

Tali Cassidy, PhD

Epidemiologist

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Education

PhD, epidemiology

Differentiated service delivery for males, youth, and stable patients in a large HIV treatment program in South Africa

Boston University | 2014-2020

Masters in Public Health (with distinction)

Epidemiology & biostatistics

University of Cape Town | 2011-2012

BSocSci Honours (first class)

Social anthropology

University of Cape Town | 2010

BSocSci

Social anthropology & economics

University of Cape Town | 2007-2009

Skills

Basic Knowledge: Python, SAS, SPSS, SQL

Advanced Knowledge:

STATA, R, EpiData, REDCap, ARCGIS, QGIS, \LaTeX , Tableau, Microsoft Office

Experience

- 2021– **Epidemiology Manager (contractor)** Gilead Sciences
- 2020–2021 **HIV Epidemiology Activity Manager** Médecins Sans Frontières, Khayelitsha
- 2016–2020 **HIV Epidemiologist** Médecins Sans Frontières, Khayelitsha
Led operational research agenda and monitoring and evaluation of all HIV pilot programs. Achievements:
- migrating most data collection from offline systems to REDCap
 - increased automation of routine reporting and data checks
 - developed new study protocols, including a mixed method study of the Welcome Service for disengaged patients, a PrEP feasibility pilot, and a study of maternal HIV transmission.
 - ensured that we submitted multiple abstracts to major local and international AIDS conferences, including mentoring colleagues in conference abstract preparation and presentations.
- 2013–2014 **Research Coordinator** University of Cape Town/VPUU
Co-ordinated research activities of large project to evaluate the effectiveness of urban upgrading for violence prevention, including:
- household surveys and mapping of liquor outlets
 - mobile data collection, training, community engagement.
- 2011–2012 **Research Assistant** University of Cape Town
Contributed broadly to projects on language and access to health care, mHealth amongst hypertension and antenatal patients. Helped with study design (quantitative and qualitative) and execution

Teaching Experience

- 2016 **Course convenor & lecturer** University of Cape Town
Introduction to Epidemiology, core course for Masters in Public Health
- 2015 **Teaching assistant** Boston University
Masters in Public Health Courses: *Introduction to Epidemiology* and *Intermediate Epidemiology*
- 2012 **Teaching assistant** University of Cape Town
Masters in Public Health Course: *Public Health and Society*
- 2010–2011 **Teaching assistant** University of Cape Town
First year anthropology

Selected Publications

- Cassidy, T., Cornell, M., Runeyi, P., et al. 2022. *Attrition from HIV care among youth initiating ART in youth-only clinics compared with general primary healthcare clinics in Khayelitsha, South Africa: a matched propensity score analysis*. Journal of the International AIDS Society, 25(1)
- Cassidy, T., Ntuli, N., Kilani, C., et al., 2021. *Delivering PrEP to Young Women in a Low-Income Setting in South Africa: Lessons for Providing Both Convenience and Support*. AIDS and Behavior
- Cassidy, T., Grimsrud, A., Keene, C., et al., 2020. *Twenty-four-month outcomes from a cluster-randomized controlled trial of extending antiretroviral therapy refills in ART adherence clubs*. Journal of the International AIDS Society
- Cassidy, T., Worrell, C.M., Little, K., et al., 2016. *Experiences of a Community-Based Lymphedema Management Program for Lymphatic Filariasis in Odisha State, India: an Analysis of Focus Group Discussions with Patients, Families, Community Members and Program Volunteers*. PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases
- Cassidy, T., Inglis, G., Wiysonge, C., et al., 2014 *A Systematic Review of the Effects of Poverty Deconcentration & Urban Development on Youth Violence*. Journal of Health and Place

