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epha health equity feed

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International & European Institutions

World leaders commit to redouble efforts towards universal health coverage by 2030

World Health Organization

At the United Nations (UN) General Assembly High-Level Meeting, world leaders have approved a new Political Declaration on "*Universal Health Coverage (UHC): expanding our ambition for health and well-being in a post-COVID world*".

The declaration is hailed as a vital catalyst for the international community to take big and bold actions and mobilize the necessary political commitments and financial investments to attain the UHC target of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

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Executive Summary: Global report on children with developmental disabilities

World Health Organization & UNICEF

Children with developmental disabilities often slip through the cracks in health systems. Stigmatisation, institutionalisation and access barriers result in health inequities. This report analyses the problem and provides policy recommendations to make sure childrne with developmental disabilities can thrive

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25% of children at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2022

Eurostat

Eurostat has released numbers on children at risk of poverty or social exclusion, painting a worrying picture. In 2022, 24.7% (almost 20 million) of the children (aged less than 18 years) in the EU were at risk of poverty or social exclusion. Compared with 2021, this share slightly increased by 0.3

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Sexual and reproductive rights should be respected, particularly in situations of crisis, UN experts say

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

States must ensure the right to sexual and reproductive health without discrimination in particular in situations of emergency, humanitarian settings and crisis. In many countries, sexual and reproductive health rights are chronically neglected. That risk has materialised in some instances, with devastating consequences for women and girls.

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Research Developments

The Sustainable Development Goals should be reset to prioritize poverty, health and climate

Nature

Ilona Kickbusch and Ayoade Alakija make the case for why the UN's Sustainable Development Goals should be adjusted to be able to respond to the current situation of policycrisis. To improve global health, they should take a systematic approach, focusing on the current issues of socio-economic inequities, climate change and health.

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There can be no gender equality without menstrual justice

The BMJ

The menstrual cycle and menstruation are normal, physiological processes. But the experience of menstruation is shaped by social, economic, and structural factors and associated inequalities. This opinion piece calls on stakeholders to collaborate to drive coordinated global, national, and local efforts to track the determinants of menstrual health.

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The global community needs to do more to tackle the inequality crisis

The BMJ

Michael Marmot and his colleagues the Global Council on Inequality, AIDS and Pandemics call attention to the fact that there is insufficient focus on the world-wide inequality crisis. Among other things, it points to inequalities in and caused by the climate crisis, Covid-19, AIDS, racism and transnational economic inequalities. These all have profound effects on health inequalities.

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The Lancet Commission on peaceful societies through health equity and gender equality

The Lancet

This new release by the the Lancet Commission on Peaceful Societies through Health Equity and Gender Equality illustrates how improvements in health equity and gender equality transform societies, placing them on pathways to enduring peace.

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Death risk varies with social deprivation, employment, and ethnicity, data show

The BMJ

Residents of deprived areas and long-term unemployed individuals face higher risks of death from various health conditions, particularly in England. Significant disparities also exist among ethnic groups, primarily affecting mortality rates related to cancer, cardiovascular disease, chronic kidney disease, dementia, diabetes, and respiratory illnesses based on demographics and location.

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Socioeconomic status and lifestyle patterns in the most common cancer types-community-based research

BMC Public Health

As the global burden of chronic cancer increases, its correlation to lifestyle, socioeconomic status (SES) and health equity becomes more important. The aim of the study was to provide a snapshot of the socioeconomic and lifestyle patterns for different cancer types in patients at a Nordic tertiary cancer clinic.

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In the Media

EU parliament to push for more action with broad mental health report

EURACTIV

A Tuesday (19 September) debate in the European Parliament's subcommittee on public health (SANT) emphasised the need to identify high-risk populations amid a push for more action to tackle Europeans' declining mental health.

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Simple – or not-so-simple – cancer cures

Politico

The biggest gains in cancer outcomes won't come from cutting-edge tech like artificial intelligence, according to Olalekan Ajayi (Association of Community Cancer Centers). Instead, changes in cancer treatment should go beyond treating a disease, towards treating the entire patient including the psychosocial and financial well-being.

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Podcast: Maternal Health and Health Equity

Health Affairs

A harsh reality is that maternal health outcomes differ because of ethnicity or socio-economic reasons. In this Health Affairs podcast, health disparities in maternal health are explored along lines of ethnicity. What can we do to ensure that these outcomes are equitable no matter somebody's background?
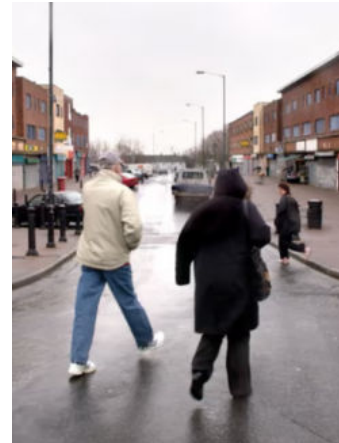
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Policy must tackle root causes of England's record mental ill-health, says report

The Guardian

Ministers must tackle poverty, poor housing and air pollution to improve England's worsening mental health, a coalition of charities, thinktanks and staff groups has urged ministers.

Their blueprint for better mental health also includes a crackdown on racism, reforms to the benefits system and action to end the stark inequality whereby people with severe psychiatric conditions die up to 20 years sooner than the general population.

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Other News

Access to Early Childhood, Education and Care for Undocumented Children and Families: Obstacles and Promising Practices

PICUM

In the context of the Child Guarantee and the Care Strategy, this report explores to what extent children and their parents can access Early Childhood Education and care (ECEC) in Finland, France, Greece, the Netherlands and Portugal. It also includes promising policies and initiatives.

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Announcement of Decision to Designate People with Disabilities as a Population with Health Disparities

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities formally designated people with disabilities as a population experiencing health disparities for NIH research. People with disabilities often experience a wide and varying range of health conditions that lead to poorer health and shorter lifespan. Further, discrimination, inequality, and exclusionary structural practices, programs, and policies create barriers to timely and comprehensive health care.

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Why climate change is a public health issue

One Earth

There are many ways in which climate change affects health, but these links are not widely understood. This article gives an extensive overview of what these effects of climate change are on phyisical and mental health. Importantly, it makes the point that marginalised groups are disproportionately affected by negative effects. It then provides recommendations on how this can be prevented.

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Events

Save the Date: Racism, Discrimination and Health- a Human Rights-Based Approach (Part 1)

EPHA & OHCHR

What are the impacts of racism and discrimination on health outcomes and how can we work towards concrete policy solutions to counteract these impact, using a human rights-based approach? Save the date for an event on racism, discrimination and health, co-organised by the European Public Health Alliance and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the **6/11/23** in Brussels, Belgium (hybrid event). Stay tuned for updates!

Empower Health: People, Politics, Possibilities

EPHA

At the "Empower Health- People, Politics, Possibilities"conference, we celebrated EPHA's 30's anniversary. Watch the session recordings and listen to outstanding panels to to enjoy, learn, engage, and connect with a diverse range of professionals whose visionary actions are shaping a world where everyone has the right to good health!

WATCH THE SESSIONS

Our mailing address is:
European Public Health Alliance AISBL, Rue de Trèves 49-51, Brussels 1000, Belgium