

# Division of Epidemiology & Biostatistics Monthly Newsletter

## January 2019

### Congratulations & News



Welcome to new Honorary Associate Professor **Steve Reynolds**. Steve is a Senior Clinician working with the NIH NIAID. He is based in Uganda where he provides scientific direction to the ICER and Rakai programs.

We also want to welcome **Demi Meyer** - she is joining us for the year as an NRF funded intern, under the supervision of **Jabulani Ncayiyana**.



A new project called **TUPUMUE** was launched this month in Kenya - this project will look at lung function as well as experiences of pollution and asthma in children in Nairobi and has some interesting co-creation community participation components. **Maia Lesosky** is the statistical co-investigator. Funded by the UK MRC and Kenya NRF.



The IEA Africa regional conference is taking place in Maputo, Mozambique this year 14-17 April. The Division is hosting a workshop on Causal inference (**Jabulani Ncayiyana**) and attendance is encouraged.

### Papers out this month

Hoare J, ..., **Myer L**, ..., Stein DJ. Initiation of antiretroviral therapy after the critical neuronal development period of the second postnatal year affects white matter microstructure in adolescents living with HIV. *Journal of NeuroVirology* (2019)

**Mogoba P, Phillips TK, Myer L**, ... , Clouse K. Smartphone usage and preferences among postpartum HIV-positive women in South Africa. *AIDS Care* (2019).

**Brittain K, Phillips TK**, ..., **Myer L**. Long-term effects of unintended pregnancy on antiretroviral therapy outcomes among South African women living with HIV. *AIDS* (2019)

Phillips NJ, ..., **Myer L**, ... , Hoare J. Screening for HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders in perinatally infected adolescents. *AIDS* (2019)

### Abstracts accepted

**Rambau B, Lesosky M**. Temporal interactions of microbiota in longitudinal nasopharyngeal samples and association with repeated lower respiratory tract infections. *Statistical modelling of multivariate longitudinal and survival data in medical research*. University of Cape Town 29 Jan - 1 Feb 2019.

### For pondering

This recent paper suggests that “**the provision of chocolate cookies had a significant effect on course evaluation.**”

Hessler et al. Availability of cookies during an academic course session affects evaluation of teaching. *Medical Education* (2018) <https://doi.org/10.1111/medu.13627>

Provide cookies? Value of evaluations?

### Upcoming Meetings & Deadlines

MPH Orientation: 6-7 February 2019

Intro to R workshop: 11-13 February 2019

Division meeting: 22 February 2019, 14:00-15:00

CROI 2019 (Seattle): 4-9 March 2019

**Please send accepted abstracts, published papers, or any other good news no later than 3 days before the end of the month for inclusion in the newsletter to:**

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