



This Week's News

27-31 July 2009

Weekly news clippings service featuring articles on the Global Health Workforce Alliance and selection of articles from around the world on the issue of the health workforce crisis

All links will lead to the corresponding external web page

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Africa & Middle East

1,000 health workers to get jobs

A THOUSAND health workers are to be recruited this financial year, Health Service Commission chairperson Prof. George Kirya has said. [Sunday Vision, Uganda.](#) (7/26). ⇨⇨

Why Women Are Integral to Progress

Various poverty elimination and reduction strategies and plans have been put in place, but the country is still struggling to meet its development goals. [The Citizen, Tanzania.](#) (7/28). ⇨⇨

UN Urges Free Flow of Labour on Continent

Restrictions on labour migration imposed by many African states are slowing down the pace of regional economic development in Africa. [Business Day, SA.](#) (7/28). ⇨⇨

Brain Drain Hurting Country

Prime Minister Raila Odinga has called on professionals trained locally to commit a fraction of their careers to serving the country after training before they go abroad. [Daily Nation, Kenya.](#) (7/27). ⇨⇨

State Eases Conditions to Hire Medics

The government has eased conditions for hiring public health workers to curb staff shortage. [The Citizen, Tanzania.](#) (7/27). ⇨⇨

Uganda: U.S.\$218 Million to Improve Health And Education

Uganda will receive Euros 175 million (\$218 million; about Ush511 billion) budgetary support from the European Commission for the next six years. [The East African, Kenya.](#) (7/27). ⇨⇨

Govt in Drive to Lure Back Health Professionals

Government intends to lure back senior health professionals who migrated to Botswana, South Africa, Lesotho, and Swaziland. [The Standard, Zimbabwe.](#) (7/11). ⇨⇨

Doctors' Strike Thanks to Health Department Incompetence

For too long, health workers have dealt with the fall-out due to a lack of leadership from the national health department. [Health-e, SA](#). (7/30). ⇨⇨

Kath Honours Dedicated Workers

There was a prize for the Best Practising Midwife (Grace Owusu), Best Senior Nurse (Charlotte O. Buabeng), Best Nurse Anaesthetist (Mrs. Stella Awuah), Best Junior Nurse (Zipporah Ntekor Kukubor) and Best Senior Doctor (Dr. Martin Yao Keketsyor.). [Ghana Chronicle](#). (7/29). ⇨⇨

Medical association urges action over doctor assaults

JMAJMA officials fear that the increasing number of assaults on medical cadre will cause a brain drain from the public sector. [The Jordan Times](#). (7/24). ⇨⇨

Asia & Pacific

Lady Health Workers Programme is the backbone of country's health sector: Neelam Jabbar

The Minister Population Welfare has said that the government is expanding the Lady Health Workers Programme as the programme is the backbone of country's health sector [Online News, Pakistan](#). (7/27). ⇨⇨

Responding to overpopulation threat

According to the latest analysis, in 2007 there were 85 physicians for every 100,000 persons in Pakistan. Alternatively we can say that one doctor is available for 1,225 people. [Pakistan Observer](#). (7/24) ⇨⇨

'Fighting HIV/AIDS needs more holistic approach'

Advancements in medical science has changed the nature of HIV/AIDS from once a death warrant to a chronic, manageable disease. [Times of India](#). (7/31). ⇨⇨

Gates foundation donates \$41 mn for infant-maternal care in India

Ireland-headquartered Concern would work with a broad spectrum of people, including mid-level and junior health workers, academia, civil society, private sector....[Business Standard, India](#). (7/30). ⇨⇨

Australia's Oral health ranked second worst

AUSTRALIA'S oral health status has ranked second worst in the OECD Community Services and Health Industries face skills crisis in oral health. [Medical Devices & Equipment, Australia](#). (7/30). ⇨⇨

Rudd: Reform won't come cheap

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd has warned taxpayers that major reform of the country's health system will not come cheaply. [ABC News, Australia](#). (7/28). ⇨⇨

Big care centres to replace surgeries

The so-called comprehensive primary health care centres would offer the patients the option of signing up with a single such practice. [Sydney Morning Herald, Australia](#). (7/28) ⇨⇨

Nepean nurses fear chop for 155

NURSES at one of Sydney's busiest hospitals fear losing their jobs after being told more than 150 positions would be axed. [Sydney Morning Herald, Australia](#). (7/26). ⇨⇨

Medicare system failing indigenous

MEDICARE is failing indigenous Australians, funding just 500 follow-up consultations with doctors and 300 with allied health workers for Aboriginal people ...[The Australian](#). (7/27). ⇨⇨

