





Centre for Health Systems Research & Development

Sentrum vir Gesondheidsisteemnavorsing & Ontwikkeling





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2011 YEAR IN RETROSPECT

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Background

TJHEBELO MORAO SELEMONG SA 2011

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Position paper on health to inform the Free State

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Growth and Development Strategy (FSGDS)



News Report 2011 attests to the continued drive of the Centre for Health Systems Research & Development (CHSR&D) to be a centre of excellence in research on health, health care and health systems in South Africa. For the year we report:

- Five ongoing projects.
- One new project.
- Four completed projects
- Eleven refereed/peer-reviewed articles.
- Three research-based programme reviews, plans and position papers
- Three research-based technical reports.
- Six refereed/peer-reviewed international conference presentations.
- Ten other conference/feedback workshop presentations/guest lectures.
- Two completed doctoral studies.
- Seven completed master's studies.
- Three post-graduate and certificate training courses.
- Eight international and four national visitors.

Our staff increased in numbers and seniority. The Centre developed and acquired more research expertise especially in respect of qualitative research methods, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), TB, HIV/AIDS and TB-HIV/AIDS programme assessment and HIV (and TB) prevention in health care institutions and among health care workers.

In addition to the outputs listed above, scholarly work at the Centre in the reporting year focused on a complete revision and updating of the book, *Health and Health Care in South Africa* (HCJ van Rensburg [Ed.] - Van Schaik Publishers). Several eminent and seasoned authors - as well as a number of young and upcoming researchers – from other universities and the University of the Free State (including in particular the CHSR&D) participated in this collaborative work. The book will be published in 2012, thus when the CHSR&D commemorates its 19th year of existence

I thank all CHSR&D staff members and students for their dedicated work.

Prof Christo Heunis Director Tlaleho ya ditaba ya 2011 e nehelana ka bopaki bo hlakileng tswelopeleng ho kganna Sentramo ya Ditsela tsa Bophelo bo botle Dipatlisisong le Ntshetsopele(CHSR&D) hore e be lefapha le hlwahlwa patlisisong ya bophelo bo botle, bophelo le tlhokomelo le ditsela tsa bophelo bo botle Afrika Borwa. Bakeng sa selemo re tlaleha:

- Diprojeke tse hlano tse tswellang.
- Projeke ele nngwe e ntjha.
- Diprojeke tse nne tse qetuweng.
- Tseo ho bileng le tlhahiso ho tsona/tekanyo e hlwahlwa ya mosebetsi wa mosebetsi mmoho ya dikarolo tse itseng tsa dingolwa tse leshome le motso o le mong.
- Tseo ho bileng le tlhahiso ho tsona tse tharo tsa mananeho a itshetlehileng hodima dipatlisiso, dipampiri tsa merero le boemo.
- Ditlaleho tsa botegeniki tse tharo tse itshetlehileng hodima dipatlisiso.
- Tse tsheletseng tseo ho bileng le tlhahiso ho tsona/dinehelano tsa kopano ya matjhaba tsa mosebetsi wa mosebetsi mmoho.
- Diphutheho tse ding tse leshome/tlaleho ya morao ya kopano ya dinehelano/barupelli ba baeti.
- Dithuto tse pedi tse qetuweng tsa bongaka.
- Dithuto tse supileng tse getuweng tsa borupelli.
- Tse tharo tsa morao tsa ho rwala dinaledi le lengolo la thupello ya dithuto.
- Baeti ba robedi ba matjhaba le baeti ba lehae.

Basebeletsi ba rona ba nyolohile ka dipalo le maemo a boholo. Sentramo ha jwale e bopile e bile e fumane botsebi bo hlwahlwa ba ho batlisisa ho feta, haholoholo mabapi le mekgwa ya ho batlisisa ka ho teba, tlhokomelo le tekanyo(M&E), lenaneho la tekanyetso ya TB, HIV/AIDS le TB-HIV/AIDS le thibelo ya HIV(le TB) mafapheng a bophelo bo botle le tlhokomelo le basebetsing ba bophelo bo botle le tlhokomelo.

Tlatsetsong ya dintlha tse hlahisitsweng tse ka hodimo, mosebetsi wa sekolo Sentramong ka 2011 o tobane le ho qeta poeletso le ho beha nakong ha buka, *Bophelo bo botle le Tlhokomelo Afrika Borwa* (HCJ van Rensburg [Ed.] - baphatlalatsi ba Van Schaik). Bangodi ba dikonokono ba itseng – ha mmoho le batjha bao e leng ba babatlisisi ba ntseng ba etla – ho tswa Yunivesithing ya Foreistata le diyunivesithing tse ding (ho kenyelletsa haholoholo CHSR&D) ba nkile karolo kopanelong ya mosebetsi ona. Buka e tla phatlalatswa ka selemo sa 2012, hona ha CHSR&D e tla be e keteka selemo sa yona sa bo 19 ka motlotlo e le teng.

Ke leboha basebetsi bohle ba CHSR&D ka boikokobetso ha ba sebeditse ka botswapelo nakong ya tlaleho ya selemo.

Prof Christo Heunis

Motsamaisi

THE CENTRE FOR HEALTH SYSTEMS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Background

Established at the UFS in 1993, the CHSR&D stems from a rich tradition of research and training in medical sociology/ sociology of health and health care in the Department of Sociology. Founded specifically to address the need for social scientific and operational research and related skills in the field of health and health care, the CHSR&D has shown unremitting growth and expansion in terms of staffing, projects, the scope and diversity of research and development activities, and financial standing. The Centre has commendable experience and expertise in a number of fields of study and methodological approaches and amid ever-widening local, national and international research collaborations and partnerships.

Nature and scope of work

Against the backdrop of the above-mentioned mission and goals, the CHSR&D perceives its role as both generating scientific knowledge and acting upon the prevailing policy, information and development needs in the health system of the Free State Province and South Africa. The focus areas and activities of the Centre comprise eight main programmes, namely:

• HIV/AIDS/STIs, prevention, HIV counselling and testing, antiretroviral treatment, sexual and reproductive health.

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- Health systems research development.
- Health facility and programme assessments.
- Health policy and programme evaluation.
- Tuberculosis prevention and control and TB/HIV programme integration.
- Health information systems, health surveys and environmental profiling.
- District health system development.
- Health facility and programme assessments.
- Health policy, legislation and human rights.

Mission and goals

The CHSR&D is committed to efficiency, equity and equality in health and health care. It strives to contribute constructively towards optimising health services and the health of the people of the Free State Province and South Africa. The main goals of the Centre are to:

- Meet the need for social scientific research and development work in the field of health and health care.
- Generate and disseminate research findings and information in respect of health and health care.
- Assist in developing and restructuring health systems with a view to enhancing equity, equality, effectiveness and efficiency.
- Empower staff, students, clients and beneficiary groups through active involvement in and feedback about research and development activities.
- Provide training and expand expertise in the spheres of health systems research and development.



