South African Health Minister Says World Cup May Fuel HIV Rate

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Aaron Motsoaledi, South Africa's minister of health, is concerned that hosting the 2010 World Cup may increase the country's HIV infection rate, Reuters reports.

The international soccer competition is the world's most popular sporting event and attracts thousands of tourists. That influx of foreigners, Motsoaledi fears, will also bring an increase in unprotected sex.

"We know there will be lots of visitors who come here for sex—you can't hide that," Motsoaledi said. "It happens, and what will be the effects on this country?"

According to the article, South Africa has the world's highest HIV infection rate. About 5.7 million people are living with the virus; nearly 1,000 people die each day from AIDS-related deaths; and an estimated 500,000 people are newly infected each year.

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