# Table of Contents:

## BOOKS

- Scaling Up Affordable Health Insurance: Staying the Course .................................................. 4
- Africa Development Indicators 2012/13 .................................................................................... 4
- HIV in the European Region: using evidence to strengthen policy and programmes - vulnerability and response .............................................................................................................. 4
- Social Protection in Developing Countries: Reforming Systems .................................................. 5
- Open Access .................................................................................................................................... 5

## ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

- Response to the AIDS Pandemic - A Global Health Model ....................................................... 5
- Global Health Programs: Report to Congress FY 2012 ................................................................ 6
- HIV/AIDS - STI ............................................................................................................................... 6
- The potential impact of expanding antiretroviral therapy and combination prevention in Vietnam: Towards elimination of HIV transmission ....................................................................... 7
- Antiretroviral prophylaxis for HIV infection in injecting drug users in Bangkok, Thailand (the Bangkok Tenofovir Study): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial .......................................................... 7
- When to start antiretroviral therapy: as soon as possible ................................................................ 7
- Sexual & Reproductive Health ....................................................................................................... 8
- Annual technical report 2012: Department of Reproductive Health and Research ............ 8
- U.S. Selected Practice Recommendations for Contraceptive Use, 2013 ............................... 8
- Global and regional estimates of violence against women ......................................................... 8
- Responding to intimate partner violence and sexual violence against women ...................... 9
- Mixed Method Evaluation of a Passive mHealth Sexual Information Texting Service in Uganda .......................................................... 9
- Maternal & Child Health ............................................................................................................... 10
- Improving the Health of Mother and Child: Solutions from India .......................................... 10
- Long-term effects of breastfeeding .............................................................................................. 10
- Guideline: Calcium supplementation in pregnant women ...................................................... 10
- Integrated maternal and child health services in Mozambique: structural health system limitations overshadow its effect on follow-up of HIV-exposed infants ........................................... 11
- Integration of HIV care into maternal health services: a crucial change required in improving quality of obstetric care in countries with high HIV prevalence ........................................... 11
- Malaria ........................................................................................................................................ 11
- Transitioning from malaria control to elimination: the vital role of ACTs ............................... 11
- Artesunate/Amodiaquine Malaria Treatment for Equatorial Guinea (Central Africa) .......... 12
- Environmentally friendly tool to control mosquito populations without risk of insecticide resistance: the Lehmann's funnel entry trap .............................................................................. 12
- Eliminating malaria vectors .......................................................................................................... 12
- Lethal Malaria: Marchiafava and Bignami Were Right ............................................................... 12
A good night’s sleep and the habit of net use; perceptions of risk and reasons for bed net use in Bukoba and Zanzibar .......................................................... 13
Home- or community-based programmes for treating malaria ........................................... 13
Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Tests - An Implementation Guide .................................................. 13
Trials of Improved Practices (TIPs): A Strategy for Making Long-Lasting Nets Last Longer? .................................................................................................................. 14

Tuberculosis .......................................................................................................................... 14
Systematic screening for active tuberculosis: Principles and recommendations................. 14
High-dose fluoroquinolones in short-course regimens for treatment of MDR-TB: the way forward? ......................................................................................................................... 15
The use of bedaquiline in the treatment of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis: Interim policy guidance .......................................................................................................................... 15
Tuberculous Meningitis: Presentation, Diagnosis and Outcome in HIV-Infected Patients at the Douala General Hospital, Cameroon: A Cross Sectional Study .............................................. 15

Other Infectious Diseases .................................................................................................... 16
Clinical Findings in 111 Cases of Influenza A (H7N9) Virus Infection ................................. 16
Pandemic Influenza Viruses - Hoping for the Road Not Taken .............................................. 16
Transmission scenarios for Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (EMERS-CoV) and how to tell them apart ................................................................. 16
Travel-associated Illness Trends and Clusters, 2000-2010 ....................................................... 17
Ongoing Dengue Epidemic - Angola, June 2013 ................................................................. 17
New insights into the machinery of blood digestion by ticks .................................................. 17
Impact and Change: TDR 2012 Annual Report .................................................................. 17

Non-communicable Diseases ............................................................................................... 18
PURE-flying research on chronic non-communicable diseases in South Africa .................... 18
Diet and Physical Activity for the Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Systematic Policy Review ...................................................... 18

Food & Nutrition .................................................................................................................. 19
Landscape analysis on countries’ readiness to accelerate action in nutrition: Country Assessment Tools ......................................................................................................................... 19
Critical windows for nutritional interventions against stunting ........................................... 19

Essential Medicines .............................................................................................................. 19
The Global Drug Facility and its role in the market for tuberculosis drugs ............................ 19

Social Protection .................................................................................................................... 20
The Early Success of India’s Health Insurance for the Poor, RSBY ........................................ 20
The ghosts of user fees past: Exploring accountability for victims of a 30-year economic policy mistake .................................................................................................................. 20
Public Health agencies and cash transfer Programmes: Making the case for greater involvement .......................................................................................................................... 20
Promoting universal financial protection: constraints and enabling factors in scaling-up coverage with social health insurance in Nigeria .................................................. 21
Promoting universal financial protection: a case study of new management of community health insurance in Tanzania .................................................................................................. 21
The Impact of Health Insurance Education on Enrolment of Microfinance Institution Clients in the Ghana National Health Insurance Scheme ............................................................. 21
Oil-to-Cash Won’t Work Here! Ten Common Objections ....................................................... 22

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene ................................................................................................ 22
Future of Latrines and the Future of Civilization: Understanding Cultural Barriers and Opportunities in West Timor .................................................................................................. 22

Human Resources .................................................................................................................. 22
Vertical funding, non-governmental organizations, and health system strengthening: perspectives of public sector health workers in Mozambique ................................................. 22

Health Systems & Research .................................................................................................. 23
Improving primary health care to achieve population impact: the African Health Initiative ................................................................................................................................. 23
Education in Health Research Methodology: Use of a Wiki for Knowledge Translation ................................................................................................................................. 23
Getting Better: Improving Health System Outcomes in Europe and Central Asia ................. 23

Information & Communication Technology ........................................................................ 24
How ICT can play a role in the development of poor remote rural areas ............................. 24
Mobile Health Applications for the Most Prevalent Conditions by the World Health Organization: Review and Analysis ...................................................................................................... 24
Guidelines on Open Government Data for Citizen Engagement ......................................... 24

HESP-News & Notes - 13/2013 - page 2
Research for development and the role of ‘grey literature’ in southern African research production......................25
Grey literature in public health: valuable evidence? .................................................25
Education .............................................................................................................25
Conducting a school deworming day: A manual for teachers.................................25
Schooling for millions of children jeopardized by reductions in aid..........................26
Harm Reduction & Drug Use .................................................................................26
The Negative Impact of the War on Drugs on Public Health: The Hidden Hepatitis C
Epidemic ...............................................................................................................26
Individual-level, network-level and city-level factors associated with HIV prevalence among
people who inject drugs in eight Russian cities: a cross-sectional study.....................27
Millennium Development Goals ..........................................................................27
Reflecting on the MDGs and Making Sense of the Post-2015 Development Agenda....27
Development Assistance .....................................................................................27
50 years of peer reviews by the OECD’s development assistance committee: an instrument
of quality assurance and mutual learning................................................................27
Adapting systematic reviews for social research in international development: a case study
on child protection ..............................................................................................28
Others ..................................................................................................................28
World Population Prospects - The 2012 Revision ..................................................28
Basic Statistics 2013 - Asian Development Bank ..................................................28
African Economic Outlook 2013 ..........................................................................29
Displacement - The new 21st Century Challenge...................................................29
Turn Down Heat: Why a 4°C Warmer World Must be Avoided..............................29
Otitis Media with Effusion: Comparative Effectiveness of Treatments.....................30
Straight to the Point: Workplanning .....................................................................30

