

Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences
Stellenbosch University
South Africa



Annual report 2013



The Centre for Evidence based Health Care (CEBHC) is a coordinating and directive institution for research and training of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences of Stellenbosch University in the field of evidence-based health care.

Vision

To be the centre of excellence in advancing evidence-informed health care in Africa and globally

Mission

- To conduct and support relevant systematic reviews and primary research related to evidence-informed health care
- To enhance evidence-informed health care knowledge, skills and practices through teaching health care professionals and other stakeholders
- To promote the **uptake of current best evidence** in health care policy and practice
- To promote the optimal functioning and sustainable growth of the Centre for Evidence-based Health Care

Values and guiding principles

- Excellence
- Integrity
- Credibility
- Relevance
- Collaboration

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FORWARD BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE CEBHC GOVERNING BOARD: PROF USUF CHIKTE



It gives me great pleasure to provide the foreword to the 2013 Annual Report of the CEBHC. The year under review has yielded awards and accolades largely due to the exceptional research outputs and teaching prominence. These achievements which gives credence and substance to the vision of a Centre striving to be a place of excellence in advancing evidence—informed health care in Africa and the rest of the world.

Team CEBHC at Stellenbosch works synergistically under the inspiring leadership and drive of the Director, Professor Taryn Young. The leadership of the Centre has been bolstered with the appointment of Professor Charles Wiysonge as Deputy Director. He has wasted no time, despite his short tenure, to exude a commanding academic presence on the African continent. The formation of a Unit for Biostatistics within the CEBHC under the capable intellectual leadership of Dr Rhoderick Machekano is another milestone in our development. This formation augurs well for strengthening of biostatistical research methods at the Faculty and extending the clinical research reach and grasp of Biostatistics considerably. The CEBHC continues to critically and collegially challenge the academic praxis and conventional wisdom in the Faculty and the region. It does this through rigorous systematic reviews, enhancement of evidence informed knowledge through teaching and with the promotion of uptake of current best evidence in health care policy and practice.

It has not all been smooth sailing during the year under review though. The CEBHC has been challenged in terms of sustainability and the growing demands that are made on it. Funding, recruitment of appropriate expertise and developing a focus remain abiding concerns. The innovative, creative and entrepreneurial manner in which team CEBHC conducts itself imbues me with confidence that they will rise successfully to the challenges and indeed exceed the expectations captured in their vision.

The achievements of the CEBHC are made possible by the tireless work of an excellent team. I would like to take the opportunity to applaud the efforts of a remarkable team at the CEBHC under the capable leadership of Professor Taryn Young. This annual report is a reflection of the team's dedication, commitment and accomplishments. We of course owe a deep debt of gratitude for the support of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, funders, local and international collaborators and partners, among others, in the execution of our tasks. Your amazing contribution is reflected in this Report.

Professor Usuf Chikte

Chair Governing Board, Centre for Evidenced Based Health Care.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE CEBHC: PROF TARYN YOUNG



It has been an incredible journey for the CEBHC in 2013. With the work of the CEBHC increasingly recognised nationally, regionally and internationally, the Centre has augmented its scope of activities, recruited senior staff, implemented and led new projects and fostered new collaborative engagements. The team, who incorporates the values of the CEBHC in everything they do, has worked hard to increase and promote the use of research outputs, and has made great progress with the implementation of integrated teaching and learning of evidence-informed decision making. A great development was the launch of the Biostatistics Unit under the leadership of Dr Rhoderick Machekano. A specific focus of this unit is to improve biostatistics literacy and to expand and build biostatistics capacity in Africa.

We wish to express our gratitude for the support we received from the head of the Department of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, the CEBHC Governing Board, and our funders and collaborators. My special thanks go to our team who work tirelessly towards the realisation of the CEBHC goals.

Professor Taryn Young

Director



RESEARCH

Strategic goal	Objectives				
	Conduct high-quality, up to date Cochrane or related systematic reviews relevant to improving health outcomes in vulnerable groups focusing on:				
	HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria				
	Sexually-transmitted infections				
To conduct and	Non-communicable diseases				
support relevant	Nutrition and Food security				
systematic	Maternal and child health				
reviews and	Conduct relevant rigorous primary research and evaluation on:				
primary research	 knowledge translation strategies 				
related to	teaching EBHC				
evidence-	methodological issues				
informed health	healthcare strategies				
care	Disseminate the results of research				
	Collaborate with and support research conducted by postgraduate students, healthcare professionals and researchers				

KEY PROJECTS



EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE RESEARCH CONSORTIUM (EHCRC)

In collaboration with national and international partners, the CEBHC, funded by the UK Department of International Development (DFID), aims to increase evidence-informed decision making to improve health and health care for the poor in low- and middle-income countries via the Effective Health Care Research Consortium (EHCRC) (www.evidence4health.org). The foundation of the Consortium is collaborative work between five international partners based in Africa, East-Asia, China, Norway and the UK. Together partners work towards preparing and updating Cochrane Reviews on the effects of health care relevant to low- and middle-income countries; and identifying approaches to ensure dissemination and use of the results of systematic reviews in decision making. The CEBHC leads this work in the African region and provides project management to collaboration partners in Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa. Within South Africa, the CEBHC works closely with the South African Cochrane Centre (SACC) at the South African Medical Research Council. We are currently in year three of this five-year collaborative project. DFID formally reviewed the project at the end of year two and the project scored an A+.

EVIDENCE TO INFORM SOUTH AFRICAN TUBERCULOSIS POLICIES (EVISAT)

To contribute to evidence-informed policy development in South Africa, the *Evidence to Inform South African Tuberculosis Policies* (EVISAT) project provided oversight, quality assurance and management of robust systematic reviews on the epidemiology of, and programmatic response to TB in South Africa. It also took stock of international systematic-review evidence on strategies to prevent, diagnose, manage and offer services to TB patients. The project was initiated by the National Department of Health, with the support of the World Health Organisation (WHO). The EVISAT project was a joint initiative between the Desmond Tutu TB Centre (DTTC), the CEBHC and the Health Systems and Services Research (HSSR) Unit at Stellenbosch University.

R³ for CDIA - RELEVANT AND ROBUST SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS TO SUPPORT THE CHRONIC DISEASES INITIATIVES IN AFRICA

The Chronic Diseases Initiatives in Africa (CDIA) is a collaboration between institutions in South Africa, Tanzania and the USA that serves as a regional hub to evaluate and develop models for care and prevention of risk factors of chronic diseases of lifestyle, training researchers, and working with government authorities to formulate cost-effective plans to decrease the impact of chronic diseases in Africa. The SACC, South African Medical Research Council and the CEBHC were awarded joint funding from the Cochrane Collaboration's Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative (GESI) for this project through which these institutions support the CDIA by delivering systematic reviews of the effects of interventions that will help inform policies and strategies aimed at addressing the high burden of non-communicable diseases in Africa.

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

- 1. **Uthman OA, Okwundu CI, Wiysonge CS, Young T**, Clarke A. (2013) Citation Classics in Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: Who Wrote the Top 100 Most Cited Articles? PLoS ONE 8(10): e78517. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0078517 Impact Factor: 3.73
- Naude CE. "Eat plenty of vegetables and fruit every day": a food-based dietary guideline for South Africa. South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition. 2013; 26(3):S46-S56 Impact Factor: 0.31
- 3. **Rohwer AC, Khondowe O, Young T.** Antispasmodics for labour. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 6. Art. No.: CD009243. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD009243.pub3 Impact Factor: 5.7
- Mugambi M, Musekiwa A, Lombard M, Young T, Blaauw R. Association between funding source, methodological quality and research outcomes in randomized controlled trials of synbiotics, probiotics and prebiotics added to infant formula: A Systematic Review. BMC Medical Research Methodology. 2013, 13:137. DOI: 10.1186/1471-2288-13-137 Impact Factor: 2.21
- 5. Namane S, Kalla AA, **Young T**. Consultation outcomes for musculoskeletal conditions at two Community Health Centres in Cape Town, South Africa. S Afr Fam Pract 2013;55(4):380-384
- Kredo T, Ford N, Adeniyi FB, Garner P. Decentralising HIV treatment in lower- and middle-income countries. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 6. Art. No.: CD009987. DOI: 651858.CD009987.pub2 Impact Factor: 5.7
- Schoonees A, Young T, Volmink J. Descriptive survey of the claims made in advertisements of nutritional supplements in South African women's magazines. The South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition (SAJCN). Vol 26, No 2 (2013) Impact Factor: 0.31
- 8. **Rohwer AC, Young T**, S v Schalkwyk. Effective or just practical? An evaluation of an online postgraduate module on evidence-based medicine (EBM). BMC Med Educ. 2013 May 27;13(1):77 Impact Factor: 1.41
- 9. Birbeck GL, **Wiysonge CS**, Mills EJ, Frenk JJ, Zhou XN, Jha P. Global health: the importance of evidence-based medicine. BMC Medicine 2013;11(1):223. Impact Factor: 6.68
- Okwundu CI, Nagpal S, Musekiwa A, Sinclair D. Home- or community-based programmes for treating malaria. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 5. Art. No.: CD009527. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD009527.pub2. Impact Factor: 5.7
- 11. Lawal AO, **Musekiwa A**, **Grobler L**. Interferon after surgery for women with advanced (Stage II-IV) epithelial ovarian cancer. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 6. Art. No.: CD009620. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD009620.pub2. Impact Factor: 5.7
- 12. Yahaya I, **Uthman OA**, Uthman MMB. Interventions for HIV-associated nephropathy. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 1. Art. No.: CD007183. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD007183.pub3. Impact Factor: 5.7
- 13. **Okwundu CI**, Afolabi BB. Intramuscular versus intravenous anti-D for preventing Rhesus alloimmunization during pregnancy. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 1. Art. No.: CD007885. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD007885.pub2 Impact Factor: 5.7
- 14. Grobler L, Siegfried N, Visser ME, Mahlungulu SSN, Volmink J. Nutritional interventions for

