

## BHP and Harvard University-A terrific partnership



BHP delegation met with Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Prof. Oathokwa Nkomazana (middle, front row) and her team at MOH Headquarters.

Harvard University's Vice Provost for International Affairs, Prof. Mark C. Elliott has described the partnership between Botswana Harvard Health Partnership (BHP) and [Harvard University](#) (HU) as "terrific", alluding to the groundbreaking scientific discoveries that have been made possible through the collaboration between BHP and Harvard University through the [Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#) (HSPH). Prof. Mark C. Elliott was addressing the 2024 annual

general meeting of the board of members at the Botswana Harvard HIV/AIDS Reference Laboratory (BHHRL) Conference Room on January 22, 2024. The meeting formally welcomed the new chair for BHP Board of Members, Dean Jane K. Kim. Mark Elliott was also accompanied by the Chair of the BHP Board of Directors, Prof. Roger Shapiro who is also a Principal Investigator for several maternal and child health studies at BHP. The three Harvard University colleagues

were in Botswana not only to attend the BHP Annual General Meeting but to engage with in-country BHP stakeholders including the Ministry of Health and the University of Botswana leadership.

"Every time I come here I am so intrigued by the quality of the work that you all do. Having good people working with you is important as the results show," he said. Prof Elliott praised the BHP on the COVID-19 work which led to the discovery of the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2.

He urged BHP to leverage the excellent COVID-19 work to come up with new breakthroughs and should remain committed to generating research whose output shall continue to benefit and improve the health systems and lives of people.

For her part, the new Board of Members chair, Dean Jane K. Kim echoed Prof Elliott's sentiment that BHP has good people doing amazing work. "You have bright cadres and you are doing incredible work. I have taken a deep dive of what has been happening at BHP. It is bigger and better," she said.

Dean Kim was amazed by how BHP is still afloat considering that it is largely grant funded, conceding that there is a definite need for unrestricted sources of funds. She was also intrigued by how BHP is able to achieve so much despite challenges, noting that it is impressive that the institute takes adversity as an opportunity to innovate, create, and evolve against all odds. Dean Kim was introduced to the Ministry of Health (MoH) at a meeting hosted by the Permanent Secretary Prof Oathokwa Nkomazana and to the [University of](#)

[Botswana](#) (UB) at a meeting hosted by Vice Chancellor, Prof. David Norris. Both meetings commended the collaboration with BHP. For his part Prof Norris praised the university's collaboration with BHP for developing essential competencies and skills that are central to championing a knowledge-based economy. He was appreciative of BHP grant supported graduation of seven MSc and 10 PhD graduates in the immediate past while there are currently 4 MSc and 5 PhD BHP supported fellows currently registered with the UB.

Furthermore, there have been at least 212 publications collaboratively co-authored by the fellows, UB and BHP supervisors. The meeting also discussed ways of strengthening the partnership including formalized joint academic appointments with all agreeing the relationship could lead to significant public health and academic benefits for all parties.

Professor Norris highlighted that the collaboration between universities and industry is increasingly perceived as a vehicle to enhance innovation through knowledge exchange.



Prof. Elliott and Dean Kim, during lab tour led by Terence Mohammed



Prof. Shapiro, Dean Kim and Prof. Elliott pose with the CTU Team at the BHP Clinical Trials Unit



BHP Delegation with the UB Team led by Vice Chancellor Prof. David Norris (middle, front row)

# BHP Investigators Elected in ACTG Committees

Botswana Harvard Health Partnership (BHP) investigators continue to highlight Botswana's growing influence in global health research, as five of its investigators have been elected to key committees within the [Advancing Clinical Therapeutics Globally for HIV/AIDS and Other Infections](#) (ACTG) network. The ACTG is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health's (NIH), National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Division of AIDS (NIAID) and is the oldest and largest funded such clinical trials network with 65 sites in over 15 countries focused on HIV and other infectious diseases. The election of the BHP staff enhances a fundamental move towards diversity, equity, inclusivity and the representation of African researchers in shaping global research on HIV/AIDS and other diseases.

