

A weekly newsletter supported by GTZ
(Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit)

In this issue:

BOOKS	3
<i>The European health report 2005 - Public health action for healthier children and populations</i>	3
<i>Women of the World: Laws and Policies Affecting their Reproductive Lives - East and Southeast Asia</i>	3
<i>TB/HIV: A Clinical Manual</i>	3
ONLINE PUBLICATIONS	4
HIV - AIDS - STI	4
<i>Models for Life - Advancing antiretroviral therapy in sub-Saharan Africa</i>	4
<i>Confronting HIV/AIDS through Youth Involvement - A Catalogue of Ideas for NGOs</i>	4
<i>Promoting Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapy through a Directly Administered Antiretroviral Therapy (DAART) Strategy in Mombasa, Kenya</i>	4
<i>How Feasible is a DAART Strategy to Promote Adherence to ART?</i>	5
<i>Resistance - Information Series for HIV-Positive People</i>	5
<i>Synergising HIV/AIDS and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights – A Manual for NGOs</i>	5
Sexual & Reproductive Health	6
<i>The Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa: An Instrument for Advancing Reproductive and Sexual Rights</i>	6
<i>Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A statistical exploration</i>	6
<i>Medical Abortion in Bihar and Jharkhand: A study of service providers, chemists, women and women</i>	6
<i>Self-reported and observed female genital cutting in rural Tanzania: associated demographic factors, HIV and sexually transmitted infections</i>	7
<i>Turning training into practice: Findings of an impact evaluation of postabortion care training in Nigeria</i>	7
<i>Sexual risk behaviour of married men and women who have lived apart due to the husbands' work migration</i>	7
<i>Abstinence and abstinence-only education: A review of U.S. policies and programs</i>	7
Maternal & Child Health	8
<i>Confronting maternal mortality: The status of abortion care in public health facilities in Mozambique</i>	8
<i>The prevalence of stillbirths: a systematic review</i>	8
<i>Investing in the Children of the Islamic World</i>	9
<i>Effect of psychosocial stimulation on mental development and behaviour of malnourished children: a randomised control trial</i>	9
<i>Study of Children in Children's Homes in Nepal</i>	9
<i>Maternal and Child Health Status in Chad: 8 Years of Stagnation</i>	9
Malaria	10
<i>Social Marketing of Bednets in Tanzania</i>	10
<i>How sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP) was perceived in some rural communities after phasing out chloroquine (CQ) as a first-line drug for uncomplicated malaria in Tanzania: lessons to learn towards moving from monotherapy to fixed combination therapy</i>	10
Tuberculosis	11
<i>Clinical characteristics and initial management of patients with tuberculous pericarditis in the HIV era: the Investigation of the Management of Pericarditis in Africa (IMPI Africa) registry</i>	11

<i>Essential Medicines</i>	11
<i>Do We Need to Put Society First? The Potential for Tragedy in Antimicrobial Resistance</i> ..	11
<i>Immunization</i>	11
<i>The Promise of New Rotavirus Vaccines</i>	11
<i>The Case for Childhood Immunization</i>	12
<i>Combatting Antivaccination Rumours: Lessons Learned from Case Studies in East Africa</i>	12
<i>Health Systems & Research</i>	12
<i>User fees for health care: a new key issues guide</i>	12
<i>Education</i>	13
<i>Stealing the Future: Corruption in the Classroom</i>	13
<i>The decline in primary school enrolment in Kenya</i>	13
<i>Education and Nutritional Status of Orphans & Children of HIV-Infected Parents in Kenya</i>	13
<i>Information & Communication Technology</i>	14
<i>Funding and Implementing Universal Access - Innovation and Experience from Uganda</i> ...	14
<i>E-Waste Challenges in Developing Countries: South Africa Case Study</i>	14
<i>Millennium Development Goals</i>	14
<i>MDG Oriented Sector and Poverty Reduction Strategies - Lessons from Experience in Health</i>	14
<i>Others</i>	15
<i>Caught in the Storm: The Impact of Natural Disasters on Women</i>	15
<i>Research guide on internal displacement</i>	15
<i>State of the Private Health Sector Wall Chart</i>	15
ELECTRONIC RESOURCES	15
<i>Free CD-ROM - activities for home-based care for children</i>	15
<i>A – The Abortion Magazine, Fall/Winter 2005</i>	16
INTERESTING WEB SITES	16
<i>Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL)</i>	16
<i>Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics (APUA)</i>	16
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES	17
<i>Regional Advanced Flagship Course on Efficiency, Quality and Health Systems</i>	17
<i>Lifestyle Epidemiology</i>	17
<i>Summer Institute on Alcohol, Drugs and Addiction</i>	18
CONFERENCES	18
<i>eLA - eLearning Africa 2006</i>	18
CARTOON	19
TIPS & TRICKS	19
<i>Forward and Back slashes</i>	19
<i>Free calls to regular landlines in 39 countries</i>	19

You can subscribe for free to the newsletter by sending an e-mail to: Majordomo@mailserv.gtz.de with the following command in the body of your message:
[subscribe hpn-news-notes](#)

If you ever want to remove yourself from the mailing list, you can send an e-mail to: Majordomo@mailserv.gtz.de with the following command in the body of your message:
[unsubscribe hpn-news-notes](#)

We encourage you to share the newsletter with your friends & colleagues.