INTERESTING WEB SITES .................................................................................30
NALOXONEINFO.ORG .......................................................................................30

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ..............................................................................30
Designing and Implementing Social Transfer Programmes ....................................30

CONFERENCES ..................................................................................................31
9th Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA) Conference in collaboration with the
African Federation of Public Health Associations (AFPHA) ....................................31
8th Health Informatics in Africa (HELINA) Conference ..........................................31
Lancet Special Issue on Global Health Metrics and Evaluation (GHME) Conference – with
all abstracts ..........................................................................................................32

CARTOON ..........................................................................................................32

TIPS & TRICKS ..................................................................................................32
Where is the Snipping Tool? .................................................................................32
All the Words in the World: Pronounced ...............................................................33
Pay as You Go - Sim with Data - Wiki.................................................................33

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if you believe that errors are contained in any article and we will investigate and provide feedback.
The research for this book shows that when properly designed and coupled with public subsidies, health insurance can contribute to the well-being of poor and middle-class households, not just the rich. And it can contribute to development goals such as improved access to health care, better financial protection against the cost of illness, and reduced social exclusion.

* * *

Africa Development Indicators 2012/13


211 pp. 6.4 MB:
https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/13504/9780821396162.pdf?sequence=1

Africa Development Indicators 2012/13 is the most detailed collection of data on Africa. It contains macroeconomic, sectoral, and social indicators for 53 countries. Designed as both a quick reference and a reliable dataset for monitoring development programs and aid flows in the region, the publication is an invaluable tool for analysts and policymakers who want a better understanding of Africa’s economic and social development.

* * *

HIV in the European Region: using evidence to strengthen policy and programmes - vulnerability and response

by Lucy Platt, Emma Jolley, Vivian Hope et al. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank, May 2013

290 pp. 30.1 MB(!):
http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2013/06/04/000333037_20130604145754/Rendered/PDF/781870WP0EuroS0ox0377329B00PUBLIC00.pdf

This report aims to describe the dynamics of HIV epidemics among vulnerable and key populations at high risk in the European region, focusing specifically on people who inject drugs (PWID), sex workers (SWs) and men who have sex with men (MSM). It does so in order to inform future HIV prevention, treatment and care responses as well as to guide future HIV prevention surveillance and research.
Social Protection in Developing Countries: Reforming Systems

Edited by Katja Bender, Markus Kaltenborn, Christian Pfleiderer

For a preview and ordering information see: http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415641036

Providing universal access to social protection and health systems for all members of society, including the poor and vulnerable, is increasingly considered crucial to international development debates. This is the first book to explore from an interdisciplinary and global perspective the reforms of social protection systems introduced in recent years by many governments of low and middle-income countries.

***

Open Access

by Peter Suber
The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Press Essential Knowledge Series, 2012

255 pp. 1.5 MB: http://mitpress.mit.edu/sites/default/files/titles/content/9780262517638_Open_Access_PDF_Version.pdf

The Internet lets us share perfect copies of our work with a worldwide audience at virtually no cost. We take advantage of this revolutionary opportunity when we make our work “open access”: digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions. In this concise introduction, the author tells us what open access is and isn’t, how it benefits authors and readers of research, how we pay for it, how it avoids copyright problems, how it has moved from the periphery to the mainstream, and what its future may hold.

ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

Global Health

Response to the AIDS Pandemic - A Global Health Model

by Peter Piot and Thomas C. Quinn


The unprecedented global response to the AIDS pandemic can serve as a model for the response to other global health threats. It required a coordinated global effort, which has been led by the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) since 1996. This transformational response helped redefine what is meant by health diplomacy and led to a new culture of accountability in international development. Tiered pricing of medicines became commonplace, and renewed optimism provided a boost for research on other neglected global health issues.
The demand to ensure 'more health from the money' is especially urgent in the current austere budget environment. This report (which is still in a consultative phase, so the authors welcome feedback) describes the practical steps needed to make those demands a reality at the Global Fund. Its report focuses on four domains of the Global Fund’s grant cycle where opportunities for improved efficiency were identified: allocation, contracts, costs and spending and verification.

***

Global Health Programs: Report to Congress FY 2012

For decades, USAID has played a vital role in the development and delivery of low-cost, high-impact health interventions to reach the most vulnerable children and mothers. To protect children in the first 5 years of life, USAID is prioritizing low-cost, easy-to-use solutions that achieve the highest impact to prevent and treat the leading causes of child death: pneumonia, diarrhea, prematurity, asphyxia, malaria and newborn sepsis. Enhancing the health of children means addressing their mothers’ needs with programs that improve access to voluntary family planning, target complications related to pregnancy and birth, and work to ensure women have quality and respectful care.

HIV - AIDS - STI

HIV 2013

An HIV themed issue, to coincide with the 2013 International AIDS Society meeting taking place in Kuala Lumpur from June 30 to July 3. An Article suggests a new therapeutic option for second-line antiretroviral therapy after first-line treatment failure; a Review discusses an exciting new era of basic science, which aims to ultimately find a cure for HIV; other content includes pre-exposure prophylaxis with antiretroviral therapy for injecting drug users in Thailand, and the cultural issues concerning HIV in the Islamic world.
The potential impact of expanding antiretroviral therapy and combination prevention in Vietnam: Towards elimination of HIV transmission

by Masaya Kato, Reuben Granich, Duong Duc Bui et al.
JAIDS - Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes - Publish Ahead of Print

20 pp. 895 kB:
http://journals.lww.com/jaids/Abstract/publishahead/The_potential_impact_of_expanding_antiretroviral.98184.aspx

The authors investigated the impact of expanded HIV testing and counselling (HTC) and early ART, combined with other prevention interventions on HIV transmission in Vietnam. They conclude that targeted periodic HTC and immediate ART combined with other interventions is cost-effective and could lead to potential elimination of HIV in Can Tho.

* * *

Antiretroviral prophylaxis for HIV infection in injecting drug users in Bangkok, Thailand (the Bangkok Tenofovir Study): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial

by Kachit Choopanya, Michael Martin, Pravan Suntharasamai et al.
The Lancet, Early Online Publication, 13 June 2013

8 pp. 229 kB:
http://download.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lancet/PIIS0140673613611277.pdf

An antiretroviral medicine, taken daily as a prophylaxis, can reduce the risk of HIV infection by 49% for HIV-negative men and women who inject drugs. From 2005-2013 the study, conducted by the Thai Ministry of Public Health, the United States Centers for Disease Control and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, enrolled 2,413 men and women (80% men and 20% women) who inject drugs in Bangkok, Thailand. HIV-negative volunteers who took a daily dose of the antiretroviral medicine tenofovir as oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) were 49% less likely to become infected with HIV than the volunteers who took the placebo.

See also:
CDC Fact Sheet - Bangkok Tenofovir Study: PrEP for HIV prevention among people who inject drugs

3 pp. 131 kB:

* * *

When to start antiretroviral therapy: as soon as possible

by Ricardo A Franco and Michael S Saag
BMC Medicine 2013, 11:147 (14 June 2013)

8 pp. 1.2 MB:
http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1741-7015-11-147.pdf

From a practical, common sense perspective we are talking about life-long therapy.
Whether we start at a CD4 count of 732 cells/μl or 493 cells/μl, the patient will be on therapy for over 40 to 50 years. There does not seem to be much benefit in waiting and there likely is significant long-term harm. Do not wait. Treat early.