The ACTG recently changed its name from AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) to Advancing Clinical Therapeutics Globally for HIV/AIDS and Other Infections in recognition of its research portfolio expanding beyond HIV/AIDS, however the acronym ACTG remaining unchanged.

The five BHP staff members have been elected to serve in the General Committee membership positions on the ACTG leadership, science, laboratory and resource committees and are Dr Unoda Chakalisa, Dr Ponego Ponatshego, Bonolo Phinius, Natasha Moraka and Otwell Elias. They will each serve a one-year term from December 2023 through November 30, 2025. The results of the committee membership elections were announced on January 29, 2024 by the ACTG Network's Principal Investigator and Chair of the Executive Committee, Judith S. Currier, MD.

Announcing the results of the membership elections to ACTG membership, Dr Currier explained that "the nominations were received from several highly experienced and qualified US and non-US international investigators and staff, both internal and external to the ACTG."

Dr Unoda Chakalisa who is the Gaborone Clinical Research Site Coordinator and Study Coordinator for ACTG studies at the BHP Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) has been elected to serve as an Investigator in the Reservoirs Remission and Cure Transformative Science Group (Cure TSG). Her CTU colleague, who is the Molepolole Clinical Research Site Leader, Dr Ponego Ponatshego and

PhD Research Fellow, Natasha Moraka have also been elected into the same committee also as investigators.

Another PhD Research Fellow, Bonolo Phinius is serving in the Hepatitis Transformative Science Group (Hep TSG) as an investigator while Laboratory Coordinator, Otwell Elias has been elected as an ACTG Non-Voting Member in the Laboratory Technologist Committee (LTC). Previously in the term that ended in November 2024, BHP Laboratory Director, Prof. Sikhulile Moyo served in the Laboratory Technologist committee as a non-voting member while Dr Motswedi Anderson was an investigator in the Hepatitis Transformative Science Group.

The election of BHP investigators to ACTG committees underscores the growing global recognition of the expertise and contributions of BHP researchers in the fight against HIV/AIDS and other public health challenges. By actively participating in these committees, the BHP investigators will have the opportunity to influence research priorities, study designs, and clinical trial protocols, bringing the African setting into consideration.



Dr Unoda Chakalisa



Dr Ponego Ponatshego



Bonolo Phinius



Natasha Moraka



Otwell Elias

# SANTHE Research Day at BHP a Success



Group photo of SANTHE delegation with BHP leadership, research fellows & BHP stakeholders after presentations

Botswana Harvard Health Partnership (BHP) hosted an enlightening two-day Research Day on the 27-28 February, 2024 under the auspices of the [Sub-Saharan African Network for TB/HIV Research Excellence](#) (SANTHE) who are sponsoring MSc and PhD capacity building for clinical and laboratory research. The Research day was held to present and assess ongoing BHP postdoctoral fellows and graduate students research projects to the sponsor. The SANTHE team was led by the Principal Investigator Prof Thumbi Ndungu from the [Africa Health Research Institute](#) (AHRI) in South Africa and was accompanied by Principal Investigators from all the SANTHE affiliated sites across Sub-Saharan Africa. In attendance were BHP SANTHE fellows, BHP leadership, student mentors from the University of Botswana and a representative from the Ministry of Communications Knowledge and Technology (MCKT), Mr. Abraham Mathodi.

The event resulted in critical review of ongoing SANTHE funded research projects as presented by fellows. It also evoked positive experience and appreciation of the research by BHP research fellows and investigators as well as by the representatives from [University of Botswana](#) and the Department of Research



Professor Thumbi Ndung'u, SANTHE Programme Director



Mr Abraham Mathodi of the Ministry of Communications Knowledge and Technology

at MCKT. The day started with a brief overview of the BHP presented by the Chief Executive Officer, Dr Joseph Makhema followed by a public lecture from SANTHE Programme Director, Professor Thumbi Ndung'u titled "Innovations in Translational HIV Prevention and Cure Research." Other presenters included Dr Thandi Omani, Program Director at Bill and Mellinda Gates Foundation who presented on the foundation's HIV strategy, as well as Dr Victoria Kasprowicz, Head of Programmes at SANTHE who shared SANTHE overview and its various opportunities, urging investigators to take advantage of the funding opportunities.