BOOKS

The European health report 2005 - Public health action for healthier children and populations



World Health Organization, 2005; ISBN 92-890-1376-1

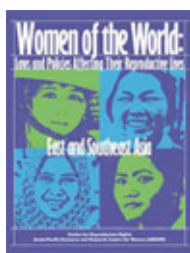
Adobe PDF file (144 pp. 1.7 MB):

<http://www.euro.who.int/document/e87325.pdf>

The European health report 2005 summarizes the major public health issues facing the Region, particularly its children, and describes effective policy responses. This helps to supply the reliable, evidence-based information needed for sound decision-making on public health. The report first summarizes the facts on public health in the Region and then looks specifically at children's health and development. It ends with statistical tables giving some of the data that form the basis for its conclusions, and definitions of some of the terms used.

* * *

Women of the World: Laws and Policies Affecting their Reproductive Lives - East and Southeast Asia



The Center for Reproductive Rights, December 2005
ISBN 1-890671-29-0

Download country chapters as Adobe PDF files (total 236 pp.) at:

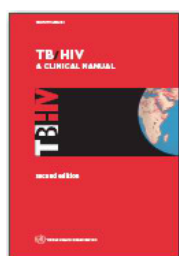
http://www.reproductiverights.org/pub_bo_seasia.html

The publication provides an extensive compilation of laws and policies influencing women's reproductive health in five countries of the region – China, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, and draws attention to specific issues that require legal and policy reform. It serves as a resource for those interested in advancing and protecting women's reproductive health and rights through legal advocacy, and ensuring that states comply with their obligations to respect, protect and fulfill women's reproductive rights under international law.

* * *

TB/HIV: A Clinical Manual

Second Edition



Anthony Harries, Dermot Maher and Stephen Graham
World Health Organization 2004; ISBN 92 4 154634 4

Adobe PDF file (212 pp. 744 kB):

<http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/9241546344.pdf>

The second edition of this popular manual provides a pocket-sized guide to the clinical management of TB, particularly in patients suffering from co-infection with HIV. Designed for use by busy clinicians, the manual aims to promote the best possible diagnosis and treatment in low-income countries where the prevalence of TB and HIV infection is high, case loads are heavy, and laboratory support may be limited. Though primarily addressed to clinicians working at district hospitals

in sub-Saharan Africa, the manual is also suitable for use in areas of Asia and South America where the problem of TB and HIV co-infection poses a growing clinical challenge.

ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

HIV - AIDS - STI

Models for Life - Advancing antiretroviral therapy in sub-Saharan Africa

Edited by Jeffrey V. Lazarus, Catrine Christiansen, Lise Rosendal Østergaard and Lisa Ann Richey

Nordiska Afrikainstitutet, Uppsala 2005; ISBN 91-7106-556-3

Adobe PDF file (35 pp. 2.49 MB!):

<http://www.aidsnet.dk/Files/Filer/Aidsnet/BU/Extranet/ARV%20konference/AdvancingARVinSSAWorkingPaperPDFversion.pdf>

The publication reflects the presentations and discussions from two conferences in Copenhagen and Uppsala in September 2004 that are most relevant for NGOs and researchers. It focuses on the following three main topics: 1. Access to antiretroviral therapy; 2. Holistic approaches to providing antiretroviral therapy, prevention and support and 3. Antiretroviral therapy and public health services.

* * *

Confronting HIV/AIDS through Youth Involvement - A Catalogue of Ideas for NGOs



Edited by Lise Rosendal Østergaard

The Danish Family Planning Association (Foreningen Sex & Samfund), June 2004

Adobe PDF file (73 pp. 6.9 MB!):

<http://www.aidsnet.dk/files/filer/aidsnet/bu/extranet/idekatalog/idekatalog.pdf>

The aim of the catalogue is to stimulate discussion among NGOs and to - foster ideas on how to address existing barriers to involving young people in HIV/AIDS prevention projects and how to systematically involve them throughout a project cycle. This catalogue specifically addresses the NGO level. We hope that it will be used as a tool that contributes to translating lessons learned into strategic thinking at the operational level.

* * *

Promoting Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapy through a Directly Administered Antiretroviral Therapy (DAART) Strategy in Mombasa, Kenya

Sarna, A., S. Luchters, S. Geibel, P. Munyao, S. Kaai, K. Shikely, K. Mandaliya, M. Hawken, J. van Dam, and M. Temmerman

Horizons Research Update, Population Council, Nairobi, September 2005

Adobe PDF file (6 pp. 390 kB): http://www.phishare.org/files/3663_mombdaart24wks.pdf

A principal concern of antiretroviral therapy (ART) programs is the ability of patients to

maintain a high level of adherence to the medication regimen. Based on formative research conducted on HIV-infected clients and health workers in Mombasa, Kenya, and lessons learned from directly observed therapy (DOT) strategies to encourage adherence to treatment for tuberculosis, a DAART strategy was developed to promote adherence to ART. This study examines whether the DAART intervention is more effective in fostering adherence than standard follow-up strategies among people living with HIV/AIDS in Mombasa.

