

Supercourse Newsletter

February 10, 2010

www.pitt.edu/~super1/

www.bibalex.org/SuperCourse/Index.htm

www.bibalex.org/english/initiatives/SupercourseArchive.htm

Dear Friends

Please distribute this to faculty and students interested in the World Health Organization

We are pleased to announce that the World Health Organization is partnering with the Supercourse to distribute WHO Materials to our network and the friends of our network. The first material is the Bulletin of the World Health Organization, which is the flagship journal of WHO. Please examine the materials below. We will continue to feed information to you about WHO. Please look at the Bulletin as it is one of the best sources of materials concerning global health. You can read more about WHO at www.who.int.

We will continue to disseminate WHO materials. If you are reading this note about the Supercourse and the WHO Bulletin for the first time, you can join the WHO Supercourse distribution effort at www.pitt.edu/~super1/.

We are collaborating with a good friend, Najeeb Al-Shobaji, M.D., director of knowledge management at WHO. He is building an important WHO project, the Global Health Library.

The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new lands but seeing with new eyes. Proust

Library of Alexandria

April 11-15 the BioVision 2010 meeting will be held at the Library of Alexandria: www.bibalex.org/bva2010/. The BioVision meetings are one of the most important scientific meetings, and we hope that you will come.

This conference will be very important for the Supercourse, as at the meeting the BA Scientific Supercourse will be rolled out. Faina, Eugene, Francois and I just returned from the Library of Alexandria. It is very exciting what Dr. Serageldin and his team at the Library has built for the Supercourse of Science. With the Scientific Supercourse we are capturing the lectures of science. This includes elite lectures from Nobel Prize winners. We will populate the site with over 40,000 PowerPoint lectures.

Not only is the meeting important, but the Library of Alexandria is one of the most beautiful, and important buildings in the world.

<http://www.bibalex.org/English/index.aspx>

Shortly after the meeting we will begin the dissemination of the Scientific Supercourse. We will first distribute the information to the Medical and Public Health school deans, then the Agriculture deans, and then the Ministries of Health. We hope to eventually have a million lectures available, and in contact with a million scientists. We will approach the deans of your schools, also we will ask you to distribute our information to your faculty and students, thus we will work top down through the deans, and bottom up. We believe that we will be able to reach a large percentage of faculty and students as we are partnering with the Library of Alexandria, and the World Health Organization. It is likely that most deans and faculty will forward the materials what with the Library and Alexandria and WHO partnering with us. We plan to create the largest network in health and agriculture. We are also planning to reach faculty in the field of the environment and engineering. We must thank the network of students and young faculty worldwide who have done glorious work fishing. We would appreciate your comments at ronaldlaporte@gmail.com.

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime. Chinese Proverb

Once we start to build the network of professors and students, we will have created perhaps one of the largest human knowledge network of the best minds in the world, yours. We will develop this network as a means to answer scientific questions.

A single conversation with a wise man is worth a month's study of books.
(Chinese Proverb)

With the Library of Alexandria, and WHO, we will be pushing very hard on the Supercourse of Science.

What day is it?

We have been very surprised as to the interest in our Supercourse Calendar. Over 1600 people worldwide have our Calendar on their walls.

They know the day because of us!! You too can still determine the day of the year according to the Supercourse:

www.pitt.edu/~super1/ACalendar2010/calendar2010.htm. Eugene also suggested that one consider the calendar as a screen saver.

“Wherever you go, go with all your heart” Confucius

Our Haiti Lecture became the number one page ranked lecture out of 1.8 million. It is now translated into Arabic at www.pitt.edu/~super1/. We are prepared for major disasters with JIT lectures.

Please provide suggestions to ronaldlaporte@gmail.com

Ron, Faina, Eugene, Francois, Mita, Nicholas, Jesse, Ali, Kawkab, Vint, Ismail, Gil

You have received this newsletter in the genuine belief that its contents would be of interest to you. If you would like to unsubscribe from future mailing of the Supercourse Newsletter, please click "reply all" and resend the newsletter to us with the word "Unsubscribe" in the subject line. Thanks.

WHO Bulletin:

NOTE: Abstracts and other items are available in English, French, and Spanish. A full translation is available in English.

This month: In an editorial, Maggie A Montgomery and Jamie Bartram challenge the utility of surgery and antibiotics for the elimination of blinding trachoma in the absence of adequate environmental measures.

A second editorial Haik Nikogosian writes about the importance of international cooperation and assistance for the success of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

Simon Capewell et al. propose scenarios to reduce cardiovascular deaths in the United States of America.

The political situation in Pakistan is jeopardizing worldwide efforts to eradicate polio, writes Sania Nishtar.

