



Health Research News – April 2011

Health Research News is a periodic informative bulletin concerning the activities of health research. Its purpose is to inform countries, partners and managers and staff of PAHO on the advances in the execution of the Health Research Policy. It is compiled by the research team. [Past issues](#). Comments to villanue@paho.org



Evidence Informed Policy Network (EVIPNet)

HOT Spot

Workshop in Chile: “Preparing “policy briefs” and organizing deliberative dialogues in EVIPNet.” Eight EVIPNet Teams (Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, US-México Border, Paraguay, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago) worked the week of 7 March and advanced on the development of policy briefs and deliberative dialogues. See [press note](#). Participants also attended a seminar organized by the Center for Public Policy and the Health Systems and Policy Research Unit of the Universidad Católica de Chile ([note](#))

Series of explanatory videos: “EVIPNet in Practice” and the value of EVIPNet for countries, [here](#). Go to [EVINet Brasil](#) website which shows the first completed policy brief and the work conducted by a Municipal Secretariat where EVIPNet is also applied.



Bangkok, March. A group of experts met to advance in the topic “Contribution of research in the implementation of the development of health policies reported by scientific evidence”. They covered the transforming role of the research on the health system and the present challenges in the translation of the knowledge, stemming from the example of studies of new methods of diagnoses of syphilis congenital made in several countries. Finally, initiatives and models of transforming experiences of health systems were shared, highlighting the positive experience of the Evidence Informed Policy Network (EVIPNet). See press note [here](#).

In Paraguay, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, 5 institutions (2 new NGOs) that usually collaborate with studies and investigations were convened to the Representative’s Office, to join in future undertakings and trainings. This activity was carried out as an institutional framework for the work of EVIPnet and was suggested in the workshop in Chile. See more at <http://www.mspbs.gov.py/v2/7663-A-TRAVE> (in Spanish).



The Policy brief “Policies of water distribution, sanitation, human rights, equity, and public health” was launched as part of the celebrations of the World Water Day. The Program of Environment and Sustainable Development (SDE) presented the evidence summary (Policy Brief), which was produced with in collaboration with the Research Promotion and Development Team. Link to Elluminate, [video](#) and [press](#) release.

Clinical Trials Registry

HOT Spot

The Cuban Public Record of Clinical Trials, the first “Primary Registry” in Spanish endorsed by WHO. Tuesday 5 April. The accreditation of the Cuban Public Record of Clinical Trials (RPCEC) was announced as the first Primary Registry in Spanish incorporated to the International Platform of Clinical Trials of WHO (ICTRP). The 12 registries that currently contribute data to ICTRP have made it possible to obtain essential information on nearly 130,000 protocols of clinical trials in the 2 years of operation of the ICTRP database (<http://bit.ly/ggMBjL>).



Development of Guidelines and Technical Documents

The workshop on "Development of guidelines and technical documents with recommendations from WHO/PAHO" will be dictated at the Headquarters Office on 9 and 10 May, with Dr. Holger J. Schünemann, Director of the Department of Clinical and Biostatistical Epidemiology of the University of McMaster, as facilitator. It is offered to the technical personnel of PAHO that work on the development of guidelines and technical documents with recommendations, in order to strengthen the standards in the production of these documents and recommendations. More information [here](#) (in Spanish).

Research Interest Group (RIG)

Sessions began again with a presentation on the new office of USAID for Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI). The presentation was conducted by Dr. Norka Ruiz Bravo, Special Advisor for Science and Technology Partnerships, USAID, who emphasized that the new office of STI is the result of the impulse that the new administration of science, technology, and innovation wants to offer.



NIH Presentation on USAID

USAID's Administrator Dr. Rajiv Shah says science key to global health gains. Paying tribute to NIH as an institution that envisions the world as it could be, not as it is today, Shah extolled the role of scientific research in raising health standards around the world. View the video cast "[Addressing Grand Challenges: The Role of Science in Global Health Development](#)".



Closing deadline for the PAHO Award - Cochrane Ibero-America Network: "Health Agenda for the Americas" - "Toward the Strengthening of Health Systems in the Americas."

We would like to remind you that the term to apply for this award expires on 20 June 2011 and that it rewards a systematic review and a useful and applicable protocol in the strengthening of health systems in Latin America ([Announcement](#)) ([2010 Award](#)).

Acknowledgements for the Health Research Promotion and Development Team (HSS/RF) for the support offered in the Regions



From WHO/East Mediterranean (EMRO)

Dr. N. To El Gasser, WMD, EMRO has requested support in the development of their framework document "Strategic Orientations for Health Research: Large-scale expansion in the Region of the Eastern Mediterranean" recognizing the "experience of the Americas in the consultation and approval of its Policy on Research for Health, its active role in the Region and the world, and the advancing work carried out together with strategic partners toward the participation of the stakeholders in the project of health research."



From OMS/West Pacific (WPRO)

WPRO is thankful for the support in the preparation of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to submit WPRO research proposals. The acknowledgement was printed in page iii of the SOPs available from: <http://www.wpro.who.int/publications/The+Ethics+Review+Committee+%28WPRO-ERC%29+standard+operating+procedures.htm>