* * *

How Feasible is a DAART Strategy to Promote Adherence to ART?

Lessons from Mombasa, Kenya

Sarna A, et al.

Horizons Research Update, Population Council, Nairobi, September 2005

Adobe PDF file (8 pp. 466 kB):

http://www.phishare.org/files/3662_mombdaartlssnslrnd.pdf

For HIV-infected persons being treated with highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) the challenge has changed from gaining access to life-saving treatment to taking it correctly and consistently in order to realize the rewards of improved health status, and reduced morbidity and mortality from HIV. To achieve these health goals patients are required to take greater than 95 percent of their medications. In this paper the authors describe a health-facility based, directly administered antiretroviral therapy (DAART) strategy to promote adherence.

* * *

Resistance - Information Series for HIV-Positive People

by Michael Carter

Fifth edition, Produced by NAM, 2004

Adobe PDF file (32 pp. 167 kB):

<http://www.aidsmap.com/en/docs/pdf/resistance.pdf>



If you are HIV-positive and you are taking, or thinking about starting treatment for HIV, you will need to know about drug resistance. Resistance is an important reason why anti-HIV drugs can stop working. By learning about resistance and what can reduce the risk of it developing, you will increase your chances of getting the most out of your HIV treatment. This booklet has been written to help you decide what questions to ask your doctor about any course of treatment you might be considering.

* * *

Synergising HIV/AIDS and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights – A Manual for NGOs



by Jerker Liljestrand, Jacqueline Bryld, Jeffrey Victor Lazarus and Lise Rosendal Østergaard

Aidsnet and the Sexually Transmitted Infections/HIV/AIDS Programme of the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, 2005

Adobe PDF file (118 pp. 7.25 MB!):

http://www.aidsnet.dk/files/filer/aidsnet/sm/extranet/srhr%20manual/aidsnetwhosynergisingmanual_ver2.pdf

This manual is for all who acknowledge that although HIV/AIDS is a unique challenge, NGOs can draw heavily on the wealth of already existing experiences accumulated by groups promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights, public health and other related issues. This manual seeks to facilitate, first and foremost, access to this body of evidence and, more specifically, demonstrate how NGOs can integrate key sexual and reproductive health activities with other HIV/AIDS work.

Sexual & Reproductive Health

The Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa: An Instrument for Advancing Reproductive and Sexual Rights

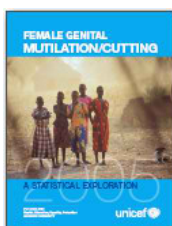
Center for Reproductive Rights, June 2005

Adobe PDF file (25 pp. 290 kB): http://www.crlp.org/pdf/pub_bp_africa.pdf

This briefing paper offers concrete suggestions for women's health and rights advocates within and beyond Africa. It provides detailed information that can help African women exercise their reproductive rights. The paper can also be useful to advocates outside Africa who are seeking to establish similar guarantees.

* * *

Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A statistical exploration



by Edilberto Loaiza, Rada Noeva and Claudia Cappa
UNICEF, November 2005; ISBN-13:978-92-806-3941-4

Adobe PDF file (53 pp. 1.37 MB):
http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/FGM-C_final_10_October.pdf

This publication analyses available statistics on female genital mutilation/cutting, with the aim of improving understanding of related issues in the wider context of gender equality and social change. The study centres on women aged 15-49 and their daughters, presenting estimates and examining differentials in prevalence, and highlighting patterns within the data that can strategically inform programmatic efforts.

* * *

Medical Abortion in Bihar and Jharkhand: A study of service providers, chemists, women and women

Ganatra Bela, Manning Vinoj and Pallipamulla Suranjeen Prasad
Ipas, 2005

Adobe PDF file (60 pp. 1.65 MB):
http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/INDMEDAB_E05_en.pdf



Very little has been known about the use of medication abortion in India. This study interviews abortion service providers, pharmacists and citizens to measure knowledge and use of the method in two Indian states.

* * *

Self-reported and observed female genital cutting in rural Tanzania: associated demographic factors, HIV and sexually transmitted infections

by Elise Klouman, Rachel Manongi and Knut-Inge Klepp
Tropical Medicine and International Health, Vol 10, No 1, pp 105–115, January 2005

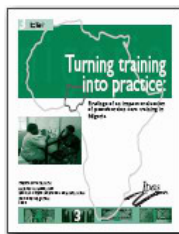
Adobe PDF file (11 pp. 104 kB):

<http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/j.1365-3156.2004.01350.x>

The objectives of the study were to determine (i) the prevalence and type of female genital cutting (FGC) in a rural multiethnic village in Tanzania, (ii) its associated demographic factors, (iii) its possible associations with HIV, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and infertility and (iv) to assess the consistency between self-reported and clinically observed FGC.

* * *

Turning training into practice: Findings of an impact evaluation of post-abortion care training in Nigeria



Tamara Feters, Akinsewa Akiode, Rodolfo Gómez Ponce de Leon and Janie Benson
IPAS Nigeria, June 2005

Adobe PDF file (31 pp. 887 kB):

http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/TRGPRAC_E05_en.pdf

This report presents the results of an Ipas study on the attitudes, behaviours and practices of health-care providers in Nigeria who received post-abortion care training. The report concludes with recommendations for strengthening training efforts in order to increase their long-term positive impact.

