

Supercourse Newsletter

June 10 2013

<http://ssc.bibalex.org/helpdesk/questions.jsf> (BA SuperHelp Desk) [www.pitt.edu/~super1/](http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/)

Dear Friends

Please forward to anyone who has had an article turned down.

“We chose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things. Not because they are easy, but because they are hard” (Kennedy)

“We chose to double research productivity in public health, not because this is easy, but because this is hard” (Team BA Help Desk)

Please send questions to us about research methods. We will answer them quickly

The past 2 weeks has been extraordinary. In the first week we launched the BA SuperHelp Desk. What a launch it was. The BA SuperHelp desk became the Sputnik of global health, ringing the world with research methods knowledge. It was very exciting to see it circle with the public health

stars. “Houston we have lift off”, and 2 days later we heard the “Eagle

had landed”. Launch day was moved up to my “birthday”. What a present it

was. Before May 29 few across the globe knew about the BA Superhelp desk, on June 1, most people in public health had heard of us. There were many “superheroes” to this Herculean effort. Four hundred of you offered to answer questions, and 1000s of you shared information about the BA

SuperHelp Desk with your friends. The crew in Egypt at the library of

Alexandra were remarkable in building the BA SuperHelp Desk Rocket for the launch. We in Pittsburgh, Mexico and Russia provided the fuel to send it

around the world. Francis from Nigeria became the Bard of the help

desk with his wonderful Ode. What a Team BA Superhelp desk!

The man with a new idea is a crank until the idea succeeds. - Mark Twain

It is important to look at who we reached in the early days of June.

Knowledge of the BA SuperHelp desk was spread throughout WHO, NIH, CDC, HHS PAHO and many other agencies. Probably in my birthday 1000 people knew about the help desk. The

letter of invitation to the BA SuperHelp desk was distributed to 1.1 million medical Students and Public Health students. Our overall reach was about 100 orbits around the earth, or

1.2 million people. The BA SuperHelp desk is the Yuri Gagarin/Neil Armstrong of research. I am very proud of the Team BA SuperHelp Launch, the Superheroes of the BA SuperHelp Desk. Please tell your students, faculty and friends about the BA SuperHelp desk below.

<http://ssc.bibalex.org/helpdesk/questions.jsf>

“This is one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind” (Armstrong)

There has been no rest for us as the trial period has begun. In just the past few days we have received 3 excellent questions for the help desk, and 10 very valuable answers in response. It appears that people will send questions to us, and we Team BA SuperHelp desk responds very well.

We owe Eman also, as in a day she created a Facebook page for the BA SuperHelp desk within a day of the launch. You can find this at <https://www.facebook.com/TheBaSuperhelpDesk?ref=hl>

We plan to run the Facebook page in parallel to the help desk, where one can post their questions to either place. Please link to both.

“Taking a new step...is what people fear the most. (Dostoyevski)

“I see the Earth! It is so beautiful” (Yuri Gagarin)

10 June 2018: Prediction: We have doubled scientific public health productivity in the lowest publishing countries.

We would love to answer your questions.

"Concepts of Epidemiology: seventh crash course 9th-13th of December 2013, Edinburgh, UK

'This is the 9th 5-day crash course for those who want to lay a sound foundation to their knowledge of epidemiology, particularly as it relates to public health practice, policy and research. It is most suitable for people in the health professions, such as nurses, doctors, health promoters, health policy makers and health researchers. Social sciences, statistics and health management colleagues may also find the course useful. Delegate feedback from the previous courses has been superlative.

The course website is:

<http://www.lifelong.ed.ac.uk/epidemiology/courseinfo.htm>"

Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the Moon July 1969, A.D. WE CAME IN PEACE FOR ALL MANKIND. - Apollo 11 plaque left on Moon.

Faina's Lecture of the week

These days much of our time is spent working on the concept of help desk for research methods. When it comes to common problems that scientists have with their research designs and outcomes, nearly 100% of scientists are facing the problem of missing data and data quality control. To help with dealing with this problem Dr. Ansari an interesting lecture on data quality control. Please visit this lecture at <http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec7271/index.htm>

Article of the week

BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene mutation screening in sporadic breast cancer cases in Kazakhstan

<http://cajgh.pitt.edu/ojs/index.php/cajgh/article/view/29/61>

Over the past several weeks, news media has been flooded with articles about Angelina Jolie's decision to undergo mastectomy to avoid the risk of breast cancer related to BRCA1 mutation. BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations have been associated with greatly elevated risk for both, breast and ovarian malignancies. In our new Central Asian Journal of Global Health, we have a new

article that describes BRCA1 and BRCA2 problems in sporadic breast cancer cases in Kazakhstan provided by Dr. Akilzhanova et al. We also have an editorial that goes with that article that you can visit here

<http://cajgh.pitt.edu/ojs/index.php/cajgh/article/view/41/52> provided by Dr. Jankowitz et al.

"Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity" (WHO)

Best Regards,

Ron, Faina, Eugene, Francois, Nicholas, Ohanyido, Gil, Mita, Ismail, Eric, Kawkab, Vint, Ali, Olga