Other Publications

- **Cassidy, T.**, Cornell, M., Makeleni, B., et al. 2022. *Attrition from Care Among Men Initiating ART in Male-Only Clinics Compared with Men in General Primary Healthcare Clinics in Khayelitsha, South Africa: A Matched Propensity Score Analysis* AIDS and Behavior
- **Cassidy, T.**, Bowman, B., McGrath, C., et al., 2016. *Brief report on a systematic review of youth violence prevention through media campaigns: Does the limited yield of strong evidence imply methodological challenges or absence of effect?* Journal of Adolescence
- Nelson, A.N., **Cassidy, T.**, Trivino Duran, L., Cox, V., Wedderburn, C., Giddy, J., Pieters, P., Cotton, M.F., Mutseyekwa, T., Rorwana, B., et al. 2022. *An analysis of the HIV testing cascade of a group of HIV-exposed infants from birth to 18 months in peri-urban Khayelitsha, South Africa* PloS one 17(1)
- Hacking, Damian; **Cassidy, T.**, Ellman, T., Steele, Sarah Jane., Moore, H.A., Bermudez-Aza, E., Nxiba, X., Sopili, E., Duran, L.T. 2022. *HIV Self-testing Among Previously Diagnosed HIV-Positive People in Khayelitsha, South Africa: No Evidence of Harm but may Facilitate Re-engagement in ART Care* AIDS and Behavior
- Keene, C.M., Griesel, R., Zhao, Y., Gcwabe, Z., Sayed, K., Hill, A., **Cassidy, T.**, et al. 2021. *Virologic efficacy of tenofovir, lamivudine and dolutegravir as second-line antiretroviral therapy in adults failing a tenofovir-based first-line regimen.* AIDS 35, no. 9 (2021): 1423-1432.
- Zokufa, N., Lebelo, K., Hacking, D., Tabo, L., Runeyi, P., Malabi, N., Sibanda, S.B., **Cassidy, T.**, et al., 2021. *Community-based TB testing as an essential part of TB recovery plans in the COVID-19 era.* The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, 25(5), p.406.
- Keene C, Mohr-Holland E, **Cassidy T**, Scott V, Nelson A, Furin J, et al. 2020 *How COVID-19 could benefit tuberculosis and HIV services in South Africa.* Lancet Respir Med. 2600(20):19–20
- Wilkinson, L., Grimsrud, A., **Cassidy, T.**, Orrell, C., Voget, J., Hayes, H., Keene, C., Steele, S.J., Gerstenhaber, R. 2019. *A cluster randomized controlled trial of extending ART refill intervals to six-monthly for anti-retroviral adherence clubs.* BMC infectious diseases. 19(1):674.
- Moore, H.A., Metcalf, C.A., **Cassidy, T.**, Hacking, D., Shroufi, A., Steele, S.J., Duran, L.T. and Ellman, T., 2019. *Investigating the addition of oral HIV self-tests among populations with high testing coverage? Do they add value? Lessons from a study in Khayelitsha, South Africa.* PloS one, 14(5), p.e0215454.
- Venables, E., Towriss, C., Rini, Z., Nxiba, X., **Cassidy, T.**, Tutu, S., Grimsrud, A., Myer, L. and Wilkinson, L., 2019. *Patient experiences of ART adherence clubs in Khayelitsha and Gugulethu, Cape Town, South Africa: A qualitative study.* PloS one, 14(6), p.e0218340.
- Hacking, D., Mgengwana-Mbakaza, Z., **Cassidy, T.**, Runeyi, P., Duran, L. T., Mathys, R. H., Boulle, A. , 2019. *Peer Mentorship via Mobile Phones for Newly Diagnosed HIV-Positive Youths in Clinic Care in Khayelitsha, South Africa: Mixed Methods Study.* Journal of Medical Internet Research, 21(12), e14012.
- **Cassidy, T.**, Lloyd, S., Bowman, B., et al., 2018. *Violence, alcohol and symptoms of depression in Cape Town's poorest communities: results of a community survey.* University of Cape Town Working Papers
- Abdullahi, L.H., Kagina, B., **Cassidy, T.**, Adebayo, E.F., Wiysonge, C.S., Hussey, G.D. 2016. *Knowledge, attitudes and practices on adolescent vaccination among adolescents, parents and teachers in Africa: A systematic review.* Vaccine. 34(34):3950-60. DOI: 10.1016/j.vaccine.2016.06.023.
- Hacking, D., Haricharan, H. J., Brittain, K., Lau, Y. K., **Cassidy, T.**, Heap, M. 2016. *Hypertension health promotion via Short Message Service (SMS) at a Community Health Centre in South Africa: a mixed method study.* JMIR mHealth and uHealth. 4(1):e22. DOI: 10.2196/mhealth.4569.
- **Cassidy, T.**, Ntshingwa, M., Galuszka, J., Matzopoulos, R. 2015. *Evaluation of a Cape Town Safety Intervention as a Model for Good Practice: A Partnership between Researchers, Community and Implementing Agency.* Stability: International Journal of Security & Development, 4(1): 27, pp. 1-12, DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5334/sta.fi>
- Lau, Y. K., **Cassidy, T.**, Hacking, D., Brittain, K., Haricharan, H. J., Heap, M. 2014. *Antenatal health promotion via short message service at a Midwife Obstetrics Unit in South Africa: a mixed methods study.* BMC pregnancy and childbirth, 14(1), 284
- Abdullahi, L. H., Kagina, B. M., **Cassidy, T.**, Adebayo, E. F., Wiysonge, C. S., Hussey, G. D. 2014. *Knowledge, attitudes and practices on adolescent vaccination among parents, teachers and adolescents in Africa: a systematic review protocol.* Systematic Reviews, 3(1), 100
- Lau, Y. K., Brittain, K., Hacking, D., **Cassidy, A.**, Haricharan, H. J., Heap, M. 2013. *A comparison of two text message-based intervention studies for health promotion in Cape Town, South Africa: The lessons learnt.* Journal of Mobile Technology in Medicine, 2(4s), 16-16