Prof Christo Heunis, Director



Dr Michelle Engelbrecht,

CHSR&D STAFF

Dr Gladys Kigozi, Researcher





Bridget Smit,



Data Manage



Translator and Data Capture



Dr Chantell de Reuck, Post-doctoral student







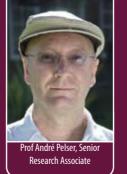
Prof Dingie van Rensburg, Professor Extraordinary

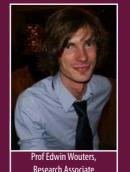


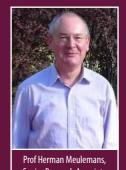




New appointments







Dr Francois Steyn, Research Associate

Research associates



ONGOING PROJECTS

Non-uptake of HIV counselling and testing among TB patients

– Part II: Evaluation of professional and community health worker training and mentoring interventions to improve TB patients' uptake of HIV counselling and testing in the Free State

Principal investigator:

Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D)

CHSR&D staff:

Drs Michelle Engelbrecht, Gladys Kigozi and Asta Rau, Prof Edwin Wouters, André Janse van Rensburg, Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, Belinda Jacobs, Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola and Kagiso Selebogo

Background and aims:

During 2011 the CHSR&D and its partners – the Tuberculosis Management Directorate and the HIV&AIDS/STI & CDC Directorate of Free State Department of Health, University Research South Africa (URSA), National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) – received a CDC grant to conduct a Public Health Evaluation (PHE) of professional and community health worker training and mentoring interventions to improve TB patients' uptake of HIV counselling and testing (HCT) in the Free State.



The quasi-experiment to implement and evaluate the interventions using a pre-post intervention comparative design will commence in 2012. It will take place in Thabo Mofutsanyana District – randomly assigned to intervention – and in Lejweleputswa District – randomly assigned to control. The main aim of the project is to increase the uptake of HCT by TB patients by implementing, evaluating and comparing the (cost-) effectiveness of professional nurse and community health worker training and mentoring interventions appropriate for local circumstances, and also with wider application potential. For purposes of possible future implementation of the training and mentoring interventions, the Free State Department of Health will be informed as to which of the three interventions has the most positive impact on uptake of HCT by TB patients taking in to account the cost-effectiveness of each intervention.

Research strategy and progress:

The impact of the training and mentoring interventions will be measured by:

- Collection of patient-specific routine TB and HCT information.
- Interviews with professional nurses.
- Interviews with community health workers.
- Gathering of facility TB-HIV routine programme statistics at facilities.
- Gathering of costing information to measure the provider input costs of the interventions as well as outcome measures to conduct a cost-effective analysis from available secondary data and records kept by the research team during the implementation of the intervention.

During 2011, URSA, NICD and CHSR&D began to develop the training and mentoring interventions including the training and mentoring materials and guidelines. These are based, among others, on CHSR&D's preceding fact-finding research (Part I) in close collaboration with the concerned Free State Department of Health programme directorates. The instruments to be used for the baseline survey early in 2012 were also translated, piloted and finalised.

Funding:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); American International Health Alliance (AIHA) HIV/AIDS Twinning Center (Funding from PEPFAR with support of CDC South Africa to the HRSA-funded Twinning Center); National Research Foundation (NRF).



CHSR&D-SUNY Twinning Partnership

American International Health Alliance (AIHA) HIV/AIDS Twinning Center partnership manager: John Capati

State University of New York – Downstate Medical Center (SUNY-DMC) project leader: Prof Jack DeHovitz (Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health, Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Disease)

CHSR&D project leader/co-ordinator:

Prof Christo Heunis

SUNY-DMC co-ordinator:

David Odegaard (Department of Medicine and HIV Training and Education)

CHSR&D staff:

Drs Michelle Engelbrecht, Gladys Kigozi and Asta Rau, Nandipha Jacobs, Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, André Janse van Rensburg, Theresa Neuhoff, Belinda Jacobs and Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola

Background and aims:

In 2007, the HIV/AIDS Twinning Center of AIHA initiated a partnership between the CHSR&D and SUNY-DMC in respect of capacity building in TB and HIV/AIDS-related research. The three main objectives of the ongoing twinning partnership are to strengthen the Centre's data management capacity, its ability to disseminate research findings, and its skills to translate research findings into improved TB and HIV-related policies and practice.

Strategy and progress:

In 2011, these objectives were further pursued through qualitative research webinars for research staff of the CHSR&D delivered by Dr. Michele Shedlin (New York University) on 22 September

and 13 October. A collaborative CHSR&D-Free State Department of Health-SUNY-DMC presentation was delivered at the AIHA 2011 Partners Meeting on Health and Social Service Professions Education at the University of the Witwatersrand Medical School, 20-22 June, titled Lessons Learned from a Protocol-in-process for a Public Health Evaluation. We concluded that our two-year university-to-university partnership with six exchange visits:

- Enhanced capacity of CHSR&D faculty to analyse research data and present data in reports, abstracts, and publications.
- Enhanced capacity to publish, including SA / US co authorship on research papers.
- Allowed us to integrate acquired research skills and qualitative research data findings to inform a public health intervention (see ongoing project Nonuptake of HIV counselling and testing among TB patients – Part II: Evaluation of professional and community health worker training and mentoring interventions to improve TB patients' uptake of HCT in the Free State reported above).

AIHA is also facilitating CHSR&D's collaboration with Dr Embry Howell (Urban Institute Washington, USA) in respect of the above-mentioned public health evaluation (PHE) to evaluate professional and community health worker training and mentoring interventions to improve TB patients' uptake of HCT in the Free State. A planning meeting with her took place in Pretoria on 21 October.

Funding:

AIHA HIV/AIDS Twinning Center (Funding from PEPFAR with support of CDC South Africa to the HRSA-funded Twinning Center).

Project leader:

Prof Jerry Spiegel (University of British Columbia - UBC)

UBC staff:

Prof Annalee Yassi, Dr Elizabeth Bryce and Lyndsay O'Hara

CHSR&D staff:

Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, Dr Asta Rau, André Janse van Rensburg, Belinda Jacobs, Theresa Neuhoff, Bridget Smit, Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola and Prof Christo Heunis

Department of Community Medicine (UFS) staff: Prof Willem Kruger

Department of Informatics and Computer Science (UFS) staff:

Dr Eduan Kotze

Free State Department of Health staff:

Lucky Nophale (Provincial Occupational Health Unit)

Background and aims:

The goal of the project is to evaluate the use and the perceived usefulness and impact of introducing a health information system (OHASIS – Occupational Health and Safety Information System) to improve the health, safety and overall well-being of health care workers in a setting where contextual factors have limited the systematic use of relevant information. Specific objectives include to:

- Ascertain the purposes for which the information system (OHASIS) is used.
- Assess the process flow of information.
- Evaluate if information (from OHASIS) has resulted in reduced risk and other positive or negative outcomes.
- Identify and compare the perceptions of various stakeholders regarding the ease of use and utility of OHASIS.
- Assess the factors encountered in the process of technology transfer to the research site from the Canadian context.

