Evidence Aid Newsletter: April 2016

We are delighted to share exciting news with you about a number of activities that Evidence Aid has recently undertaken with particular foci on the Evidence Lounge, an activity related to the World Humanitarian Summit, and the newest blog in our series, ‘The Science of Disaster Health’ authored by Marvin Birnbaum.

Our blog author this month, Marvin (Marv) Birnbaum, MD, PhD, is an Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Physiology with the University of Wisconsin. He is past President of the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM), is the immediate past Chair of its Board of Directors, and continues on its Board. He represented the WADEM as a partner in the UN Global Health Cluster. He served as the Editor-in-Chief of Prehospital and Disaster Medicine for 23 years and continues as its Editor-in-Chief Emeritus.

As mentioned, we also are delighted to share an update of our activities around the Evidence Lounge, our precursor to the World Humanitarian Summit which will take place in May 2016 in Istanbul and we will also provide you with news of additions to our resources page on the website.

Please share this newsletter with your friends and colleagues and ask them to let us know if they would like to receive it directly in the future, so that we can add them to the distribution list.

New blog – The Science of Disaster Health

Disaster health is a relatively new discipline. Knowledge of the current status of its evidence base is required to develop a roadmap for the direction and structure of future studies that will contribute to developing the science of disaster health. Phil Davies, discusses the methodology behind the science of disaster health and proposes building a stronger evidence base.

To read more of the blog, click here.

Evidence Aid and the World Humanitarian Summit, May 2016

Mentioned in our last newsletter, Evidence Aid will not only be attending the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), but we are leading an initiative around the WHS titled the Evidence Lounge, in support of an evidence-based approach to humanitarian action. The Evidence Lounge started as an online initiative to build momentum toward the WHS where we will have a stand at the Exhibition Fair and collaborate with one of the DFID side events at the WHS. The online part of the initiative includes a website with a blog series and an online community on Slack. It is a multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to leave lasting impact, organised in collaboration with more than 20 organisations.

We recently launched the Evidence Lounge website hosted by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. You can access it here. The first blog has also been published, authored by Alice Obrecht and Paul Knox-Clarke of ALNAP and titled ‘The Power of Evidence’ which you can read here. You can follow the Evidence Lounge on Twitter; @evidencelounge. On the website you can join our online community on Slack and interact with the partners and supporters of the Evidence Lounge. Just visit us here or send us an e-mail at evidencelounge@evidenceaid.org and provide us with your full name and affiliation. We will send you an invitation to join Slack.

Joint Cochrane-Evidence Aid Special Collection - Health of refugees and asylum seekers in Europe
Evidence Aid is providing accessible information on the particular health issues that impact this population most. In our last newsletter we informed you that we identified country guidelines and brought them together on a single page. Our collaboration with Cochrane has also produced a ‘Special Collection’ which is housed in the Cochrane Library and contains relevant Cochrane systematic reviews, free at the point of use.

To access the collection and read the systematic reviews, click [here](#).

**Evidence Aid resources**

Do you know of systematic reviews related to the humanitarian sector that are relevant to health? If so, please let us know about them. Our most recent addition to our resource of systematic reviews, working alongside the Cochrane Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group, is ‘Interventions for treating ankle fractures in children’. To read this review, or search all of our resources click [here](#).

**Upcoming conferences**

Jeroen Jansen and Mike Clarke will be attending the Inaugural Global Health Symposium being held at Queens University Belfast, on Friday 22 April. Jeroen is presenting on Evidence Aid and the hurdles towards implementing an evidence based approach in the humanitarian sector as part of the parallel session titled ‘Evidence Based Humanitarian Aid’. Both Claire Allen and Jeroen will be attending the World Humanitarian Summit (see above) in May 2016, and Dominic Mellon and Mike Clarke will accompany Claire and Jeroen to host a discussion booth at Evidence Live in June which is organised by the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine (University of Oxford). Evidence Aid is working with Georgetown University and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, to organise a conference which will further explore the issues that have been raised through a Policy Delphi Study and we hope this will take place on 17 and 18 November 2016 – more information to come about this later, but for now *Save the date*!

**Office location and new staff**

We are delighted to report our new office location with our partner organisation, the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine (CEBM), headed by Richard Hobbs. We have been working with Carl Heneghan and Ruth Davies of CEBM since 2011, when they kindly administered and hosted Evidence Aid’s first conference in Oxford, UK. We continue to be grateful for a hot desk space at the Cochrane office in London, but the office in Oxford will be where our yet to be newly appointed Office Administrator will be located. We hope to be able to introduce our new Office Administrator in our next newsletter.

**Communications**

You can follow us on Twitter (@EvidenceAid), on our Facebook page (Evidence Aid), via the website [http://www.evidenceaid.org](http://www.evidenceaid.org), and on LinkedIn (Evidence Aid). If you would like to contact us by e-mail, please write to [info@evidenceaid.org](mailto:info@evidenceaid.org).

We hope you’ve found this bulletin to be informative and helpful. If you would prefer not receive further bulletins, please let us know.

*With best wishes*  
The Evidence Aid team  
*(Claire Allen, Mike Clarke, Jeroen Jansen and Dominic Mellon)*