**Annual technical report 2012: Department of Reproductive Health and Research**


150 pp. 2.4 MB: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/84992/1/WHO_RHR_13.05_eng.pdf

This report constitutes the annual technical report for the Department of Reproductive Health and Research (RHR) of WHO for 2012. The Department has been active in all major areas of sexual and reproductive health and rights as follows:

- quality of and access to family planning
- improving maternal and perinatal health
- control of sexually transmitted and reproductive tract infections
- prevention of unsafe abortion
- sexual health, gender and reproductive rights
- adolescent sexual and reproductive health.

In all of these areas, the Department has teams that have worked to generate and synthesize research evidence and to develop norms and standards and has also collaborated with countries to strengthen their research and technical capacity.

* * *

**U.S. Selected Practice Recommendations for Contraceptive Use, 2013**

Adapted from the World Health Organization Selected Practice Recommendations for Contraceptive Use, 2nd Edition


The publication comprises recommendations that address a select group of common, yet sometimes controversial or complex, issues regarding initiation and use of specific contraceptive methods. The recommendations in this report are intended to serve as a source of clinical guidance for health-care providers; health-care providers should always consider the individual clinical circumstances of each person seeking family planning services.

* * *

**Global and regional estimates of violence against women**

Prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence

by Claudia García-Moreno, Christina Pallitto, Karen Devries et al.
This report presents the first global systematic review and synthesis of the body of scientific data on the prevalence of two forms of violence against women - violence by an intimate partner and sexual violence by someone other than a partner. It shows, for the first time, aggregated global and regional prevalence estimates of these two forms of violence, generated using population data from all over the world that have been compiled in a systematic way. The report also details the effects of violence on women’s physical, sexual and reproductive, and mental health.

* * *

Responding to intimate partner violence and sexual violence against women
WHO clinical and policy guidelines

by Claudia García-Moreno, Priya Shetty, Penny Howe et al.
World Health Organization 2013

The guidelines offer health-care providers evidence-based guidance on appropriate care, including clinical interventions and emotional support, for women suffering from intimate partner violence and sexual violence. They also seek to make health-care providers and policymakers more aware of violence against women, to encourage an evidence-informed health sector response, and improve capacity-building of health-care providers and other members of multidisciplinary teams. They should also prove useful to those responsible for developing training curricula in medicine, nursing and public health.

* * *

Mixed Method Evaluation of a Passive mHealth Sexual Information Texting Service in Uganda

by Julian Jamison, Dean Karlan, Pia Raffler
Economic Growth Center, Yale University, May 2013

The goal of the intervention was to provide improved access to sexual health information, in order to improve users' knowledge of safe and unsafe sexual behaviours and ultimately lead to reductions in risky behaviour. A novel technology designed by Google and Grameen Technology Center provided automated searches of an advice database on topics requested by users via SMS. It was offered by MTN Uganda at no cost to users. Quantitative survey results allow the authors to reject the hypothesis that improving access to information would increase knowledge and shift behaviour to less risky sexual activities. In fact, they find that the service led to an increase in promiscuity, and no shift in perception of norms. Qualitative focus groups discussions support the findings of the quantitative survey results.
Improving the Health of Mother and Child: Solutions from India

by Priya Anant, Prabal Vikram Singh, Sofi Bergkvist et al.
ACCESS Health International, 2012

253 pp. 4.6 MB:

In India, many private sector organisations are experimenting and innovating to ensure low-cost maternal and child healthcare services of high quality. There is a growing interest, around the world, in the new practices being developed by these organisations. In this compendium, ACCESS Health International and the Indian School of Business have identified and documented some of these organisations and their successful interventions.

* * *

Long-term effects of breastfeeding
A Systematic Review

by Bernardo L. Horta and Cesar G. Victora
Department of Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescent Health (MCA), World Health Organization, 2013

74 pp. 1.2 MB:
http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/79198/1/9789241505307_eng.pdf

Breastfeeding has well-established short-term benefits, particularly the reduction of morbidity and mortality due to infectious diseases in childhood. Building upon the strong evidence on the short-term effects of breastfeeding, this review addresses its long-term consequences. The paper reviews the following long-term outcomes: blood pressure, type-2 diabetes, serum cholesterol, overweight and obesity, and intellectual performance.

* * *

Guideline: Calcium supplementation in pregnant women

by Luz Maria De-Regil, Juan Pablo Peña-Rosas, João Paulo Dias de Souza et al.
World Health Organization, 2013

35 pp. 1.8 MB:
http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/85120/1/9789241505376_eng.pdf

Calcium supplementation has the potential to reduce adverse gestational outcomes, in particular by decreasing the risk of developing hypertensive disorders during pregnancy, which are associated with a significant number of maternal deaths and considerable risk of preterm birth, the leading cause of early neonatal and infant mortality. Member States have requested guidance from the World Health Organization (WHO) on the efficacy and safety of calcium supplementation in pregnant women as a public health strategy, in support of their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and the global targets set in the maternal, infant and child nutrition comprehensive implementation plan.

* * *
**Integrated maternal and child health services in Mozambique: structural health system limitations overshadow its effect on follow-up of HIV-exposed infants**

by Diederike Geelhoed, Yves Lafort, Élder Chissale et al.
BMC Health Services Research 2013, 13:207 (7 June 2013)

14 pp. 143 kB:  

Just as integrated antenatal and maternity services have contributed to improved care for HIV-positive pregnant women, so too could integrated care for mother and infant after birth improve follow-up of HIV-exposed infants. The authors present results of a study testing the viability of such integrated care, and its effects on follow-up of HIV-exposed infants, in Tete Province, Mozambique. They report that despite improvement in various aspects of the follow-up of HIV-exposed infants, they observed no improvement attributable to one-stop, integrated MCH care. Structural healthcare system limitations, such as staff absences and irregular supply of essential commodities, appear to overshadow its potential effects.

***

**Integration of HIV care into maternal health services: a crucial change required in improving quality of obstetric care in countries with high HIV prevalence**

by Farai D Madzimbamuto, Sunanda Ray and Keitshokile D Mogobe
BMC International Health and Human Rights 2013, 13:27 (10 June 2013)

9 pp. 118 kB:  

In countries with high rates of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), indirect causes of maternal deaths from HIV-associated infections now exceed direct causes of haemorrhage, hypertension and sepsis. Advocacy for all pregnant HIV-positive women to be on anti-retroviral therapy must extend to improvements in the quality of service offered, better organised obstetric services and integration of clinical HIV care into maternity services.

**Malaria**

**Transitioning from malaria control to elimination: the vital role of ACTs**

by Heiner Grueninger and Kamal Hamed
Trends in Parasitology, Vol. 29, Issue 2, February 2013, pp. 60-64

5 pp. 556 kB:  

As the transition is made from malaria control to elimination, new ways of using existing treatments are being considered. In this opinion paper, the requirements for the continued success of Artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs), their role in this transition, and possible new ways of using these drugs in an elimination setting are discussed. ACTs have an important role to play in maintaining the current success of con-
trol programs, and may also drive these successes forward into the widespread elimination of malaria.

* * *

**Artesunate/Amodiaquine Malaria Treatment for Equatorial Guinea (Central Africa)**

by Pilar Charle, Pedro Berzosa, Aida de Lucio et al.

