

The Health News Updates (May 11, 2015)
From the desk of Reproductive Health Observatory
<http://www.rhobservatory.net/>

Maternal and Child Health

Campaign for your Right to Health ... From Womb to Tomb

A fortnight ago, a depressed co-pilot deliberately crashed a Germanwings aircraft into the Alps, killing 214 people along with himself. An apparently healthy - physically healthy — person was suffering from an unseen mental problem. If this had been taken care of, all these deaths could have been prevented. Incidents like these force us to redefine 'health'.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/nagpur/Campaign-for-your-Right-to-Health-From-Womb-to-Tomb/articleshow/46830163.cms>

High percentage of malnourished children causing concern

A high percentage of malnourished children and the high number of children born underweight continues to be a major health problem in Kalaburagi, according to the Kalaburagi District Human Development Report-2014.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/high-percentage-of-malnourished-children-causing-concern/article7183036.ece?ref=tpnews>

India among nations with largest urban child survival gap

India also scores poorly in the Mother's Index Rank standing at 140 out of 179 countries. India is one of the 10 countries in the world with the greatest survival divide between wealthy and poor urban children. It figures in this worrying list with other nations that include, Rwanda, Cambodia, Kenya, Vietnam, Peru, Madagascar, Ghana, Bangladesh and Nigeria

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/state-of-the-worlds-mothers-2015-report-india-among-nations-with-largest-urban-child-survival-gap/article7174042.ece>

Colette Fitzpatrick: Nothing will ever change for mums until we get more women in power

Talk to anyone who's had a baby in this country and you hope to hear the words 'Thank God, he or she is healthy and it was straight forward enough'. Of course, that's the most important thing - that the baby and yourself are alive and well. That seems to be the bar here. While pregnant, you had notions of birth plans and fluffy, warm after care.

Source: The Herald

Read more

<http://www.herald.ie/opinion/colette-fitzpatrick-nothing-will-ever-change-for-mums-until-we-get-more-women-in-power-31204610.html>

In rural Gujarat, 60% mothers die few days after delivery

VADODRA: Dahod resident Ganga (name changed) went to a private doctor when she suffered from breathlessness and giddiness in the ninth month of pregnancy. She was given medicines and not treated for any other complications. A private doctor few days later diagnosed her with an intrauterine foetal death and referred to the civil hospital where she delivered a stillborn baby. On the fifth day after her discharge, she bled to death before she could reach the hospital.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/vadodara/In-rural-Gujarat-60-mothers-die-few-days-after-delivery/articleshow/47161246.cms>

African Countries Urged to Invest More in Health Systems

The World Health Organization (WHO) is calling on African countries to invest more in strengthening their health systems. WHO Director for the Africa region, Dr. Matshidiso Moeti says the 2015 Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health currently receiving additional inputs from stakeholders, will go a long way in helping countries deal with communicable diseases and epidemics affecting millions of people.

Source: Voice of America News

Read more

<http://www.voanews.com/content/african-countries-urged-to-invest-more-in-health-systems/2759598.html>

Implementation of the partograph in India's JSY cash transfer programme for facility births: a mixed methods study in Madhya Pradesh province

Skilled attendance at birth is central among strategies to reduce perinatal mortality and morbidity. Quality of care at childbirth is a critical determinant of outcomes of care. Coverage of skilled attendance at birth has received much attention especially since the articulation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), however, the quality of obstetric care provided remains a neglected area, specifically in resource poor contexts

Source: BMJ

Read more

<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/5/4/e006211.long>

Quality of care for pregnant women and newborns—the WHO vision

In 2015, as we review progress towards Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), despite significant progress in reduction of mortality, we still have unacceptably high numbers of maternal and newborn deaths globally.

Source: www.onlinelibrary.wiley.com

Read more

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1471-0528.13451/full>

Honour reproductive rights of women

India has made some commendable progress towards ensuring safe motherhood for women in the recent years. However, any satisfaction one may derive from the steep decline in maternal mortality ratio (MMR) from 398 per 1,00,000 live births in 1998 to 167 in 2013 is tempered by the fact that the country still accounts for 17 per cent of all global maternal deaths.

Source: The Tribune

Read more

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/comment/honour-reproductive-rights-of-women/77100.html>

Midwives For a Better Tomorrow, For Every Woman and Every Child

Celebrated on May 5th each year, the International Day of the Midwife recognises the invaluable role of midwives in health. As the Global Goodwill Ambassador for the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), I would like to personally thank midwives for their inspiring work in delivering quality care to women and newborns.

Source: Huffington Post

Read more

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/toyin-ojorasaraki/midwives-for-a-better-tom_b_7189018.html?ir=India&adsSiteOverride=in

Family Planning

More Evidence That Health Plans Stint On Mandated Birth Control Coverage

Women's health advocates were thrilled when the Affordable Care Act became law in 2010, because it required insurance companies to cover a broad array of women's health services at no additional out-of-pocket cost beyond premiums.

Source: <http://kaiserhealthnews.org>

Read more

<http://kaiserhealthnews.org/news/more-evidence-that-health-plans-stint-on-birth-control-coverage/>

Abortion

Pregnant 10-year-old rape victim denied abortion by Paraguayan authorities

Paraguayan authorities have ruled out abortion for a pregnant 10-year-old girl who was allegedly raped by her stepfather, unless she develops complications that put her life in danger.

