

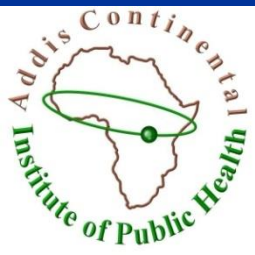
STATUS OF HEALTH RESEARCH IN ETHIOPIA AND THE WAY FORWARD

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15 December 2011

The First Science Congress of EAS: “Science and
Technology – Survival of a Nation”

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Health Research in Ethiopia

- ▣ Health research has a relatively short history: documented publications since 1935
- ▣ Development of health research in Ethiopia has been slow - recent proliferation of new universities and postgraduate education has increased the pace
- ▣ Health researchers have been largely conducted by expatriates and donor-driven historically - recent publications are predominantly authored by Ethiopian
- ▣ Health researches are mostly conducted in universities; very few health research institutes exists
- ▣ No clear agenda and system established to guide health research in Ethiopia

Scientific Publications...Growing

- ▣ First 100 publications almost 30 years (1935-1964)
 - No Ethiopian author/co-authors
- ▣ 203 publications in 2011 alone
 - 75 % Ethiopian authors/co-authors

The screenshot displays the PubMed.gov interface. At the top, the logo for PubMed.gov is shown, along with the text 'US National Library of Medicine' and 'National Institutes of Health'. Below this, there are links for 'PubMed Central' and 'Search', and a 'Journal List' button. The main content area shows the 'Journal List' for 'Cal West Med' > 'v.43(5); Nov 1935'. The article 'DISEASE PLAGUES: IN ETHIOPIA' by Laurence Stallings is listed with the PMID: PMC1759944. A 'Full text' button is visible, and a note states: 'Full text is available as a scanned copy of the original print version. Get a printable copy (PDF file) of the [complete article](#) (247K), or click on a page image below to browse page by page.'