Research strategy and progress:

This project is a longitudinal pre-post mixed method study with a comparison site (Pelonomi and Universitas Hospitals as the experimental sites and Bongani Hospital as the control site). It is original in its application of a relatively novel occupational health and safety information system to the South African health care context where health human resource demands greatly exceed existing supply and where

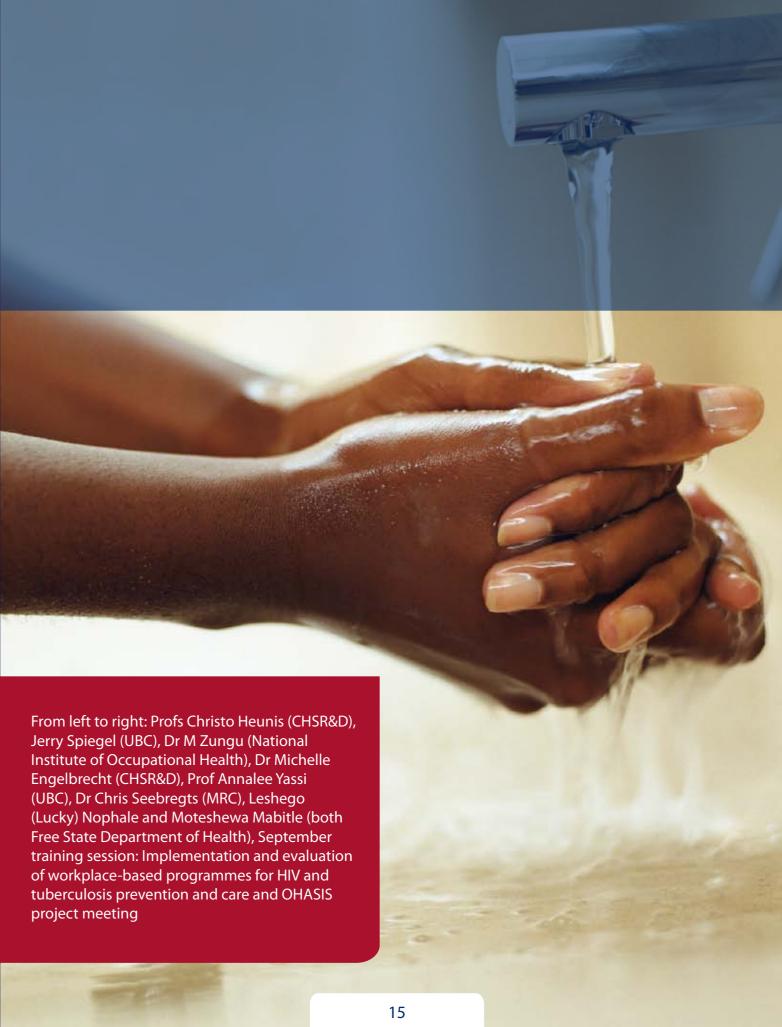
Tool, weapon or white elephant?
Assessing the application of a state-of-the-art information system created for use in occupational health in South Africa

the risk of occupational injury is high. This project has the potential to provide important insights into the tailored use of health information systems in different contexts. It also has the potential to contribute to improving workplace conditions and subsequently health human resources in the Free State and possibly in South Africa. Fieldwork commenced in mid 2010 at Pelonomi Hospital with a survey on issues related to occupational health and safety. However, this process was halted due to concerns raised by the Unions regarding health and safety issues. After a year of negotiations, authorisation was granted for the study to recommence. Fieldwork will start in early 2012.

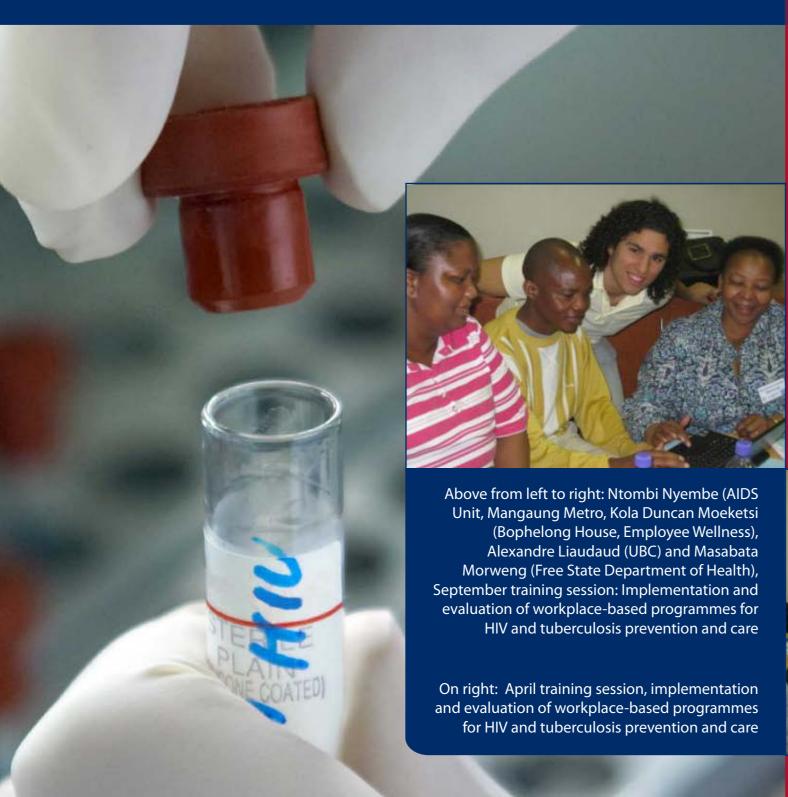
Fundina:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).





Implementation and evaluation of workplace-based programmes for HIV and tuberculosis prevention and care



Project leader:

Prof Annalee Yassi (UBC)

UBC staff:

Prof Jerry Spiegel, Drs Elizabeth Bryce and Diane Roscoe and Lyndsay O'Hara

CHSR&D staff: Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, Dr Asta Rau, Dr Gladys Kigozi, Ega Janse van Rensburg,-Bonthuyzen, André Janse van Rensburg, Prof Christo Heunis, Belinda Jacobs and Bridget Smit

Department of Community Medicine (UFS) staff:

Prof Willem Kruger

Department of Informatics and Computer Science (UFS) staff:

Dr Eduan Kotze

Free State Department of Health staff:

Lucky Nophale (Provincial Occupational Health Unit) and Dr Kerry Uebel (Centre of Excellence, Pelonomi Hospital)

Background and aims:

International efforts are underway to improve working conditions for health workers, including improving access of health care workers to HIV and TB prevention and care. Building capacity to design, implement and evaluate workplace-based interventions, especially among African health care workplaces in view of the challenges posed by HIV and drug resistant TB is warranted. This programme is offered to meet this challenge and is a joint offering by the Centre for Health Systems Research & Development (CHSR&D) and the



Department of Community Health's Occupational Health Unit at UFS, working in collaboration with the Department of Computer Science at UFS, and the UBC. The course spans over one year, with three contact sessions and covers:

- Power relations and politics involved in workplace health research;
- Legislative frameworks, policies and programme in occupational health - including the rights and obligations of employers and worker rights;
- Importance of health and safety committees and the role of unions;
- Basic overview of occupational health hazards (including focusing on infection control issues, stress, burnout, and various control measures);
- Basics of HIV and TB transmission, as well as prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care and support;
- Relevant WHO and ILO guidelines including policy guidelines on improving access of workers to HIV and TB prevention, treatment, care and support;
- Basic research designs including qualitative and quantitative research methods;
- Basic research methods focused on intervention evaluation;
- Social-cultural, gender and ethical issues as well as rights-based issues that must be addressed in the research process; and
- Budgets and timelines construction using logic framework analysis.

