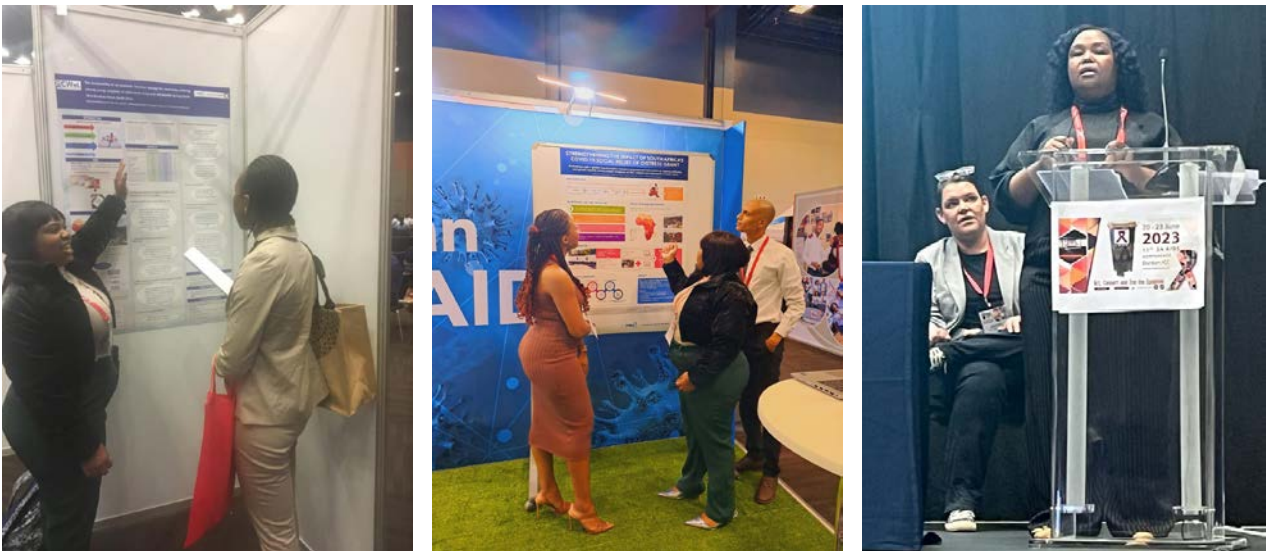


#### HIGHLIGHTS

Between 1 April and 30 June 2023 the Health Systems Research Unit (HSRU) staff published 10 articles in peer-reviewed journals of which nine are open access.

HSRU staff facilitated and/or hosted three webinars, six lectures and four workshops as part of its capacity development initiatives. Forty students are being supervised by HSRU staff and one student graduated during the reporting period.

Staff presented four orals and one poster at international conferences and one oral and two posters at local conferences.



