

obtaining written consent, they were randomized to no further intervention (NFI), or to receive a BI delivered by a nurse.

Findings: Of the 696 participants, 91% were male, the average age was 38yo, with the majority having completed only primary school. The average alcohol consumption at baseline was 400 gr in the BI group and 413gr in the NFI group, at one month it decreased respectively by 183gr, and 217 gr; T-test showed a statistically significant decrease in both groups overtime, while the difference between the groups was not significant.

Interpretation: CHW trained online to deliver feedback with the ASSIST can help those with moderate to high risk level of alcohol consumption to reduce their consumption as much as those who received a full brief intervention, and both groups decreased their consumption more than observed in the Cochrane Alcohol BI meta-analysis.

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A Cost analysis of multiple triage strategies for early detection of cervical cancer screening programs

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Background: Although high-risk human papilloma virus (hrHPV) testing has been shown to be more sensitive than the conventional Pap smear (93.1% vs 59.4%, respectively) in preventing cervical cancer, the specificity of hrHPV testing is lower (91.8% vs. 98.3%, respectively). Due to the lower specificity of the hrHPV test more women who will ultimately not develop cervical cancer will undergo more invasive procedures such as colposcopy, which has a direct effect on patient anxiety levels, risk, and healthcare costs.

Methods: The Forwarding Research for Improved Detection and Access for Cervical Cancer Screening Project (FRIDA Study) in Tlaxcala, México is evaluating a variety of reflex testing—or triage—strategies to determine which option is the most efficient and effective in reducing the number of screening visits, number of follow-up procedures, and anxiety patients may feel due to additional screening. We determined the cost of the different screening and triage strategies that are being evaluated as part of the Forwarding Research for Improved Detection and Access for Cervical Cancer Screening Project (FRIDA Study) in Tlaxcala, México. We conducted a time and motion study to calculate personnel costs and identified the equipment, supply, capital, and overhead costs required to produce clinical results from bench to bedside.

Findings: We visited three types of clinics classified as small (n = 7), medium (n = 1), and large (n = 2), based on the volume of patients that are seen each day to determine if costs vary by clinic size. Personnel costs, physical area costs, and overhead costs per exam were \$3.01, \$1.91, and \$2.13 in small, medium, and large clinics, respectively. Personnel costs were lowest for the Papanicolaou liquid based cytology triage strategy (\$5.61 vs. 5.97 and \$6.06 for p16/Ki-67 and E6 oncoprotein detection, respectively). Supply and equipment costs have not been calculated.

Interpretation: Triage strategies using Liquid-Based Cytology Pap stain appear to be less expensive in personnel costs than triaging with the E6 oncoprotein assay or p16/ki-67 stain, but personnel costs for additional triage strategies are pending. This cost analysis will contribute to a cost-effectiveness analysis, which will determine the most cost-effective screening strategy to be implemented throughout Mexico.

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The industrial Nakba: A study of industrial dumping in Palestinian cities

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Background: Al-Nakba (“the catastrophe” in Arabic), in which the Palestinian people lost their sovereignty, began in 1948 and has continued to devastate the lives of millions of Palestinians. It has impacted the Palestinian narrative, freedom of movement, education, healthcare, and even clean water. Toxic dumping by Israeli industrial zones into Palestinian waterways has been detrimental to physical and psychosocial health. As a result of adverse health effects in Israeli cities, seven industrial zones have been relocated to Palestinian cities throughout the West Bank. This study focuses on two Palestinian cities, Salfit and Tulkarm, which house the Ariel Industrial Zone and Geshuri Industries, respectively. Palestinian lands are often located at foothills of industrial zones, making them particularly vulnerable to runoff from these complexes. Organizations like Friends of the Earth Middle East have documented unregulated dumping of agrochemical pesticides, batteries, gasoline byproducts, and heavy metals into drinking and groundwater of various West Bank cities. Several studies have raised concerns about industrial runoff contaminating crops, farmland, drinking water and the air. However, there are no previous studies with qualitative or quantitative evidence of these toxins. The lack of awareness, advocacy, and policies implemented to protect citizens of West Bank cities have exacerbated this issue.

Methods: In this study, two water samples from each category (ground, drinking, and wastewater runoff) were taken from Salfit and Tulkarm. Samples were collected in 1L mason jars, covered with aluminum foil and placed on ice to prevent contamination and chemical degradation. The samples were analyzed using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry at the Environmental Health and Toxicology Unit at Birzeit University.