University of Botswana's Prof. Ishmael Kasvosve who is the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences presented on the collaboration through his faculty's graduate programmes where SANTHE funded BHP trainees and research fellows are enrolled for Masters and PhD studies. He hailed the collaboration between BHP and SANTHE as it has provided opportunity for the University to graduate more students in a country where graduate studies are underfunded.

BHP research fellows delivered oral presentations of their respective research work (*see table 1*). The Research day was meant to provide students/fellows funded by SANTHE, an opportunity to showcase their research activities, experiential learning and get feedback from experts in the room on how best they can enhance their research.

The SANTHE Research Day was also meant to expose SANTHE to current ongoing research taking place at BHP share outcomes from ongoing work, strengthen linkages and collaboration amongst SANTHE affiliated research entities and individuals working in the fields of health sciences and related disciplines.



Dr. Thandi Omani Program Director at Bill and Mellinda Gates Foundation



Dr Victoria Kasprowicz, Head of Programmes at SANTHE



Prof. Ishmael Kasvosve Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Botswana

Table 1. Presentations by BHP fellows

RESEARCHER	PROJECT/TITLE OF PRESENTATION
Dr. Catherine Koofhethile	HIV Cure research in Botswana
Dr. Motswedi Anderson	HBV human genetics project
Prof. Sikhulile Moyo	Pathogen Genomics at BHP
Natasha O. Moraka	Dynamics of HIV-1 in recently diagnosed individuals in the era of "Treat all" in Botswana, the TEKODISO (BHP161) Study
Wonderful T. Choga	SARS -CoV-2 evolution in Botswana
Dr. Dorcas Maruapula	Prevalence and Impact of HIV drug resistance mutations in a nationwide representative samples of adults with HIV in Botswana
Linda Mpofu-Dobo	The Effect of First Line Dolutegravir and Tenofovir Containing Drug Regimens On HIV-HBV Concomitantly Infected Participants
Patrick Mokgethi	Virologic and molecular characterization of HIV-1 in non-citizens living with HIV in Botswana

# Workshop on HIV Cure enlightens the community on HIV Cure possibilities



HIV cure workshop attendees

Testament to the power of partnerships in driving positive change in global health, the Botswana Harvard Health Partnership (BHP) in collaboration with the [HIV Cure Africa Acceleration Partnership](#) (HCAAP) and the [Centre for Youth of Hope](#) (CEYOHO) hosted an informative Community HIV Cure Workshop on Friday 22, 2024 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Gaborone. The workshop was dedicated to sharing information with the community on the progress that has been made towards finding a cure for HIV to end the epidemic. The workshop brought together a multi-disciplinary group of stakeholders that include scientists, researchers, communities, and healthcare professionals in a collaborative effort to discuss and share information on HIV Cure research and currently available cure strategies that are being pursued globally.

The workshop was aimed at updating the community on HIV cure progress and future directions, to gain insights into current community understanding of HIV cure and how they want to engage with cure processes and strategies being developed to prepare for a possible HIV cure. The workshop featured presentations

and discussions on the advancements in HIV research, treatment, and potential cure strategies. Participants hailed from diverse backgrounds which included scientists, academics, community leaders and general community, reflecting a collective commitment to eradicating HIV.

The workshop was made possible through funding from HCAAP and BHP. Dominic Kemps of HCAAP, an organization whose vision is to accelerate progress towards a cure for HIV in Africa, set the scene with the objectives of the workshop, highlighting why cure matters for people living with HIV as a prevention strategy despite effective HIV treatment.

One of the key highlights of the workshop was the cutting-edge research presentation by BHP Senior Research Scientist, Dr Catherine Koofhethile on ***"HIV reservoir and the mechanisms of HIV persistence in people living with HIV who are undergoing long-term Antiretroviral treatment"***, which could provide potential avenues for developing a cure. Dr Koofhethile's presentation sparked optimism among attendees that a

cure for HIV may be possible in the future. She noted that the research is investigating why HIV still sticks around even when someone is on successful ART and has no detectable viral load, explaining that cracking this code could lead to a possible cure.