* * *

Sexual risk behaviour of married men and women who have lived apart due to the husbands' work migration

Health and Science Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 4, December 2005
ICDDR,B: Centre for Health and Population Research

Adobe PDF file (6 pp. 99 kB): http://www.icddrb.org/images/hsb34_eng-Sexual.pdf

This study aimed to ascertain the prevalence of sexual risk behaviour among married men and women who have lived apart due to the husbands' work migration. Married men who had lived apart from their wives in Bangladesh or abroad were 5-6 times more likely than those who had not lived apart to report extra-marital sex. Less than one-third of these men had used a condom during extra-marital or marital sex. The sexual risk behaviour of married men living away from home puts them at risk for HIV infection, and constitutes a potential route for HIV to be introduced into Bangladesh.

* * *

Abstinence and abstinence-only education: A review of U.S. policies and programs

by John Santelli, Mary A. Ott, Maureen Lyon, Jennifer Rogers, Daniel Summers, and Rebecca Schleifer
Journal of Adolescent Health 38 (2006) 72–81

Adobe PDF file (10 pp. 157 kB):

<http://www.genderhealth.org/pubs/JAHAbstinenceReview.pdf>

There is broad support for abstinence as a necessary and appropriate part of sexuality education. Controversy arises when abstinence is provided to adolescents as a sole choice and where health information on other choices is restricted or misrepresented. Although abstinence is theoretically fully effective, in actual practice abstinence often fails to protect against pregnancy and STIs. The authors believe that abstinence-only education programs, as defined by federal funding requirements, are morally problematic, by withholding information and promoting questionable and inaccurate opinions.

Maternal & Child Health

Confronting maternal mortality: The status of abortion care in public health facilities in Mozambique

by Martinho Dgedge, Hailemichael Gebreselassie, Cassimo Bique et al.
IPAS, 2005, ISBN: 1-882220-96-X

Adobe PDF file (40 pp. 547 kB) in English:

http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/ACMOZ_E05_en.pdf

In Portuguese:

http://www.ipas.org/publications/po/ACMOZ_P05_po.pdf

With its struggling health system and history of conflict, Mozambique has one of the world's highest maternal mortality rates. In an effort to look at factors affecting maternal death, Ipas and the Mozambican Ministry of Health undertook this assessment of abortion-related services in the African country's public hospitals. This document outlines the key areas for action and makes recommendations for improving abortion-care services in the public-health sector throughout the nation.

* * *

The prevalence of stillbirths: a systematic review

by Lale Say, Allan Donner, A. Metin Gulmezoglu, Monica Taljaard and Gilda Piaggio
Reproductive Health 2006, 3:1 (10 January 2006)

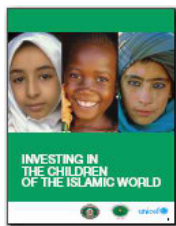
Adobe PDF file (32 pp. 200 kB):

<http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content/pdf/1742-4755-3-1.pdf>

Stillbirth rate is an important indicator of access to and quality of antenatal and delivery care. Obtaining overall estimates across various regions of the world is not straightforward due to variation in definitions, data collection methods and reporting. Stillbirth prevalence at the community level is typically less than 1% in more developed parts of the world and could exceed 3% in less developed regions. Regular reviews of stillbirth rates in appropriately designed and reported studies are useful in monitoring the adequacy of care.

* * *

Investing in the Children of the Islamic World



Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and UNICEF
November 2005; ISBN: 92-806-3898-X

Adobe PDF file (45 pp. 3.9 MB!):

http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/Investing_Children_Islamic_World_full_E.pdf

The report asks whether we are fulfilling our commitment to children. It reviews the situation of children in 57 Muslim countries, assesses progress in the areas of health, education, child protection and HIV/AIDS, and identifies necessary action. The report served as a background document for the First Ministerial Conference on the Child, held in Rabat from 7-9 November 2005.

* * *

Effect of psychosocial stimulation on mental development and behaviour of malnourished children: a randomised control trial

Health and Science Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 4 December 2005
ICDDR,B: Centre for Health and Population Research

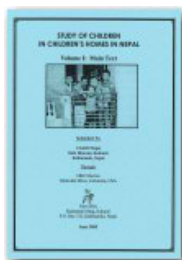
Adobe PDF file (6 pp. 127 kB):

http://www.icddr.org/images/hsb34_eng-psychosocial.pdf

Early childhood malnutrition is associated with poor mental development. Psychosocial stimulation (e.g. play) can benefit the development of such children. The malnourished children who received stimulation had significantly higher mental development; they were happier, friendlier, more cooperative, and more vocal. Integrating child development activities into nutrition services in Bangladesh proved to be an effective means of improving development and behaviour of malnourished children.

* * *

Study of Children in Children's Homes in Nepal



MEASURE DHS (Demographic and Health Surveys), November 2005

Adobe PDF file (94 pp. 10.9 MB!):

<http://www.measuredhs.com/pubs/pdf/OD35/NepalStudyOfChildren.pdf>

The status of children in children's homes is generally good. Most of the children in the homes had lost both of their parents. Their nutritional status is better than the average Nepalese children. Most of the homes had made reasonable arrangements for schooling the children and also have arranged for periodic visits of medical personnel. Children admitted from conflict-afflicted areas were most likely to be psychologically traumatized.

