

Russia's Global Health Governance Gap: A Strategy for Summit Success

Julia Kulik

Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Washington D.C. December 6,
2011

Russia's Great and Growing Health Challenge

- * Surge of deaths due to Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)
- * Crumbling post-Soviet public health care system
- * Rapidly aging and declining population

- * **Russia has a long history with health challenges and has been motivated by its domestic battle to make contributions at the international level**

- * **Limited attention paid to NCDs in global summits, but Russia has the opportunity to take the lead as host of APEC in 2012, G20 in 2013, and G8 and BRICS in 2014**

Russia's G8 Health Governance



- * **1979** - First reference to health in summit agenda (hunger and malnutrition)
- * **1980** - First health commitment made (health and nuclear safety)
- * **1996** - Shift to international focus (Ebola and Cholera)
- * **2000-onward** - Increasing attention to health (Global Fund and MDGs)
- * **2006** - St. Petersburg, Russia (health as priority and record number of commitments)
- * **Looking forward: Russia as host in 2014 - Putin as President, devastating NCD health threat, opportunity for international leadership following Russian-hosted ministerial meeting on NCDs in April, 2011**

Russia's G20 Health Governance



- * **2008 - Washington, D.C.** - importance of MDGs, committed to addressing disease
- * **2009 - London** - committed to meeting MDGs
- * **2009 - Pittsburgh** - note impact of financial crisis on health, committed to meeting MDGs
- * **2010 - Toronto** - strengthen public health care, important plenary year for MDGs
- * **2011 - Seoul** - Strengthen public health care, committed to meeting MDGS, **consider the impact of NCDs**
- * **2011 - Cannes** - access to health care, safe and nutritious food, meeting the MDGs
- * **Looking Forward: Russia as host in 2014** - **G20 as a key forum due to extensive network, limited bureaucracy, representative legitimacy, and understanding of the relationship between health and economic development**

Russia's BRICS Health Governance



- * **2009 - Russia** - Recognition of the importance of global food security
- * **2010 - Brazil** - Contribute to global food production and food security
- * **2011 - China** - Development of safe nuclear energy, eradication of poverty and hunger is imperative, strengthen dialogue on public health and HIV/AIDS
 - * Health Ministers' Meeting - Growing rates of NCDs, commend the Moscow Declaration on Healthy Lifestyle and Non-communicable, and support the UN High-Level Meeting on Non-communicable Diseases by establishing a technical working group
- * **2011 - France** - No official document released
- * **Looking Forward: Russia as Host in 2014 - BRICS summit as a key forum to lead on health, addressed NCDs in a way that the other forums have failed to do, BRICS members can use experience governing domestic health challenges to lead globally**