“The reservoir is the biggest obstacle to finding a cure for HIV. I encourage no one to stop treatment because latently infected cells can remain suppressed for a long time, and if one stops treatment, they can get activated and start producing the virus again consequently making the viral load to be detectable again,” she warned.

Dr Koofhethile also presented on HIV cure strategies that are being studied globally, urging participants to be vocal and have an active role in the development of cure strategies. So far [only a few people have been found to be cured of HIV](#). Dr Simani Gaseitsiwe presented on **“HIV prevention and treatment strategies in Botswana”** for the participants to appreciate how far the country has come in the fight against HIV. BHP Community and Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator, Ernest Moseki presented on the **“Myths and Misconceptions on HIV Cure”**, making the participants to be wary of them as they are misleading and not factual. He stated that if not dispelled, the misconceptions can lead to people developing antagonistic attitudes towards treatment

strategies, thereby putting their lives in danger. CEYOHO’s Kennedy Mupeli shared information on **“The Botswana HIV Cure Research Literacy Initiative”** which is aimed at enhancing understanding of the HIV cure research agenda among long-term HIV survivors and communities most affected by HIV. The initiative’s primary objectives include enhancing knowledge by creating awareness in communities impacted by HIV to enable them to contribute meaningfully to the HIV cure research agenda.

In addition to scientific presentations, the workshop also included break-away group discussions, interactive sessions, and networking opportunities aimed at fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing among all attendees. Participants engaged in spirited discussions on effective strategies for accelerating progress towards a cure, underscoring the importance of interdisciplinary cooperation and innovative thinking.

Participants expressed a renewed sense of optimism inspired by the potential impact of finding a cure for HIV, even though it may not be as quickly as they would want it to be. Dominic Kemps closed the workshop with a promise that the three organizations, BHP, HCAAP and CEYOHO will continue to share knowledge on HIV research and cure to offer hope to millions of people around the world who are affected by the virus.



Dominic Kemps of HCAAP



Kennedy Mupeli of CEYOHO



Dr Catherine Koofhethile



Breakaway group discussions

# BHP participates at the 3rd National Health Research Symposium

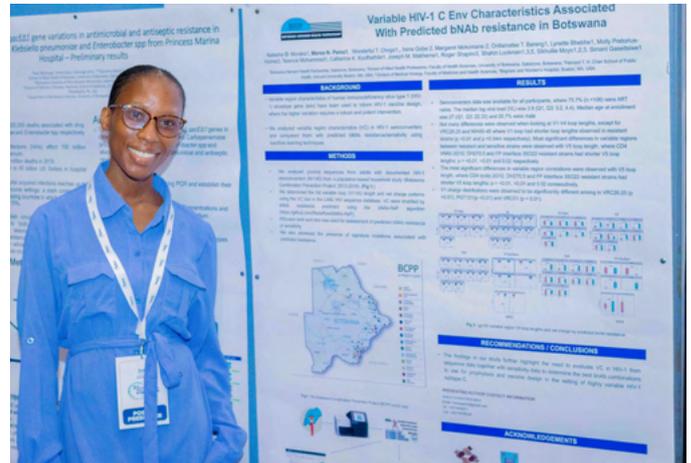


Neo Moshashane

The Botswana Harvard Health Partnership recently showcased its commitment to advancing healthcare research and innovation at the 3rd National Health Research Symposium held at Fairgrounds Holdings, Gaborone. The symposium, which took place on February 09, 2024, served as a platform for healthcare professionals, researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders to convene and discuss the latest developments in the sphere of health research. The symposium was held under the theme: **“Strengthening Implementation Research Capacities on Individuals and Institutions.”**

BHP played a significant role in the symposium, presenting two posters by Senior Research Assistant, Neo Moshashane of the Botswana Sexual and Reproductive Health Initiative (BSRHI) and Neo Pema, a Research Intern at the Laboratory who presented on behalf of Natasha Moraka. Moshashane’s poster was titled **“Integrating STI Screening in Antenatal Care: Data from Botswana so far”** while Moraka’s poster was on **“Variable HIV-1 Env Characterization Associated with Predicted bNab Resistance in Botswana.”** BHP Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Dr Gaerolwe Masheto participated as a moderator in one of the plannery sessions.

