Globally, 5 billion people lack access to proper surgical care. A recent BMJ Global Health study estimates that 5 billion people lack access to proper surgical care.

NPR Goats and Soda
**A Tale of 2 Flaviviruses**

Evidence from a lab study suggests that presence of dengue antibodies could intensify Zika infections, driving home the need to better understand the relationship between the 2 diseases.

Florida Gulf Coast University researchers conducted a cell-culture study to explore whether neutralizing human anti-dengue monoclonal antibodies (HMAbs) or human dengue immune sera would impact the Zika virus. The results, published in bioRxiv, a prepublication Web portal, showed that dengue HMAbs actually enhance Zika infection, at least in a lab setting.

The findings could also have implications for both dengue and Zika vaccines, hinting that 1 vaccine could protect against both viruses.

**Related:** Dengue Virus Immunopathogenesis: Lessons Applicable to the Emergence of Zika Virus – *Journal of Molecular Biology*

**Related:** Brazil says Zika-linked microcephaly cases stable at 4,908 – Reuters

**Related:** HHS awards $5 million to Puerto Rico health centers to fight the spread of Zika virus – US Department of Health & Human Services

**HIV/AIDS**

**Missed Opportunities for Testing**

Family planning appointments may present an opportunity for women in sub-Saharan Africa to receive confidential HIV tests, a new analysis of data from Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria and Uganda demonstrates.

Women using modern forms of contraception, such as injectable hormones, that require a clinical appointment for use were more likely to be tested for HIV. “Given the numerous barriers in access to care for women in this region, every health issue that brings them into...”
contact with the health system should be optimized as an opportunity to integrate HIV/AIDS prevention,” the authors write.

However, they also emphasized the continuing importance of condom use, and recommended that future studies explore women’s perceptions of HIV risk while using other types of birth control are needed.

**PLOS One**

Related: People Who Are HIV-Positive May Be Aging Faster Than Their Peers – NPR

**Goats and Soda**

Related: Epidemiology of co-infections in tuberculosis patients in Tanzania: HIV, intestinal helminth infection and respiratory viral pathogens – Swiss TPH

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**GUNS**

**Lethal Rise**

Suicides using guns in the US are actually up, but some public health experts took issue with a recent CDC report that they say obscures that fact.

Suicides using firearms went up from 16,599 in 1999 to 21,334 in 2014, according to the report. But while the report emphasized a decline in the percentage of suicides using firearms in comparison with other methods, the overall increase in deaths means that gun suicides increased as well.

“The report makes it sound as though the use of guns went down, but that’s not actually the case,” said Cathy Barber, a researcher at the Harvard Injury Control Research Center.

**The Trace**

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**HAPPINESS**

**Promoting Primordial Prevention**
What if honing a sense of resilience and optimism, and having a purposeful life are as important to public health as preventing heart disease and Alzheimer’s?

With a $21 million initial investment in a new Center for Health and Happiness, Harvard University intends to promote the role of what’s broadly referred to as “positive psychological wellbeing” in bodily health.

“There’s increasing recognition that looking at only one side of the health picture may be limiting our ability to help people attain and maintain health,” said Laura Kubzansky, the center’s co-director and a Harvard professor of social and behavioral health.  
The Atlantic

ONE-LINERS
The outgoing CEO of Valeant Pharmaceuticals will tell lawmakers today that he was "too aggressive" and made mistakes in drastically hiking prices for several critical medicines, according to testimony provided to The Associated Press. AP

US Defense Secretary Ash Carter has issued new policy guidelines aimed at curbing tobacco use within America’s military that include raising the prices of tobacco on military bases to match local market prices. Reuters

Non-antibiotic therapeutic drugs already approved for other purposes in people could be effective in fighting the antibiotic-resistant pathogens, according to a new study from researchers at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. ScienceDaily

The news is mixed on hospital infections, with data showing a 50% decrease in central line–associated blood stream infections in 2014, and a 4% increase in C difficile infections from 2013 to 2014. JAMA

QUICK HITS
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Big Tissue wants you to believe bathroom hand dryers spread disease. Here’s what science says. – Vox