6 pp. 577 kB:
http://www.ajtmh.org/content/88/6/1087.full.pdf+html

The objectives of this study were: 1) to evaluate the safety and efficacy of combination artesunate (AS)/amodiaquine (AQ) therapy, and 2) to determine the difference between recrudescence and resistance. The study showed the good efficacy of combination AS/AQ therapy. This finding enabled this treatment to be recommended to Equatorial Guinea’s National Malaria Control Program to change the official treatment policy as of March 2008.

* * *

**Environmentally friendly tool to control mosquito populations without risk of insecticide resistance: the Lehmann’s funnel entry trap**

by Abdoulaye Diabaté, Etienne Bilgo, Roch K Dabiré et al.
Malaria Journal 2013, 12:196 (10 June 2013)

20 pp. 1.1 MB:
http://www.malariajournal.com/content/pdf/1475-2875-12-196.pdf

There is a global consensus that new intervention tools are needed to cross the last miles in malaria elimination/eradication. The funnel entry trap showed excellent promise in suppressing mosquito densities even in area of high insecticide resistance. It requires no chemicals and is self-operated.

* * *

**Eliminating malaria vectors**

by Gerry F Killeen, Aklilu Seyoum, Chadwick Sikaala et al.
Parasites & Vectors 2013, 6:172 (7 June 2013)

10 pp. 913 kB:
http://www.parasitesandvectors.com/content/pdf/1756-3305-6-172.pdf

Here the authors explain why insecticide-based mosquito elimination strategies are feasible, desirable and can be extended to a wider variety of species by expanding the vector control arsenal to cover a broader spectrum of the resources they need to survive.

* * *

**Lethal Malaria: Marchiafava and Bignami Were Right**

by Nicholas J. White, Gareth D. H. Turner, Nicholas P. J. Day et al.
J Infect Dis. (2013) 208 (2): 192-198; (First published online: April 12, 2013)
One hundred and twenty years ago, the Italian malariologists Marchiafava and Bignami proposed that the fundamental pathological process underlying lethal falciparum malaria was microvascular obstruction. Since then, several alternative hypotheses have been proposed. These formed the basis for adjunctive interventions, which have either been ineffective or harmful. Recent evidence strongly suggests that Marchiafava and Bignami were right.

*A good night’s sleep and the habit of net use: perceptions of risk and reasons for bed net use in Bukoba and Zanzibar*

by Hannah M Koenker, Dana Loll, Datus Rweyemamu et al.
Malaria Journal 2013, 12:203 (13 June 2013)

Intensive malaria control interventions in the United Republic of Tanzania have contributed to reductions in malaria prevalence. Given that malaria control remains reliant upon continued use of long-lasting insecticidal bed nets (LLINs) even when the threat of malaria has been reduced, this qualitative study sought to understand how changes in perceived risk influence LLIN usage, and to explore in more detail the benefits of net use that are unrelated to malaria. The authors conclude that future behaviour change communication campaigns should capitalize on the non-malaria benefits of net use that provide a long-term rationale for consistent use even when the immediate threat of malaria transmission has been reduced.

* * *

*Home- or community-based programmes for treating malaria*

by Charles I Okwundu, Sukrti Nagpal, Alfred Musekiwa et al.
The Cochrane Library 2013, Issue 5, 16 February 2013

Home- or community-based interventions which provide antimalarial drugs free of charge probably improve prompt access to antimalarials, and there is moderate quality evidence from rural Ethiopia that they may impact on childhood mortality when implemented in appropriate settings. Programmes which treat all fevers presumptively with antimalarials lead to overuse antimalarials, and potentially undertreat other causes of fever such as pneumonia. Incorporating rapid diagnostic test diagnosis into home- or community-based programmes for malaria may help to reduce this overuse of antimalarials, and has been shown to be safe under trial conditions.

* * *

*Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Tests - An Implementation Guide*

by Paul Chinnock, Tony Murdoch, Beatrice Gordis et al.
Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND), 2013
This manual is intended to provide specific guidance to national programmes for well-planned and effective parasite-based diagnosis using quality assured malaria RDTs in support of the WHO policy regarding universal parasite-based malaria diagnosis. This guide includes a suite of existing documents on budgeting, supervision, training, and advocacy, and was developed through a collaborative project by several national programmes and agencies.

**Trials of Improved Practices (TIPs): A Strategy for Making Long-Lasting Nets Last Longer?**

by Steven A. Harvey, Maribel Paredes Olórtegui, Elli Leontsini et al.
Am J Trop Med Hyg 2013 Vol. 88, No. 6, pp. 1109-1115 - Published online March 25, 2013

Long-lasting insecticidal net (LLIN) use is a proven malaria prevention method. Mass distribution has greatly expanded LLIN access in sub-Saharan Africa, but a gap remains between LLIN ownership and use. Furthermore, LLINs wear out more quickly than anticipated. This paper suggests a participatory research strategy - trials of improved practices (TIPs) - that could identify locally appropriate approaches to prolonging net life and increasing effective use.

**Systematic screening for active tuberculosis: Principles and recommendations**

by Knut Lönnroth, Sevim Ahmedov, Helen Ayles et al.
World Health Organization, 2013

The purpose of this document is to provide evidence-based:
- key principles to guide the planning and implementation of systematic screening for active tuberculosis (TB);
- recommendations on prioritizing risk groups for systematic screening for active TB; and
- algorithm options for screening and diagnosis of active TB.

The target audience for the guide is principally staff at national TB programmes and other public-health agencies, as well as other public and private partners involved in planning, implementing and monitoring TB control activities in countries with an intermediate-to-high burden of TB.

* * *
High-dose fluoroquinolones in short-course regimens for treatment of MDR-TB: the way forward?

by Wing-Wai Yew and Eric Nuermberger
Int J Tuberc Lung Dis 17(7):853–854, 1 July 2013

2 pp. 123 kB:

More than two decades ago, the dose dependent efficacy of fluoroquinolones in the treatment of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) was first demonstrated in a clinical study. The data accumulated over the years indicate superior efficacy of high-dose fluoroquinolones in the management of MDR-TB, suggesting a distinct potential for their use in shortening the total duration of therapy. Clearly, a shorter duration of treatment would likely increase patient adherence and lower the cost of therapy. What urgently requires resolution is the tolerance and safety of high-dose fluoroquinolones.

* * *

The use of bedaquiline in the treatment of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis: Interim policy guidance

by Christian Lienhardt, Karin Weyer, Dennis Falzon et al.
World Health Organization, 2013

64 pp. 722 kB:
http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/84879/1/9789241505482_eng.pdf

WHO Member States have requested the organization to provide interim policy guidance on the use of bedaquiline as part of the treatment of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB). This document provides interim guidance for the use of bedaquiline in conjunction with other WHO-recommended MDR-TB treatments. It also specifies the essential treatment and management conditions for the use of this drug.

* * *

Tuberculous Meningitis: Presentation, Diagnosis and Outcome in HIV-Infected Patients at the Douala General Hospital, Cameroon: A Cross-sectional Study

by Henry Namme Luma, Benjamin Clet Tchaleu, Bertrand Hugo Ngahanne et al.
AIDS Research and Therapy 2013, 10:16 (11 June 2013)

12 pp. 147 kB:

Tuberculous meningitis (TBM) the most fatal presentation of tuberculosis (TB) especially in HIV-infected patients is a real diagnostic and therapeutic challenge worldwide. In Cameroon where HIV and TB are amongst the leading public health problems, the magnitude of TBM has not been defined. The authors found that TBM is a common complication in HIV-infected patients in Douala with high case fatality. Its presumptive diagnosis reposes mostly on cerebrospinal fluid analysis, so clinicians caring for HIV patients should not hesitate to do lumbar taps in the presence of symptoms of central nervous system disease.
Clinical Findings in 111 Cases of Influenza A (H7N9) Virus Infection

by Hai-Nv Gao, Hong-Zhou Lu, Bin Cao et al.
N Engl J Med 368;24, June 13, 2013

During the spring of 2013, a novel avian-origin influenza A (H7N9) virus emerged and spread among humans in China. Data were lacking on the clinical characteristics of the infections caused by this virus. Using medical charts, the authors collected data on 111 patients with laboratory-confirmed avian-origin influenza A (H7N9) infection through May 10, 2013. During the evaluation period, the novel H7N9 virus caused severe illness, including pneumonia and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), with high rates of intensive care unit admission and death.