* * *

Maternal and Child Health Status in Chad: 8 Years of Stagnation

Final Report, Demographic and Health Survey

MEASURE DHS (Demographic and Health Surveys), November 2005



Download chapter by chapter as Adobe PDF files (in French) at:
<http://www.measuredhs.com/pubs/pdfdoc.cfm?ID=557>

Eight years after the first DHS survey took place in Chad, a new survey reveals that overall, the status of maternal and child health has not really improved. For instance, the proportion of women who receive assistance during delivery from trained medical personnel has declined and the proportion of children who have received all recommended vaccines has stagnated, remaining the lowest in Africa, due in good part to a very high dropout rate between the first and third doses of the DPT and polio vaccines.

Malaria

Social Marketing of Bednets in Tanzania

By Rose Nathan, Hadji Mponda, and Hassan Mshinda
Development Outreach, May 2005

Read online at:

<http://www1.worldbank.org/devoutreach/may05/article.asp?id=298>

The document looks at the Tanzanian social marketing programme, known as KINET, for insecticide-treated nets in two rural districts of Tanzania, Kilombero and Ulanga, implemented by Ifakara Health Research and Development Centre (IHRDC). KINET aims to achieve substantial and sustainable use of insecticide-treated nets in young children and pregnant women. The document discusses how this is achieved through the social marketing strategy which focuses on promotion, distribution and targeting most-at-risk groups.



* * *

How sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP) was perceived in some rural communities after phasing out chloroquine (CQ) as a first-line drug for uncomplicated malaria in Tanzania: lessons to learn towards moving from monotherapy to fixed combination therapy

by Stephen E. D. Nsimba
Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine 2006, 2:5 (10 January 2006)

Adobe PDF file (24 pp. 149 kB):

<http://www.ethnobiomed.com/content/pdf/1746-4269-2-5.pdf>

Based on this study's information, it is obvious that fear and negative perceptions about sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP) was common in the study setting. Such negative perception towards SP highlights the need to start earlier sensitization and educational campaigns to the rural communities for a new drug program to ensure its success. Messages should clearly state what should be expected from the new drug (Coartem), before its introduction. This is important especially as Tanzania is expected to move towards the expensive but efficacious and effective fixed-combination (Coartem) anti-malarial therapy early 2006.

* * *

Tuberculosis

Clinical characteristics and initial management of patients with tuberculous pericarditis in the HIV era: the Investigation of the Management of Pericarditis in Africa (IMPI Africa) registry

by Bongani M Mayosi, Charles Shey Wiysonge, Mpiko Ntsekhe, Jimmy A Volmink et al.
BMC Infectious Diseases 2006, 6:2 (6 January 2006)

Adobe PDF file (22 pp. 160 kB):

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-2334-6-2.pdf>

The incidence of tuberculous pericarditis has increased in Africa as a result of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) epidemic. However, the effect of HIV co-infection on clinical features and prognosis in tuberculous pericarditis is not well characterised. The authors have used baseline data of the Investigation of the Management of Pericarditis in Africa (IMPI Africa) registry to assess the impact of HIV co-infection on clinical presentation, diagnostic evaluation, and treatment of patients with suspected tuberculous pericarditis in sub-Saharan Africa.

Essential Medicines

Do We Need to Put Society First? The Potential for Tragedy in Antimicrobial Resistance

Kevin R. Foster and Hajo Grundmann
PLoS Med 3(2): e29 (10 January 2006)

Adobe PDF file (4 pp. 178 kb):

http://medicine.plosjournals.org/archive/1549-1676/3/2/pdf/10.1371_journal.pmed.0030029-p-S.pdf

The use of antimicrobials has caused a proliferation of resistant pathogens and most worryingly, some bacterial strains are resistant to multiple classes of drugs. Policies are now being implemented to reduce antimicrobial use, with some encouraging successes. However, halting the rise of resistance may only be achievable if some patients go untreated. More data on the societal costs of resistance are required to evaluate the potential for a tragedy of antimicrobial resistance and the moral dilemma that it would present.

Immunization

The Promise of New Rotavirus Vaccines

by Roger I. Glass, and Umesh D. Parashar
N Engl J Med 354;1:75-77 (05 January 2006)

Adobe PDF file (3 pp. 701 kB): <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/reprint/354/1/75.pdf>

Rotavirus disease kills approximately half a million children annually in developing countries and accounts for one third of hospitalizations for diarrhea worldwide. This issue of the New England Journal Medicine (354;1: 05 January 2006) includes reports on the promising results of large clinical trials of two new rotavirus vaccines whose manufacturers moved ahead with trials despite many challenges and risks. The two new products, Rotateq from Merck and Rotarix from GlaxoSmithKline, are both live oral vaccines

intended to be given to infants at the same time as their immunizations for diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus.

