

Healthcare services for rural Sub-Saharan Africa within reach, according to new study

February 15 2013



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The paper, authored by Gordon McCord at the University of California, San Diego's School of International Relations and Pacific Studies and Prabhjot Singh and Anne Liu at Columbia University's Earth Institute, details an analysis of the financial cost of a planned expansion of community health worker (CHW) programs across rural sub-Saharan

Africa with the goal of reaching full coverage, or around one million CHWs by 2015. Government health programs and non-governmental organizations, like the Millennium Villages, have successfully piloted CHW programs in many communities across Africa. These efforts have demonstrated overwhelming evidence that community-based interventions – implemented by CHWs – are an effective platform for extending health care delivery and improving health outcomes. Moreover, CHWs provide the rural poor a critical link to the broader [healthcare system](#) of doctors, nurses, hospitals and clinics.

More information: www.who.int/bulletin/online_first/12-109660.pdf

Provided by University of California - San Diego

Citation: Healthcare services for rural Sub-Saharan Africa within reach, according to new study (2013, February 15) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2013-02-healthcare-rural-sub-saharan-africa.html>

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