

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 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 a service for disengaged patients, a PrEP feasibility pilot, and a study of maternal HIV transmission.
 - oversaw [20+ abstracts](#) accepted to major local and international conferences
 - mentored colleagues preparing presentations and manuscripts.
- 2013–2014 **Research Coordinator** University of Cape Town/VPUU
Coordinated research activities of large project to evaluate the effectiveness of urban upgrading for violence prevention, including:
- household surveys and mapping of liquor outlets.
 - analysis of survey and spatial data.
- 2011–2012 **Research Assistant** University of Cape Town
Contributed to study design and coordination of quantitative and qualitative research on language and access to health care, mHealth amongst hypertension and antenatal patients.

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
Introduction to Epidemiology and *Intermediate Epidemiology*
- 2010–2012 **Teaching assistant** University of Cape Town
Masters in Public Health course, 2 first-year anthropology courses

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
- 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., Boule, 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.
- **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. 52: 22-26.
- 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