natal & Mpumalanga Provinces.*

*Closing Date: 30 October 2009.*

We are seeking to appoint provincial coordinators to provide technical support to sub district management teams in the areas of district health planning, district expenditure reviews and quality improvement plans for improved health outcomes in KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga. The project coordinators will also be responsible for capacity building in Health Information Management Systems (HIMS) for facility operational managers in selected facilities [Job Details »](#)

[back to top](#) ↑

### **Clinical Lecturer: Primary Care (1 Year Contract)**

*Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Witwatersrand.*

*Closing Date: 31 October 2009.*

The Department of Family Medicine (Division of Rural Health) within the School of Clinical Medicine requires a Clinical Lecturer: Primary Care (1 Year Contract) [Job Details »](#)

[back to top](#) ↑

TADSA.

*Closing Date: 15 November 2009.*

The Grants Manager, who serves on the TADSA senior management team reporting to the Chief Executive Officer, is responsible for the agency and membership program, grant development, donor fundraising, and serves as the staff adviser to the Board of Directors on development and fundraising issues. [Job Details »](#)

[back to top](#) ↑

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