* * *

The Case for Childhood Immunization

by Mark Kanen and Heidi Lasher

Children's Vaccine Program at PATH, Occasional Paper #5, March 2002

Adobe PDF file (pp. kB):

http://www.childrensvaccine.org/files/CVP_Occ_Paper5.pdf

In this advocacy document, The Children's Vaccine Program (CVP) looks at the past 50 years of vaccines and immunisations. They examine the lack of vaccines in resource-poor countries and the lack of initiative in developed countries - both of which can lead to childhood illness, death, and resurgences of diseases once considered fully eradicated.

* * *

Combatting Antivaccination Rumours: Lessons Learned from Case Studies in East Africa

Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office, United Nations Childrens Fund, Nairobi, Kenya, 2003

Adobe PDF file (98 pp. 417 kB):

http://www.cominit.com/pdf/UNICEF_vaccination-combatting_rumors_2002.pdf

The document offers case studies from Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania which include an in-depth study of anti vaccination campaigns and interviews with key players said to have spread rumours. The report also assesses the effectiveness of the responses of national and local governments, WHO, UNICEF, and other agencies and officials in combating or stopping the rumours. Additionally, this report seeks to determine whether there is a direct correlation between rumours and drops in vaccination rates and highlights lessons learned from all three countries.

Health Systems & Research

User fees for health care: a new key issues guide



Access the guide at: <http://www.eldis.org/healthsystems/userfees/>

User fees for health care, also referred to as cost sharing, cost recovery or co-payment, are widespread around the developing world, despite mounting opposition to them. Many studies have found them to be among the barriers to the use of health services, and have shown that they affect poor people more than others.

Produced in collaboration with the DFID Health Resource Centre, this new Eldis Health Systems key issues guide examines evidence on the impact of user fees and presents some of the ongoing debates in health financing policy. It considers arguments for and against abolishing fees, and provides recommendations for donors and governments on how fees should work if they are kept.

Stealing the Future: Corruption in the Classroom

Ten Real World Experiences



Edited by Bettina Meier and Michael Griffin
Transparency International, Berlin 2005

Adobe PDF file (88 pp. 606 kB):

<http://www.transparency.org/content/download/2174/12808>

This report presents ten studies carried out in Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Georgia, Mexico, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Sierra Leone and Zambia. The studies assess the form and extent of corruption at schools, universities and in education administration and provides practical examples of how civil society can help curb corrupt practice to ensure that children get quality education.

* * *

The decline in primary school enrolment in Kenya

Arjun S. Bedia, Paul K. Kimalub, Damiano Kulundu Mandac and Nancy Nafulad
Institute for Public Policy and Research Analysis, Kenya, 2003

Adobe PDF file (54 pp. 365 kB):

http://www.gdnet.org/pdf2/gdn_library/awards_medals/2003/r_m/reforms_poor/kimalu_p_aper.pdf

Investments in education are widely recognized as a key component of a country's development strategy. However, in the case of Kenya, a variety of problems continue to hamper the education system including high drop-out and repetition rates and a decline in school enrolment rates for both primary and secondary years. The basic idea of this paper is that households compare the costs and benefits associated with education to make their choice in school enrolment.

* * *

Education and Nutritional Status of Orphans & Children of HIV-Infected Parents in Kenya

Vinod Mishra, Fred Arnold, Fredrick Otieno, Anne Cross and Rathavuth Hong
DHS Working Papers No. 24, Demographic and Health Research, August 2005

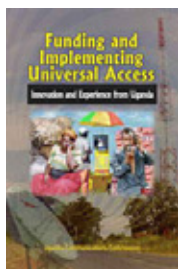
Adobe PDF file (43 pp. 398 kB):

<http://www.measuredhs.com/pubs/pdf/WP24/WP24.pdf>

This report examines how school attendance and nutritional status differ between orphaned and fostered children and between children of HIV-infected parents and non HIV-infected parents in Kenya. The analysis is based on data on 2,756 children age 0-4 and 4,172 children age 6-14 included in the 2003 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey.

* * *

Funding and Implementing Universal Access - Innovation and Experience from Uganda



Uganda Communications Commission
Fountain Publishers/IDRC 2005, ISBN 1-55250-188-4

Download to your web browser (100 pp.) at:

<http://www.idrc.ca/openebooks/188-4/>

Uganda was one of the first countries in Africa to develop a policy on universal access to information and communication technologies (ICTs) and to implement a universal access fund, designed to support initiatives aimed at improving access to ICTs for poor and rural populations. Today, Uganda's universal access policy and rural communications development fund are generally seen as best practice.

* * *

E-Waste Challenges in Developing Countries: South Africa Case Study

by Alan Finlay

Association for Progressive Communications (APC) Issue Papers, November 2005

Adobe PDF file (22 pp. 140 kB): http://rights.apc.org/documents/e-waste_EN.pdf

This discussion paper aims to raise the profile of e-waste issues in developing countries so that the implications of ICTs for development initiatives can be better understood - particularly in the context of the increasing flow of old technology from developed to developing countries. South Africa is thought to be at the forefront of waste management in Africa, and practitioners aim to develop an e-waste model in the country that can serve as a blueprint for an approach to e-waste elsewhere on the continent.

