

The Health News Updates (April 24, 2015)
From the desk of Reproductive Health Observatory
<http://www.rhobservatory.net/>

Maternal Health

In El Salvador, a pregnancy complication followed by a prison sentence

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — “I couldn’t believe I was in prison,” Mirna Isabel Ramírez, a mother from the poor San Salvador neighborhood of Mariona, said of the ordeal that began almost 13 years ago. “That first night I slept on the floor. On the way there, the police told me, ‘They’ll kill you in there for what you’ve done.’”

Source: <http://america.aljazeera.com>

Read more

<http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2015/4/22/in-el-salvador-a-pregnancy-complication-followed-by-a-prison-sentence.html>

10 Things I Wish More People Knew About Maternal Health Worldwide

Ten years ago, I began working as a maternal health advocate to draw attention to the millions of mothers and newborns who die each year during pregnancy and childbirth. I started my advocacy efforts as a Goodwill Ambassador for the World Health Organization and later I launched the Liya Kebede Foundation for mothers. Our mission is to back maternal health awareness, education and training initiatives so that more women can access quality maternity care.

Source: <http://www.mindbodygreen.com>

Read more

<http://www.mindbodygreen.com/0-18379/10-things-i-wish-more-people-knew-about-maternal-health-worldwide.html>

Family Planning

Family Planning Initiatives Must Focus on People, Not Numbers

In recent years, family planning experts have undertaken a number of major policy efforts to shine a spotlight on reproductive health worldwide. With this renewed focus on the power and promise of family planning, now is an opportune time to step back; examine past family planning and reproductive health initiatives; and ensure that lessons we’ve learned inform the work we do moving forward.

Source: <http://rhrealitycheck.org>

Read more

<http://rhrealitycheck.org/article/2015/04/08/family-planning-initiatives-must-focus-people-numbers/>

Abortion

Gujarat abortion debate: Should courts decide on when life begins?

Last week, the Gujarat High Court declined the plea of a gang-rape victim to allow her to terminate her seven-month old pregnancy. The court asked the petitioner to “bravely go ahead with the

pregnancy and when the time comes deliver the child". Surprisingly, the order is framed not just in terms of till when an abortion is permitted under the law, but also, what the court calls the fetus' rights.

Source: <http://scroll.in/article>

Read more

<http://scroll.in/article/722400/gujarat-abortion-debate-should-courts-decide-on-when-life-begins>

In global health, abortion bears the scarlet A

Malawi, a country where 60 percent of the population lives in poverty and 1 in 36 women dies while pregnant or during childbirth, has been something of a development darling. This is largely thanks to President Joyce Banda, who puts health high on the national agenda.

Source: <http://america.aljazeera.com>

Read more

<http://america.aljazeera.com/opinions/2014/4/abortion-stigma-globalmaternalhealthfundingusaid.html>

Reproductive Health

Ebola can be transmitted sexually for weeks after recovery - education is crucial

When I met members of a women's secret society in Sierra Leone this February, they proposed drastic measures to stop Ebola from spreading through sexual contact. All survivors should be quarantined for three months, they said. Male survivors need to be locked up because they cannot control their urge to have sex.

Source: <http://www.theguardian.com>

Read more

<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development-professionals-network/2015/apr/22/sexual-health-ebola-semen-sierra-leone>

Other Health News

Three get one-year RI for botched eye surgeries

More than six years after 66 persons lost their vision at a free cataract surgery camp at Perambalur conducted by a private hospital in Tiruchi, the Chief Judicial Magistrate court here on Wednesday convicted and sentenced three persons, including the hospital director and a senior ophthalmologist to undergo one year imprisonment each.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/three-get-oneyear-ri-for-botched-eye-surgeries/article7132180.ece>

New technique for treating uncontrolled epilepsy

: Doctors at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) have for the first time performed a minimally invasive technique using laser to treat three patients suffering from uncontrolled epilepsy. This will be made available to the general public by the end of the year.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/new-technique-for-treating-uncontrolled-epilepsy/article7117988.ece>

AIIMS sees 5 cadaver donations in 3 months

NEW DELHI: Five cadaver donations in three months. The leap is small, but significant enough to give authorities at AIIMS the necessary boost for starting an aggressive campaign to promote organ donation.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/AIIMS-sees-5-cadaver-donations-in-3-months/articleshow/47006597.cms>

I'm seeing the most progress in Bihar, says Melinda Gates

At a time when foreign-funded NGOs are under the government's scanner, Melinda Gates, Padma Bhushan awardee and co-founder of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, says NGO activism is needed for society to thrive.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Im-seeing-the-most-progress-in-Bihar-says-Melinda-Gates/articleshow/47007220.cms>

'Liquid biopsy' using blood test is latest weapon against cancer

In the usual cancer biopsy, a surgeon cuts out a piece of the patient's tumor, but researchers in labs in the US are testing a potentially transformative innovation. They call it the liquid biopsy, and it is a blood test that has only recently become feasible with the latest exquisitely sensitive techniques. It is showing promise in finding tiny snippets of cancer DNA in a patient's blood.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/science/Liquid-biopsy-using-blood-test-is-latest-weapon-against-cancer/articleshow/46994464.cms>

Air pollution may cause stroke: Study

The findings of the research, which has been published in British Medical Journal, are based on an analysis of 103 studies, involving 6.2 million hospitalizations and deaths because of stroke in 28 countries.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/Air-pollution-may-cause-stroke-Study/articleshow/46994690.cms>

NCDC team in Goa to study Kyasanur Forest Disease

A team from the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Delhi, is presently in Goa carrying out detailed investigation of the outbreak Kyasanur Forest Disease(KFD) and also give expertise in prevention and control measures in the affected areas.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/ncdc-team-in-go-to-study-kyasanur-forest-disease/article7123162.ece>

Mobile eye care boat clinic for people in the Sunderbans

Lakhs of people who live in remote and inaccessible islands of the Sunderbans and have no access to eye care facilities can now find help in a mobile eye clinic thanks to the efforts of an international NGO.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-in-school/mobile-eye-care-boat-clinic-for-people-in-the-sunderbans/article7135438.ece>

Asthma maybe history in next 5 years

Cardiff University researchers, working in collaboration with scientists at King's College London and the Mayo Clinic (USA), described the previously unproven role of the calcium sensing receptor (CaSR) in causing asthma, a disease which affects 300 million people worldwide.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/health-fitness/health-news/Asthma-maybe-history-in-next-5-years/articleshow/47026376.cms>

Malaria kills over 1,200 children a day: UNICEF

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said on Thursday that malaria kills more than 1,200 children a day across the world, despite a 40 percent drop in child deaths from the disease since 2000.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/health-fitness/health-news/Malaria-kills-over-1200-children-a-day-UNICEF/articleshow/47035736.cms>