Health workers rally on job cuts

HEALTH workers at Lismore Base Hospital will hold a stop-work meeting and rally in protest against the proposed job cuts to the sector. [Northern Star, Australia](#). (7/27). ⇨⇨

North America

Durbin proposes means to ease nationwide nursing shortage

Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) proposed legislation Thursday to create incentives for healthcare workers to become nurses and for current nurses to become nurse faculty. [Marion Daily Republican](#). (7/24). ⇨⇨

Downturn masks shortage

The nursing work force, which currently numbers 2.5 million, is not restocking its supply of RNs. This poses a big problem for society. [The Tennessean](#). (7/23). ⇨⇨

\$1.1 Million Contract Awarded to Get Dislocated Workers into the Health Care Industry

The grant will fund a workforce development program focused on providing Southern Nevadans with education, training and employment in the health care industry. [PRLog.org, TX](#). (7/23). ⇨⇨

Contextual influences on health worker motivation in district hospitals in Kenya

Organizational factors are considered to be an important influence on health workers' uptake of interventions that improve their practices. [7th Space Interactive Web, NY](#). (7/23). ⇨⇨

Stimulus will provide \$220 million for health care training

Solis said she hopes the grants boost such programs, as rural areas are especially hard-hit by a shortage of health care workers. [Kansas City Star](#), (7/21). ⇨⇨

Assessment of Local Public Health Workers' Willingness to Respond to Pandemic Influenza through Application of the Extended Parallel Process Model

Approximately 1 in 6 public health workers said they would not report to work during a pandemic flu emergency regardless of its severity, according to a survey led by researchers at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. [PLoS ONE](#). (7/24). ⇨⇨

Paging all doctors ... we need you too

The Mohawk Valley has fewer doctors per person than any region in the state, and the numbers aren't likely to improve, according to health officials. [Utica.OD.com, NY](#). (7/27). ⇨⇨

In War and Isolation, a Fighter for Afghan Women

Afghan midwife looks to rebuild profession. Decades of war and insecurity decimated the profession, leaving Afghanistan with the second-highest maternal mortality rate in the world. [New York Times](#). (7/28). ⇨⇨

Immigration: More Foreign Nurses Needed?

The U.S. nurse shortage is getting worse, but are more visas the answer—or would improved training capacity, working conditions, and pay do the trick?. [Business Week](#). (7/21). ⇨⇨

Support Slips for Health Plan

Obama Push Faces Growing Doubts in Poll; Overhaul Advances in House, Senate. [Wall Street Journal](#). (7/30). ⇨⇨

Europe

Retaining health manpower in developing countries

The main reasons health-care workers migrate are to look for better opportunities, a better lifestyle, better education for their children, and safe working conditions. [The Lancet, UK](#). (7/25). ⇨⇨

ANALYSIS-Shortage of doctors could damage healthcare reform

More incentives needed for primary care doctors. Most medical graduates choose better paid specialties. [Reuters, UK](#). (7/23). ⇨⇨

2008 Workforce Census Published - Royal Pharmaceutical Society Of Great Britain

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has published its fourth Pharmacy Workforce Census, reflecting the working patterns of pharmacists registered in August 2008. [Medical News Today, UK](#). (7/28) ⇨⇨

Top health workers nominated

Residents are being invited to nominate individuals and teams for the NHS Highland Staff awards. [TeleText, Scotland, UK](#). (7/26). ⇨⇨

Nurses And Midwives Looking For Real Reforms, Australia

ANF understands the complicated nature of Australia's health system and the challenges it faces and will welcome initiatives that bring real reform to health funding. [Medical News Today, UK](#). (7/27). ⇨⇨

Merlin Welcomes US Aid to Pakistan, More Is Needed

Merlin USA welcomes the US government's \$165 million pledge to provide much-needed humanitarian assistance resulting from the spreading conflict in Pakistan. [Reuters AlertNet, UK](#). (7/29). ⇨⇨

GPs who work alone are six times as likely to come before GMC

Figures published by the UK General Medical Council show that GPs who work on their own are six times as likely to attend a disciplinary hearing than those working in group practices. [British Medical Journal, UK](#). (7/23). ⇨⇨

NHHRC Report Fails To Address The Future Of Rural Health, Australia

It is unfortunate that the Commission has been unable to highlight specific strategies to recruit and retain more doctors into the bush. [Medical News Today, UK](#). (7/28). ⇨⇨

La precariedad laboral merma la Sanidad pública

Gobierno y colectivos profesionales cifran en 3.200 el déficit de médicos y en 150.000 el de enfermeras. Sus salarios son de dos a tres veces inferiores a los de otros países europeos. [Público, Spain](#). (7/28). ⇨⇨