HSRU staff presenting at the 11<sup>th</sup> SA AIDS Conference, Durban



HSRU Durban staff in their SAMRC T-shirts

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. **Dietrich JJ**, Ahmed N, Tshabalala G, Wu M, Mulaudzi M, Hornschuh S, Atujuna M, Muhumuza R, Ssemata AS, Stranix-Chibanda L, Nematadzira T, Bekker LG, Martinson N, Seeley J, Fox J. A qualitative study to explore daily versus on-demand oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in young people from South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe. *PLoS One*. 2023 Jun 29;18(6):e0287627. doi: [10.1371/journal.pone.0287627](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0287627)
2. **Gloek NR, Leong T**, Iwu-Jaja CJ, Katoto PD, **Kredo T**, Wiysonge CS. Typhoid conjugate vaccines for preventing typhoid fever (enteric fever) (Protocol). *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2023, Issue 6. Art. No.: CD015746. DOI: [10.1002/14651858.CD015746](https://doi.org/10.1002/14651858.CD015746)
3. Pereira-Kotze C, Faber M, **Doherty T**. Knowledge, understanding and perceptions of key stakeholders on the maternity protection available and accessible to female domestic workers in South Africa. *PLOS Glob Public Health* 2023 Jun 14;3(6):e0001199. doi: [10.1371/journal.pgph.0001199](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0001199)
4. Murugasen S, Abdullahi LH, **Moloi H**, Wyber R, Abrams J, Watkins DA, Engel ME, Zühlke LJ. Burden of disease and barriers to comprehensive care for rheumatic heart disease in South Africa: an updated systematic review protocol. *BMJ Open* 2023 Jun 1;13(6):e073300. doi: [10.1136/bmjopen-2023-073300](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2023-073300)
5. Moyo RC, **Govindasamy D**, Manda SO, Nyasulu PS. A prediction risk score for HIV among adolescent girls and young women in South Africa: identifying those in need of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis. *HIV Res Clin Pract* 2023 Jun 3;24(1):2221377. doi: [10.1080/25787489.2023.2221377](https://doi.org/10.1080/25787489.2023.2221377)
6. Hazel EA, Erchick DJ, Katz J, Lee ACC, Diaz M, Wu LSF, et al (including **Zembe-Mkabile W**). Neonatal mortality risk of vulnerable newborns: A descriptive analysis of subnational, population-based birth cohorts for 238 143 live births in low- and middle-income settings from 2000 to 2017. *BJOG* 2023 May 8. doi: [10.1111/1471-0528.17518](https://doi.org/10.1111/1471-0528.17518)
7. Erchick DJ, Hazel EA, Katz J, Lee ACC, Diaz M, Wu LSF, et al (including **Zembe-Mkabile W**). Vulnerable newborn types: analysis of subnational, population-based birth cohorts for 541 285 live births in 23 countries, 2000-2021. *BJOG* 2023 May 8. doi: [10.1111/1471-0528.17510](https://doi.org/10.1111/1471-0528.17510)
8. **Doherty T**, Fawcus S, **Daviaud E**, **Bartmann Y**, **Solanki G**. Experiences of public-private contracting for caesarean delivery in rural district public hospitals: A qualitative interview study. *PLOS Glob Public Health* 2023 May 8;3(5):e0001335. doi: [10.1371/journal.pgph.0001335](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0001335)
9. Tshabalala G, Blanchard C, Mmoledi K, Malope D, O'Neil DS, Norris SA, Joffe M, **Dietrich JJ**. A qualitative study to explore healthcare providers' perspectives on barriers and enablers to early detection of breast and cervical cancers among women attending primary healthcare clinics in Johannesburg, South Africa. *PLOS Glob Public Health* 2023 May 9;3(5):e0001826. doi:[10.1371/journal.pgph.0001826](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0001826)
10. **Siegfried NL**, De Voux A, **Jonas K**, **Yun JA**, Chetty T, Mabona M, Els F, Mdose H, Kuonza L, Hsiao M, **Mathews C**. SARS-CoV-2 transmission risk in the school environment: a pilot case-ascertained prospective study to inform future school-based surveillance. *S Afr Med J* 2023 May 5;113(5):30-38. doi:[10.7196/SAMJ.2023](https://doi.org/10.7196/SAMJ.2023)

**Note: all articles in blue are open access**

## PUBLICATIONS (TECHNICAL/OTHER)

### REPORTS, POLICIES & GUIDELINES THAT REFERENCE SAMRC RESEARCH

1. National Mental Health Policy Framework and Strategic Plan 2023 - 2030. [NMHP-FINAL-APPROVED-ON-30.04.2023.pdf \(spotlightnsp.co.za\)](#). 30 April 2023. Author cited: **Besada D**

### RAPID REVIEWS / BRIEF REPORTS

1. Sinxadi P, Miller M, **Durao S**, MacQuilkan K. Dexmedetomidine compared to standard of care in mechanically ventilated patients. Report produced for the National Department of Health Tertiary Expert Review Committee. June 2023

### OTHER

1. **Solanki G**, Myburgh N, Wild S, Cornell J. Critical health reforms overdue to improve healthcare now, provide essential building blocks for NHI. Published in the Daily Maverick on 20 June 2023. <https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2023-06-20-critical-health-reforms-needed-as-essential-building-blocks-for-nhi/>
2. **Duby Z**. The interaction between mental health, and sexual and reproductive health. Interview on the Psychological Society of South Africa (PsySSA) Podcast. 20 May 2023. <https://www.psyssa.com/hpsig-podcast-the-interaction-between-mental-health-and-sexual-and-reproductive-health/>
3. **Govindasamy D**, **Carries S**, **Mkhwanazi Z**, **Sithole N**. Developed a manual for Caregivers of Children and Adolescents Living with HIV. April – June 2023.