Research strategy and progress:

The first face-to-face session took place in April 2011, and was highly successful, as was Module 2, held in September 2011. The participants formed groups to conduct research on HIV and TB prevention in their health care workplace. These include a project on HIV/AIDS prevention at Pelonomi Regional Hospital focusing on designing, implementing and evaluating an intervention combating HIV stigma and discrimination to encourage HIV counselling and treatment (HCT) of health care staff and a project to implement a surveillance system for HIV and TB, to better monitor occupational exposures, and needs of staff for prompt follow-up for post-exposure prophylaxis, and/or treatment. These and the other six group projects all involve the collection and analysis of HIV and TB data for prevention of transmission and monitoring the effectiveness of interventions.

Funding:

International Development Research Centre (IDRC),

Operational Research Assistance Project (ORAP): Quantitative and qualitative assessment of factors associated with high two-month sputum smear non-conversion of new smear-positive tuberculosis patients in the **Free State Province**

Mentor:

Prof Nulda Beyers (Desmond Tutu TB Centre [DTTC], Stellenbosch University)

Principal investigator - all nine provinces: **Brenda Smuts**

Principal investigators Free State Province:

Sonja van der Merwe (Tuberculosis Management Directorate, Free State; Department of Health) and Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D)

Free State Department of Health staff:

Dr Perpetual Chikobvu (Health Information, Research and Training Directorate)

CHSR&D staff:

Drs Gladys Kigozi and Asta Rau, André Janse van Rensburg, Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, Belinda Jacobs, Theresa Neuhoff, Bridget Smit and Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola

Background and aims:

In 2010, TREAT TB and its local partner, the DTTC, started to implement the four-year Operational Research Assistance Project (ORAP). The goal is to build the operational research skills of South African professionals at local, provincial, and national levels while carrying out much-needed TB-related operations research in each province. In the Free State, the provincial TB Management Directorate, CHSR&D and the Health Information, Research and Training Directorate are partnering to examine the factors that contribute to a high two-month non-conversion rate among treated new smear-positive TB patients. The project addresses one of the national TB research priorities for 2010-2011. A preliminary literature review showed that both medical and demographic factors are associated with sputum smear/culture non-conversion/longer time to conversion. The primary aims of the research are to assess whether associations exist between two-month sputum smear non-conversion among new smear-positive TB patients and (1) delayed treatment onset after pre-treatment sputum-positive diagnosis, (2) disease severity, (3) HIV status, and (4) patient demographics (age and sex).

Research strategy and progress: Operationally, the study is concerned with an existing challenge of delayed treatment onset after pre-treatment positive sputum smear testing in the Free State Province.

The primary research aims are pursued by a on routine administrative data (2003-2009) to TB database from January 2003 to December 2009.

Information was obtained by extracting the variable information from the provincial TB routine database.

The secondary research aim is to establish TB nurses and facility managers' suggested reasons for and solutions to the problem of high two-month sputum smear non-conversion. This has been pursued through a qualitative study entailing administration of an open-ended question interview schedule with informed and consenting TB nurses and facility managers at 15 purposively-selected (wellperforming, average, poorly-performing) clinics/ community health centres.

The expected benefits and value of the study for the Free State Department of Health Staff is that it will contribute information to help address the rate among the nine provinces. The study will help





Promoting health equity by addressing the needs of health workers: a collaborative, international research programme



Project leader:

Prof Annalee Yassi (UBC)

UBC staff:

Prof Jerry Spiegel and Lyndsay O'Hara

CHSR&D staff:

Prof Christo Heunis, Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, Dr Asta Rau, Dr Gladys Kigozi, Andre Janse van Rensburg, Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, Belinda Jacobs, Theresa Neuhoff and Bridget Smit

Department of Community Medicine (UFS) staff: Prof Willem Kruger

Department of Informatics and Computer Science (UFS) staff:

Dr Eduan Kotze

Free State Department of Health staff:

Lucky Nophale (Provincial Occupational Health Unit), Dr Kerry Uebel (Centre of Excellence, Pelonomi Hospital)

Background:

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) have been increasingly concerned about the wellbeing of the health care workforce. Over the past few years, UBC has been working with the WHO and ILO to improve health worker access to prevention and care for HIV and TB. This work resulted in guidelines with recommendations to develop national policies to prevent discrimination, reduce stigma and provide priority access to HIV and TB services for health workers. The principles on which the guidelines are based are: worker rights and human rights; gender equity; primary prevention; effectiveness and efficiency; involvement of people living with HIV, TB or both; and active involvement of health workers, their representatives and their employers. These Guidelines also specified knowledge gaps; and this programme of research was designed to address these internationally identified gaps. Six interlinked projects are taking place to address internationally identified knowledge gaps:

• Study 1 - investigates the impacts of globalisation both on occupational health and safety conditions,

and on implementing relevant national policies regarding HIV and TB. This study will enlist an extensive international network of collaborators, including WHO Collaborating Centres and Latin American colleagues, in addition to South African colleagues.

- Study 2- the centre-piece of the research programme consists of a multi-component workplace intervention trial consistent with the WHO/ILO/UNAIDS Guidelines. To conduct this research with rigour we plan to adopt a cluster pair-matched randomised controlled trial designed to evaluate some of the worksite components for this intervention and for Study #3.
- Study 3 explores how stigma and discrimination can be reduced, improving uptake of counselling, testing and treatment of health workers for HIV and TB.
- Study 4 examines the determinants of successful training in this area. (This is already underway through the evaluation of the Certificate Programme independently funded.)

- Study 5 will follow the current study of the Occupational Health and Safety Information System (OHASIS); if found effective, OHASIS will be widely implemented and further evaluated focusing on challenges with implementation in lower resource settings, and over-all impact on outcomes, with special focus on issues related to scaling up this model.
- Study 6 addresses the main research gap identified by the extensive international network involved with the Guidelines, namely to determine the cost of the intervention and its specific components. In addition to providing actual cost estimates, this research will derive a methodology for cost analysis and budgeting that can be used by other countries, laying the basis for later cost-benefit analysis.