Siete minutos por prematuro en Vigo

Cinco noches a la semana una sola enfermera atiende dos áreas con capacidad para 27 niños. La falta de espacio y de personal son ya el eterno problema del Xeral. [La Voz de Galicia](#). (7/26). ⇨⇨

Latin America & Caribbean

HIV/AIDS could spread among indigenous communities

Poor culturally-insensitive health care and some religious officials stand in the way of stemming HIV's spread. [Latinamerica Press/Noticias Aliadas](#). (7/30) ⇨⇨

Venezuela Opposition Highlights Problems in Government-Controlled Health Sector

Metropolitan Mayor Antonio Ledezma warned that there was a great "brain drain" of talent and skills from the country, not least in the health sector. [Latin American Herald Tribune, Venezuela](#). (7/27). ⇨⇨

Mi influenza

Por otra parte, los servicios médicos privados pueden ayudar, hasta cierta medida, a paliar las grandes carencias del sector salud. [Expreso Chiapas, Mexico](#). (7/26). ⇨⇨

Hospitais adotam unidades móveis para diagnosticar infectados pela nova gripe

Porto Alegre está com edital aberto para contratação de 108 médicos com a finalidade de suprir a carência de profissionais. [Zero Hora, Brazil](#). (7/23). ⇨⇨

Falta personal preparado para atender a los adictos

A pesar de que el consumo de drogas en la actualidad ya es un tema de salud pública, las escuelas de enfermería y medicina no contemplan en su currícula la enseñanza para tratar a personas adictas. [Siglo de Durango, Mexico](#). (7/27). ⇨⇨

INSS confirma quatro mil vagas para cargos de 2º e 3º graus

O concurso se faz necessário devido à carência de pessoal, conforme informou os dirigentes da Anasps e da Associação dos Médicos Peritos. [Página 20, Brazil](#). (7/30). ⇨⇨

Casinhas de saúde da família serão substituídas

O projeto prevê a construção de 90 módulos de saúde da Família que, segundo o Deodato, atenderá 100% da população da capital. [Portal Amazônia, Brazil](#). (7/28). ⇨⇨

Futuras enfermeras protestan por falta de pago

Estudiantes y docentes de la Escuela de Auxiliares de Enfermería llegaron al Sistema Local de Atención Integral en Salud (Silais) de Managua, para demandar el pago de los meses de junio, julio y agosto. [La Prensa, Nicaragua](#). (7/29). ⇨⇨

News from WHO and partners

Cured patients help in TB treatment in Tanzania

Treatment of tuberculosis involves taking tablets daily for at least six months. TB patients must take all their medications as prescribed. [WHO](#). (July). ⇨⇨

Public-private partnerships strengthen health systems and AIDS response

A Public-Private Partnership is defined as an "institutional relationship between the state and the private profit and/or the private non-profit sector. [UNAIDS](#). (7/27). ⇨⇨

MCC and Global Health Initiatives: Paving the Road to Healthy Lives

Improvements in both health infrastructure and physical infrastructure play a critical role in providing access to healthcare for the world's poor. [Global Health Council](#). (7/23). ⇨⇨

Systematic inclusion of mandatory interprofessional education in health professions curricula at Gunma University: a report of student self-assessment in a nine-year implementation

The mandatory interprofessional education programme at Gunma University was initiated in 1999. This paper is a statistical evaluation of the programme from 1999 to 2007. [Human Resources for Health Journal](#). (7/23). ⇨⇨

Improving obstetric care in low-resource settings: implementation of facility-based maternal death reviews in five pilot hospitals in Senegal

The aim is to explore and describe health workers' perceptions of facility-based maternal death reviews. [Human Resources for Health Journal](#). (7/23). ⇨⇨

A review of the application and contribution of Discrete Choice Experiments to inform human resources policy interventions

Recently, a few studies have adopted an innovative approach to studying the determinants of health workers' job preferences. [Human Resources for Health Journal](#). (7/24). ⇨⇨

Merlin responds to deadly diarrhoea outbreak in Nepal

Merlin has responded to a deadly outbreak of diarrhoea in Nepal, which has so far claimed 220 lives. In the Uwa area of Rolpa district, 88 cases were reported in just two days.. [Merlin, UK](#). (7/28). ⇨⇨

World Bank Report Highlights Need for Continued Reform Efforts in China's Rural Health Sector

The report, Reforming China's Rural Health System, begins by setting the context for the recent and planned reforms by examining the symptoms and causes of China's health challenges at the start of the new Millennium. [WHO](#). (7/23). ⇨⇨