* * *

Pandemic Influenza Viruses - Hoping for the Road Not Taken

by David M. Morens, Jeffery K. Taubenberger and Anthony S. Fauci

Like every human influenza pandemic and major outbreak in more than a century, the novel avian influenza A virus (H7N9) has left us surprised and puzzled. It is only slightly reassuring that since 1918, we have never seen an influenza pandemic emerge through direct viral mutations alone. But every pandemic emergence seems to be a law unto itself, and we cannot know whether or under what circumstances the highly unusual H7N9 virus might be able to become pandemic. Influenza viruses' unpredictability renders H7N9 pandemic preparedness essential.

* * *

Transmission scenarios for Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) and how to tell them apart

by S Cauchemez, Van Kerkhove1, S Riley et al.
Eurosurveillance, Volume 18, Issue 24, 13 June 2013

Read online at: http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=20503

The authors review possible transmission scenarios for MERS-CoV and their implications for risk assessment and control. They discuss how existing data, future investigations and analyses may help in reducing uncertainty and refining the public health risk assessment and present analytical approaches that allow robust assessment of epidemiological characteristics, even from partial and biased surveillance data. Going beyond minimal case reporting, open international collaboration, under the guidance of the World Health Organization and the International Health Regulations, will impact on how this potential epidemic unfolds and prospects for control.
**Travel-associated Illness Trends and Clusters, 2000-2010**

by Karin Leder, Joseph Torresi, John S. Brownstein et al.
Emerg Infect Dis, Vol. 19, Nr. 7, July 2013

Read online at: [http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/19/7/12-1573_article.htm](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/19/7/12-1573_article.htm)

The illnesses that international travellers pick up during their travels may provide a snapshot of disease trends around the world; and also, can indicate which diseases travellers need to take steps to prevent. These data can help guide physicians and travel health experts caring for travellers presenting with illness and as they counsel travellers about steps travellers should take to protect themselves from disease while traveling internationally.

* * *

**Ongoing Dengue Epidemic - Angola, June 2013**

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), June 17, 2013 / 62(Early Release);1-4

4 pp. 295 kB: [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm62e0617.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm62e0617.pdf)

An ongoing dengue epidemic in Angola has resulted in 517 suspected dengue cases. A total of 313 (60.5%) specimens have tested positive for dengue, including one from a patient who died. Laboratory-confirmed dengue also has been reported from seven countries on four continents among persons who had recently travelled to Luanda, including 79 persons from Portugal. This report describes the dengue epidemic in Angola and provides recommendations for clinicians and travellers.

* * *

**New insights into the machinery of blood digestion by ticks**

by Daniel Sojka, Zdeněk Franta, Martin Horn et al.


Recent work has provided insight into the multienzyme proteolytic machinery involved in blood digestion by ticks. Understanding the digestion process by ticks is of utmost importance, as this process is intertwined with transmission of pathogens to the hosts on which ticks feed. In this article the authors summarize the current knowledge of the molecular mechanisms of tick hematophagy and their similarities to those of Platyhelminthes, nematodes, and Plasmodium.

* * *

**Impact and Change: TDR 2012 Annual Report**

The strength of the past - The innovation of today - The commitment to tomorrow

by Jamie Guth and Patrick Adams
World Health Organization on behalf of the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), 2013

HESP-News & Notes - 13/2013 - page 17
TDR has a new structure, a new strategy and a new approach – to work more closely in the countries where research needs to be nurtured. TDR has an important role to play in global health research and is an important partner for a range of different groups and programmes. This report covers a sea change in the Programme, both in attitude and approach. There are new initiatives just starting up and more will emerge over the next few years, so this is just the beginning of a series of work that will be worthwhile following.

<table>
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**PURE-ifying research on chronic non-communicable diseases in South Africa**

by Thandi Puoane
South African Centre for Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis (SACEMA) Quarterly, June 12, 2013

Chronic non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease (CVD) and cancers are a major public health problem as these are a major cause of ill-health and deaths worldwide. In South Africa, the number of people suffering from NCDs is also increasing and this has been attributed to the increase in the contributing risk factors such as a change from traditional to a Westernized diet, lack of physical activity; alcohol abuse and smoking. We need to be aware that reducing NCDs impact is beyond knowledge and choices. Responding effectively to the growing burden of NCDs has more to do with addressing societal and biological pathways from environmental causes to primordial predispositions and adequately managing the primary risk factors.

* * *

**Diet and Physical Activity for the Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Systematic Policy Review**

by Carl Lachat, Stephen Otchere, Dominique Roberfroid et al.

Diet-related noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) are increasing rapidly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and constitute a leading cause of mortality. Although a call for global action has been resonating for years, the progress in national policy development in LMICs has not been assessed. This review of strategies to prevent NCDs in LMICs provides a benchmark against which policy response can be tracked over time.

HESP-News & Notes - 13/2013 - page 18
Landscape analysis on countries’ readiness to accelerate action in nutrition: Country Assessment Tools

World Health Organization, Department for Nutrition for Health and Development, February 2012

121 pp. 2.9 MB: 
http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/84760/1/9789241503587_eng.pdf

The WHO landscape analysis of readiness to accelerate action in nutrition is a systematic and scientific approach to assessing where and how to best invest to accelerate action in nutrition. The in-depth country assessment provides a way to scope gaps, constraints and opportunities for integrating new and existing effective actions in nutrition, using a participatory approach. It includes an analysis of a country’s capacities and resources, and identifies promising actions that could be scaled up to improve nutrition.

* * *

Critical windows for nutritional interventions against stunting

by Andrew M Prentice, Kate A Ward, Gail R Goldberg et al.
Am J Clin Nutr May 2013, Vol. 97 No. 5; 911-918

8 pp. 589 kB: 
http://ajcn.nutrition.org/content/97/5/911.full.pdf+html

This article presents evidence that suggests that in addition to the window of opportunity from pregnancy to 24 months, other age groups beyond 24 months and adolescence also offer windows of opportunity where nutrition interventions can support catch up growth and reduce stunting.

* * *

The Global Drug Facility and its role in the market for tuberculosis drugs

by Nimalan Arinaminpathy, Thierry Cordier-Lassalle, Anant Vijay et al.
The Lancet, Early Online Publication, 29 May 2013

7 pp. 512 kB: 
http://download.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lancet/PIIS014067361360896X.pdf

Universal access to high-quality treatment is central to the Global Plan to Stop TB. The Global Drug Facility (GDF) was launched in 2001 to help to achieve this goal, through services including the supply of affordable, quality-assured drugs to countries in need. The authors assessed the scale of GDF drug supplies worldwide and found that the GDF commands a substantial proportion of the market for drugs for first-line and second-line treatment regimens.

