

Sirtris Pharmaceuticals: Living Healthier, Longer

Global Health

- waterborne illness - leading killer
- social issue
- poorer countries do not have the means to handle these problems
- malaria
- #4 killer of children < 5 yrs
- African mosquitoes carrying malaria live humans, not animals

The Age of AIDS

- What life spans change seen level but remain in Africa & in poor people
- Originally thought to be a disease of gay men
- 20% of those with HIV are heterosexual
- Men who have sex with men and African-Americans, the women, have higher risk of infection
- Regular drug use leads to AIDS, problem is severe
- HIV is common in heavily trafficked areas in countries with high birth rates and mother-to-child or contact
- Poverty & lack access to medications
- Awareness is most promising strategy to control HIV/AIDS

Rise of Diagnostic Psychiatry

- changes in DSM reflect changes in psychology & our understanding of mental illness
- dynamic to diagnosis
- difference between sadness and depression
- problems with pharmaceuticals
- drugs v. therapy

Marital Status

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- Married people tend to live longer
- Especially men
- We change the way we live our lives when we marry
- Must be healthy enough to go out looking for partner

Postnatal Health Inequalities

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- Inequalities begin at birth but continue after birth
- low birth weight rates have become the focus of increasing attention
- a baby with low weight weighs 5 pounds 8 ounces
- some reasons for low birth weight are a mother's health, nutritional status

Race

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The Age of AIDS

- what is a disease? changes over time but remains to affect the same people
- Originally thought to be a disease of gay men
- Later, shown to be transmitted by mosquitoes
- Men who have sex with men and African Americans had the highest rates of infection
- Herpes virus has been called HIV/AIDS (modern acronym)
- HIV causes both health, health, blood and nervous system, unprovoked and and related to that disease
- Herpes virus spread to medications
- Acromyia is most promising strategy to prevent HIV/AIDS

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- whites have a greater advantage in health
- differences in health come from social inequality, income and education
- African American infants are twice as likely to die as their white counterparts
- racism contributes to differences in health

Socioeconomic Status

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- people with high incomes and better education live longer
- three theories as to why SES correlates with health
- first is selection theory
 - lower income and higher diseases is false because genetics and biology affect both SES and health
- second drift explanation
 - health causes social position
- third social determinants
 - social status determines health

Socioeconomic Status

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- **in 1960's poor had healthier diets than rich**
- **the rich began to get educated on new health information and took advantage of their SES**
- **wealthier people have better health now**
- **if people went to school longer then they would live healthier and longer lives**
- **elders receiving less social security live longer than those who receive more**

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Gender

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- **Women live longer than men approx:
81.1 yrs**
- **men live approx: 76.3 yrs**
- **men live less due to more illnesses
related to high stress level at work**
- **men are less likely to reach out for
medical help**

Interaction between Race and gender

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- Women live up to 81 years and black men live up to 72.1
- Black men have more stressful and dangerous lives as well as jobs facing racism daily
- results in an increase of heart problems and stroke
- do not seek medical attention