Funding:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Position paper on health to inform the Free State Growth and Development Strategy (FSGDS)

Province Review of the HIV/AIDS and STI Strategic Plan, 2007-2011 and development of the Strategic HIV/AIDS and TB Plan, 2012-2016

Project leader:

Dr Mark Colvin (Meroni Health Research and lead consultant to South African National AIDS Council [SANAC])

CHSR&D staff:

Dr Asta Rau (Lead consultant to the North West Province), Bridget Smit, Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola, Theresa Neuhoff and Belinda Jacobs

North West Province:

Shirley Malakane, North West Provincial AIDS Council

Background and aims:

This project was one of nine provincial-level components of SANAC's national mandate to review South Africa's progress against key indicators in the National HIV/AIDS and STI Strategic Plan, 2007-2011 (NSP 2007-2011), and to use review findings – as well as new evidence from the biomedical, epidemiological and social science fields – to formulate the National HIV/AIDS and TB Strategic Plan, 2012-2016 (NSP 2012-2016).

Project leader:

Prof Lochner Marais (Centre for Development Support, UFS) and Albie van Rensburg (Free State Office of the Premier)

CHSR&D staff:

André Janse van Rensburg, Prof Christo Heunis and Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen

Background and aims:

In 2011 the Free State Office of the Premier revised the FSGDS in order to start a new cycle. Centre for Development Support was contracted to manage the research and the writing of a position paper for each sector in the FSGDS. CHSR&D compiled the position paper for the health sector.

Research strategy and progress:

The paper provided an overview of global as well as local health trends, a policy analysis of national and provincial policies, as well as the gathering and presentation of health indicators on national, provincial and district level. The paper was scrutinised by health specialists from UFS, Free State Provincial

Government and the private sector, after which their comments were incorporated. A focus group with a broader audience was conducted, as well as a provincial-wide workshop to include inputs from civil society. After several revisions and discussions, recommendations were made in respect of health and health care in the next cycle of the FSGDS. After revisions by the Premier's Office, the position paper's recommendations were merged with other sector position papers in order to produce a draft FSGDS. Input from the National Planning Commission was gained, and a final draft document was prepared during late 2011.

Funding:

Free State Office of the Premier through Centre for Development Support, UFS.

Findings from the review of the North West Province's performance were assessed against indicators in the NSP 2007-2011, but also with reference to current epidemiological data, extant and emerging social issues and trends in the province, as well as awareness and uptake of new evidence-based interventions. The review fed into and informed the national review.

Based on findings from this comprehensive research-based review, and extensive collaboration with North-West stakeholders, the new North West HIV/AIDS & TB Strategic Plan 2012-2016 (NW PSP 2012-2016) was formulated. The new Plan had to reflect key indicators in the NSP 2012-2016, develop indicators specific to the province, and address the integration of HIV and TB responses.

Research strategy and progress:

The project required working at several levels: academic research methods needed to combine with provincial-level collaboration. Rigorous research began with an extensive literature review on HIV, AIDS, STIs and TB globally, regionally, nationally and at provincial level. At the same time participatory processes, intended to solicit information and buy-

in from stakeholders at all levels, were facilitated by the North West Provincial AIDS Council in partnership with the CHSR&D. Data and information were gathered in a series of audio-recorded focus groups, interviews, strategic meetings, community dialogues and lekgotlas, where stakeholders from multiple sectors gathered to hear and be heard. New evidence-based knowledge was presented to delegates at all levels to establish if and how the province could align its response with proven new trends in prevention. Weekly reports to and teleconferences with the national-level lead consultant and SANAC kept all provinces alerted to and aligned with national-level products and processes.

The provincial Review and NW PSP 2012-2016 were formally ratified by the North West provincial AIDS Council and the Office of the Premier; the new Plan was launched on 1 December 2011 – World AIDS Day.

Funding:

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), via Health Focus GmbH.

Baseline assessment of HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis Programmes at primary health care facilities in the Free State

Project leaders:

Dr Perpetual Chikobvu (Free State Department of Health) and Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D)

CHSR&D staff:

Dr Gladys Kigozi, André Janse van Rensburg, Bridget Smit, Theresa Neuhoff and Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola

Background and aims:

Delivery of high quality information generated within the TB Management and the HIV&AIDS/STI & CDC Directorates is crucial for Free State Department of Health. The first aim of this baseline study was to produce information to allow for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the HIV and AIDS information system at PHC facilities in the Free State Province. The second aim was to obtain a detailed picture of what resources are required to fully implement well-functioning HIV and AIDS and TB information systems.



Research strategy and progress:

As part of the new HIV/AIDS monitoring strategy implemented across the Free State in November 2011, a baseline assessment was conducted as an initial process of measuring change over time with respect to operation outcomes and impact indicators. Baseline data was gathered between September and November 2011 on the availability of:

- human resources;
- drugs and medical consumable supplies;
- infrastructure;
- information technology;
- data collection tools;
- data collection processes, validation and transfer;
- data flow processes within the facility, sub-district and district levels.

Results were furnished to managers at district and provincial levels.

Funding:

Free State Department of Health.

Baseline assessment of turberculosis programme management in Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo Districts (Eastern Cape) and John Taolo Gaetsewe District (Northern Cape)



Dr Gladys Kigozi conducting fieldwork

Project leader:

Prof Christo Heunis

CHSR&D staff:

Drs Michelle Engelbrecht and Gladys Kigozi, André Janse van Rensburg, Belinda Jacobs, Theresa Neuhoff, Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola and Bridget Smit

Background and aims:

The Eastern Cape and Northern Cape Departments of Health and CDC South Africa commissioned the CHSR&D to conduct basic programme assessments in three districts: Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo (Eastern Cape) and John Taolo Gaetsewe (Northern Cape). The assessments covered the following focal areas:

- TB-HIV/AIDS integration.
- Intensified TB case finding.
- · Infection control.
- Management of drug-resistant TB.
- Recording and reporting.

Research strategy:

A cross-sectional baseline survey was conducted in each of the three districts. Representative samples of 28 clinics in Alfred Nzo, 62 in ORThambo and 37 in John Taolo Gaetsewe were selected. Three instruments were developed for data gathering by means of an interview with the operational manager, TB nurse or nurse actively working in the TB programme. In addition, observations were conducted with regard to equipment and drug shortages, environmental and infection control practices, and the availability of TB and HIV/AIDS guidelines and policies. The completeness and outcomes of various TB-related recording mediums were also observed.

Findings:

Summarily, the baseline survey revealed the following strengths across all districts: TB, HIV/AIDS and VCT training attended by majority of nurses, sputum smear test turn-around times of 48 hours or less, health education given on TB and HIV/AIDS (mostly on a daily basis), sputum collection took place outside, all newly diagnosed HIV-positive patients were screened for TB, and patients coughing for more than two weeks were sent for a sputum test. Weaknesses identified across the three districts included: shortages of medical officers, pharmacists and social workers; many nurses required training on ART; poor infection control and management of drug-resistant TB; not all facilities had dedicated TB nurses; not all nurses knew how to diagnose MDRTB; ART was not available at all facilities; and IEC materials on TB and HIV were largely lacking.

