

## Free Information Resources Bulletin

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EurasiaHealth Knowledge Network

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The **Free Information Resources Bulletin** is intended to promote improved access for healthcare institutions and professionals to relevant health information resources, with an emphasis on resources available in English as well as Russian and other languages of the Eurasia region. This bimonthly Bulletin provides information on different types of publications – manuals, monographs, books, journals, CD-ROMs and other resources – available for free in hardcopy or electronic format for healthcare professionals from countries with developing economies.

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**Your input on new free information resources will be greatly appreciated.**

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### BOOKS/REPORTS

**Testing Treatments: better research for better health care (2006)**

**Author:** Imogen Evans, Hazel Thornton, Ian Chalmers

**Description:** Translations have been or are being published in Italian, Arabic, German, Chinese and Japanese.

**How to obtain:** Available online as PDF file [100p.]

**URL:** <http://www.jameslindlibrary.org/testing-treatments.html>

### **Health Impact Assessment: A practical guide (2007)**

**Author:** Harris, P., Harris-Roxas, B., Harris, E., & Kemp, L

**Description:** The guide aims to provide people a practical understanding of HIA, its process, concepts and theories. Sydney: Centre for Health Equity Training, Research and Evaluation (CHETRE) Part of the UNSW Research Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity The University of New South Wales, Australia UNSW

**How to obtain:** Available online as PDF file [43p.]

**URL:** [http://www.hia2007.com/Health\\_Impact\\_Assessment\\_A\\_Practical\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.hia2007.com/Health_Impact_Assessment_A_Practical_Guide.pdf)

### **HIV Prevention Strategic Plan: Extended Through 2010 (October 2007)**

**Author:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

**Description:** The HIV Prevention Strategic Plan: Extended Through 2010 ( Extended Plan), which will serve as CDC's strategic guide for HIV prevention through 2010, includes a short-term goal of reducing new HIV infections by 5 percent per year or at least 10 percent by the end of 2010. To achieve this goal, the Extended Plan includes an expanded set of objectives and performance indicators that make priorities more explicit and ensure that key issues are effectively addressed. Twelve new objectives have been added, 20 existing objectives have been modified, and one objective was deleted (42 objectives total, compared to 27 in the 2001 Plan). The Extended Plan also incorporates 17 additional performance indicators (25 total, compared to 11 previously).

**How to obtain:** Available online

**URL:** <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/resources/reports/psp/index.htm>

### **The Business of Health in Africa: Partnering with the Private Sector to Improve People's Lives (2007)**

**Author:** International Finance Corporation

**Description:** „Health care in Sub-Saharan Africa remains the worst in the world, with few countries able to spend the \$34 to \$40 a year per person that the World Health Organization considers the minimum for basic health care. And despite widespread poverty, an astonishing 50 percent of the region's health expenditure is financed by out-of-pocket payments from individuals. Based on the research in a new report, IFC estimates that over the next decade, \$25-\$30 billion in new investment will be needed to meet Africa's health care demand. „

**How to obtain:** Available online as PDF file [5.4 MB ]

**URL:** <http://www.ifc.org/ifcext/healthinafrica.nsf/Content/FullReport>

### **HIV/AIDS - Public Policy and the Challenge of Chronic Noncommunicable Diseases (2007)**

**Author:** World Bank

**Description:** Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) are by far the major cause of death in lower-middle, upper-middle, and high-income countries; by 2015, they will also be the leading cause of death in low-income countries. In addition to mortality, NCDs account for nearly half of the disease burden measured in disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) in low- and middle-income countries, and large

increases in NCD-related DALYs are projected. Public Policy and the Challenge of Chronic Noncommunicable Diseases provides a framework that policy makers can use to formulate their strategies.

**How to obtain:** Available online as PDF file [2.25MB]

**URL:** <http://go.worldbank.org/CSYQDMCBZ0>

### **Drinking places: Where people drink and why (2007)**

**Author:** Gill Valentine, Sarah L Holloway, Mark Jayne and Charlotte Knell. Joseph Rowntree Foundation

**Description:** This report investigates where people drink alcohol and why in two contrasting communities, one urban and one rural. Looking at a range of drinking, from abstinence to bingeing, the project: explores how socio-economic processes shape local drinking cultures; evaluates the benefits and problems associated with alcohol use; examines how attitudes to and use of alcohol vary across social groupings both within and between the two communities; explores how attitudes have changed between generations and the impact of local history on those attitudes; identifies the policy implications of the local specificity of drinking cultures.

**How to obtain:** Available online as PDF file [331 KB]

**URL:** <http://www.jrf.org.uk/bookshop/details.asp?pubID=935>

### **Improving Population Health: The Uses of Systematic Reviews (December 2007)**

**Author:** Melissa Sweet and Ray Moynihan

**Description:** This report describes the methods, applications, and value for policymakers of systematic reviews that evaluate interventions intended to improve population health. These reviews are the best available scientific guidance for choosing among alternative policies. Systematic reviews apply the methods of research (sometimes called “evidence”) synthesis, a rapidly developing area of inquiry that merges the biomedical and social sciences. Milbank Memorial Fund - Produced in collaboration with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

**How to obtain:** Available online as PDF file [84p.]

**URL:** <http://www.milbank.org/reports/0712populationhealth/0712populationhealth.htm>

### **PRESS: Peer Review of Electronic Search Strategies (2006)**

**Author:** Sampson M, McGowan J, Lefebvre C, Moher D, Grimshaw J.

**Description:** „The quality of health technology assessment (HTA) reports depends on many factors. One of these factors is the evidence base from which the HTA is derived. The evidence base is created by gathering information from many sources and performing literature searches. Performing a high quality search of information resources will ensure the accuracy and completeness of the evidence base used in HTA reports. Currently, no review exists to tell us what elements of the search process have the most impact on the overall quality of the resulting evidence base.” This work fills a gap in the assurance of the methodological quality of systematic reviews by contributing an evidence-based scale for the peer review of the electronic search strategy. The project has received support and participation from the information science community, and this approach to the peer review of search strategies has been supported by the Cochrane Collaboration’s Information Retrieval Methods Group. A validated process - both transparent and robust - for peer-reviewing search strategies will improve the retrieval of the relevant information that forms the evidence base. Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

**How to obtain:** Available online as PDF file

**URL:** <http://www.cadth.ca/index.php/en/publication/781>