- reducing morbidity and mortality in people with HIV. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 2. Art. No.: CD004536. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD004536.pub3. Impact Factor: 5.7
- 15. Jones H, Lippman S, Caiaffa-Filho H, **Young T**, van de Wijgert J. Performance of rapid self-test for detection of Trichomonas vaginalis in South Africa and Brazil. Journal of Clinical Microbiology. 2013; 51(3):1037–9 Impact Factor: 4.07
- Motaze NV, Mbuagbaw L, Young T. Prostaglandins before caesarean section for preventing neonatal respiratory distress. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 11. Art. No.: CD010087. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD010087.pub2 Impact Factor: 5.7
- 17. **Schoonees A**, Lombard M, **Musekiwa A**, Nel E, **Volmink J**. Ready-to-use therapeutic food for home-based treatment of severe acute malnutrition in children from six months to five years of age. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 6. Art. No.: CD009000. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD009000.pub2. Impact Factor: 5.7
- Ferreira A, Young T, Mathews C, Zunza M, Low N. Strategies for partner notification for sexually-transmitted infections, including HIV. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 10. Art. No.: CD002843. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD002843.pub2. Impact Factor: 5.7
- 19. **Naude CE**. Would an increase in vegetable and fruit intake help to reduce the burden of nutrition-related disease in South Africa? An umbrella review of the evidence. South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition. 2013;26(3):104-114 Impact Factor: 0.31
- 20. **Wiysonge CS**, Opie LH. β-Blockers as initial therapy for hypertension. JAMA 2013;310(17):1851-52. Impact Factor: 30
- 21. **Rohwer AC**, Garner P, **Young T**. Reading systematic reviews to answer clinical questions. Clinical Epidemiology and Global Health. 2013 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cegh.2013.09.001
- 22. Forland F, **Rohwer AC**, Klatser P, Boer K, Mayanja-Kizza H. Strengthening evidence-based health care in Africa. Evidence Based Medicine, February 2013
- 23. Nglazi MD, Bekker LG, Wood R, Hussey GD, **Wiysonge CS**. Mobile phone text messaging for promoting adherence to anti-tuberculosis treatment: a systematic review. BMC Infect Dis 2013;13(1):566. Impact Factor: 3.03

PUBLISHED PROTOCOLS

- Athuman M, Kabanywanyi AM, Rohwer AC. Intermittent preventive antimalarial treatment for children with anaemia. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 10. Art. No.: CD010767. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD010767. Impact Factor: 5.7
- Motaze NV, Okwundu CI, Temfack E, Mboudou E. Male versus female condoms for contraception (Protocol). Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 6. Art. No.: CD010579. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD010579. Impact Factor: 5.7
- 3. Siegfried N, Pienaar DC, Ataguba JE, **Volmink J**, Kredo T, Jere M, Parry CDH. Restricting or banning of alcohol advertising to reduce alcohol consumption in adults and adolescents (Protocol). Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 9. Art. No.: CD010704 Impact Factor: 5.7
- Visser J, McLachlan MH, Fergusson P, Volmink J, Garner P. Supplementary feeding for food insecure, vulnerable and malnourished populations - an overview of systematic reviews (Protocol). Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 6. Art. No.: CD010578. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD010578. Impact Factor: 5.7

- 5. Irusen H, **Rohwer AC**, Steyn DW, **Young T**. Treatments for breast abscesses in breastfeeding women. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 4. Art. No.: CD010490. DOI:10.1002/14651858.CD010490. Impact Factor: 5.7
- Machingaidze S, Rehfuess E, von Kries R, Hussey GD, Wiysonge CS. Understanding interventions for improving routine immunisation coverage in children in low- and middleincome countries: a systematic review protocol. Syst Rev 2013;2(1):106.

INTERNATIONAL ORAL PRESENTATIONS

- 1. **Young T.** Leadership development to enhance evidence-informed decision-making. 8th Global Conference on Health Promotion: Health in all policies. 10 June 2013
- 2. **Naude CE.** Non-communicable diseases, oral health and nutrition challenges in developing countries: the "common risk factor" approach. International Dental Hygiene Symposium. Cape Town. 17 August 2013
- Rohwer AC, Young T. The young doctor's opinion on Evidence-based Health Care (EBHC) in Stellenbosch University's medical curriculum Joint conference: 2nd Conference of International Society for EBHC and 6th International Conference for EBHC Teachers and Developers, Taormina (Italy) 30 October - 2 November 2013. 30 October 2013
- 4. Motaze V, Durãao S, **Okwundu CI.** Cochrane Review authors' reporting of blinding in included studies: A descriptive study 21st Cochrane Colloquium, Quebec, Canada. 19 September 2013
- 5. **Young T**, Zani B, Dudley L, Ongolo-Zogo P, **Naude CE**, Garner P. Policy Buddies: baseline assessment of the institutional capacity for evidence-informed decisions in provincial health departments in South Africa 21st Cochrane Colloquium, Quebec, Canada. 19 September 2013

NATIONAL ORAL PRESENTATIONS

- 1. **Young T.** Promoting evidence-informed health policies in the African region: a reflection on the past decade. African Cochrane Indaba, Cape Town, 6 May 2013
- 2. Naude CE, Schoonees A, Young T, Senekal M, Volmink J, Garner P. Low Carbohydrate Diets and Cardiovascular Health: an Assessment of the Evidence. Stellenbosch University Continuing Nutrition Education Symposium. Cape Town, 31 May 2013
- 3. **Naude CE, Schoonees A, Young T**, Senekal M, **Volmink J**, Garner P. Low carbohydrate weightloss diets and cardiovascular health: a systematic review and meta-analysis Stellenbosch University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Academic year day, 14 August 2013
- 4. Rohwer AC, Schoonees A, Engel M, Young T. Enhancing evidence-based health care knowledge and skills of medical student interns at Stellenbosch University's rural clinical school in Worcester, Stellenbosch University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Academic year day, 14 August 2013
- 5. **Young T, Naude CE**, Zani B, Dudley L, Ongolo-Zogo P, Kredo T, **Wiysonge CS**, Garner P. Policy BUDDIES: baseline assessment of capacity for evidence-informed decisions in Provincial Health Departments in South Africa. PHASA Conference, Cape Town, 24 September 2013
- 6. **Young T.** Integrating the learning of EBHC in undergraduate medical curricula. African Cochrane Indaba, Cape Town, 6 May 2013

- 7. **Naude CE**. "Eating Green": Perspectives on Nutritional Health and Environmental Sustainability. South African Sugar Association, Sugar and Health Symposium, Port Elizabeth, 14 March 2013
- 8. **Wiysonge CS**. Surveillance challenges on safety and effectiveness of vaccine-preventable diseases in Africa. Vaccinology Scientific Congress 2013, Hermanus, Western Cape, South Africa, 14 October 2013.
- 9. **Wiysonge CS.** Challenges and opportunities to promote EBP in Africa. Twinning Center Partners Meeting: Knowledge Management for Health Program. Bellville, Western Cape, South Africa, 21 October 2013
- 10. **Young T**. Evidence for practice. UCT Rehabilitation Research Conference. College of Medicine of South Africa, Cape Town. 2-4 Sept 2013

INTERNATIONAL POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- Rohwer AC, Schoonees A, Engel M, Young T. Enhancing evidence-based health care (EBHC) knowledge and skills of medical student interns at Stellenbosch University's Rural Clinical School in Worcester. Joint conference: 2nd Conference of International Society for EBHC and 6th International Conference for EBHC Teachers and Developers, Taormina (Italy), 30 October 2 November 2013
- Schoonees AC, Naude CE, Lombard M, Young T. Evidence meets the media: working with science journalists in South Africa. 21st Cochrane Colloquium, Quebec, Canada, 19 September 2013
- Okwundu CI, Durãao S, Motaze V. Assessment of risk of bias due to blinding for objective and subjective outcomes: An exploratory study of Cochrane Reviews. 21st Cochrane Colloquium, Quebec, Canada, 19 September 2013
- 4. **Naude CE**, **Schoonees A**, **Young T**, Senekal M, **Volmink J**, Garner P. Low carbohydrate diets and cardiovascular health: an example of a rapid response with high quality reviews to inform public health promotion. 21st Cochrane Colloquium, Quebec, Canada, 19 September 2013
- Rohwer A, Young T. Recent medical graduate's opinion on Evidence-based Health Care (EBHC) in Stellenbosch University's medical curriculum. Poster presentation. 21st Cochrane Colloquium, Quebec, Canada, 19-23 September 2013
- Rohwer A, Schoonees A, Engel M, Young T. Enhancing evidence-based health care (EBHC) knowledge and skills of medical student interns at Stellenbosch University's Rural Clinical School in Worcester. Poster presentation. 21st Cochrane Colloquium, Quebec, Canada, 19-23 September 2013
- 7. Machingaidze S, Hussey GD, **Wiysonge CS**. Immunisation data quality in Africa: a recurring cause for concern? 8th World Congress on Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Cape Town, South Africa; 19-22 November 2013

NATIONAL POSTER PRESENTATIONS

 Adeniyi FB, Garner P, Young T. Responding to policymakers: Evidence on diagnostic tests for Tuberculosis in children. African Cochrane Indaba, Cape Town, 6 – 8 May 2013

