ACTUARIAL SCIENCE/DEMOGRAPHY SEMINAR

Date: Thursday, 03 Oct 2019
Time: 1pm - 2pm
Venue: Beattie 115, Beattie Building, Upper Campus
Topic: Estimating the burden of disease attributable to childhood, stunting, wasting and underweight in South Africa

BY

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ABSTRACT

Child undernutrition measured as poor anthropometric status is internationally recognised as an important public health indicator for monitoring nutritional status and health in populations. Numerous studies have demonstrated the association between increasing severity of anthropometric deficits and mortality, and that undernutrition is an important contributing factor in the mortality and morbidity of children under the age of five years in developing countries. We investigate the trends in childhood stunting, wasting and underweight using national survey data from the National Food Consumption Surveys (NFCS 1999 and 2005), SA Demographic and Health Survey (SADHS 2003 and 2016) and the South African National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey 2012 (SANHANES 2012) and estimate the burden of diseases attributable to stunting, wasting and underweight in South African children under the age of five years between 2000 and 2012. The study shows that in South Africa, the prevalence of undernutrition (underweight and wasting) among under-fives has decreased from 1999 to 2016 but chronic undernutrition (stunting) rates have remained stubbornly above 26%.

All welcome. Please distribute to any colleagues you feel may be interested.

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