Conference proceedings

- **Cassidy, T.**, Keene, C., Lebelo, K., Grimsrud, A., Sibanda, B., Ndlovu, S., et al. 2020 *Twenty-four month retention and viral load outcomes from a non-inferiority cluster randomized trial of extending ART dispensing intervals to 6-monthly in adherence clubs*. Oral presentation at AIDS 2020 virtual conference
- **Cassidy, T.**, Euvrard, J., Keene, C., Roberts, E., Gerstenhaber, R., Boulle, A. 2020 *Patients experiencing viraemia in Adherence Clubs: is back-to-clinic always best?* Poster 1118 presented at CROI, Boston
- **Cassidy, T.**, O'Connell, R., Euvrard, J.,...Schulz, T. 2018. *A "Quick Pick-Up" Differentiated Model of ART Delivery Shows Good Retention in Care*. Poster presented at AIDS 2018, Amsterdam
- **Cassidy, T.**, O'Connell, R, et al. 2018. *Time to Switch? Outcomes of Children and Adolescents Failing NNRTI Regimens*. Poster presented at AIDS 2018, Amsterdam
- **Cassidy, T.**, Shroufi, A, Steele, S. J., Cornell, M., de Azevedo, V., Binza, D., Gerstenhaber, R. 2017 *ART Initiation and Retention in After-hour versus Daily Male Health Clinics*. Poster 998 presented at CROI, Seattle
- **Cassidy, T.**, Jabar, A., Lloyd, S., Oni, T., Engel, M., Matzopoulos, R. 2015. *Rationale and Design of the Violence, Injury and Trauma Observatory (VITO)*. Poster presented at the Drexel Urban Health Symposium, Philadelphia
- **Cassidy, T.**, Matzopoulos, R. 2014 *Evaluation of Safety Interventions in informal settlements in Cape Town as a Model for Good Practice* Paper delivered at Citizen Security Dialogues. Igarape Institute, Rio de Janeiro
- **Cassidy, T.**, Heap, M., Haricharan, H. 2012 *Mobile Phones and Access to Healthcare: Building Half a Bridge* Paper delivered at the Stanford Forum for African Studies Annual Conference. Stanford University, Palo Alto