- 2. **Grobler L**, Mahlungulu S, Visser M, Siegfried N, **Volmink J**. Nutritional interventions for reducing morbidity and mortality in people with HIV. African Cochrane Indaba, Cape Town 6 8 May 2013
- Schoonees A, Lombard M, Musekiwa A, Nel E, Volmink J. Ready-to-use therapeutic food for home-based treatment of severe acute malnutrition in children from six months to five years of age. (Poster presentation). African Cochrane Indaba (South African Cochrane Centre, Medical Research Council, South Africa). Milnerton, South Africa, 6 – 8 May 2013
- 4. **Rohwer AC, Young T.** Document review of the undergraduate medical curriculum at Stellenbosch University (SU) to inform enhancement of evidence-based health care (EBHC) teaching. African Cochrane Indaba, Cape Town, 6 8 May 2013
- 5. **Rohwer AC, Schoonees A,** Engel M, **Young T**. Enhancing evidence-based health care (EBHC) knowledge and skills of medical student interns at Stellenbosch University's Rural Clinical School in Worcester. African Cochrane Indaba, Cape Town, 6 8 May 2013
- Rohwer AC, Young T, van Schalkwyk S. Teaching evidence-based medicine (EBM) to specialists

 Evaluation of a web-based module on EBM for Family Medicine specialists in training at Stellenbosch University. African Cochrane Indaba, Cape Town, 6 8 May 2013
- 7. Motaze NV, Mbuagbaw L, **Young T**. Prostaglandins Before Caesarean Section for Preventing Neonatal Respiratory Distress. African Cochrane Indaba, Cape Town, 6 8 May 2013
- Uthman OA, Okwundu CI, Wiysonge CS, Young T. Citation classics in systematic reviews and meta-analyses: top 100 most cited articles. African Cochrane Indaba, Cape Town, 6 – 8 May 2013
- Zunza M, Young T, Mathews C, Ferreira A, Low N. Strategies for partner notification for sexually-transmitted infections, including HIV: Cochrane Review Update. African Cochrane Indaba, Cape Town, 6 – 8 May 2013
- 10. **Naude CE**, **Schoonees A**, **Young T**, Senekal M, **Volmink J**, Garner P. Low carbohydrate diets and cardiovascular health: an example of a rapid response with high-quality reviews to inform public health promotion. Stellenbosch University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Academic year day, 14 August 2013
- 11. Young T, Naude CE, Zani B, Dudley L, Ongolo-Zogo P, Kredo T, Wiysonge C, Garner P. Policy BUDDIES: Baseline assessment of capacity for evidence-informed decisions in provincial health departments in South Africa. Stellenbosch University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Academic year day, 14 August 2013
- 12. Schoonees A, Rohwer AC, Zunza M, Young T. Evaluation of evidence-based health care teaching and learning in the undergraduate allied health curricula of Stellenbosch University. Stellenbosch University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Academic year day, 14 August 2013
- 13. **Rohwer AC**, **Young T.** The young doctor's opinion on evidence-based health care (EBHC) in Stellenbosch University's medical curriculum. Stellenbosch University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Academic year day, 14 August 2013
- 14. **Grobler L,** Marais BJ, Mabunda SA, **Volmink J.** Interventions for increasing the proportion of health professionals practising in rural and other underserved areas. Stellenbosch University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Academic year day, 14 August 2013



KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION

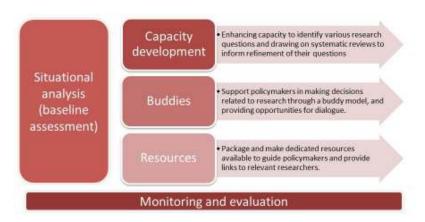
Strategic goal	Objectives				
	Develop stakeholder/ communication strategy to engage with				
To promote the use	decision makers				
of best evidence in	Respond to requests for evidence				
health-care decision					
making and the	Disseminate summaries of best evidence to decision makers				
uptake of current	Develop and nurture links with the media				
best evidence in					
health-care policy	Develop and share best practices in knowledge translation				
and practice					

KEY PROJECTS

POLICY BUDDIES – BUILDING DEMAND FOR EVIDENCE IN DECISION MAKING THROUGH INTERACTION AND ENHANCING SKILLS

Policy BUDDIES is a collaborative project led by the CEBHC and includes the South African Cochrane Centre (SACC), the Health Systems and Services Research Unit at Stellenbosch University, the Centre for the Development of Best Practices in Health (Cameroon) and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (United Kingdom). The project is funded by the World Health Organisation (WHO). The collaboration draws on partners' experience in working in the area of knowledge translation. The project is being conducted in South Africa and Cameroon.

Policy BUDDIES project phases















The situational analysis assessed baseline data on policymakers' knowledge of, and attitude towards evidence-informed decision making, described the different contexts in which policies are formulated, including enablers and constraints related to demanding evidence, and mapped existing communication between policymakers, research intermediaries and researchers in South Africa and Cameroon. The analysis provided valuable information to point the way forward with other components of the project. Preliminary results were shared at the Stellenbosch University Academic year day in August 2013, at the international Cochrane Colloquium and with the Public Health Association of South Africa conference in September 2013.

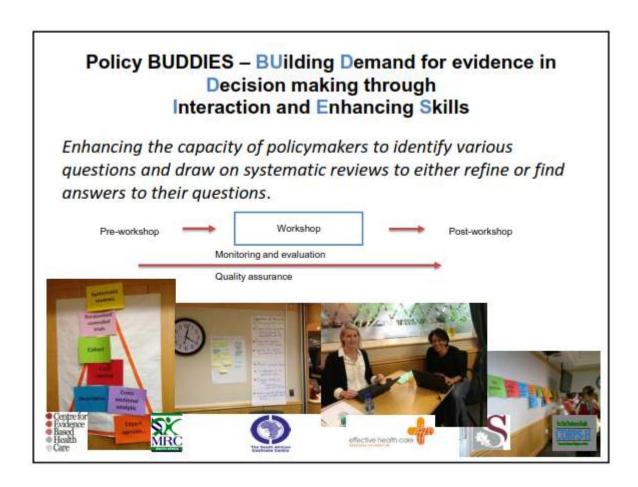
Workshops were conducted in Cameroon and South Africa to address the need to enhance capacity in finding, appraising, reading and assessing the applicability of systematic reviews. The

workshops used a combination of didactic input, interactive and practical sessions. Forty-nine participants actively engaged with the workshop content. Prior to the workshop participants selected relevant systematic reviews which were used as examples for group work, exercises and discussions. All participants were given access to an online learning management website that contains all the workshop material, including relevant presentation hand-outs, key references, tools to assess reviews, etc. This website also allowed for discussions with participants during and after the workshops.

Participant feedback:

'We do evaluations and a review of literature is always required. Now I now that a systematic review is a good place to start.'

'Will be able to look at systematic reviews and summaries done that are relevant to my programme and use as evidence-based policy development.'

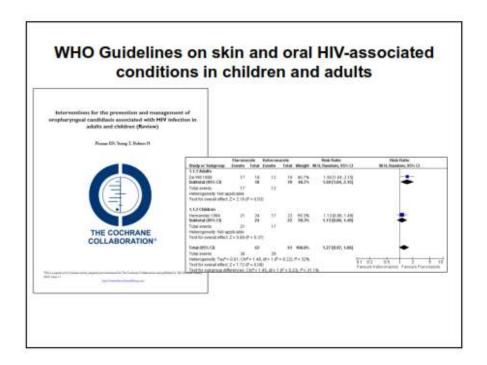


Informing WHO guidelines

The CEBHC contributed to systematic reviews which were completed in a timely manner to feed into the WHO guideline development.

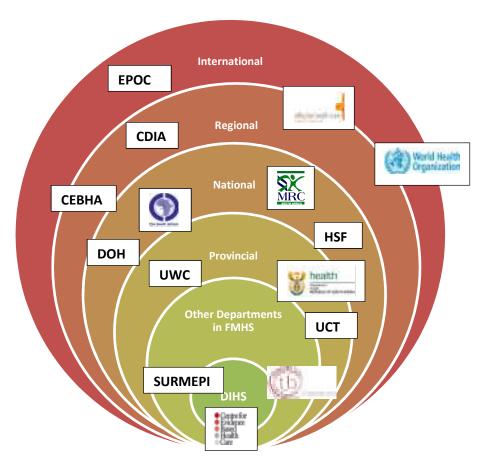
Kredo T, Ford N, **Adeniyi FB**, Garner P. Decentralising HIV treatment in lower- and middle-income countries.

Pienaar ED, **Young T**, Holmes, H. Interventions for the prevention and management of oropharyngeal candidiasis associated with HIV infection in adults and children.



DIALOGUING WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS

The Centre works in collaboration with a number of local and international institutions. The key principles are to encourage dialogue, enhance EBHC activities and to avoid duplication.



The Centre works with divisions within the Department of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences (DIHS) and other departments within the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) at Stellenbosch University. Within the Western Cape Province we contribute to the Healthy Lifestyle Workgroup, one of four groups working towards informing the Western Cape Provincial Transversal Management System's (PTMS) Strategic Objective 4 (SO4), which aims to promote wellness. The Centre works with the Heart and Stroke Foundation (HSF), Chronic Disease Initiative in Africa (CDIA) and key stakeholders from the University of the Western Cape (UWC), and University of Cape Town (UCT). At the national level the Centre collaborates with the Medical Research Council (MRC) specifically the SACC to support the conduct of Cochrane Reviews and promote EBHC in the African region, and also links to the Collaboration for Evidence-based Health in Africa (CEBHA). Internationally, the Centre collaborates with the EHCRC, funded by DFID, and works with the Christian Medical College Vellore (India), Chongqing Medical University (China), Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (UK) and Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services (Norway) to increase evidence-informed decisions in order to improve health and health care for the poor in low- and middle-income countries.

The CEBHC works with the Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care (EPOC) group to develop SUPPORT summaries (www.support-collaboration.org/summaries.htm) of systematic reviews for a policymaker audience.