Source: ONLY Pubmed

Major Health Research Institutes and Programmes

**1966: Aklilu Lemma
Institute of Patho-
biology AAU**

**1970: Armauer
Hansen
Research institute
(AHRI)**

**1986: Butajira
Rural Health
Program (more
DSS later)**

**1994-2002: Ethio-
Netherlands AIDS
research project
(ENARP)**

**1996: Private Research
and Training Centers**

**1975: Ethiopian Science
and Technology
Commission**



**1941: "IMPERIAL MEDICAL
RESARH INSTITUTE."**

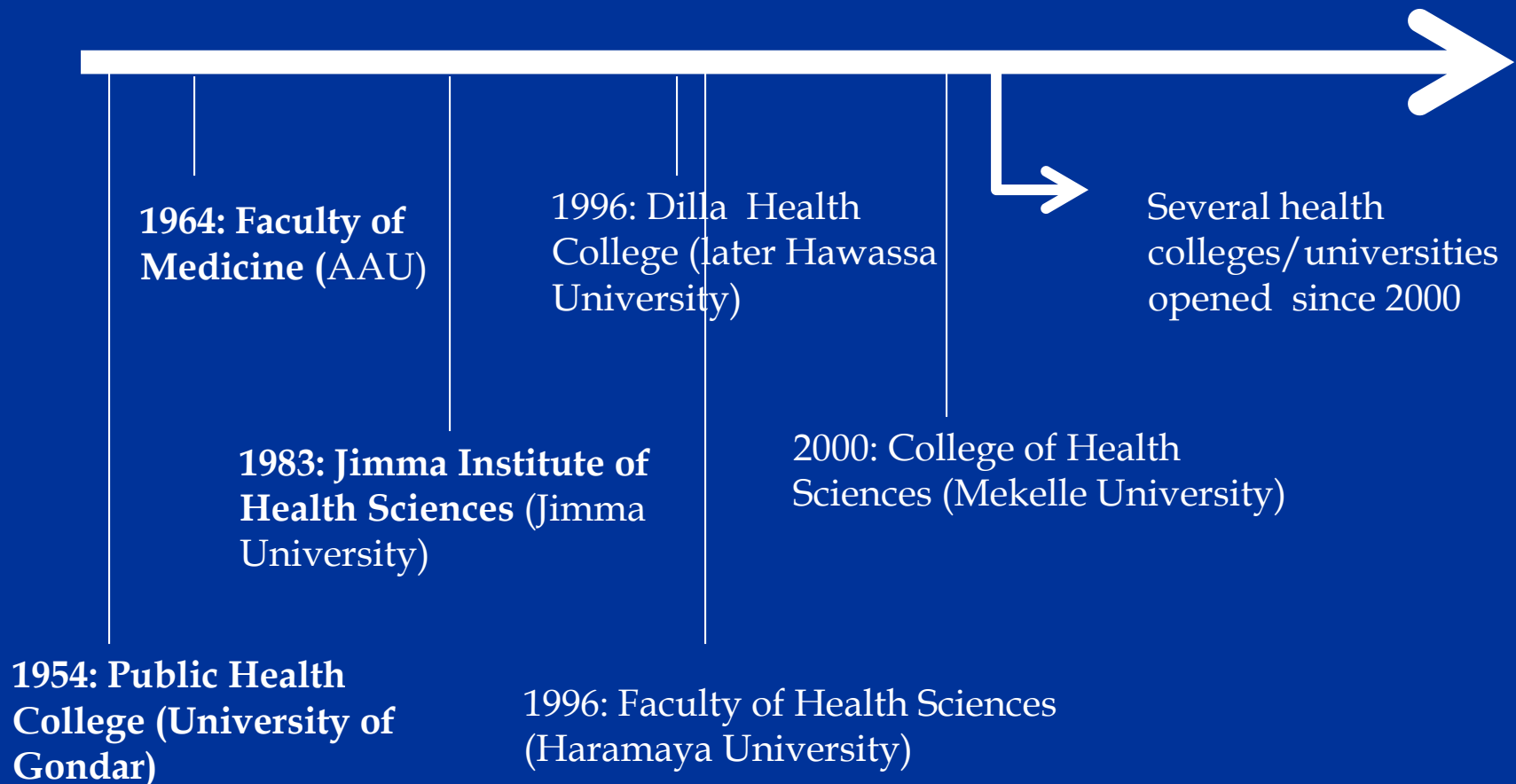
1995: EHNRI

Field Health Research Institutes



All established and run by universities with various partners and funders.

Health Training Institutes



Postgraduate Training in Health

- ▣ 1978: Clinical specialty training, AAU...currently also in universities of Jimma and Gondar
- ▣ 1984: Public Health Masters, AAU...currently in universities of Gondar, Jimma, Haramaya, Mekelle, Hawassa,
- ▣ 1989: Masters in Biomedical sciences at AAU
- ▣ 2003: PhD Training at AAU...currently in universities of Gondar, Haramaya and Hawassa

Ethiopian Health Related Scientific Journals

- ▣ 1963: The Ethiopian Medical Journal
- ▣ 1982: Ethiopian Pharmaceutical Journal
- ▣ 1984: Ethiopian Journal of health Development
- ▣ 2007: Ethiopian Journal of Health Sciences (1990-2006: 'Bulletin of Jimma Institute of Health Sciences'.
- ▣ 2007: Ethiopian Journal of Reproductive Health
- ▣ 2008: Ethiopian Journal of Health and Biomedical Sciences

...challenged by high costs of publishing, lack of skilled production personnel, problem in motivating peer reviewers, no 'full-time journal editor', and long delays in the review process

Ethical Conduct

- ▣ Significant improvement in the last two decades
 - 1995: National Health Research Ethics Review guideline
 - 1995 (since): Ethical review committees (boards) established in major academic and research institutes
 - 2005: Ethiopia Bioethics Initiative established and supported training
- ▣ Major challenges include:
 - uneven awareness about health ethics among professionals
 - delayed processing of ethical review requests

Some Major Challenges

- ▣ lack of research culture
- ▣ Limited qualified/trained researchers
- ▣ limited infrastructure for research
- ▣ Limited funding for research
- ▣ lack of properly defined research agenda
- ▣ lack of system and skills in research management
- ▣ lack of access to scientific publications and publishers
- ▣ lack of effective mentorship
- ▣ lack of incentive for researchers
- ▣ high level brain drain
- ▣ inaccessible recording and documentation

The Way Forward

- ▣ Strengthen the research culture in all relevant institutions
- ▣ Develop national research agenda to increase quality and relevance of research
- ▣ Promote actual allocation of government funds for health research- reduce dependency on external funding
- ▣ Improve research management and promote conducive working environment
- ▣ Strengthen the human resource production for research- by rapidly expanding the PhD level training
- ▣ Strengthen and expand research infrastructure
- ▣ Create effective incentive mechanisms for researchers and actively promote retention of senior researchers

Thank You!!