The Communications and Community Engagement team managed the BHP stall, showcasing several research projects and initiatives aimed at improving healthcare outcomes and advancing medical



Neo Pema (presenting on behalf of Natasha Moraka)

knowledge. These projects covered a wide range of topics, including HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, maternal and child health, non-communicable diseases, and health systems strengthening. BHP Chief Executive Officer, Dr Joseph Makhema was in attendance to support his team.

The participation of BHP at the 3rd National Health Research Symposium underscored the organization’s ongoing commitment to promoting evidence-based healthcare practices and driving innovation in the sphere of health research. The organization remains dedicated to advancing health research, improving healthcare delivery, and ultimately enhancing the well-being of Botswana as its research output continues to inform both local and global health policies.



Mr Ernest Moseki interacting with attendees at the BHP stall

# Potlako+ Ramp up Cancer Awareness Campaign



Potlako+ Study Coordinator Kutlo Manyake addressing the community

In an effort to enhance cancer awareness and prevention efforts in Botswana, the Botswana Harvard Health Partnership (BHP) through Potlako+ Cancer Study, has embarked on a far-reaching campaign to educate and empower communities across different parts of the country where the study is taking place. The campaign continued in 2024, covering Mmathethe and Metsimotlhabe on February 9th and 10th respectively, and Lerala on March 9th, 2024. Last year, the campaign was held in Mandunyane and Nata in the northern part of the country on September 9th and 11th respectively.

[Potlako+ Study](#) is “A multilevel intervention to improve timely cancer detection and treatment initiation with a view to improve cancer cure and survival in Botswana.” Cancer is one of the research areas in the diversified research portfolio of the BHP. Potlako+ Study Coordinator, Kutlo Manyake expressed that the need for increased awareness and access to early detection and treatment services has never been more critical, as cancer continues to result in increasing deaths not only in Botswana but globally.

“By increasing cancer awareness and promoting preventive measures, we can significantly reduce the burden of cancer in Botswana and thus improve the

quality of life for people affected by the disease,” said Manyake.

Through a series of educational workshops, outreach programs, and community engagement activities, the BHP is working to raise awareness about the importance of early cancer detection, the significance of leading a healthy lifestyle, and the availability of screening and treatment options.

One of the key objectives of the awareness campaigns is to dispel myths and misconceptions surrounding cancer, encourage regular screenings, and promote healthy behaviors such as maintaining a balanced diet and engaging in regular physical activity.

The campaigns are conducted in partnership with local clinics and hospitals as well as non-governmental organizations that promote cancer awareness. Stakeholders remain optimistic about the prospects of reducing the incidence of cancer and improving outcomes for patients, and BHP is happy to be participating in and leading efforts to foster a culture of good health through education and empowerment, for a healthier and more resilient nation.



Health professionals screening and leading physical exercises

Part of the health education and empowerment offered by BHP includes the [Botswana Oncology Global Outreach](#) (BOTSOGO) which discusses various cancer cases among oncology experts to devise the best cancer treatment and care. Participating institutions include BHP, Princess Marina Hospital, Gaborone Private Hospital, Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital, Nyangabwe Referral Hospital, Scottish Livingstone Hospital and the United States; Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School and the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC).

BOTSOGO was established through a partnership with Ministry of Health (MOH), Botswana BHP and Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in US to facilitate bilateral exchanges in cancer care and treatment, support tumor board and facilitate training and availability of medical equipment needed in cancer care for Botswana. So far this year, the Tumor Board has discussed two cancer cases titled **“A 40-year-old**

**woman with humeral fracture and leg weakness”** and **“A 40-year-old with facial swelling, lymphadenopathy and history of treated tuberculosis”** on February 27 and March 26, 2024 respectively.



Tumor Board meeting

# Human Resources updates

New employees and promotion as of December 2023.



