Disease Control Priorities
3rd Edition
Essential Surgery:
On the path towards universal health coverage: findings from the Disease Control Priorities 3

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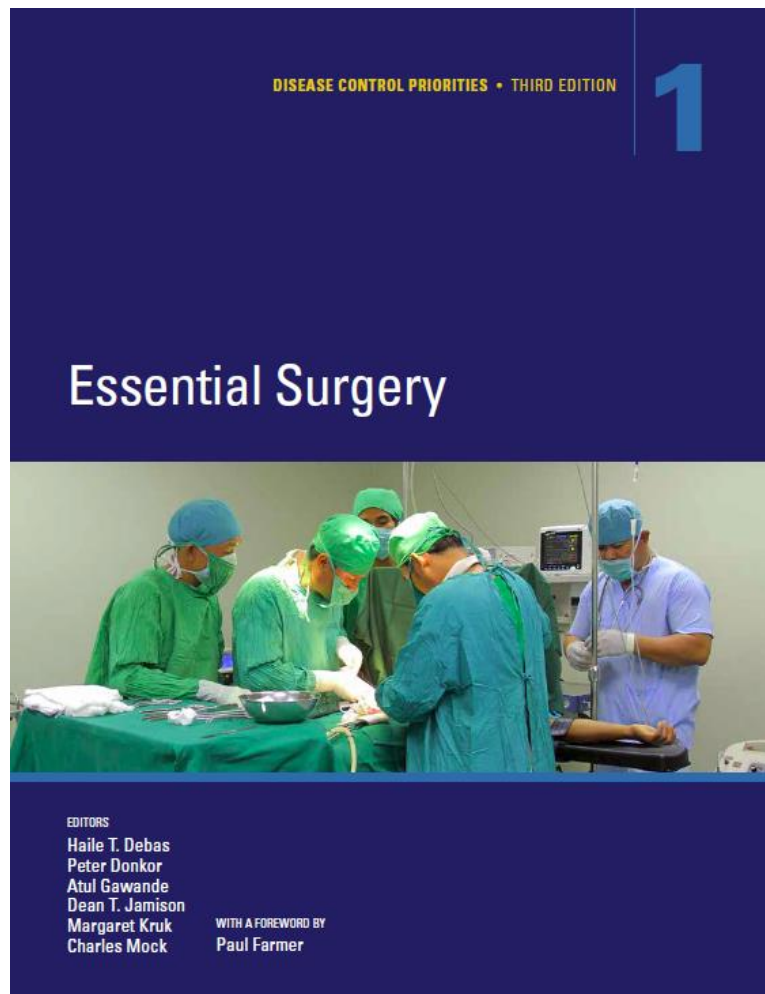March 26, 2015

Disease Control Priorities, 3rd Edition

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Volume 1: Essential Surgery

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DISEASE CONTROL PRIORITIES · THIRD EDITION 1

Essential Surgery

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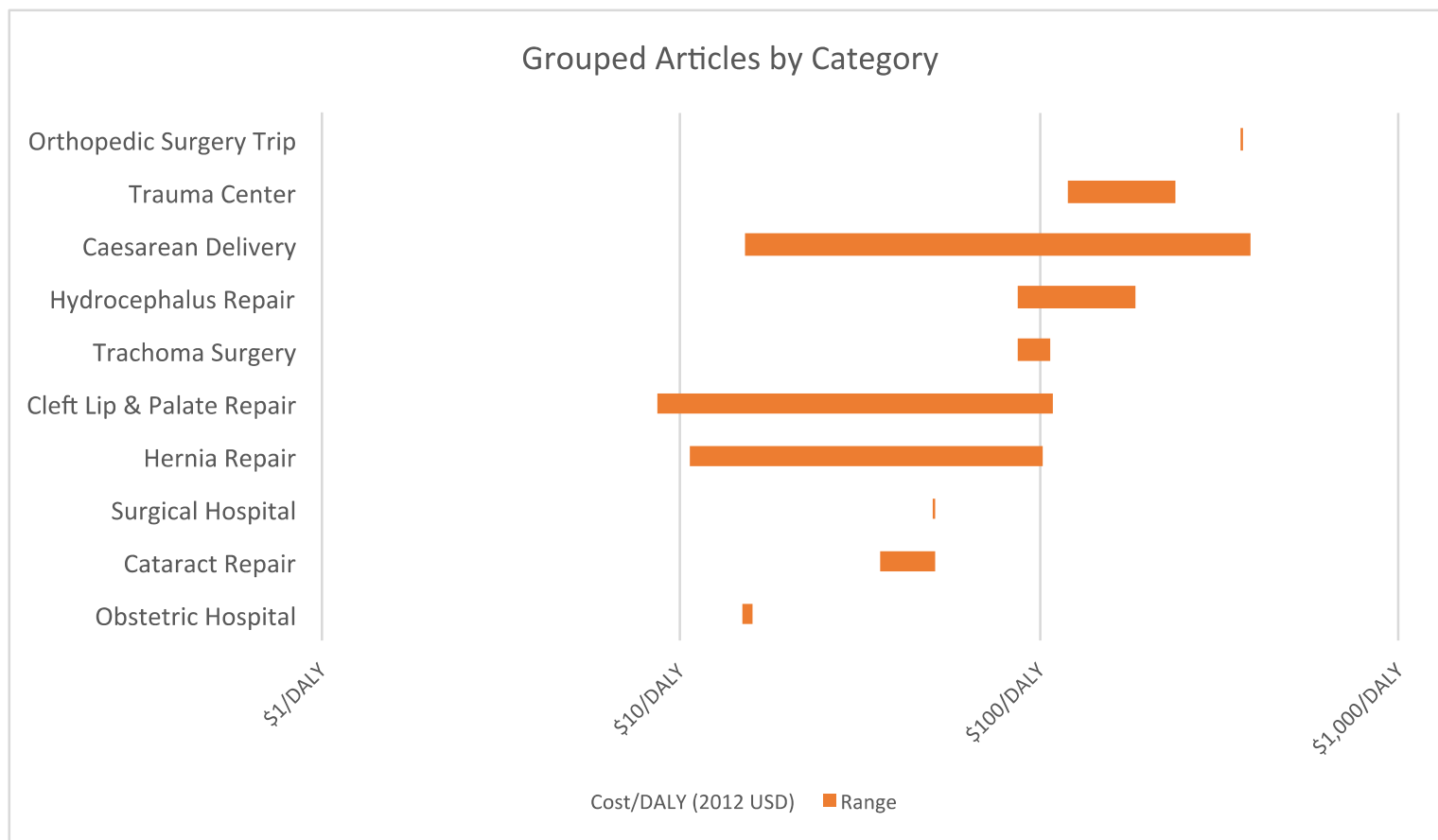Margaret Kruk
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Essential Surgery Key Messages

- Full provision of essential surgical procedures would **avert about 1.5 million deaths a year** or about 6 - 7 % of all avertable deaths in LMICs.

- Essential surgical procedures rank among the most **cost-effective** of all health interventions.

- Effective and affordable measures (such as **task sharing**) have been shown to increase access to surgical care while much needed investments are being made to expand capacity.

Cost-effectiveness of surgery procedures

Grouped Articles by Category

Essential Surgery Key Messages Cont.

- There are substantial disparities between countries at different economic levels in the safety of surgical care. Feasible and affordable measures (such as the **Surgical Safety Checklist**) have been shown to improve safety and quality.

- **Universal coverage of essential surgery** should be publically financed early on the path to universal health coverage, given that it is affordable and highly cost-effective.

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