Source: The Guardian

Read more

http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/may/04/paraguay-pregnant-10-year-old-abortion?utm_content=buffer100bb&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer

Reproductive Health

‘No national data on HIV/AIDS among differently-abled

The Capital has nine antiretroviral treatment centres, but none of them has information on the alternate format for blind or sign language interpreters for deaf people, who are living with HIV.

This is as per a Right to Information reply obtained by disability rights activist Satendra Singh from University College of Medical Sciences and GTB Hospital, Delhi.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/no-national-data-on-hiv-aids-among-differentlyabled/article7191413.ece>

How to cut breast cancer risk

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Top experts tell you how to cut your risk.

A recent study of breast cancer risk revealed that 1 in 28 Indian women develop the disease during their lifetime. This is higher in urban areas (1 in 22). The average age of the high risk group in India is 43-46 years unlike in the West where women aged 53-57 years are more prone to breast cancer.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/health-fitness/health-news/How-to-cut-breast-cancer-risk/articleshow/44200750.cms>

I froze embryos to have reproductive choice, but I nearly lost my reproductive autonomy

Eight years ago, I unthinkingly gave a man – who I loved at the time – the ultimate right to decide whether or not I would become a mother. I thought, and was encouraged to believe, that what I was doing was fair to him; what it became was a way for him to control the course of my life long after I’d decided he no longer deserved to be a part of it.

Source: The Guardian

Read more

http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/may/02/frozen-embryos-reproductive-choice-reproductive-autonomy?utm_content=bufferf8033&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer

Other Health News

Delhi nurses seek end to contract work

NEW DELHI: Ahead of the International Nurses Day on Tuesday, hundreds of nurses from Delhi and NCR took out a candlelight march in the capital to demand equal opportunities and end to contractual employment.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/Delhi-nurses-seek-end-to-contract-work/articleshow/47219106.cms>

Nurses from Yemen recount horror

CHENNAI: Six nurses from Coimbatore who were employed at Al-Rayan Hospital in Hadramaut, 12 hours from strife-torn Yemen's capital of Sana'a, arrived in the city on Wednesday evening. They fled south from Hadramaut to the coast, then journeyed by boat to the Gulf of Aden where warship INS Sumitra was anchored. The ship took them to the Republic of Djibouti in the Horn of Africa from where the IAF airlifted them to Mumbai.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/Nurses-from-Yemen-recount-horror/articleshow/46857187.cms>

Global evidence on inequities in rural health protection

70% of the world's 1.4 billion people who are extremely poor live in rural areas. A new report released on April 27 by the UN International Labour Organisation (ILO).

Source: www.social-protection.org

Read more

<http://www.social-protection.org/gimi/gess/RessourcePDF.action?ressource.ressourceId=51297>

Gandhi Hospital doctors go on strike

The doctors from Telangana Government Doctors Association (TGDA) protested and raised slogans against the management for not taking up the repairs.

Trouble broke out at Gandhi Hospital on Friday when angry senior doctors and medicos protested against the apparent inaction of the management to repair lifts that have been defunct for over a month.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/gandhi-hospital-doctors-go-on-strike/article7184820.ece>

'Big ticket' projects at NIMS gather dust

Govt. promises to hasten development works. To open additional facilities, the hospital needs close to 150 doctors and 200 non-clinical staff.

Despite having the tag of the best tertiary care hospital in the Government sector, serious infrastructure deficits continue to haunt Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS).

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/big-ticket-projects-at-nims-gather->

[dust/article7124503.ece](http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/15-lakh-people-to-benefit-from-health-scheme-in-meghalaya/article7124503.ece)

15 lakh people to benefit from health scheme in Meghalaya

Over 15 lakh people in Meghalaya are set to benefit from the State government's health insurance scheme, enrolment for the second phase of which will begin early next month, Health minister A. L. Hek said on Friday.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/15-lakh-people-to-benefit-from-health-scheme-in-meghalaya/article7186574.ece>

Traffic cops fail lung capacity test

Many of the cops had symptoms indicative of early signs of asthma like wheezing, shortness of breath and chest tightness.

Half of the Delhi Traffic personnel screened for lung capacity function in the city were found to have shortness of breath, abnormal lung function, allergy and high blood pressure. "Many also had symptoms indicative of early signs of asthma like wheezing, shortness of breath, chest tightness or pain, chronic coughing, troubled sleeping due to coughing or wheezing," said Mr. Naresh Kapoor, director, BLK Super Speciality Hospital, where the tests were conducted.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/traffic-cops-fail-lung-capacity-test/article7182919.ece?ref=tpnews>

Leprosy: antiquated Indian laws breed stigma, discrimination

No less dreaded and stigmatised than HIV/AIDS, leprosy, sadly, has been off the priority list of the successive governments for a long time. Worse, the rights of those affected by leprosy and their families, in India and elsewhere, continue to be violated even now.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/leprosy-antiquated-indian-laws-breed-stigma-discrimination/article7177410.ece>

TB treatment programme may be generating more MDR cases

The RNTCP currently treats patients without knowing their resistance profile: JMM

The Joint Monitoring Mission 2015 has come down heavily on the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for their inability to handle the MDR-TB crisis in the country. The report released last month reflects on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations made by it in 2012.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/tb-treatment-programme-may-be-generating-more-mdr-cases/article7177404.ece>

German firm launches health project at Mankarai

For almost eight months now, Mankarai, a tribal village nearly 17 km from Coimbatore, has been receiving several overseas visitors. It has also got a renovated building for the kindergarten students, two sanitation blocks and mobile clinics.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/german-firm-launches-health-project-at-mankarai/article7192434.ece>