As reported elsewhere the project generated a local feedback session and a technical report for each of the three districts as well as two refereed/peer-reviewed international conference presentations.

Funding:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) South Africa.

PUBLICATIONS

De Wet K, Wouters E & Engelbrecht MC

Exploring task-shifting practices in antiretroviral treatment facilities in the Free State Province, South Africa. *Journal of Public Health Policy* 32, S1: S94-101 (doi:10.1057/jphp.2011.30).

Heunis JC, Wouters E, Norton WE, Engelbrecht MC, Kigozi NG, Sharma A & Ragin C

Patient- and delivery-system factors related to acceptance of HIV counseling and testing services among TB patients in South Africa: A qualitative study with community health workers and program managers. *Implementation Science* 6:27 (doi:10.1186/1748-5908-6-27).

Heunis C, Wouters E, Kigozi G, Engelbrecht M, Tsibolane Y, Van der Merwe S & Motlhanke S

Accuracy of tuberculosis routine data and nurses' views of the TB-HIV information system in the Free State, South Africa. *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care* 22(1): 67-73 (doi:10.1016/j.jana.2010.06.003).

Kigozi NG, Heunis JC & Van den Berg HS

Tuberculosis patients' perspectives on HIV counselling by lay counsellors vis-à-vis nurses: an exploratory study in two districts of the Free State Province, South Africa. *Africa Journal of Nursing and Midwifery* 13(1): 71-80 (ISSN: 16825055).

Kigozi NG, Heunis JC, Wouters E & Van den Berg HS

Tuberculosis patients' reasons for, and suggestions to address, non-uptake of HIV testing: a cross-sectional study in the Free State Province, South Africa. *BMC Health Services Research* 11:110 (doi:10.1186/1472-6963-11-110).

Malik AU, Hill PS, Heunis C & Ulikpan A

Power politics: researching the informal social networks in health policy analysis. *Pakistan Journal of Public Health* 1(1): 61-63 (ISSN: 2226-7018).

Articles in refereed/ peer-reviewed journals

Pienaar A, Swanepoel Z, Van Rensburg D & Heunis C

A qualitative exploration of resilience in preadolescent AIDS orphans living in a residential care facility. *Journal of the Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS Research Alliance* 8(3): 128-137 (doi: 10.1080/1729037 6.2011.9724995).

Rau A, Coetzee JK & Vice A

Narrating student life in a time of risk. *Forum: Qualitative Social Research* VI(3): 81-98 (published late December 2010).

Uebel KE, Fairall LR, Van Rensburg D, Mollentze WF, Bachmann MO, Lewin S, Zwarenstein M, Colvin CJ, Georgeu D, Mayers P, Faris GM, Lombard C & Bateman ED

Task shifting and integration of HIV care into primary care in South Africa: the development and content of the streamlining tasks and roles to expand treatment and care for HIV (STRETCH) intervention. *Implementation Science* 6:86 (doi:10.1186/1748-5908-6-86).

Van Rensburg D, Wouters E & De Wet K

The evolving socio political context of community health worker programmes in South Africa: Implications for historical analysis. A commentary on van Ginneken, Lewin and Berridge "the emergence of community health worker programmes in the lateapartheid era in South Africa: An historical analysis (2010)". Social Science & Medicine 72: 1021-1024 (PMID: 21419538).

Wouters E, Heunis C, Michielsen J, Van Loon FB & Meulemans H

The long road to universal antiretroviral treatment coverage in South Africa. *Future Virology* 6(7): 801-812 (doi: 10.2217/fvl.11.56).



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Other conference/feedback workshop presentations/invited lectures

Engelbrecht M, Nokwe M, Kigozi NG, Janse van Rensburg A & Heunis JC

TB infection control in ORTambo District, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. 42nd Union World Conference on Lung Health. Lille, France, 26-30 October. Abstract published in: *The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease* 15(11) Supplement 3: S196.

Kigozi NG, Heunis JC & Engelbrecht MC

TB patients' reasons for, and suggestions to address, on-uptake of HIV testing in Free State, Republic of South Africa. 42nd Union World Conference on Lung Health. Lille, France, 26-30 October. Abstract published in: *The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease* 15(11) Supplement 3: S82.

Van der Merwe S, Chikobyu P, Kigozi G, Heunis C, Lombard C & Beyers N

Factors associated with two-month sputum smear non-conversion in new smear-positive TB patients. 42nd Union World Conference on Lung Health. Lille, France, 26-30 October.

Janse van Rensburg A, Engelbrecht M, Heunis C, Bottoman L, Baitsiwe P & Peters A

TB infection control in three South African districts. 3rd ICAN Conference. Windhoek, Namibia, 31 October - 3 November.

Rau A & Kelly K

Value and validity in a South African study on men's sexual and reproductive health: integrating two analytical approaches using qualitative data management software. 10th European Sociological Association (ESA) Conference. Geneva, Switzerland, 8-10 September 2011.

Rau A & Kelly K

Findings from a study on men's sexual and reproductive health: implications for HIV prevention communication. 1st International HIV Social Science and Humanities Conference. ICC Durban, 11-13 June.

Steyn F

Challenges of diversion strategies in meeting the diversion objectives of the Child Justice Act (75 of 2008). Biannual Conference of the Criminology and Victimology Society of South Africa, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, 28-30 September.

Heunis C

HIV testing of TB patients in the Eastern Free State. Research Cluster 2: Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation, Knowledge and Development: Research Showcase for the QwaQwa Region. QwaQwa Campus, UFS, 2 September.

Heunis C

A project to evaluate the effectiveness of policy-driven and evidence-based interventions to increase TB patients' uptake of HIV testing: but is there an anomaly in the governing policies? Programme Governance & Political Transformation Research Seminar. Bloemfontein, Main Campus, UFS, 28-29 July.

Rau A

Qualitative research methodology: skills building seminar for Master's students – data analysis. Centre for Africa Studies. Main Campus, UFS, 18 July.

Odegaard D, Heunis C, Motlhanke S, Van der Merwe S, Kigozi NG & Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen E

Lessons learned from a protocol-in-process for a public health evaluation. American International Health Alliance HIV/AIDS Twinning Center 2011 Partners Meeting on Health and Social Service Professions Education. Johannesburg, University of the Witwatersrand Medical School, 20-22 June.

Rau A

Qualitative research methodology: skills building seminar for Honours students – focus groups. Department of Sociology, Main Campus, UFS, 18 May.

Rau A

Qualitative research methodology: skills building seminar for Master's students – focus groups. Centre for Africa Studies. Main Campus, UFS, 12 May.