**Kago Kethobile**  
Research Nurse  
(Flourish)



**Isaac Nkele**  
Nurse Coordinator  
(Thabatse & Potlako+)



**Kebaiphe Moabi**  
Promoted to Nurse  
Coordinator (Motheo)

## HR Department visits Potlako+ Study Team



Kutlo Manyake explaining to the Assistant Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Hon. Setlhabelo Modukanele, who amongst other government officials attended the Potlako+ Lerela Annual Health Screening event

In a proactive move to engage with and support study teams working for various study sites across the country, the Human Resources (HR) department led by HR Officer, Tebogo Akanyang recently embarked on a series of site visits to connect with Potlako+ staff members at their respective sites in different villages where Potlako study is taking place. The primary purpose of this visit was to strengthen relationships, gather feedback, and

better understand the unique working conditions and challenges and opportunities faced by study teams working in diverse settings. The visit started from March 4th to March 11th 2024. The HR department's visits took them to seven villages in the northern part of Botswana where the research project is being carried out. The HR team interacted directly with research assistants, observed their working conditions, and gained valuable

insights into their day-to-day experiences in the field. The visits gave HR an opportunity to engage in one-on-one discussions with research assistants to discuss their roles, challenges, and overall satisfaction with their work environment.

On the 5th of March, they visited the Research Assistant (RA) at Masunga who covers Masunga, Tutume and Mathangwane. They proceeded to Gweta Hospital where the study team was engaging with the health workers who provide essential support to the study. It was inspiring to see the collaborative efforts in action and the impact of their work on the ground.

Continuing the journey, on the 7th of March, the team visited Mmadinare RA, who covers Mmadinare, Sefhophe, and Ramokgonami communities, witnessing the commitment of the team as they traverse long distances to reach study participants. The following day on the 8th, the team ventured from Lerala village to the Sherwood community, where they met with the RA based in Maunatlala, responsible for covering Maunatlala and Lerala communities.

“Throughout our visit, it became evident that the Potlako Plus teams are comprised of hardworking and committed individuals who go above the call of duty and beyond to ensure the success of the study. Their

willingness to travel long distances to meet study participants exemplifies their dedication to their work and the communities they serve,” said HR Officer, Tebogo Akanyang.

As a result of this eye-opening visit, the HR team is more determined to provide enhanced support to the teams in the field. The department is committed to increasing its presence at the sites, listen to teams, appreciate their needs, and work collaboratively with them to address any challenges they may face. The department appreciates Potlako+ team for their exceptional work and unwavering dedication to the shared mission of making a positive impact on the communities that BHP serves.

In conclusion, the HR department’s initiative to visit research team in the field across the country proved to be a valuable exercise in promoting employee engagement, gathering feedback, and strengthening relationships within the organization.

By fostering open communication and demonstrating a genuine interest in the well-being of their staff, the institution showcased its commitment to supporting and empowering its workforce to thrive in their roles and contribute to the success of its research projects.



Potlako+ RA Mpho Saulo, HR officer Tebogo Akanyang and Potlako+ Study Coordinator, Kutlo Manyake at Nata Clinic