MEDIA INTERACTIONS

- 1. Naude CE. Ionised water: fact or fiction. Radio 702 and Cape Talk, 26 March 2013
- 2. **Naude CE**. Weight-loss diet scams and fads: separating facts from fiction. Radio 702 and Cape Talk, 24 July 2013
- 3. Naude CE. Butter versus margarine. Radio 702, 1 August 2013
- 4. Naude CE. New salt regulations. Radio Pretoria. 21 August 2013
- 5. Naude CE. New salt regulations. Newspaper: Die Burger and Beeld, 21 August 2013
- 6. Naude CE. Low carbohydrate diets. Radio Power FM, 12 November 2013
- 7. Schoonees A. Nutritional supplements. Radio: RSG, 11 September 2013
- 8. **Schoonees A.** Nutritional supplement advertisements in magazines. Newspapers: Die Burger, and Beeld, 19 September 2013



TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Strategic goal	Objectives				
To enhance EBHC	Promote the integration of EBHC in undergraduate curricula of all health-care professionals				
knowledge, skills and practices through	Teach and develop EBHC at postgraduate level				
teaching healthcare professionals and other	Develop EBHC capacity of health-care professionals, faculties, decision makers and other stakeholders				
stakeholders	Build the capacity to teach EBHC				

KEY INITIATIVES

SURMEPI - Stellenbosch University Rural Medical Education Partnership Initiative



The Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) is a five-year project (2010-2015) which aims to increase the capacity and quality of African medical education, improve retention of medical graduates, and promote regionally relevant research in sub-Saharan African medical schools through locally-led innovative programs. MEPI is funded by PEPFAR through the Office of the US Global Aids Coordinator in the State Department and by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Stellenbosch University is one of 13 universities funded in the African region.

The MEPI-funded universities are: Addis Ababa University, Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Makerere University, Stellenbosch University, University of Botswana, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, University of Ibadan, University of KwaZulu-Natal, University of Malawi, University of Nairobi, University of Zambia, and University of Zimbabwe.

Within SURMEPI, the CEBHC provides leadership for the EBHC subproject which aims to enhance teaching of EBHC at under- and postgraduate levels, as well as to health-care professionals working in the field. The specific activities fall under the following goals and objectives of the overarching project:

Goal 2: An increase in the quality of health care provision, particularly by medical doctors, in rural and underserved areas

 Objective 2.1.: Enhance the teaching and learning experience (including the curriculum) for undergraduate medical students to increase exposure to critical elements of primary health and related issues, in order to prepare them for a career in rural medicine

GOAL 3: To increase the retention of health-care workers over time in areas where they are most needed

• Objective 3.1.: To enhance the capacity and quality of health-care workers, specifically medical practitioners in rural and underserved areas, with a view to increase retention

Goal 4: Establish SURMEPI as a hub for regionally relevant research that support the MEPI goals and collaborate with MEPI partners

• Objective 4.1.: To establish a culture of conducting and using regionally relevant research among students and, where relevant, medical practitioners in rural/underserved areas

Undergraduate level

At an undergraduate level the centre has established an EBHC task team (consisting of module chairs, programme coordinators and convenors of the undergraduate health sciences degrees) that aims to integrate EBHC in the undergraduate curricula. In planning the integrated curriculum,

the centre has completed a situational analysis of EBHC teaching at undergraduate level, consisting of a document review, a student survey and interviews with lecturers. The results of the document review and survey have been presented and shared at various national and international meetings/conferences. Based on the findings of this situational analysis, amendments for the undergraduate curriculum have been considered and accepted by the MB,ChB programme committee in 2013.

The faculty teaches EBHC to undergraduate medical students at various phases in the MB,ChB programme at both the Tygerberg campus and Rural Clinical School (RCS). In addition, the Centre is working with the Faculty Librarians to improve training in the search for literature.

Training the trainers

For EBHC to be integrated throughout the MB,ChB curriculum, lecturers need to be comfortable with facilitating the learning of EBHC. Together with SURMEPI colleagues, the Centre has hosted various workshops for faculty members on teaching within an EBHC framework.

Teaching packages and innovative teaching methods

The Centre has developed teaching packages covering various aspects of EBHC as well as an EBHC resource list which includes basic EBHC principles, useful links, and screencasts of searching techniques. These packages have been made available to students electronically and can be accessed at their convenience. For students at the RCS there is an online learning management website which contains relevant articles, useful links and tools, and allows discussion and interaction between students and tutors outside of the contact sessions.

Evaluation of online EBHC module for postgraduates

Family Medicine specialists in training at Stellenbosch University are the only postgraduate medical students currently receiving formal training in EBHC. The Centre evaluated this online module to improve both the content and delivery of the programme; and to help with the development of a similar, generic module for other medical specialists in training. The evaluation was published in BMC Medical Education.

 Rohwer A, Young T, van Schalkwyk S. Effective or just practical? An evaluation of an online postgraduate module on evidence-based medicine (EBM). BMC Medical Education 2013,13:77

The Centre is also conducting a systematic review comparing e-learning to face-to-face teaching to increase EBHC competencies. The protocol has been published by The Campbell Collaboration.

 Rohwer AC, Rehfuess E, Young T. E-learning of EBHC to increase EBHC competencies in health-care professionals. Campbell Collaboration 2014

Evidence-based health care tutorials at the Rural Clinical School

As part of the Stellenbosch University Rural Medical Education Partnership Initiative (SURMEPI) project (http://surmepi.sun.ac.za), which aims to increase the number and capacity of medical doctors working in rural areas and to increase regionally relevant research, the CEBHC team offered five two-hour EBHC tutorials in 2013 to student interns working in rural areas.



The aim of these tutorials was to familiarise students with the basic principles of EBHC and the application thereof. The following topics were covered: Introduction to EBHC and formulating questions; searching databases for relevant studies; reading a randomised controlled trial reading a systematic review; and reading a clinical guideline. We developed a structured plan with learning outcomes and teaching resources, and also linked in clinical teachers as team teachers for some of the sessions.



We acknowledge funding received from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), through HRSA, and via the Stellenbosch University Rural Medical Education Partnership Initiative (SURMEPI)

CAMPBELL SYSTEMATIC REVIEW WORKSHOP

The Campbell Collaboration http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/ conducts systematic reviews of the effects of interventions in the field of education, crime and justice, social welfare and international development. On 25 and 26 November 2013, Drs Emily Tanner-Smith and Sandra Wilson from Vanderbilt University, USA, facilitated a systematic review workshop hosted by the CEBHC and the SACC. Participants from Stellenbosch University, University of Cape Town, Cape Peninsula University of Technology, and University of the Western Cape, Medical Research Council and the Human Science Research Council partook in the two-day workshop. Through lectures and small group work, facilitators covered various topics focused on systematic review methods for studying the effectiveness of social interventions. We acknowledge the funding support from the Department of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University, and HEARD, UKZN http://www.heard.org.za/



Participants at the Campbell collaboration workshop

APPROACH TO SEARCHING THE LITERATURE - JOINT TEACHING A BIG SUCCESS



On 17 October 2013 the CEBHC, Medicine and Health Sciences Library and SACC jointly facilitated a session to more than 100 first-year medical students on the approach to searching the literature. After phrasing a PICO question and developing related search terms, students practiced searching literature archives such as PubMed using Boolean search engine operators, truncation and Mesh terms. A multi-disciplinary team of facilitators guided and assisted the students.



PRIMER IN SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS AND RESEARCH SYNTHESIS

Those using and conducting systematic reviews need to be able to find, appraise, interpret, and consider the application of review findings. Researchers, clinicians, and public-health policymakers can use findings from up-to-date robust reviews to inform their thinking and answer health-care questions. For researchers, this is an assessment of the gaps in research, and a rigorous sum of all relevant research to inform their research designs. For clinicians, this identifies the most appropriate treatments, and for public-health policy specialists, this can be a reliable assessment of what is known about the benefits and harms of various public-health policies.

In July 2013, Profs Taryn Young and Paul Garner from the CEBHC, SACC and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine facilitated a four -day course in Blantyre, Malawi, for the Effective Health Care Research Consortium www.evidence4health.org.



Through seminar and group work, 31 participants from the National TB Control Programme, Health Research Capacity Strengthening Initiative Commission for Science & Technology, College of Medicine, UNICEF, MSF and Malawi Liverpool Wellcome (MLW) were equipped with the knowledge and skills to phrase clear questions in order to find, understand, appraise and use systematic reviews on the effects of interventions. In addition, through a dedicated online learning website we were able to interact and support participants. Participants enjoyed the course and particularly valued the interactive sessions and the use of relevant examples.

The course is accredited as a short course with the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

ENHANCING AND EXPANDING THE PROGRAMMATIC OFFERING OF THE MSC IN CLINICAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

The MSc in Clinical Epidemiology (www.sun.ac.za/clinepi), registered within the Division of Community Health, offers rigorous methodological training for health professionals who wish to pursue careers in clinical research and/or evidence-based health care practice. The academic leadership for this programme is provided by the Director of the CEBHC. The MSc in Clinical Epidemiology programme is inseparable from the work of the CEBHC and staff play a key role in enhancing and expanding the programmatic offering.

Co-convenors of modules, MSc Clinical Epidemiology

- Fundamentals of Epidemiology (Taryn Young, Folasade Adeniyi and Mark Engel)
- Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis (Taryn Young)
- Writing and Reviewing Scientific papers (Taryn Young)
- Diagnosis and Screening (Charles Okwundu)
- Biostatistics I (Tonya Esterhuizen)
- Biostatistics II (Tonya Esterhuizen)
- Research Proposal Writing and Grantmanship (Tonya Esterhuizen)
- Teaching EBHC (T Young)

Teaching assistants of modules, MSc in Clinical Epidemiology

- Biostats 1 & 2 Moleen Zunza
- Systematic Reviews Anel Schoonees and Michael McCaul

Development and implementation of new structured modules

Folasade Adeniyi, Anke Rohwer and Taryn Young were instrumental in the development of new 12-credit modules on Clinical Guidelines, Teaching EBHC and Infectious Disease Epidemiology. This was done in collaboration with Quinette Louw (Physiotherapy Division, SU), Jean Nachega (Centre for Infectious Diseases, SU), Peter Nyasulu (University of the Witwatersrand), Julia Blitz (Family Medicine, SU), Susan v Schalkwyk (Centre for Health Professions Education, SU), Razeen Davids (Department of Medicine, SU) and Nicoline Herman (Centre for Teaching and Learning, SU).

POSTGRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION

CEBHC staff supervise various masters and PhD students. Of these, nine master's students and one PhD student graduated in 2013.

- 1. Mary Mugambi, PhD, Stellenbosch University graduated 2013. Topic: Probiotics, Prebiotics and Synbiotics in Neonates: A critical appraisal of the evidence and evaluation of its application by the food industry. (Supervisor: **Taryn Young**)
- 2. Villyen Motaze, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University graduated 2013. Topic: Prostaglandins before caesarean section for reducing neonatal respiratory distress. (Supervisor: **Taryn Young**)
- 3. Anthony Usenbo, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University graduated 2013. Topic: Prevalence and risk factors of Arthritis in Africa. (Supervisor: **Taryn Young**)
- 4. Rufaro Kashangura, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University graduated 2013. Topic: Modified Vaccinia Virus Ankara booster expressing antigen 85A for protection against active Tuberculosis and death in animals: A systematic review. (Supervisor: **Taryn Young**)
- 5. Hayley Irusen, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University graduated 2013. Topic: Treatments for breast abscesses in breastfeeding women. (Supervisors: **Anke Rohwer** and **Taryn Young**)
- Eunice Turawa, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University graduated 2013. Topic: Interventions for preventing and treating postpartum constipation. (Supervisor: Anke Rohwer)
- 7. Avital Cassidy, MPH, University of Cape Town graduated 2013. Topic: A systematic review of effects of deconcentration of poverty and urban development measures on the prevention of youth violence. (Supervisor: Charles Wiysonge)
- 8. Miriam Karinja, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University graduated 2013. Topic: Variation of MYCObacterial load with sputum volume. (Supervisor: **Tonya Esterhuizen**)
- 9. Oluwatoyin Gbabe, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University graduated 2013. Topic: Treatment of severe or progressive Kaposi's sarcoma in HIV-1 infected adults. A Cochrane systematic review. (Supervisor: Charles Okwundu)
- Jeremy Stockhall, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: South African Physiotherapists' Confidence in Evidence-Based Practice: a Cross Sectional Study. (Supervisor: Taryn Young)
- 11. Donald Nyanguridza, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: Determinants of casting phase duration for clubfoot treatment with Ponseti method in Swaziland. (Supervisor: **Tonya Esterhuizen**)
- 12. Nicholas Mangeya, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: Detection of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) type-1 antibodies in saliva, as an alternative method of HIV diagnosis: a diagnostic accuracy study and a preliminary assessment for home-based HIV testing in South Africa. (Supervisor: **Tonya Esterhuizen**)
- 13. Selvan Naidoo, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: A Pragmatic Randomised Controlled Trial Of An Occupation Specific Structured Exercise Intervention Programme In A Group Of Paramedic Students At A South African University. (Supervisor: **Tonya Esterhuizen**)

- 14. Tapiwa Chirima, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: Inappropriate Antibiotic Prescribing: A Cross-Sectional Study And Qualitative Assessment, Swaziland. (Supervisor: **Tonya Esterhuizen**)
- 15. Ogunjale Adeniyi, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: Rilpivirine versus Efavirenz as initial therapy in treatment-naïve, HIV-1-infected patients. A systematic review. (Supervisor: **Charles Okwundu**)
- 16. Karien Orton, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: Perceptions and self-perceived knowledge of evidence-based health care amongst registered nurses and midwives in rural areas of the Western Cape. (Supervisor: **Anke Rohwer**)
- 17. Nkosiyazi Hlabano, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: Cataract surgery outcomes in Mbabane Hospital. (Supervisor: **Tonya Esterhuizen**)
- 18. Casper Tarumbuwa, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: Malnutrition in HIV exposed babies enrolled on the prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission programme at a district hospital in Namibia. (Supervisor: **Celeste Naude**)
- 19. Benjamin Kagina, Postdoc, University of Cape Town ongoing. Topic: Strengthening immunisation programmes in Africa through evidence-based medicine. (Supervisor: **Charles Wiysonge**)
- 20. Shingai Machingaidze, PhD, University of Munich ongoing. Topic: Reaching the unvaccinated and under-vaccinated children of Africa. (Supervisor: **Charles Wiysonge**)
- 21. Leila Abdullahi, PhD, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: Adolescent immunisation in Africa in the decade of vaccines. (Supervisor: **Charles Wiysonge**)
- 22. Esther Adebayo, MPH, University of Cape Town ongoing. Topic: A systematic review of factors associated with the uptake of community-based health insurance in low and middle-income countries. (Supervisor: **Charles Wiysonge**)
- 23. Robyn Kalan, MPH, University of Cape Town ongoing. Topic: A systematic review of mobile phone text messaging for improving the uptake of childhood immunisation coverage. (Supervisor: Charles Wiysonge)
- 24. Arthemon Nguweneza, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: The impact of mass media interventions on immunisation coverage: a systematic review (Supervisor: **Charles Wiysonge**)
- 25. Olatunji Adetokunboh, MSc Clinical Epidemiology, Stellenbosch University ongoing. Topic: A systematic review of the effectiveness and safety of abacavir backbone therapies for treatment of HIV-infected children. (Supervisors: Charles Wiysonge and Anel Schoonees)

TEACHING SESSIONS/LECTURES/WORKSHOPS

Promoting and enhancing the teaching and learning of EBHC is core to the work of the CEBHC. During 2013, various sessions/workshops were offered at undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing professional development level.

<u>UNDERGRADUATE</u>

MB,ChB (SU)

Year	Sessions						
1	Young T. The principles and application of Evidence-based Medicine (EBM). Date: 25 September 2013						
	Young T. Phrasing clear questions. Date: 25 September 2013						
	 Young T. Principles of clinical epidemiology and value of research in clinical work. Date: 8 October 2013 						
	Machekano R. Overview of different types of studies. Date: 8 October 2013						
	Machekano R. Populations and sampling. Date: 8 October 2013						
	Schoonees A and Young T. Searching the literature. Date 17 October 2013						
	Okwundu C. Studies about diagnostic accuracy. 21 October 2013						
4	Young T. Reading a case control study. Lecture. Date: 15 August 2013						
5	Young T. Principles and application of EBM. Date: 30 January 2013						
	Rohwer A. Finding the Evidence. Date: 30 January 2013						
	• Okwundu C, Adeniyi F and Schoonees A. Critical appraisal of systematic reviews: Date 31 January 2013						
	Adeniyi F. Formulating research questions. Date: 30 January 2013						
6	 Adeniyi F. Formulating clear questions. Lecture to: Student interns at RCS. Date: 20 February 2013 						
	 Adeniyi F. Finding the evidence: How to search electronic databases. Lecture to: Student interns at RCS. Date: 24 February 2013 						
	 Adeniyi F. How to read a paper about diagnostic tests. Lecture to: Student interns at RCS. Date: 29 May 2013 						
	 Adeniyi F. How to read a paper on therapy (RCT). Lecture to: Student interns at RCS. Date: 17 July 2013 						
	• Adeniyi F. How to read a systematic review of a risk factor question. Lecture to: Student interns at RCS. Date: 4 September 2013						
	 Adeniyi F. EBHC project presentations. Lecture to: Student interns at RCS. Date: 23 October 2013 						

Dietetics (SU)

• Naude CE. Nutrigenomics module (part of Therapeutic Nutrition 378). Lecture to: 3rd year undergraduate; BSc Dietetics students. Date: 23 October 2013

POSTGRADUATE

MSc in Clinical Epidemiology (SU)

Module	Session
Biostatistics I	Esterhuizen T. Lecture: Introduction and describing data. Date: 14 February 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Exercise: Describing data. Date: 14 February 2013
	Zunza, M. Practical: Introduction to Stats and describing data. Date: 14 February 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Lecture: Estimation I. Date: 15 February 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Exercise: Estimation I. Date: 15 February 2013
	Zunza, M. Practical: Estimation I. Date: 15 February 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Lecture: Estimation II. Date: 25 March 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Exercise: Estimation II. Date: 25 March 2013
	Zunza, M. Practical: Estimation II. Date: 25 March 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Lecture: T-tests. Date: 26 March 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Exercise: T-tests. Date: 26 March 2013
	Zunza, M. Practical: T-tests. Date: 26 March 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Lecture: Nonparametric tests. Date: 29 April 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Exercise: Nonparametric tests. Date: 29 April 2013
	Zunza, M. Practical: Nonparametric tests. Date: 29 April 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Lecture: Categorical data. Date: 30 April 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Exercise: Categorical data. Date: 30 April 2013
	Zunza, M. Practical: Categorical data. Date: 30 April 2013
Fundamentals	Young T. Clinical epidemiology. Date: 18 March 2013
of	Okwundu C. Disease frequency. Date: 18 March 2013
Epidemiology	• Adeniyi F. Linking exposure and disease - measures of effect and association. Date: 19
	March 2013
	Young T. The challenge of confounding and effect modification. Date: 19 March 2013
	Adeniyi F. Association and causation. 20 March 2013
	Adeniyi F. Revision session. Date 20 March 2013
	Adeniyi F. Introduction to Fundamentals of Epidemiology. Date: 18 July 2013
	Adeniyi F. Measures of effect and association. Date: 9 September 2013
	Young T. The challenge of confounding and effect modification. Date: 10 September 2013
	Adeniyi F. Association and causation. Date: 10 September 2013
Research	Esterhuizen T. Overview: Module in perspective. Date: 16 July 2013
proposal	Okwundu C. Literature review, library resources and managing references. Date: 16 July
writing and	2013
grantmanship	Young T. Study design review and practical exercises. Date: 18 July 2013
	• Machekano R. Biostatistical applications: Sample size and power calculations – Theory &
	Practice. Date: 18 July 2013
	Machekano R. Sampling techniques. Date: 18 July 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Questionnaire design. Date: 21 August 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Data Analysis Plan. Date: 21 August 2013
	Esterhuizen T. Data Analysis (I) and (II). Date: 17 September 2013
Writing and	Adeniyi F. Formative Assessment on critical appraisal of diagnostic test studies and
reviewing	systematic review. Date: 10 May 2013
scientific	
papers	