Engelbrecht M, Kigozi G & Janse van Rensburg

Baseline assessment of TB programme management in John Taolo Gaetsewe District, Northern Cape. Presentation to John Taolo Gaetsewe District health management and civil society. Kuruman, 14 March.

Engelbrecht M, Kigozi G & Janse van Rensburg A

Baseline assessment of TB programme management in Alfred Nzo District, Eastern Cape. Presentation to Alfred Nzo District health management and civil society. Kokstad, 17 February.

Engelbrecht M, Kigozi G & Janse van Rensburg A

Baseline assessment of TB programme management in OR Tambo District, Eastern Cape. Presentation to Eastern Cape government, OR Tambo district health management and civil society. Mthatha, 18 February.

STUDY GUIDANCE AND COURSES PRESENTED

Completed doctoral studies – with supervisors

Kigozi NG

PhD (Interdisciplinary): Facilitating factors and barriers to the uptake of HIV counselling and testing amongst tuberculosis patients in the Free State Province (South Africa). Profs JC Heunis and HCJ van Rensburg (both CHSR&D) and Dr HS van den Berg (Department of Psychology, UFS).

Steyn F

PhD (Criminology): Approaches to diversion of child offenders in South Africa: a comparative analysis of programme theories. Profs DA Louw (Department of Psychology, UFS) and HCJ van Rensburg (CHSR&D).

Current doctoral studies – with supervisors

Jacobs N

PhD (Development Studies): Individual and situational determinants of sexual risk behaviour during the scale-up of antiretroviral treatment in the Free State. Profs FIR Booysen (Department of Economics, UFS) and E Wouters (Department of Sociology and Research Centre for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies, University of Antwerp).

Uebel K

PhD (Internal Medicine): Developing, implementing and evaluating a practical approach to integrating HIV care into primary health care services in the Free State. Profs WF Mollentze (Department of Internal Medicine, UFS) and HCJ van Rensburg (CHSR&D).

Wilke M

PhD (Nursing): Models of care for antiretroviral treatment delivery: a faith-based organisations' response. Profs Y Botma (School of Nursing, UFS) and HCJ van Rensburg (CHSR&D).

Completed master's studies – with supervisors

Chabateni C

MDS: Access to education from AIDS orphans' perspective in John Howard-Chawama compound, Lusaka, Zambia. Dr. F Steyn (CHSR&D Research Associate, Department of Social Work & Criminology, University of Pretoria).

Maphosa M

MDS: Participation of orphans and vulnerable children in decision-making: a case study of Mukomberanwa Orphans and Vulnerable Children Project in Mutare, Zimbabwe. Dr F Steyn (CHSR&D Research Associate, Department of Social Work & Criminology, University of Pretoria).

Matimba G

MDS: Male involvement in the care of orphaned and vulnerable children in Harare, Zimbabwe: a qualitative investigation. A Pienaar (formerly CHSR&D) and Dr F Steyn (CHSR&D Research Associate, Department of Social Work & Criminology, University of Pretoria).

Muyunda L

MDS: Investigating current perceptions, attitudes and practices towards tuberculosis among people living with HIV and community care givers in Ngombe Compound in Lusaka, Zambia. Prof JC Heunis and Dr NG Kigozi (both CHSR&D).

Njoroge JW

MDS: The impact of clinical mentoring on access to HIV prevention, care and treatment services in Lesotho. Prof JC Heunis (CHSR&D).

Saka L

MDS: An exploration of the role of culture in antiretroviral therapy uptake: a case study of Mwanachingwala, Zambia. Prof JC Heunis and Dr NG Kigozi (both CHSR&D).

Janse van Rensburg AP

MSocSc Criminology (cum laude): Dimensions, coping strategies and management of school-based violence. Dr F Steyn (CHSR&D Research Associate, Department of Social Work and Criminology, University of Pretoria) and H Vorster (Department of Criminology, UFS).



Current master's studies – with supervisors

Allingham R

MDS: Appropriate interventions for the City of Cape Town Metro District Health Service to address the high rate of teenage pregnancy in the Eastern sub-District. Dr MC Engelbrecht (CHSR&D).

Hamayanda P

MDS: Defining the role of home-based caregivers in the era of ART: A case study of George Compound in Lusaka, Zimbabwe. E Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen (CHSR&D).

Kanjipite W

MDS: Male involvement in the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV in Kasama District. Zambia. Dr MC Engelbrecht (CHSR&D).

Kurian M

MDS: An appraisal of the National Inter-Governmental HIV/AIDS Research Collaboration Portfolio (NIHARCP). Prof JC Heunis (CHSR&D).

Manyando M

MDS: The role of civil society organisations in the provision of home based care services for HIV and AIDS in Khomas Region, Namibia. Dr AHM Rau (CHSR&D).

Masango M

MDS: Sexuality education in the era of HIV/AIDS amongst adolescent girls: A case study of Zengeza high school in Chitungwiza high density suburb of Zimbabwe. Drs MC Engelbrecht and NG Kigozi (both CHSR&D).

Mashapa F

MDS: Reasons for low uptake by men of voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) services in Swaziland: a case study of the New Start Programme. Prof JC Heunis and Dr NG Kigozi (both CHSR&D).

Mawoneke S

MDS: Determining the effectiveness of Childline South Africa's referral system. Dr F Steyn (CHSR&D Research Associate, Department of Social Work & Criminology, University of Pretoria).

Mhiti SB

MDS: An evaluation of psychological support interventions – The case of orphaned and vulnerable children in the high density suburbs of Harare, Zimbabwe. Dr MC Engelbrecht (CHSR&D).

Mkandawire EPG

MDS: Perception of risk and sexual behaviour of men in relation to HIV/AIDS in Umbwa and Nampwita villages in Traditional Authority Kuntumanji, in Zomba district, Malawi. AP Janse van Rensburg (CHSR&D).

Mpofu S

MDS: The effects of Capacity, Stigma, Knowledge and Investment on the Meaningful Involvement of People with HIV/AIDS (MIPA) in Zimbabwe's HIV Response: The Case of Central and Western Districts, Harare Province. Dr AHM Rau (CHSR&D).

Mudekunye I

MDS: Pregnancy desires and fertility outcomes among adolescent HIV infected girls in Zimbabwe. Drs MC Engelbrecht and NG Kigozi (both CHSR&D).

Murandu C

MDS: Correlates of male participation in the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) Programme at Seke North Clinic, Makoni District, Zimbabwe. Prof JC Heunis (CHSR&D).

Mudekunye I

MDS: Pregnancy desires and fertility outcomes among adolescent HIV-infected women in Zimbabwe. Drs MC Engelbrecht and NG Kigozi (both CHSR&D).