* * *
**The Early Success of India’s Health Insurance for the Poor, RSBY**

by Victoria Fan  
Center for Global Development, 10 June 2013

10 pp. 422 kB:  

In just five years, India’s Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY, translated as “National Health Insurance Programme”) has expanded health-care access. Where dozens of “microinsurance” and NGO pilots failed to scale up, RSBY has already provided more than 110 million people (almost 10 percent of India’s population) with heavily subsidized health insurance, providing up to US$ 550 annually to finance secondary hospital care. In this essay the author tells the story of how RSBY came into being and outlines the program’s early successes and opportunities for future progress.

* * *

**The ghosts of user fees past: Exploring accountability for victims of a 30-year economic policy mistake**

by Rick Rowden  
Health and Human Rights, Vol. 15, No. 1; June 2013

11 pp. 584 kB:  

Today, there is an unmistakable shift in international consensus away from private health financing, including the use of user fees toward public financing mechanisms (notably tax financing), to achieve universal health coverage (UHC). This is, however, much the same as an earlier consensus reached at the WHO’s World Health Assembly at Alma-Ata in 1978. When considering the full circle journey from Alma-Ata in 1978 to today’s re-emerging support for UHC, it is worth taking stock and reflecting on how and why the international health community took this nearly three decade detour and how such misguided policies as user fees came to be so widely implemented during the intervening period.

* * *

**Public Health agencies and cash transfer Programmes: Making the case for greater involvement**

by Ian Forde, Kumanan Rasanathan and Rüdiger Krech  
World Health Organization, 2011

44 pp. 1.2 MB:  
http://www.who.int/sdhconference/resources/cash_transfers_discussion_paper_final.pdf

This report examines the case for greater involvement by public health agencies in cash transfer schemes, a form of welfare assistance. It seeks to identify opportunities, obstacles and actions that might support greater involvement. The issue arises because cash transfer schemes are an increasingly common form of welfare assistance across the
world. Health gain is an explicit objective of such schemes, yet the public health community to date have largely been passive observers rather than active participants.

* * *

**Promoting universal financial protection: constraints and enabling factors in scaling-up coverage with social health insurance in Nigeria**

by Chima A Onoka, Obinna E Onwujekwe, Benjamin S Uzochukwu et al.
Health Research Policy and Systems 2013, 11:20 (13 June 2013)

[PDF](http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content/pdf/1478-4505-11-20.pdf)

The National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) in Nigeria was launched in 2005 as part of efforts by the federal government to achieve universal coverage using financial risk protection mechanisms. However, only 4% of the population, and mainly federal government employees, are currently covered by health insurance and this is primarily through the Formal Sector Social Health Insurance Programme (FSSHIP) of the NHIS. This study aimed to understand why different state (sub-national) governments decided whether or not to adopt the FSSHIP for their employees.

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**Promoting universal financial protection: a case study of new management of community health insurance in Tanzania**

by Josephine Borghi, Stephen Maluka, August Kuwawenaruwa et al.
Health Research Policy and Systems 2013, 11:21 (13 June 2013)

[PDF](http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content/pdf/1478-4505-11-21.pdf)

The National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF), a compulsory formal sector scheme took over the management of the Community Health Fund (CHF), a voluntary informal sector scheme, in 2009. This study assesses the origins of the reform, its effect on management and reporting structures, financial flow adequacy, reform communication and acceptability to key stakeholders, and initial progress towards universal coverage.

* * *

**The Impact of Health Insurance Education on Enrolment of Microfinance Institution Clients in the Ghana National Health Insurance Scheme**

by Elizabeth Schultz, Marcia Metcalfe, Bobbi Gray et al.
International Labour Organisation, Research Paper N°33, May 2013

[PDF](http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/mifacility/download/repaper33.pdf)

Despite the fact that national health insurance has been available in Ghana since 2003, the coverage is far from universal, especially in rural areas. This study evaluates a consumer education intervention for microfinance clients by Freedom from Hunger and Siniapi Aba Trust designed to increase awareness, knowledge and eventually take-up rates of the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS).
Oil-to-Cash is a proposal for governments facing a resource windfall to consider transferring some or all of the new income directly to citizens in a universal, transparent, and regular dividend. Having put this money in the hands of its citizens, the state would treat Cash is a proposal for governments facing a resource windfall to consider transferring some or all of the new income directly to citizens in a universal, transparent, and regular dividend. Having put this money in the hands of its citizens, the state would treat it like normal income and tax it accordingly - forcing the state to collect taxes, fostering citizen oversight, and building accountability in the management of resource revenues and the delivery of public services. This paper lists - and attempts to address - the most serious objections to this idea.

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

Future of Latrines and the Future of Civilization: Understanding Cultural Barriers and Opportunities in West Timor

by Dominggus Elcid Li, Jonatan A. Lassa, John Talan et al.

The study uses an anthropological approach to understand the culture of Atoni people in Kupang District (NTT, Indonesia), in particular the culture of sanitation, water and hygiene. It asks how the locals in general perceive ideal WASH practices and their daily life and what kind of social-cultural/economic or environmental incentives shape practices, beliefs and habits (PBHs).

Human Resources

Vertical funding, non-governmental organizations, and health system strengthening: perspectives of public sector health workers in Mozambique

by Abdul H Mussa, James Pfeiffer, Stephen S Gloyd et al.
Human Resources for Health 2013, 11:26 (14 June 2013)

The Ministry of Health in Mozambique attempted to coordinate aid by implementing a ‘sector-wide approach’ to bring the partners together in setting priorities, harmonizing planning, and coordinating support. Only 14% of overall health sector funding was channelled through this coordinating process by 2008, however. The exodus of health workers from the public sector to international and private organizations emerged as the
issue of greatest concern to the managers and health workers. Few studies have addressed the growing phenomenon of ‘internal brain drain’ in Africa which proved to be of greater concern to Mozambique’s health managers.

Health Systems & Research

Improving primary health care to achieve population impact: the African Health Initiative

Edited by Kenneth Sherr, Jennifer Requejo and Paulin Basinga
BMC Health Services Research, Volume 13, Supplement 2; 31 May 2013

Read/download all articles and commentaries at:
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmchealthservres/supplements/13/S2

The importance of strengthening health systems has gained increased attention in recent years, and there have been renewed calls for a focus on health systems as part and parcel of meeting the health related Millennium Development Goals. The Doris Duke Foundation launched the African Health Initiative to catalyze advances in strengthening health systems by supporting Population Health and Implementation Training (PHIT) Partnerships in five diverse sub-Saharan African contexts (Ghana, Tanzania, Rwanda, Mozambique and Zambia).

* * *

Education in Health Research Methodology: Use of a Wiki for Knowledge Translation

by Michele P. Hamm, Terry P. Klassen, Shannon D. Scott et al.

7 pp. 2.6 MB:

A research-practice gap exists between what is known about conducting methodologically rigorous randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and what is done. Evidence consistently shows that paediatric RCTs are susceptible to high risk of bias; therefore novel methods of influencing the design and conduct of trials are required. The objective of this study was to develop and pilot test a wiki designed to educate paediatric trialists and trainees in the principles involved in minimizing risk of bias in RCTs. The focus was on preliminary usability testing of the wiki.

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Getting Better: Improving Health System Outcomes in Europe and Central Asia

by Owen Smith and Son Nam Nguyen
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank, 2013

215 pp. 4.2 MB:
Improving health system outcomes is a major development challenge for Europe and Central Asia (ECA). Some countries in ECA have performed very well, and the overall regional trend has recently improved, but long-term progress has certainly lagged behind the rest of the world. Opinion polls indicate that health is the top priority for government spending among populations across ECA, and expectations for a strong government role in the sector are high. Yet these aspirations must be reconciled with the reality of aging populations and significant fiscal constraints.