Systematic	Young T. Planning & preparation of a systematic review. Date: 19 July 2013					
reviews	Okwundu C. GRADEing the evidence. Date: 20 August 2013					
	Okwundu C. Presenting results, summary of findings tables. Date: 20 August 2013					
	Okwundu C. Interpreting results and drawing conclusions. Date: 20 August 2013					
	• McCaul M. WebStudies discussion, Topic: Using systematic reviews to inform policy and					
	practice. Date: 30 September 2013					
	McCaul M. Question and answer opportunity for students. Date: 30 September 2013					
Biostatistics II	Esterhuizen T. Analysis of variance (ANOVA). Date: 01 August 2013					
	Esterhuizen T. Correlation and simple regression. Date: 02 August 2013					
	Esterhuizen T and Zunza M. Logistic regression. Date: 02 September 2013					
	Esterhuizen T and Zunza M. Survival analysis. Date: 13 September 2013					
	Esterhuizen T and Zunza M. Revision. Date: 9 October 2013					

MPhil Public Mental Health (UCT)

• Young T. Literature and systematic reviews. Lecture to: MPhil Public Mental Health Students at UCT. University of Cape Town. Date: 23 January 2013

Postgraduate Certificate in Integrative Medicine (SU)

- Rohwer A. Introduction to Evidence-based Health Care. Date: 25 January 2013
- Schoonees A. Online tutoring. Date: 18 25 February 2013, 28 March 2 April 2013, 4 10 September and 16 - 21 October 2013

Pre-doctoral Programme

- Okwundu C. Evidence-based Health Care. Date: 19 February 2013
- Esterhuizen T. Quantitative Methods. Date: 21 February 2013
- Naude CE. Time and data management. Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Pre-doctoral Programme. Date: 1 March 2013

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

Lectures and presentations

- Naude CE. Salt, hypertension and why lowering our intake is necessary. Unilever Road show. Cape Town. 20 August 2013
- Schoonees A. Design and critical appraisal of case-control studies. Lecture to: Post-graduate students and clinicians doing the short course in clinical research skills. Stellenbosch University, Tygerberg Campus. Date: 3 June 2013
- Schoonees A. Case-control studies: design and critical appraisal. Short course in clinical research skills.
 Date: 3 June 2013
- Young T. Evidence-informed health care and the role of systematic reviews Relevance to Oncology. Radiation Oncology. Date: 9 April 2013
- Young T. The role of researchers and clinicians in knowledge translation. Psychiatry Departmental meeting. Date: 16 April 2013

Workshops

- Young T, Adeniyi S. Knowledge translation in health: what is it all about? Ukwanda Rural research day, Rural Clinical School Worcester. Date: 7 March 2013
- Young T, Garner P. Primer in systematic reviews and research synthesis. Blantyre, Malawi. Date: 8 11
 July 2013

- Young T, van Schalkwyk S. Evidence-based health care: Teaching within an EBHC framework.
 Stellenbosch University, Tygerberg Campus. Date: 24 July 2013
- CEBHC together with The Campbell Collaboration. Systematic Reviewing for Evidence-based Practice: An introductory workshop. Stellenbosch University, Tygerberg Campus. Date: 25 26 November 2013
- Young T, Naude CE, Kredo T. Policy BUDDIES: Workshops on research translation. Dates: 7, 13 & 19
 November 2014

Seminar Series

The CEBHC offers a variety of seminars to health professionals in the field. In 2013 a dedicated seminar series was offered to the Division of Nursing at Stellenbosch and University of Western Cape Faculty of Dentistry as part of their staff development initiatives. The series was offered over a four-month period.

Evidence-based health care seminar series
Introduction to EBHC: the what, the why, and the how
Phrasing clear questions
Accessing the evidence (Hands-on searching)
How to (I): Read a paper about therapy
How to (II): Read a systematic review and meta-analysis
How to (III): Read a paper about diagnostic tests
How to (IV): Read a paper about risk factors (cohort study)
How to (V): Read a paper about harm (case-control study)
How to (VI): Read clinical practice guidelines
Implementing research findings

The Biostatistics Unit also facilitated monthly 1.5-hour biostatistics seminar series covering current topical issues. The main objective of the seminar series was to create awareness and literacy of biostatistical methods that are commonly found in research articles. Such knowledge assists students and researchers in interpreting and evaluating evidence from studies that apply these advanced methods. Participants were given an article relevant to the topic under discussion to read prior to the seminar.

Topic	Summary
The Tyranny of Power: sample size considerations	A brief review of sample size issues to consider when planning a study. The talk reviewed the current arguments about using significance testing or
	confidence intervals to estimate sample size
Biostatistical wars: Significance	This talk reviewed the debate on whether to perform Null Hypothesis
testing versus Interval Estimation	Significance Tests (NHST) versus Confidence Interval Estimation.
Recent developments in	Evidence from non-experimental study designs has always been considered
observational data analysis I	inferior to RCTs. This talk presented analytic methods that can be used to
	improve quality of evidence from observational studies.
Recent developments in	This talk highlighted the use of a class of estimators, instrumental variable
observational data analysis II	approach, in the analysis of observational studies.



MANAGEMENT

Strategic goal	Objectives
Promote the optimal functioning and sustainable growth of the CEBHC	Understand the needs of stakeholders Diversify the funding base and increase the amount of funding available to support the functions of the CEBHC Active marketing of the CEBHC Recruit, develop and retain staff Maintain and increase partnerships within and outside the Faculty Maintain a risk registry Develop quality assurance processes
	Develop quality assurance processes

GOVERNANCE

The work of the CEBHC is guided by the Constitution of the Centre. The Centre is managed by a Director and her Management Committee, while oversight is provided by a Governing Board.



Governing Board

Board members

- Dr Tania Brodovcky
- Prof Usuf Chikte (Chairperson)
- Dr Therese Fish
- Prof Paul Garner
- Prof Wilhelm Steyn
- Dr Krish Vallabhjee
- Prof Jimmy Volmink
- Prof Taryn Young

The governing body consists of the director of the Centre and five to six individuals, including for instance the Dean, deputy-Dean for Research/Teaching/Community Service and -Interaction Liaison, Head of the DIHS, a representative of one of the other departments within the Faculty, an external expert in the field of EBHC and a representative of the National or Provincial Department of Health. The governing body meets annually and provides strategic oversight and direction to the Centre.

Management committee

The management committee, consisting of the Director, head of DIHS and two to three staff members meet regularly to discuss management issues. Specific individuals are co-opted when necessary, based on the agenda of the specific management committee meeting.

HIGHLIGHTS

Launch of the Biostatistics Unit



The Biostatistics Unit works towards increasing the quality and productivity of research, and knowledge and application of modern biostatistical techniques through didactic lessons, seminars and workshops. Furthermore, the Unit conducts biostatistical methodological research and provides statistical consulting and grant preparation assistance services. The official launch of the Biostatistics Unit took place on 6 September 2013. Researchers, postgraduate students, head of Departments, Centres and Divisions, and Faculty management from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, and colleagues from main campus, South African Medical Research Council, Universities of Western Cape and Cape Town attended the event where Prof Eugene Cloete, Vice-Rector (Research & Innovation), gave a key note talk on *Stellenbosch University's Institutional Intent and Strategy 2013-2018* and Prof Jimmy Volmink, dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, spoke on *Biostatistics capacity in the African region*. The Biostatistics Unit is headed by Dr Rhoderick Machekano.

Dr Charles Okwundu from the CEBHC wins prestigious Cochrane Collaboration award



Congratulations to Dr Charles Okwundu from CEBHC on winning the Kenneth Warren award http://www.cochrane.org/about-us/awards-scholarships-funding-initiatives/annual-prizes-and-awards/kenneth-warren-prize for 2013. The prize is awarded to the principal author of a review published on the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews in *The Cochrane Library*. Charles received the award for his systematic review on Antiretroviral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for preventing HIV in high-risk individuals.

Dr Celeste Naude, senior researcher at the CEBHC received the Medical Research Council (MRC) Career Development Award

This is one of the flagship awards of the Research Capacity Development Sub-Directorate of the MRC. The Career Development Programme is a partnership between the MRC and the tertiary education sector. The purpose the award is to build research capacity and scientific leadership by creating new positions for senior post-doctoral scientists that have demonstrated a potential to become established researchers. The award is for a period of two years, starting in January 2013 and renewable for a further two years, subject to satisfactory progress and availability of funds.

Inaugural meeting of the Southern African Clinical Epidemiology Association (SACEA)

On 3 April 2013, the inaugural meeting of the Southern African Clinical Epidemiology Association (SACEA), organised by the Universities of Stellenbosch, Witwatersrand and Pretoria in collaboration with the International Epidemiology Association (IEA) and International Clinical Epidemiology Network (INCLEN), was hosted by the CEBHC. Twenty-four participants, from various health backgrounds, including nursing, dietetics, paramedics, dentistry, and medicine, and many of whom graduated with the MSc in Clinical Epidemiology from Stellenbosch University, attended the meeting.



SACEA aims to promote the science and practice of Clinical Epidemiology, develop the scope of practice for Clinical Epidemiologists, benchmark and standardise Clinical Epidemiology education and training programmes, support collaborative efforts among academic institutions for development, delivery and improvement and quality assurance of Clinical Epidemiology education and training programmes including experiential learning, promote continuous professional development in Clinical Epidemiology for all health professionals and partner with other international organisations of Epidemiology and Clinical Epidemiology. Although the focus of SACEA is Clinical Epidemiology, it welcomes other epidemiologists as well.