Millennium Development Goals

MDG Oriented Sector and Poverty Reduction Strategies - Lessons from Experience in Health

by Mick Foster

World Bank Human Development Network - Health, Nutrition and Population (HNP) Discussion Paper, October 2005

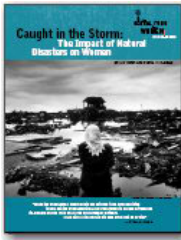
Adobe PDF file (42 pp. 1.55 MB):

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/HEALTHNUTRITIONANDPOPULATION/Resources/281627-1095698140167/FosterMDGStrategiesFinal.pdf>

This review is a contribution to the debate on how to achieve and sustain the health-related Millennium Development Goals. It identifies ways in which government planning and budget processes and the management and delivery of external support can be more effective in supporting the goals, based on a review of how the health MDGs are being taken forward in a sample of low-income countries.

* * *

Caught in the Storm: The Impact of Natural Disasters on Women



By Lin Chew and Kavita N. Ramdas
The Global Fund for Women, December 2005

Adobe PDF file (8 pp. 596 kB):

<http://r.vresp.com/?GlobalFundforWomen/98f187a72b/467417/3849874991/33c2330>

The publication explores women's disproportionate vulnerability to natural disasters and offers concrete recommendations to help aid agencies and governments develop and implement more inclusive and gender-sensitive relief strategies.

* * *

Research guide on internal displacement

by Cathrine Brun
Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), October 2005

Adobe PDF file (30 pp. 438 kB):

<http://www.forcedmigration.org/guides/fmo041/fmo041.pdf>

The aim of this research guide is to give an introduction to some of the main debates regarding internal displacement. The guide aims to summarise the challenge of internal displacement at a policy level, but also to address its social consequences and explore the experiences of many internally displaced persons (IDPs) of physical dislocation, separation from everyday practices and familiar environments, social disruption and material dispossession.

* * *

State of the Private Health Sector Wall Chart



Private Sector Partnerships-One (PSP-One), July 2005

Adobe PDF file (14 pp. 406 kB):

<http://topics.developmentgateway.org/population/rc/filedownload.do?itemd=1054424>

This Wall Chart is the first in a series of tools to help mainstream the concept of private sector provision of health services and advocate for a greater private sector role in reproductive health and other health services. The Wall Chart is a user-friendly tool which consists of approximately 35 indicators related to the public and private health sectors, and very informative background information on private sector terminology.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Free CD-ROM - activities for home-based care for children

John Snow International (JSI) Europe is pleased to announce that its manual 'Young People We Care: Making a Difference in Our Community' (see [HESP-News & Notes](#))



37/2005) is now available on CD-ROM. The manual is for use by organisations or groups of young people aged 15-24 years who support home-based care activities or assist children affected by AIDS. The CD-ROM also contains 5 posters with basic information on HIV and AIDS and YPWC's newsletters.

The CD-ROM is free of charge and can be obtained by sending an e-mail to Maggie Garwe at mgarwe@jsiuk.co.zw or by writing to her at:

Zimbabwe HIV and AIDS Programme
Standards Association Building
Northend Close, Northridge Park
Borrowdale
P.O. Box 4200
Harare, Zimbabwe

* * *

A – The Abortion Magazine, Fall/Winter 2005



Adobe PDF file (16 pp. 2.3 MB!):

http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/AMAGFW_E05_en.PDF

The inaugural issue of Ipas's biannual magazine deals with the sexual and reproductive-health needs of adolescents. It includes interviews with Mexican and Nigerian advocates; a story on the impact of abstinence-only sexual education in U.S. schools; and an article on why girls choose unsafe abortion.

INTERESTING WEB SITES

Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL)

<http://203.200.90.6/tkdl/langdefault/common/home.asp>



TKDL proposes to document the knowledge covering Ayurveda that is available in the public domain by sifting and collating the information on traditional knowledge from the existing literature. The collection is to be published online in digitized format in five languages: English, German, French, Japanese and Spanish.

* * *

Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics (APUA)

<http://www.apua.org>

The APUA website has valuable, up-to-date information on prudent use of antibiotics and emergence of resistance.

The APUA Newsletter has been published quarterly since 1982. The Newsletter contains expert information on antibiotic use and resistance for healthcare practitioners, researchers and policy makers. Newsletters up to year 2005 are available as Adobe PDF files at: <http://www.tufts.edu/med/apua/Newsletter/NewsletterTOC.html>

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Regional Advanced Flagship Course on Efficiency, Quality and Health Systems

9 - 14 April, 2006
Budapest, Hungary



Health Services Management Training Centre at Semmelweis University in collaboration with and support from the World Bank Institute, the World Health Organisation and Professor Marc Roberts from Harvard University.

The Advanced Course will provide participants with measurement tools to assess the performance of their health systems and will explore the main manifestations of inefficiency and poor quality.

The target group of participants is primarily health sector managers, government officials and public health experts involved in health sector reform, who have been exposed to generic health policy and financing training before. We encourage applications for this exclusive training event by country teams.

To secure a place for the training, applicants shall complete an application form and return it back (via fax or e-mail) no later than 24 February 2006.