# Selected BHP Publications

1. [Advanced HIV as a Neglected Disease](#). Ford N, Ehrenkranz P, Jarvis J. N Engl J Med. 2024 Feb 8;390(6):487-489. doi: 10.1056/NEJMp2313777. Epub 2024 Feb 3. PMID: 38314820 9I (F-158.5)
2. [Global guideline for the diagnosis and management of cryptococcosis: an initiative of the ECMM and ISHAM in cooperation with the ASM](#). Chang CC, Harrison TS, Bicanic TA, Chayakulkeeree M, Sorrell TC, Warris A, Hagen F, Spec A, Oladele R, Govender NP, Chen SC, Mody CH, Groll AH, Chen YC, Lionakis MS, Alanio A, Castañeda E, Lizarazo J, Vidal JE, Takazono T, Hoenigl M, Alffenaar JW, Gangneux JP, Soman R, Zhu LP, Bonifaz A, Jarvis JN, Day JN, Klimko N, Salmanton-García J, Jouvion G, Meya DB, Lawrence D, Rahn S, Bongomin F, McMullan BJ, Sprute R, Nyazika TK, Beardsley J, Carlesse F, Heath CH, Ayanlowo OO, Mashedi OM, Queiroz-Telles Filho F, Hosseinipour MC, Patel AK, Temfack E, Singh N, Cornely OA, Boulware DR, Lortholary O, Pappas PG, Perfect JR. Lancet Infect Dis. 2024 Feb 9:S1473-3099(23)00731-4. doi: 10.1016/S1473-3099(23)00731-4. Online ahead of print. PMID: 38346436 (IF-71.421)
3. [Development and validation of quantitative PCR assays for HIV-associated cryptococcal meningitis in sub-Saharan Africa: a diagnostic accuracy study](#). Mbangiwa T, Sturny-Leclère A, Lechiile K, Kajanga C, Boyer-Chammard T, Hoving JC, Leeme T, Moyo M, Youssouf N, Lawrence DS, Mwandumba H, Mosepele M, Harrison TS, Jarvis JN, Lortholary O, Alanio A; AMBITION Study Group. Lancet Microbe. 2024 Feb 8:S2666-5247(23)00362-2. doi: 10.1016/S2666-5247(23)00362-2. Online ahead of print. PMID: 38342110 (IF-38.2)
4. [Under-representation of the WHO African region in clinical trials of interventions against hepatitis B virus infection](#). Delphin M, Mohammed KS, Downs LO, Lumley SF, Waddilove E, Okanda D, Aliyan N, Van Schalkwyk M, Anderson M, Ocamá P, Maponga T, Torimiro J, Iwuji C, Ndung'u T, Matthews PC, Taljaard J. Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2024 Feb 14: S2468-1253(23)00315-1. doi: 10.1016/S2468-1253(23)00315-1. Online ahead of print. PMID: 38367632 (IF-27.0)
5. [Further Considerations Regarding Molecular Screening and Treatment of Bacterial Vaginosis](#). Wynn A, Morroni C, Klausner JD. JAMA Pediatr. 2024 Jan 1;178(1):94-95. doi: 10.1001/jamapediatrics.2023.4755. PMID: 37930708. (IF-26.1)
6. [Tracking cryptococcal meningitis to monitor HIV program success during the Treat-All era: an analysis of national data in Botswana](#). Milburn J, Ntwayagae O, Suresh R, Ngoni K, Northcott C, Penny J, Kinsella M, Mechie I, Ensor S, Thamae G, Leeme T, Lawrence DS, Chebani T, Grint D, Tenforde MW, Avalos A, Ramaabya D, Ogando J, Mokomane M, Mine M, Jarvis JN. Clin Infect Dis. 2024 Feb 8: ciae066. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciae066. Online ahead of print. PMID: 38330295 (IF-11.8)
7. [Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Among Women with Human Immunodeficiency Virus Taking Isoniazid Preventive Therapy During the First Trimester](#). Gupta A, Hughes MD, Cruz JL, Avihingsanon A, Mwelase N, Severe P, Omoz-Oarhe A, Masheto G, Moran L, Benson CA, Chaisson RE, Swindells S. Clin Infect Dis. 2024 Mar 20;78(3):667-673. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciad583. PMID: 37768207 (11.8)
8. [Lower Insulin Sensitivity Through 36 Months of Life With in Utero HIV and Antiretroviral Exposure in Botswana: Results From the Tshilo Dikotla Study](#). Jao J, Bonner LB, Dobinda K, Powis KM, Sun S, Legbedze J, Mmasa KN, Makhema J, Mmalane M, Kgole S, Masasa G, Moyo S, Gerschenson M, Mohammed T, Abrams EJ, Kurland IJ, Geffner ME. Clin Infect Dis. 2024 Mar 26:ciae088. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciae088. Online ahead of print. PMID: 38531012 (IF-11.8)

**Follow the link below for the full list of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter publications:**

<https://owncloud.bhp.org.bw/index.php/s/KKsZC8D6XkqOgdP>

## VISION

To Be a World-Renowned Public Health Institute.

## MISSION

To Fight HIV/AIDS and Emerging Public Health Challenges Through Innovative Research, Education, and Capacity Building That Impacts Policy and Practice.

## CORE VALUES

BENEFICENCE

INNOVATION

COLLABORATION

EXCELLENCE

BOTHO

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