The proceedings started with messages from both the IEA and INCLEN. Facilitated discussions on Clinical Epidemiology, the scope of Clinical epidemiologists and Clinical Epidemiology and Southern African health systems were followed by a dedicated time to talk about theoretical and experiential learning in Clinical Epidemiology. Participants engaged critically with these topics and lively discussions took place. The meeting was followed by a special training meeting where academics from three South African universities and the University of Ibadan (Nigeria) shared experiences in offering postgraduate training in Clinical Epidemiology.

The SACEA elected an interim executive committee which will govern the Society until the first annual general meeting in 2014. The members of the Interim Executive committee are: Prof Jimmy Volmink (President); Dr Newton Kumwenda (Deputy President), Prof Taryn Young (Secretary) and Dr Nandi Siegfried (Treasurer) and five other members including a representative from IEA and INCLEN. Stellenbosch University will host the interim secretariat.

INTELLECTUAL INPUT

Taryn Young

- 1. Member, Cochrane author forum, 2013-
- 2. Member, Consultation Group, Cochrane Collaboration 2020 strategic plan, 2013
- 3. Member, Scientific programme committee, African Cochrane Indaba, 2013
- 4. Member, Scientific programme committee, Guideline International Network conference, 2013
- 5. Member, Scientific programme committee, 2nd Conference of the International Society for EBHC held jointly with the 6th International Conference for EBHC Teachers and Developers, 30 October 2 November 2013
- 6. Editor, Cochrane Occupational Health Review Group. 2010 ongoing
- 7. Editor, Cochrane Sexually Transmitted Diseases Review Group. July 2008 ongoing
- 8. Section Editor, Cochrane Column in International Journal of Epidemiology. 2005 2013
- 9. Editor, Current Allergy and Clinical Immunology. 2006 ongoing
- 10. Chair of the Masters in Clinical Epidemiology programme, selection and bursary committees 2008 -
- 11. Member of EHCRC Executive Committee, 2011- ongoing
- 12. South African Epidemiology Association (SACEA) executive committee member, 2013 ongoing

Charles Wiysonge

- 1. Peer reviewer, BMJ, 2013
- 2. Peer reviewer, BMC Medicine, 2013
- 3. Peer reviewer, Public Health, 2013
- 4. Peer reviewer, BMJ Open, 2013
- 5. Internal examiner, MSc, Stellenbosch University, 2013
- 6. Internal examiner, PhD proposal, Stellenbosch University, 2013
- 7. External examiner, PhD, University of Bergen, Norway, 2013
- 8. GREAT Network Steering Committee, 2013
- 9. WHO African Task Force on Immunisation Committee, 2013
- 10. African Advisory Committee on Health Research and Development Committee, 2013
- 11. Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI) Independent Review Committee, 2013

Celeste Naude

- 1. Peer reviewer, Public Health Nutrition, Cambridge Journals, February 2013
- 2. Peer reviewer, South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition, 2013
- 3. Member of the steering committee of the Lipid Science Group of South Africa, 2013 ongoing
- 4. South African Epidemiology Association (SACEA) executive committee member, 2013 ongoing

Anel Schoonees

- 1. Peer reviewer, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, May 2013
- 2. Peer reviewer, BMC Public, May 2013
- 3. Examined M Nutrition (Stellenbosch University): "The effect of vitamin D supplementation on the components of the metabolic syndrome: a systematic review". Submitted by Dr Charlene Wolberg, Dec 2012 Feb 2013

Liesl Nicol

- 1. Peer reviewer, Journal of the International AIDS Society, July 2013
- 2. Peer reviewer, South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition, July 2013
- 3. Examined MSc Epidemiology degree (Wits School of Public Health): "Predictors of weight loss in HIV infected women on antiretroviral therapy in Rwanda". Submitted by Dr Jean Paul Kimenyi

PROJECT LEADERSHIP NATIONALLY, REGIONALLY, AND INTERNATIONALLY

EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE RESEARCH CONSORTIUM (EHCRC)

In collaboration with national and international partners, the CEBHC, funded by the UK DFID, aims to increase evidence-informed decision-making that will improve the health and health care for the poor in low- and middle-income countries via the Effective Health Care Research Consortium (EHCRC) (www.evidence4health.org). The CEBHC leads this work in the African region and provide project management to partners in Cameroon (Centre for the Development of Best Practices in Health), Kenya (KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme), Nigeria (Calabar Institute of Tropical Diseases and Prevention), and South Africa (South African Cochrane Centre).

POLICY BUDDIES – BUILDING DEMAND FOR EVIDENCE IN DECISION MAKING THROUGH INTERACTION AND ENHANCING SKILLS

The CEBHC provides leadership and project management for the Policy BUDDIES collaborative project. The CEBHC works with the SACC, the Health Systems and Services Research Unit at Stellenbosch University, the Centre for the Development of Best Practices in Health (Cameroon) and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (UK). The project is funded by the World Health Organisation.

EVIDENCE TO INFORM SOUTH AFRICAN TUBERCULOSIS POLICIES (EVISAT)

To contribute to evidence-informed policy development in South Africa, the *Evidence to Inform South African Tuberculosis policies* (EVISAT) project, under the leadership of the CEBHC, provided oversight, quality assurance and management for robust systematic reviews on the epidemiology of, and programmatic response to TB in South Africa. It also took stock of international systematic review evidence on strategies to prevent, diagnose, manage and offer services to TB patients. The CEBHC works with the National Department of Health, World Health Organisation (WHO), Desmond Tutu TB Centre (DTTC), and the Health Systems and Services Research (HSSR) Unit at Stellenbosch University. The project is funded by the World Health Organisation.

R³ for CDIA - RELEVANT AND ROBUST SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS TO SUPPORT THE CHRONIC DISEASES INITIATIVES IN AFRICA

The SACC, South African Medical Research Council and the CEBHC were awarded joint funding from the Cochrane Collaboration's Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative (GESI) for this project through which these institutions will support CDIA by delivering systematic reviews of the effects of interventions that will help inform policies and strategies aimed at addressing the high burden of non-communicable diseases in Africa.

SURMEPI

Within the SURMEPI project the CEBHC provides the lead for the EBHC activities at under-, postgraduate and continuing professional development levels.

STAFF

The work of the CEBHC is supported by an excellent team of full-time and part-time staff. Each staff member has a detailed job description, key performance areas and development plans.



Dr Folasade Adeniyi

Folasade Adeniyi is a medical doctor with a master's degree in Clinical Epidemiology from Stellenbosch University, South Africa. She is involved in conducting systematic reviews of health-care interventions, and teaching clinical epidemiology and evidence-based health care. She is interested in conducting research on the best ways to translate evidence to practice with special emphasis on the uptake of best evidence in child health.



Ms Tonya Esterhuizen

Tonya Esterhuizen has an honours degree in biochemistry and immunology and a MSc in Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She provides biostatistical consulting, participates in collaborative research, and teaches on both under- and postgraduate level. She works with local and international Cochrane Review authors and groups, assisting in the preparation of statistical methods in review protocols and meta-analysis of data. She is a statistical reviewer for the Cochrane Infectious Diseases group. Tonya is a founding member of the Southern African Clinical Epidemiology Association, and has many collaborative publications in applied biostatistics and epidemiology, in various health disciplines.



Dr Rhoderick N Machekano

Rhoderick N Machekano holds a PhD in Biostatistics and a MPH in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. He is currently the Head of the Biostatistics Unit where he leads the development of biostatistics capacity building at Stellenbosch FMHS. His duties include managing the Unit, teaching, biostatistical consulting, research collaboration, and mentoring of postgraduate students. He has worked in public health for over 20 years, focusing on designing and evaluating HIV/AIDS/STIs interventions in both developed and developing countries. Over the course of his professional career, he has acquired valuable skills in translating research into policy, exercising his ability to transform data into knowledge. He has published modestly in reputable scientific journals.



Mrs Traci Naidoo

Traci Naidoo is the project manager at the Centre for Evidence-based Health Care. She is responsible for the day-to-day running of the Centre as well as organising various workshops and seminars. She also does the marketing of the Centre, including updating the Facebook page and website.



Dr Celeste Naude

Celeste Naude is a registered dietician and senior researcher. She holds a master's degree in Nutrition (2007) and a PhD (Nutritional Sciences) (2012) from Stellenbosch University. Her roles include research, knowledge translation, project management and teaching. She is a member of the technical author team for systematic reviews and evidence summaries, an investigator for primary research projects and is involved in African and international research networks via the ECHRC. Celeste has authored and coauthored papers in peer-reviewed journals and textbook chapters, disseminated research findings at international and national congresses and been an invited speaker at congresses, symposiums, and workshops. She serves as a peer-reviewer for national and international journals and as a supervisor and examiner for postgraduate students.



Dr Liesl Anne Nicol

Liesl Nicol is currently a part-time senior researcher. Her responsibilities at the Centre for Evidence-based Health Care include project management, research and knowledge translation. She obtained her PhD in Exercise Physiology at the University of Cape Town in 2003. She has experience in conducting and support of Cochrane Reviews, and facilitating the learning of evidence-based healthcare. She was the study director for the Academy of Science of South Africa's Consensus Study on HIV, Tuberculosis and Nutrition and also has experience in research administration.



Dr Eleanor Ochodo

Eleanor Ochodo is a medical doctor specialised in epidemiology and public health. She holds a BSc degree in Medicine and Surgery (MB,ChB) from the University of Nairobi, Kenya, a postgraduate certificate in Infectious Diseases from the University of Edinburgh and a MSc in International Health from the Free University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands (Vrije Universiteit). She is currently completing her PhD in Clinical Epidemiology with the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands. For her PhD, titled "Strengthening methods for diagnostic accuracy studies", she evaluates the methodology of primary diagnostic accuracy studies and systematic reviews of diagnostic accuracy. Her current interests are biomarker and medical test evaluations, global health diagnostics, systematic reviews and meta-analyses, evidence-based medicine and global health.



