

DALLA LANA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES

Thursday April 30, 2009

12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Sex, death and infection: A decade of fighting HIV in India

Prabhat Jha, MD, DPhil

Background:

Past projections for the HIV epidemic in India have been dire. Yet, studies by the Centre for Global Health Research (CGHR) show substantial declines in HIV prevalence in recent years. Are these declines real? Did public health interventions have a role? Prabhat Jha, Professor at the DLSPH will review HIV epidemiology and control in India. Prior to joining U of T, Professor Jha led a World Bank team that designed the \$US 200 million HIV/AIDS control program (1999-2006) of the Government of India.

Prabhat Jha is Canada Research Chair of Health and Development and Professor at the University of Toronto. He is the founding director of the Centre for Global Health Research CGHR (www.cghr.org), Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, St. Michael's Hospital; and professeur extraordinaire at the Université de Lausanne, Switzerland. Professor Jha is lead author of *Curbing the Epidemic: Governments and the*



Economics of Tobacco Control and is co-editor of *Tobacco Control in Developing Countries*. Both are among the most influential books on tobacco control, with the first being translated into over 20 languages. He is the principal investigator of the "Million Death Study" in India, which examines child and adult mortality and their risk factors in 2.3 million homes and 15 million people. He also conducts studies of HIV transmission in various countries, co-editor of the Disease Control Priorities Project, and advises several governments and institutions. Since being founded in 2002, the Centre for Global Health Research (CGHR) has expanded to 30 staff in Toronto, Bangalore and New Delhi, and has recently opened the Lombard Insurance Global Poverty Action Lab in Toronto. Professor Jha holds an M.D. from the University of Manitoba and a D. Phil. in epidemiology and public health from Oxford University, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar.

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