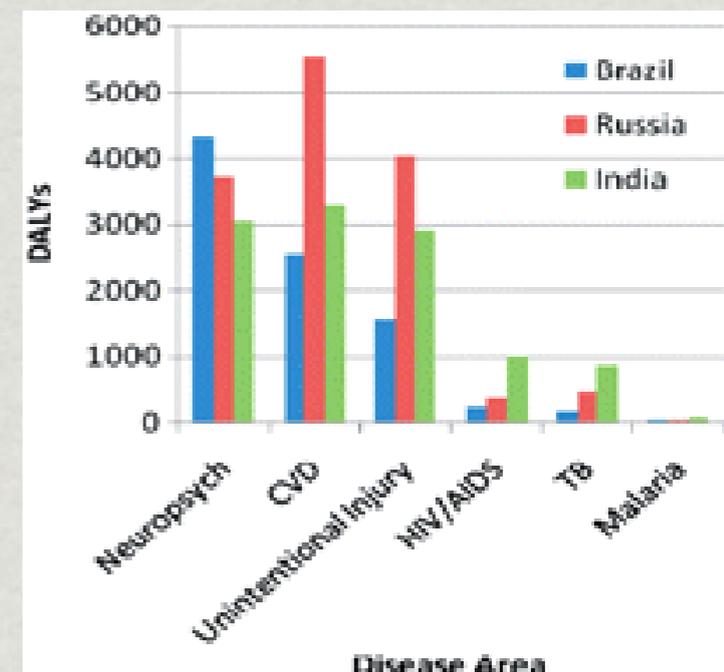
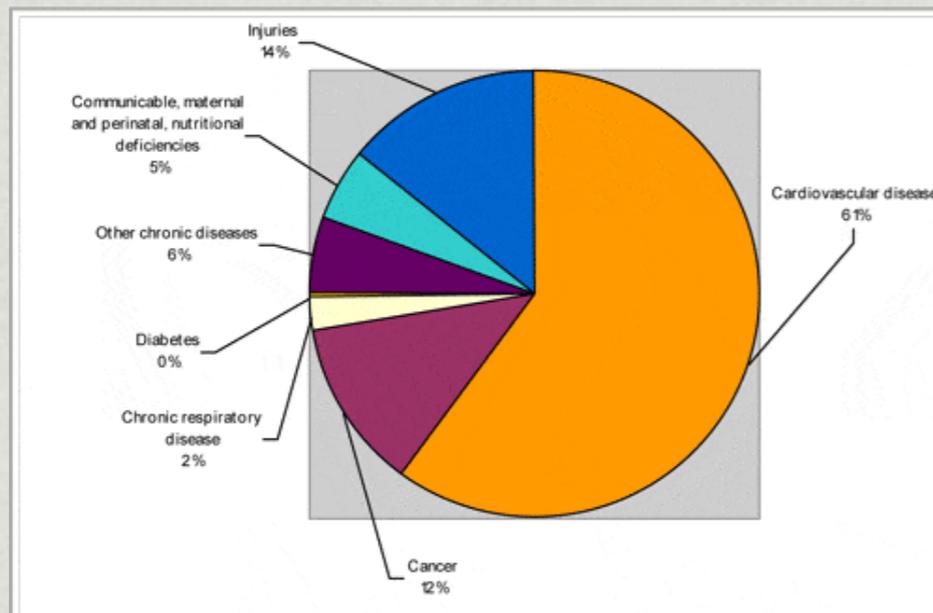
Russia's Leadership at the UN HLM on NCDs



- * April 28-29, 2011 - Russia hosts Global Ministerial Conference on Healthy Lifestyles and NCD Control
 - * 90 ministers, 155 delegates
 - * Acknowledged socio-economic impact, discussed frameworks for prevention and control, 48 commitments made
- * September 28-29, 2011 - UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs in New York
- * **Gaps in Leadership: Limited attendance, no specific targets or timelines, no references to TRIPS flexibilities, no new money committed**

Emerging Economies and Governing NCDs

- * **China** - NCDs account for 85% of deaths - In the next 10 years will cost \$558 billion
- * **India** - NCDs account for 53% of deaths - In the next 10 years will cost \$237 billion
- * **Brazil** - NCDs account for 75% of deaths - In the next 5 years will cost \$72 billion
- * **Ongoing costs due to loss of productivity, disease control, and production of medicines will lead to higher levels of poverty and inequality**



Russia's Global Health Allies and Assets Within BRICS



- * **Brazil** - Successful HIV prevention, care, and treatment program - universal access to treatment
- * **India** - Strong pharmaceutical industry - provides low-cost vaccines to low-income countries
- * **South Africa** - Centre of Research, epidemiology, and pharmaceutical production within Africa - successful battle with pharmaceutical industry for access to low-cost medicine
- * **China** - Monitoring and control mechanisms for infectious disease - access to low-cost care for rural populations
- * **Emerging Economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa have valuable lessons from struggling with their own domestic health challenges that they can use to provide leadership within the global summits**

Russia's Global Health Strategy as Summit Host 2012-2014

- * Russia has demonstrated a willingness to lead in global health governance as host of the G8 in 2006 and the Ministerial Conference on NCDs in 2011.
- * In collaboration with BRICS partners, Russia can mobilize global health governance on NCDs using lessons from struggle with infectious disease
 - * **Increase access to low-cost medicines;**
 - * **Expand primary health care;**
 - * **Emphasize the continuity of care, and community- and family-based care;**
 - * **Set specific targets and timelines**
- * **As Russia prepares to host APEC in 2012, G20 in 2013, and G8 and BRICS in 2014, its BRICS partners can serve as core allies in governing NCDs through global summitry**