Dr Charles Okwundu

Charles Okwundu was trained a medical doctor at the University of Lagos, Nigeria, and completed a master's in Public Health at the University of Cape Town. He is currently working as a researcher. Charles has been involved with the Cochrane Collaboration since 2006 as a review author and has been involved in a number of Cochrane systematic reviews. His particular interests are in evidence-based health care and paediatrics. He is currently involved in a number of activities aimed at promoting the practice of evidence-based health care within the African region and also increasing the involvement of Cochrane authors from the African region.



Ms Anke Rohwer

Anke Rohwer is a part-time researcher at the CEBHC. She has a background in midwifery (BCur) and has completed her masters in Clinical Epidemiology in 2010. She is involved in various systematic reviews and research projects on teaching evidence-based health care (EBHC) to health-care professionals at undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing medical education level. These include assessments of evidence-based health care (EBHC) competencies in the medical and allied health curricula at SU, an evaluation of an online module on EBM and an overview of systematic reviews looking at the effects of teaching EBHC. She has a particular interest in online learning in an African context, which is the focus of her PhD research. Other research activities include conducting systematic reviews as part of the Effective Health Care Research Programme Consortium, which promotes evidence-based practice and policy in Africa.



Ms Anel Schoonees

Anel Schoonees is a researcher with undergraduate training in Food Science (2006). She also holds a master's degree in Nutrition (2011) and a master's degree in Clinical Epidemiology (2012) from Stellenbosch University. Anel's roles at the CEBHC include research, teaching and knowledge translation. She is the author and co-author of a number of systematic reviews and other research (e.g. evaluation of allied health curricula for evidence-based health care competencies; descriptive study on the advertising of nutritional supplements in South African women's magazines), and has disseminated research findings at international and national conferences. She is also involved in peer-reviewing systematic reviews and examining postgraduate students. She teaches systematic reviews and evidence-based health care to health-care professionals, undergraduate and postgraduate students, and provides guidance to new systematic review authors. On the knowledge translation front she writes summaries of systematic reviews, edits Wikipedia to refer to systematic reviews and interacts with stakeholders such as the media and a NGO.



Prof Charles Shey Wiysonge

Charles Wiysonge is the Deputy Director of the Centre for Evidence-based Health Care. He holds a PhD from the University of Cape Town (South Africa), a MPhil from the University of Cambridge (UK) and an MD from the University of Yaoundé I (Cameroon), and undertook a non-degree research fellowship in evidence-based health care at the UK Cochrane Centre in Oxford. He has extensive experience in teaching evidence-based health care and in working with clinicians and policy makers to promote the use of research evidence in decision-making. His research work has focused primarily on evidence synthesis for childhood immunisation, HIV, TB, and cardiovascular disease. In December 2013, Charles had the h-index of 21 and the i10-index of 35. His research work has a wide international impact; judging from bibliometric analyses, influence on global health policies, and invitations to join international scientific and policymaking committees.



Prof Taryn Young

Taryn Young, MB,ChB, FCPHM, MMED, is the director of the CEBHC. She is an epidemiologist with a specialist degree in Public Health and considerable expertise in the field of evidence-based health care. She has coordinated international collaborative projects which facilitate the use of best evidence in health-care policy and practice, conducted many systematic reviews and provided intensive training, mentorship and editorial support to authors of Cochrane and other systematic reviews. She leads the coordination of the Effective Health Care Research Consortium, which promotes evidence-based practice and policy in Africa, taking into account the unique attributes of the region and the relevance of proposed activities. Integral to her work is the coordination and evaluation of training programmes for under- and postgraduate students in public health and epidemiology, evidence-based health care and research synthesis nationally and in the African region.



Ms Moleen Zunza

Moleen Zunza qualified as a nurse in 2004 at the University of Zimbabwe and received a master's degree in Clinical Epidemiology at Stellenbosch University (2011). She is currently studying towards her PhD, with the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health at Stellenbosch University, and is also a part-time honours student in Statistics at Stellenbosch University. Her main interests are in Maternal and Child Health and HIV/AIDS epidemiological research and Biostatistics. She served as a steering committee member of the Partnership for Cohort Research and Training, collaboration among five African institutions and Harvard School of Public Health (2009-2013). She is a founding and executive member of the Southern African Clinical Epidemiology Association. Work experience includes; registered nurse at Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals (2004-2008); researcher at the Centre for Evidenced based Health Care, Stellenbosch University (2011 to date). She assists with the teaching of the Biostatistics module for the MSc in Clinical Epidemiology Programme.

Extraordinary staff appointments

The work of the CEBHC is also supported by the following extraordinary staff that were appointed in 2013:

- Prof Paul Garner, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
- Mr Alfred Musekiwa, South Africa
- Prof Marek Smieja, McMaster University, Canada
- Prof Lehana Thabane, McMaster University, Canada
- Dr Olalekan Uthman, Warwick University, United Kingdom

FUNDING PROPOSALS

On an ongoing basis CEBHC staff actively engages in the preparation and submission of funding proposals. The tables below provide a summary of proposals submitted, and its outcome, in 2013.

Funder	Project/proposal title	Collaborators	Lead or contributor	Outcome	Amount
Agence de Médecine Préventive (AMP), France	Supporting National Independent Immunization and Vaccine Advisory Committees (SIVAC) Initiative	-	Lead	Successful	US375 per day * 100 days Dec13-Nov14
Publication incentive: FMHS, SU	Ready-to-use therapeutic food for home-based treatment of severe acute malnutrition in children from six months to five years of age (Review)	-	Lead	Successful	R5 000
	The advertising of nutritional supplements in SA women's magazines: a descriptive survey	-	Lead	Successful	R5 000
German Ministry of Education and Research	Collaboration for Evidence-Based Health care and Public Health in Africa, CEBHA+	The Collaboration for Evidence- Based Health care and Public Health in Africa (CEBHA+) comprises two German partners, eight African partners and two associate partners	Contributor	Successful for Phase 1	Eur 60 000
DST-NRF CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME	Centre for Food Systems Change (CFSC)	Name of Host Institution: University of the Western Cape (UWC) Name of Co-host: University of Stellenbosch (SU) Name of Second Co-host(s): University of Cape Town (UCT) Name of Collaborator(s): University of Fort Hare, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU), City University of New York (CUNY), University of Missouri (MU), Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex (IDS), Australian National University (ANU)	Contributor	Successful UWC will co-host the CoE in Food Security with the University of Pretoria (UP).	Monetary contribution for SU to be determined
MRC Flagship	SAGE – South African Guideline Evaluation Project	South African Cochrane Centre, MRC Health systems research Unit, MRC Physiotherapy Division, SU	Contributor	Successful	R6 923 160
Travel grant: FMHS, SU	Attendance of Cochrane Colloquium 2013, Quebec City, Canada	-	Lead	Successful	R30 000

Funder	Project/proposal title	Collaborators	Lead or contributor	Outcome	Amount
Fogarty Planning grant	Africa Centre for Biostatistical Excellence: Advancing Biostatistics Capacity for HIV/AIDS Research	Faculty, McMaster University	Lead	Successful	R460 000
NRF	Communicating evidence to inform decisions about health care in Argentina and South Africa: a framework for going from evidence to public health recommendations (COMMUNION-ASAP)	Argentine Cochrane Centre IECS, Institute for Clinical Effectiveness and Health Policy, Buenos Aires, Argentina	Lead	Await outcome	R307,162.00
DFID	Building Capacity to Use Research Evidence (BCURE)	CEBHC and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine; working with partners in South Africa (South African Cochrane Centre), Nigeria, Uganda and Kenya.	Lead	Not successful	GBP 1,470,659
Cochrane Airways Group	Vitamin D for managing chronic asthma in children and adults	Prof Elvis Irusen, Division of Pulmonology, Stellenbosch University	Lead	Not successful	-
EuropeAid	Enhancing the Quality in Rural primary health care (EQuiRP)	Division of Community Health, Nursing Division, University of Western Cape, Western Cape Provincial Department of Health	Contributor	Not successful	-
Health Research sub- Directorate, Western Cape Provincial DoH	Capacity Building in Health Science Communication	Carine Visage, Health/Digital Journalist Consultant, South Africa	Lead	Not successful	R 35 280
HPCSA, Professional Board of Emergency care	Development of Emergency care guidelines and protocols	Emergency Medicine Division, SU	Contributor	Not successful	R317 000
EU	Improving quality of care for chronic disease management and prevention - developing, implementing and evaluating an evidence-informed interdisciplinary, inter-sectorial care model.	Physiotherapy Division, SU	Lead	Not successful	R 1,100,000

WEBSITE, MARKETING AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The Centre has a Facebook page www.facebook.com/cebhc as well as a Twitter account and blogs on different workshops attended by staff. The Facebook page is used to communicate key information and developments to our followers. The CEBHC website gets updated regularly.

Past blogs:

- http://cebhc5.wordpress.com/ blog by Anke Rohwer, Celeste Naude, Anel Schoonees and Eleanor Ochodo on their experience attending the 21st Cochrane Colloquium, Quebec City 2013
- http://cebhc3.wordpress.com/ blog by Anke Rohwer on her experience attending Teaching Evidence-based Practice workshop in Oxford from 3-7 September 2012
- http://cebhc2.wordpress.com/ blog by Anke Rohwer on her learning experience attending The Campbell Colloquium in Copenhagen from 29-31 May 2012
- http://cebhc.wordpress.com/ blog by Anel Schoonees on her experience attending The Research into Health Policy workshop which took place in Cameroon in May 2012

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