## CONFERENCES

### INTERNATIONAL

#### Oral Presentations

1. **Leong TD**, **Gloeck N**, Young T, Gray A, Cohen K, de waal R, Parrish A, McCaul M, **Hohlfeld A**, **Durao S**, Reddy M, Theunissen H, Ruebenson G, **Kredo T**. *Adaptive complex systems to mobilise rapid evidence-informed decision-making for the National treatment guidelines for COVID-19 in South Africa*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology in Africa. Cape Town, South Africa. 5-9 June 2023
2. Grant J, Knight L, **Duby Z**. *A qualitative exploration of the perceived factors that influence alcohol consumption among South African AGYW and the relationship with sexual risk behaviour*. 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol. Johannesburg, South Africa. 5-9 June 2023
3. **Durao S**, Wilkinson M, Davids E, Gerritsen A, **Kredo T**. *Which policies and interventions work to influence the school food environment?* Nutrition Congress 2023. Cape Town, South Africa. 18-20 April 2023
4. Naude C, Visser M, Brand A, **Durao S**. *The database of Cochrane nutrition systematic reviews: making it easier to find nutrition reviews and identify gaps*. Nutrition Congress 2023. Cape Town, South Africa. 18-20 April 2023

#### Poster presentations

1. **Durao S**, van Straten EM, **Blose N**, Reubenson G. *Vitamin C for SARS-CoV-2 infection: a rapid review*. Nutrition Congress 2023. Cape Town, South Africa. 18-20 April 2023

## LOCAL

### Oral Presentations

1. **Kedama A, Ndunge N, Mathews C, Banas E, Shkemi B, Kalichman S, Kalichman M.** *The feasibility and acceptability of mobile phone-delivered adherence counselling to address HIV-stigma concerns to improve ART adherence among people attending public health services.* 11<sup>th</sup> SA AIDS Conference 2023. Durban, South Africa. 20-23 June 2023

### Poster Presentations

1. **Carries S, Shai N, Sithole N, Mkhwanazi Z, Bhana A, Sigwadhi L, Washington L, Closson K, A. Gibbs A, Kaida A, Govindasamy D.** *Caregiver wellbeing plus (CWeL+) study: Strengthening the impact of South Africa's COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress grant: A pilot randomised control trial evaluating a cash transfer plus gender transformative economic empowerment intervention to improve psychological wellbeing and gender equality among unpaid caregivers of children and adolescents living with HIV in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.* 11<sup>th</sup> SA AIDS Conference 2023. Durban, South Africa. 20-23 June 2023
2. **Mkhwanazi Z, Carries S, Sithole N, Sigwadhi L, Govindasamy D.** *The acceptability of an economic incentive package for improving wellbeing among young caregivers of adolescents living with HIV (ALHIV) during COVID-19 in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.* 11<sup>th</sup> SA AIDS Conference 2023. Durban, South Africa. 20-23 June 2023

## TEACHING AND TRAINING

### SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Student Name and Surname	Gender	Degree	Institution	Name of supervisor
Amanuel Bhata	Male	MSc	SUN	Darshini Govindasamy and Stanley Carries
Audrey Moyo	Female	PhD	SUN	Darshini Govindasamy
Bob Mwiinga	Male	PhD	LSTHM	Kim Jonas
Bongekile Mabaso		PhD	UCT	Tanya Doherty
Chantal Fowler	Female	PhD	UCT	Zoe Duby
Chanté Crossney		MPH	UCT	Zoe Duby
Crystal Kleinhans	Female	MPH	UCT	Zoe Duby
Daniel Nana Yaw Abankwah	Male	PhD	University of Ghana	Simon Lewin
Daniela Gooieman	Female	MPhil	SUN	Natasha Gloeck
Dennis Waithaka	Male	PhD	Open University, UK	Simon Lewin
Gbotemi Aloro	Female	PhD	UKZN	Arvin Bhana
Gugu Tshabalala	Female	MA	WITS	Janan Dietrich
Heather Munthe-Kaas	Female	PhD	University of Oslo	Simon Lewin
Inathi Maxhakana	Female	MPH	UWC	Wanga Zembe
Jamie Grant		MPH	UCT	Zoe Duby
Jeanette Makhoali	Female	MPH	UWC SoPH	Tanya Doherty
Jonathan Mwanza	Male	PhD	WITS	Tanya Doherty
Kate Bergh	Female	PhD	UCT	Kim Jonas
Khululekani Charity Ngubo	Female	MPH	UWC	Kim Jonas
Leona Chazanga	Female	MSc	SUN	Darshini Govindasamy and Stanley Carries
Lieve Vanleeuw	Female	PhD	Tampere University	Wanga Zembe
Mamakiri Mulaudzi	Female	PhD	WITS	Janan Dietrich