For more information and an application form see:
<http://www.emk.sote.hu/efficiency2006>

Contact Information:
Tamás Horváth, Program-coordinator
Tel.: +36-1-488-7634
Fax: +36-1-488-7610
<mailto:horvathtamas@emk.sote.hu>

* * *

Lifestyle Epidemiology

27th March - 7th April, 2006
Nordic School of Public Health
Göteborg, Sweden

Course Content:
Lifestyle-related factors: diet, alcohol, physical activity, smoking, psychosocial factors, examination of health conditions in relation to lifestyle, design issues, analysis issues, evaluation of evidence.

Fees: On request

Entry Requirements:
Passed examinations at advanced level courses in epidemiology, basic statistics.

For more information contact:
Rose Wesley-Lindahl rose@nhv.se
or see:
http://www.nhv.se/customer/templates/CoursePage_637.aspx

For more courses and conferences see:

<http://www.bobdesign.at/specials/Golnt/index.php?page=E01>

* * *

Summer Institute on Alcohol, Drugs and Addiction

9 - 27 July, 2006

International School for Humanities and Social Sciences, Universiteit van Amsterdam,
The Netherlands

The first Summer Institute on Alcohol, Drugs and Addiction offers students of various disciplines and professions a great opportunity to advance their knowledge in the field of addiction studies in an international environment.

The Institute welcomes individuals with a focused interest in addiction research and treatment, Master and PhD students, NGO staff working on addiction-related issues, professionals in human services, practitioners, and advocates.

Applications must be addressed to:

The Universiteit van Amsterdam

Prins Hendrikkade 189-B

1011TD Amsterdam

The Netherlands

Tel.: +31-20-525-3776

Fax: +31-20-525-3778

<mailto:summerinstitute-ishss@uva.nl>

For more information and an application form see: <http://www-ishss.uva.nl/addiction>

CONFERENCES

eLA - eLearning Africa 2006

24 - 26 May 2006

UNCC Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Organised by ICWE GmbH + Hoffmann & Reif, Germany, supported by the United Nations Commission for Africa and the European Commission's DG Information Society.

eLearning Africa intends to become an eLearning capacity-building event for the entire African continent and a forum for all stakeholders engaged in the planning and implementation of technology-supported learning and training.

Fees and Registration: Participants from Africa € 250.00; other participants € 500.00; Students € 80.00. Online Registration at <http://www.elearning-africa.com>

Contact details:

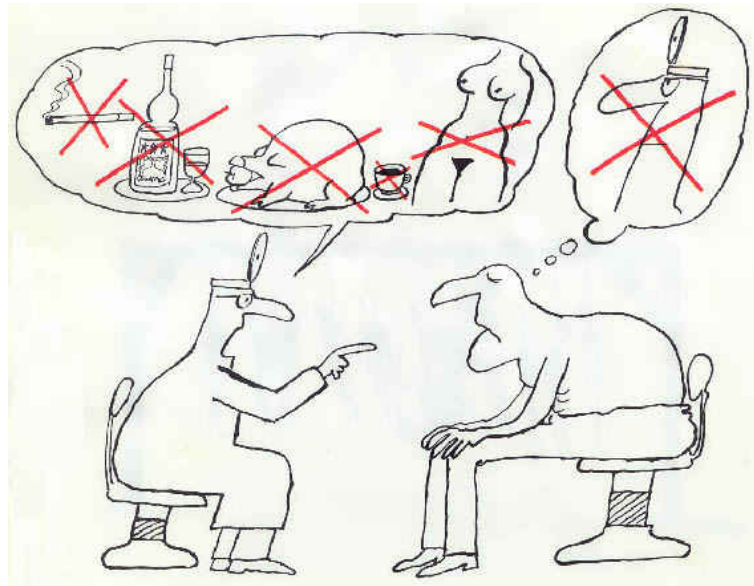
Rebecca Stromeyer

Tel.: +49-30-327-6140

<mailto:info@elearning-africa.com>

<http://www.elearning-africa.com>

CARTOON



TIPS & TRICKS

Forward and Back slashes

Ever get those slashes mixed up? If you do use them quite often it would be helpful to have an easy way to remember the difference between them. A forward slash is / and a backslash is \. An easy way to remember is that the name tells you which direction the top of the slash points. Forward slashes tell your computer you are looking for something external to your system, like Web pages. Backslashes tell your computer you are looking for something inside your system, like a drive or a file.

* * *

Free calls to regular landlines in 39 countries

<http://www.voipstunt.com/en/index.html>

In previous issues of the newsletter we mentioned the Internet Phone company VoipBuster that allows cheap or free phone calls via the Internet. VoipBuster now has a German partner called VoipStunt that (at the moment) allows free phone calls to 39 countries. You have to download their software for free and after transfer of Euro 10 you can make unlimited calls from wherever you are in the world to the following landlines for free:

**VOIP
STUNT!**

Australia	Cyprus	Hungary	Lithuania	Poland	Switzerland
Austria	Denmark	Iceland	Luxembourg	Portugal	Taiwan
Belgium	Finland	Ireland	Malaysia	Singapore	United Kingdom
Canada	France	Israel	Monaco	Slovak Republic	United States
Chile	Germany	Italy	Netherlands	South Korea	
China	Gibraltar	Japan	New Zealand	Spain	
Croatia	Hong Kong	Liechtenstein	Norway	Sweden	

Best regards,

Dieter Neuvians
dieter.neuvians@gtz.de