### Information & Communication Technology

**How ICT can play a role in the development of poor remote rural areas**

by Bart van Tunen, Justin Scheffers, Lucas van der Mey
Erasmus MC University Medical Centre Rotterdam, the Netherlands, November 2012

9 pp. 447 kB: [http://www.academia.edu/3622047/How_ICT_can_play_a_role_in_the_development_ofPoor_remote_rural_areas](http://www.academia.edu/3622047/How_ICT_can_play_a_role_in_the_development_ofPoor_remote_rural_areas)

The Internet has become increasingly a part of life in the western world. It has brought many advantages regarding communication and easy access to information. But it still remains a small part of the world where Internet is available. It is a massive task to implement ICT in poor remote rural areas. In this study the authors aim to construct a deployment plan for introducing ICT to those rural areas. It is important to ensure that local people benefit from this new technology, only then can ICT play a role in the development of poor remote rural areas.

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**Mobile Health Applications for the Most Prevalent Conditions by the World Health Organization: Review and Analysis**

by Borja Martínez-Pérez, Isabel de la Torre-Díez, Miguel López-Coronado

Read online at: [http://www.jmir.org/2013/6/e120/?utm_source=feedly&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+JMedInternetRes+%28Journal+of+Medical+Internet+Research+%28atom%29%29](http://www.jmir.org/2013/6/e120/?utm_source=feedly&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+JMedInternetRes+%28Journal+of+Medical+Internet+Research+%28atom%29%29)

New possibilities for mHealth have arisen by means of the latest advances in mobile communications and technologies. With more than 1 billion smartphones and 100 million tablets around the world, these devices can be a valuable tool in health care management. The authors conclude that distribution of work on mobile applications is not equal for the eight most prevalent conditions. Whereas some conditions such as diabetes and depression have an overwhelming number of apps and research, there is a lack of apps related to other conditions, such as anaemia, hearing loss, or low vision, which must be filled.

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**Guidelines on Open Government Data for Citizen Engagement**

by Haiyan Qian, Vyatcheslav Cherkasov, Deniz Susar et al.
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), 2013
Governments become more transparent by proactively publishing timely, relevant, and comprehensive information and data on the Internet. This is done so that it can be easily accessed, analysed, reused, and combined with other data by anyone for any purposes free of charge and without any restrictions. Open data provides the foundation to enable citizens to better understand how their government works, how their tax money is spent, and how decisions and laws are made. Better understanding through increased access to information can be beneficial to governments, citizens, and society as a whole.

* * *

**Research for development and the role of ‘grey literature’ in southern African research production**

by Eve Gray
Centre for Educational Technology, University of Cape Town, South Africa


The author describes the phenomenon of ‘grey literature’ - the results of research which are collected into informal papers that are never published. These works are often of great use and importance but are not easy to access or disseminate. A solution needs to be found so that the traditions of ‘grey literature’ and conventional journal publishing can be successfully combined.

* * *

**Grey literature in public health: valuable evidence?**

by Helena Korjonen and Jennifer Ford
UK Health Forum, 8 April 2013


We live in an information society where information overload is a recognised problem within the public health workforce. Surprisingly, in such an information rich environment with traditional and new sources of information online, those working in public health experience information poverty, lacking access to information that they need or sometimes not able to find what they need. This brief introductory discussion paper aims to initiate research and stimulate further discussion around the importance of grey literature as evidence in public health.

**Education**

**Conducting a school deworming day: A manual for teachers**

World Health Organization, Department of Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases, 2013
As a teacher, you play an important role in deworming day at your school. This manual has been developed to provide you with important instructions. Children are most vulnerable to worm infections. Untreated worm infections prevent children's healthy growth, cause poor nutrition and reduce their capacity to concentrate and learn. Children need these deworming medicines to grow healthier and learn better in school.

**Schooling for millions of children jeopardized by reductions in aid**


This paper shows that progress in reducing the number of children out of school has come to a virtual standstill just as international aid to basic education falls for the first time since 2002. While access to education has been improving globally, there has been little progress in reducing the rate at which children leave school before reaching the last grade of primary education. Not only has aid to basic education declined, but the funds that are being allocated are not necessarily going to countries most in need.

**Harm Reduction & Drug Use**

*The Negative Impact of the War on Drugs on Public Health: The Hidden Hepatitis C Epidemic*

by Miguel Darcy de Oliveira, Ilona Szabo de Carvalho, Patricia Kundrat et al.
The Global Commission on Drug Policy, May 2013

The hepatitis C virus causes debilitating and fatal disease in around a quarter of those who are chronically infected, and is an increasing cause of premature death among people who inject drugs. Harm reduction services – such as the provision of sterile needles and syringes and opioid substitution therapy – can effectively prevent hepatitis C transmission among people who inject drugs. Instead of investing in effective prevention and treatment programmes to achieve the required coverage, governments continue to waste billions of dollars each year on arresting and punishing drug users – a gross mis-allocation of limited resources that could be more efficiently used for public health and preventative approaches.
Individual-level, network-level and city-level factors associated with HIV prevalence among people who inject drugs in eight Russian cities: a cross-sectional study

by Ksenia Eritsyan, Robert Heimer, Russell Barbour et al.

11 pp. 339 kB:
http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/3/6/e002645.full.pdf#page=1&view=FitH

Although individual-level and network-level variables explain some of the difference in prevalence across the eight examined cities, the over-riding variable that seems to account for most of the variance is the emergence of commercial, as opposed to homemade, heroin as the predominant form of opioid injected. The authors conclude that the expansion of commercial heroin markets to many Russian cities may have served as a trigger for an expanding HIV epidemic among IDUs in that country.

Millennium Development Goals

Reflecting on the MDGs and Making Sense of the Post-2015 Development Agenda

by Kate Higgins
The North-South Institute (NSI), May 2013

48 pp. 984 kB:

This report provides a comprehensive overview of the MDGs and the post-2015 agenda. Specifically, the report assembles and synthesizes the burgeoning MDG and post-2015 literature to reflect on the MDGs and identify the processes, issues, architecture and emerging challenges that are framing and influencing the post-2015 agenda.

Development Assistance

50 years of peer reviews by the OECD’s development assistance committee: an instrument of quality assurance and mutual learning

by Guido Ashoff
German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), Briefing Paper 12/2013

4 pp. 1.2 MB:

The aim of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Peer Reviews is to improve the quality and effectiveness of official development assistance (ODA) through constructive criticism which facilitates the DAC members’ individual and collective learning. In the academic debate, the Peer Reviews have sometimes been referred to as an instrument of global governance. The author argues that peer reviews appear to have had a positive impact, though there are some important caveats.
Adapting systematic reviews for social research in international development: a case study on child protection

by David Walker, Gina Bergh, Ella Page et al.
The Overseas Development Institute, June 2013

12 pp. 431 kB:

This paper discusses lessons from an ‘adapted systematic review’ on the links between approaches on child protection and income poverty, and assesses the broader implications for different actors in the international development community.

World Population Prospects - The 2012 Revision
Key Findings and Advance Tables

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Population Division, June 2013

54 pp. 1.0 MB:

The 2012 Revision of World Population Prospects represents the latest global demographic estimates and projections. According to this revision the world population of 7.2 billion in mid-2013 is projected to increase by almost one billion people within the next twelve years, reaching 8.1 billion in 2025, and to further increase to 9.6 billion in 2050 and 10.9 billion by 2100. Small differences in the trajectory of fertility during the next decades will have major consequences for population size, structure, and distribution in the long run.