Ochieng JO

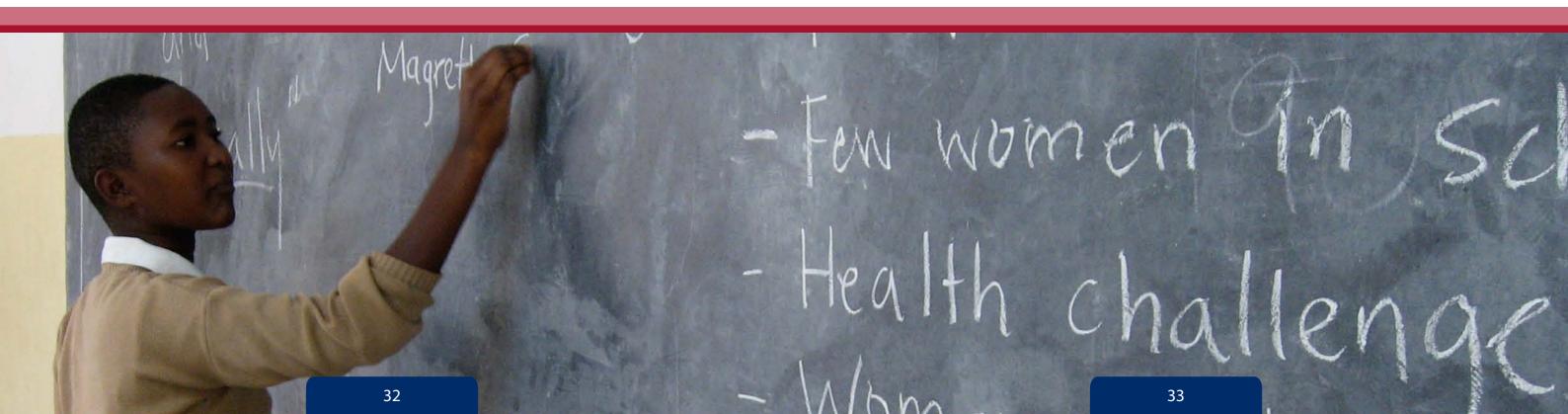
MDS: Identifying the gaps in care and support services for OVC in Kisumu West District, Kenya. E Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen (CHSR&D).

Peresu E

MDS: Kids having kids: determinants of teenage pregnancy among women attending antenatal clinic in Onandjokwe Hospital, Namibia. Prof JC Heunis and Dr NG Kigozi (both CHSR&D).

Simelane D

MDS: Prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV: Identifying barriers and facilitators to access in a district of Swaziland. Dr MC Engelbrecht (CHSR&D).





Post-graduate and certificate training courses presented

Prof Christo Heunis, Drs Michelle Engelbrecht, Asta Rau and Gladys Kigozi, Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, Nandipha Jacobs and André Janse van Rensburg

MDS 704 Applied Development Research. Centre for Development Support, UFS

Drs Asta Rau and Michelle Engelbrecht and Prof Christo Heunis

ADD 707 Health and health care in Africa. Centre for Africa Studies, UFS

Drs Michelle Engelbrecht, Asta Rau and Gladys Kigozi, André Janse van Rensburg, Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, and Bridget Smit (all CHSR&D) in partnership with UBC Capacity-building Certificate Course for Department of Health Occupational Health Practitioners. CHSR&D, 12-15 April; 6-9 September.

VISITORS TO THE CHSR&D

Alexandre Liaudaud (University of British Columbia, Canada)

To assist with the training of occupational health and safety workers on implementing and evaluating workplace-based programmes for HIV and tuberculosis prevention and care, as well as for data gathering for his Master's Degree, August-November 2011.

Dr Chris Seebregts and David Jones (Medical Research Council of South Africa) For a research meeting of the OHASIS project, 7 September 2011.

Lyndsay O'Hara (University of British Columbia, Canada)

For purposes of a Master's in Public Health practicum, March-April; August-September 2011.

Profs Jerry Spiegel and Annalee Yassi, Drs Elizabeth Bryce and Diane Roscoe and Lyndsay O'Hara (University of British Columbia, Canada)

To train occupational health and safety workers on implementing and evaluating workplace-based programmes for HIV and TB prevention and care, 12-15 April; 6-9 September.

Prof Edwin Wouters (Department of Sociology and Research Centre for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies, University of Antwerp)

For research and collaboration in the revision of the textbook Health and *Health Care in South Africa* (2004 – Van Rensburg HCJ Ed), May-June.

Andy Guise (Graduate Teaching Assistant and PhD Research Student from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)

To share initial results and further consultation in respect of his research related to Free State primary health clinics' responses to the demand for antiretroviral treatment roll-out, 16 June.

Drs Lindiwe Ndelu (National Department of Health, Occupation Health Unit) and Sipho Senabe (Department of Public Services and Administration)

For a research meeting of the OHASIS project, 8 March.



From left to right: Drs Diane Roscoe and Elizabeth Bryce and Profs Annalee Yassi and Jerry Spiegel (all UBC), September training session: Implementation and evaluation of workplace-based programmes for HIV and tuberculosis prevention and care

OTHER NEWSWORTHY EVENTS Prof Christo Heunis participated in the National Research Foundation South African Research Chairs Review Panel. Pretoria, 27 October Prof Christo Heunis represented the UFS Faculty of the Humanities on the UFS Faculty of Health Sciences Faculty Board. Dr Asta Rau served as a member of the UFS Faculty of Education Ethics Committee. Dr Asta Rau served as a member of the UFS Health and Wellness Committee. Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola got married to Templeton Thozamile Ntlola on 12 August.

GRATITUDE

With this News Report, we express our sincere gratitude to all those funders who in recent years, and especially during 2011, so generously supported the efforts of the CHSR&D in its endeavours to contribute to a better society and health system in the Free State and South Africa:

- African-Asian Society (AAS)
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- Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)
- Bristol-Myers Squibb
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC USA, South Africa)
- Department for International Development (DfID, UK) via HLSP
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale
 Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) via Health Focus GmbH
- Development Cooperation Ireland (DCI)
- Development Economics Research Group (DERG), World Bank
- Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF)
- European Union (EU)
- Flanders International Cooperation Agency (FICA)
- Ford Foundation
- Free State Department of Health
- Health Systems Trust (HST)
- HIVCare (an operating division of Medicross Healthcare Group)
- Infectious Disease Epidemiology Unit (IDEU, University of Cape Town)
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC, Canada)
- International Projects Advisory Service (Ipas)
- International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease ("The Union")
- Joint Economics, Aids and Poverty Programme (JEAPP)
- Medical Research Council of South Africa (MRC)
- National Research Foundation of South Africa (NRF)

- Netherlands Support Programme, World Bank
- Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA)
- Programme to Support Pro-Poor Policy Development (PSPPD)
- Research Matters (IDRC)
- Save the Children (UK)
- South African-Flemish Bilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation Programme
- South African Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU)
- State University of New York Downstate Medical Center (SUNY-DMC)
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- Technology, Research, Education and Technical Assistance for Tuberculosis (TREAT TB)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- University of British Columbia (UBC)
- University of the Free State (UFS)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- WK Kellogg Foundation

Centre for Health Systems Research & Development Sentrum vir Gesondheidsisteemnavorsing & Ontwikkeling

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