Thailand tries to ensure costly renal replacement therapy does not threaten universal health coverage, reports Apiradee Treerutkuarkul.

Amnesty LeFevre et al. examine the cost-effectiveness of skin creams to prevent infections in premature babies in Bangladesh.

Consumption of fast food and sugary drinks has caused a rise in obesity and diabetes, reports Michael Reid from the United Arab Emirates.

Josephine Katabaazi Nakyanzi et al. assess how to prevent waste and expiry in the Ugandan medicine supply chain.

Savitri Goonesekere tells Sarah Cumberland how the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child works as a powerful accountability measure in Sri Lanka.

Daniel Pilger et al. find that mass treatment with ivermectin may reduce head-lice infestations in Brazilian households.

Shankar Prinja et al. assess strategies to ensure Indian children are immunized at the appropriate age.

KF O'Grady et al. evaluate the effectiveness of the 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine in Australian indigenous infants.

João Paulo Souza et al. review maternal "near miss" records in eight Latin American countries.

Suzanne Cross et al. highlight the need to differentiate between pregnancy-related causes and other causes of maternal death in developing countries.

SV Subramanian et al. find a link between education levels and how people rate their own health.

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IN THIS MONTH'S BULLETIN

United States of America: Halving coronary deaths; Pakistan: Politics and polio; Thailand: Health finance; Bangladesh: Which barrier is best?; United Arab Emirates: Weighty problems; Uganda: Expiry of essential medicines; Sri Lanka: Health and human rights; Brazil: Ivermectin for head lice; India: Vaccinations at the right time; Australia: Preventing pneumonia; Warning lights on maternal death; Why do mothers die?; Who to believe?

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EDITORIALS

Short-sightedness in sight-saving: half a strategy will not eliminate blinding trachoma
- Maggie A Montgomery & Jamie Bartram

doi: 10.2471/BLT.09.075424

[Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 252kb\]](#)

WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control: a key milestone

- Haik Nikogosian

doi: 10.2471/BLT.10.075895

[Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 178kb\]](#)

NEWS

Thailand: health care for all, at a price [Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 823kb\]](#)

The weight of affluence

[Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 808kb\]](#)

Corrigendum

doi: 10.2471/BLT.10.100210

[Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 805kb\]](#)

Human rights and health go hand-in-hand. An interview with Savitri Goonesekere [Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 229kb\]](#)

Recent news from WHO

[Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 199kb\]](#)

RESEARCH

Household-wide ivermectin treatment for head lice in an impoverished community: randomized observer-blinded controlled trial

- Daniel Pilger et al.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.08.051656

[Abstract \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 1.01Mb\]](#)

Effectiveness of planning and management interventions for improving age-appropriate immunization in rural India

- Shankar Prinja et al.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.08.059543

[Abstract \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 1.02Mb\]](#)

Cost-effectiveness of skin-barrier-enhancing emollients among preterm infants in Bangladesh

- Amnesty LeFevre et al.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.08.058230

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Maternal near miss and maternal death in the World Health Organization's 2005 global survey on maternal and perinatal health

- João Paulo Souza et al.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.08.057828

[Abstract \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 970kb\]](#)

Cardiovascular risk factor trends and potential for reducing coronary heart disease mortality in the United States of America

- Simon Capewell et al.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.08.057885

[Abstract \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 599kb\]](#)

Self-reported health assessments in the 2002 World Health Survey: how do they correlate with education?

- SV Subramanian et al.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.09.067058

[Abstract \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 544kb\]](#)

Effectiveness of 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine against radiologically diagnosed pneumonia in indigenous infants in Australia - KF O'Grady et al.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.09.068239

[Abstract \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[HTML\]](#) | [Full article text \[pdf 548kb\]](#)

POLICY AND PRACTICE

What you count is what you target: the implications of maternal death classification for tracking progress towards reducing maternal mortality in developing countries

- Suzanne Cross et al.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.09.063537

Abstract [HTML] | Full article text [HTML] | Full article text [pdf 858kb]

LESSONS FROM THE FIELD

Expiry of medicines in supply outlets in Uganda

- Josephine Katabaazi Nakyanzi et al.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.08.057471

Abstract [HTML] | Full article text [HTML] | Full article text [pdf 503kb]

PERSPECTIVES

Pakistan, politics and polio

- Sania Nishtar

doi: 10.2471/BLT.09.066480

Full article text [HTML] | Full article text [pdf 265kb]

The Bulletin of the World Health Organization is one of the world's leading public health journals. It is the flagship periodical of the World Health Organization (WHO), with a special focus on developing countries.

Articles are peer-reviewed and are independent of WHO guidelines.

The complete content of the Bulletin, since 1948, is now available free to all readers worldwide through PubMed Central, available at:

<http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=522&action=archive>

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