For more data, tables and figures see: http://esa.un.org/wpp/

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Basic Statistics 2013 - Asian Development Bank
Development Indicators and Policy Research Division

6 pp. 727 kB:

Basic Statistics 2013 contains statistical indicators for 45 economies in the Asia and Pacific Region. The publication covers the indicators of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) such as the proportion of population living below US$ 1.25 (PPP) a day, infant mortality rate, carbon dioxide emissions. It also contains data on basic economic indicators such as the gross domestic product (GDP), inflation rate, trade balance, external debt, fiscal balance, and others.

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African Economic Outlook 2013

African Development Bank Group, 27 May 2013


The continent’s economic outlook for 2013 and 2014 is promising, confirming its healthy resilience to internal and external shocks and its role as a growth pole in an ailing global economy. Because Africa comprises many different, fast-changing countries, the report grasps the short-term performance of individual economies in their regional context; and because development is multi-faceted, it brings together the macroeconomic, structural and social dimensions. It is primarily aimed at policy makers and analysts, as a basis to help them make informed decisions, but also at investors, journalists, academics and students.

Displacement - The new 21st Century Challenge

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), June 2013

48 pp. 2.4 MB: http://unhcr.org/globaltrendsjune2013/UNHCR%20GLOBAL%20TR ENDS%202012_V05.pdf

In 2012, forced population displacement continued to affect large numbers of people worldwide. UNHCR’s 2012 Global Trends report analyses statistical trends and changes from January to December 2012, for the populations for whom UNHCR has been entrusted with a responsibility by the international community. These people include refugees, asylum-seekers, returnees, stateless persons and certain groups of internally displaced persons (IDPs), and are collectively referred to as “persons of concern”.

Turn Down Heat: Why a 4°C Warmer World Must be Avoided

by Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, William Hare, Olivia Serdeczny et al. A Report for the World Bank by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and Climate Analytics, November 2012


This report provides a snapshot of recent scientific literature and new analyses of likely impacts and risks that would be associated with a 4°C Celsius warming within this century. It is a rigorous attempt to outline a range of risks, focusing on developing countries and especially the poor. A 4°C world would be one of unprecedented heat waves, severe drought, and major floods in many regions, with serious impacts on ecosystems and associated services. But with action, a 4°C world can be avoided and we can likely hold warming below 2°C.
**Otitis Media with Effusion: Comparative Effectiveness of Treatments**

by Nancy D Berkman, Ina F Wallace, Michael J Steiner et al. 
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), May 2013

20 pp. 740 kB: 

The authors compared benefits and harms of strategies currently in use for managing otitis media with effusion (OME). Treatment for OME may include single approaches alone or combinations of two or more approaches. They compared benefits and harms among these treatments: tympanostomy tubes (TT), myringotomy (myr), adenoidectomy (adenoid), autoinflation (auto), oral or nasal steroids, complementary and alternative medicine (CAM), and watchful waiting (WW). There is evidence that both TT and adenoid reduce OME and improve hearing in the short term, but both treatments also have associated harms.

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**Straight to the Point: Workplanning**

Pathfinder International, June 2013

6 pp. 650 kB: 
http://www.pathfinder.org/publications-tools/pdfs/Straight-to-Point_Workplanning_3June13_FINAL.pdf?x=145&y=12

This tool leads an organization or group step-by-step through the process of creating a workplan - from setting goals and objectives, to choosing activities, to planning timing and assigning responsibility - and includes a workplan template. Taking into consideration implementers’ limited time and human and financial resources, the tools provide clear, concise guidance on a variety of issues related to organizational management and program design, implementation, and assessment.

**INTERESTING WEB SITES**

**NALOXONEINFO.ORG**

http://naloxoneinfo.org/

Naloxone is an easy-to-use, lifesaving antidote to overdose from heroin or other opioids. Used in hospitals for decades, the medication has no abuse potential, costs as little as one dollar for a lifesaving dose and can be administered with basic training. In countries around the world, naloxone distribution programs have trained drug users, their families and friends to identify the signs of overdose, administer naloxone, and ultimately, save lives. These efforts have reversed tens of thousands of overdoses, and show that drug users and their communities can take positive steps to protect their health.

**TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Designing and Implementing Social Transfer Programmes**

30 September - 11 October 2013, Chiang Mai, Thailand
The Economic Policy Research Institute (EPRI), HelpAge International, the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance and the Institute of Development Studies.

This two-week course aims at providing policy makers, government officials and practitioners with an in-depth understanding of the conceptual and practical issues involved in the development of social transfer programmes.

For more information see: http://epri.org.za/what-we-do/courses/chiangmai/

**CONFERENCES**

*9th Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA) Conference in collaboration with the African Federation of Public Health Associations (AFPHA)*

“Africa’s Public Health Legacy - Beyond the MDGs”
Cape Town, South Africa

Student Congress - 24 September 2013
Workshop - 25 September 2013
Conference - 26 - 27 September 2013

The conference provides a forum to discuss and debate critical public health issues, and offers an opportunity to influence the international public health agenda. This is important as we are two years away from the target date of the millennium development goals (MDGs), with a rather mute debate in sub-Saharan Africa on the post-2015 health and development agenda.

For more information see: http://www.phasaconference.org.za/

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*8th Health Informatics in Africa (HELINA) Conference*

“HELINA 2013: Evidence based Informatics for eHealth in Africa”

Through research and project reports on evidence based informatics for eHealth in Africa, it is hoped to contribute significantly to efforts aimed at the development of a sustainable eHealth strategy for Africa. As such, special focus will also be given to initiating, building and consolidating networks among participants from different African states.

For more information see: http://www.helina-online.org/en/conference/helina-2013

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Lancet Special Issue on Global Health Metrics and Evaluation (GHME) Conference – with all abstracts

http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/specialissue

“How do we achieve democracy of knowledge and delivery of justice - two values that not only characterise global health but also make it one of the most important social movements of the 21st century?” On June 17, The Lancet published online 149 conference abstracts from 48 countries. The research presented at the third Global Health Metrics and Evaluation Conference is a powerful example of the global conversation about health that a rapidly expanding international metrics community has helped to sustain and strengthen.

CARTOON

TIPS & TRICKS

Where is the Snipping Tool?

One thing that has bothered users of Windows 8 is the seeming disappearance of the Snipping Tool, the handy little programme that lets you grab screenshots. This might be particularly bothersome if you have a laptop without a PrtScn key. The good news is that the Snipping Tool is still there, it just seems like Microsoft is trying to hide it from you. It is now buried within the Windows System32 file, but there is a really simple way to find it.

Search in Apps for Snipping Tool: Press the Windows key + C and type snip in the search window.

If you would like to keep the programme readily available, just right click to pin the Snip-
HES-News & Notes - 13/2013 - page 33

ping Tool to the Taskbar or the Metro/Modern Start Page, or pin it to both places, just to have it handy.

* * *

**All the Words in the World: Pronounced**

http://www.forvo.com/

Have you ever wondered how exactly something is pronounced? Or had a heated debate with a friend over the correct way to say something? Now you can find the answers to both those questions fast and easy with Forvo.

Forvo is a free word pronunciation dictionary (that also has translations) that uses native speakers of the language to record the pronunciation. Now you will never have to go without knowing how a word is pronounced.

* * *

**Pay as You Go - Sim with Data - Wiki**

http://prepaidwithdata.wikia.com/wiki/Prepaid_SIM_with_data

This wiki collects information about prepaid mobile phone plans from all over the world. Not just any plans though, they must include decent data rates, perfect for iPhone, iPad and Android smart phone travellers, as well as mobile Wi-Fi hotspots (mifi) users.

Best regards,

**Dieter Neuvians MD**

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