Student Name and Surname	Gender	Degree	Institution	Name of supervisor
Marshall Marafu	Male	MPHIL	UCT	Donnela Besada
Michelle Kuchena	Female	MA	WITS	Janan Dietrich
Musa Masiza	Female	PhD	Maastricht University/ UWC	Kim Jonas
Nakedi Tyesi		MPH	UWC	Lieve Vanleeuw
Najma Shaik	Female	PhD	SU	Cathy Mathews
Nasiphi Fadana	Female	MSc	UP	Natasha Gloeck
Noluthando Ntlapo	Female	PhD	Erasmus University (Erasmus Medical Centre)/ UKZN	Kim Jonas
One Selohilwe	Female	PhD	UKZN	Arvin Bhana
Paidashe Chamuka		MPH	UCT	Zoe Duby
Panashe Bodzo	Female	MPH	UCT	Darshini Govindasamy
Phoene Onware	Female	PhD	UWC	Wanga Zembe
Reuben Moyo	Male	PhD	SUN	Darshini Govindasamy
Ruvimbo Chigwanda	Female	MPH	UCT	Zoe Duby
Sinalo Toni	Female	MA	WITS	Janan Dietrich
Sphindile Mapumulo	Female	PhD	UWC SoPH	Tanya Doherty
Stanley Carries	Male	PhD	UKZN	Darshini Govindasamy
Stefanie Vermaak	Female	PhD	WITS	Janan Dietrich
Tondani Mudau	Female	PhD	WITS	Janan Dietrich

#### STUDENTS SUPERVISED BY HSRU STAFF WHO GRADUATED

Student Name and Surname	Gender	Degree	Institution	Graduation date
Tshireletso Phiri	Female	Masters	University of Pretoria	May 2023

#### LECTURES

1. Assessing economic evaluation methods for evaluating community-based health promotion interventions. Lecture to 2nd year Postgraduate Diploma in Health Economics students at the University of Cape Town. Cape Town. 5 June 2023
2. Packaging evidence for decision making: evidence-to-decision frameworks. MSc in Global Health Programme, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute. 1 June 2023
3. Community health workers – their role, significant contribution and the challenges they face. Lecture to MPH students at the UWC Summer School. Cape Town. 17 May 2023
4. Lecture to post-graduate students (MPH, PHD) on Youth and HIV at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (Sub-Saharan Network for TB/HIV Research Excellence). (Youth Health Economics Focal Area). 11 May 2023
5. Pharmaceutical policy lecture to Masters students at Sefako Makgatho Health Science University. North West. 12 April 2023
6. Lecture to 4<sup>th</sup> year Community Health Studies Students from the Durban Institute of Technology on Health Systems Research (Youth Health Economics Focal Area). 3-5 April 2023

## WEBINARS

1. Lay health workers in primary and community health care for chronic conditions: diabetes treatment – draft findings. IMPROVE Project team. 7 June 2023
2. Development of the new mental health policy framework and investment case for mental health. UHC/NHI Discussion Forum. 25 May 2023
3. Adapting guidelines to low resource settings: exploring methods using the eCOVID19 Recommendations Map. 18 April 2023

## WORKSHOPS

1. GRADE-CERQual training workshop. Norwegian Institute of Public Health. 28 June 2023
2. Political Economy on Gender. Women Rise Workshop- African Population and Health Research Centre. Participant-Participant (DELPHI Exercise). 6 June 2023
3. GRADE-CERQual training workshop. Evidence Synthesis Ireland. 25-31 May 2023 (four, 2-hour sessions)
4. eCOVID-19 recommendations map knowledge mobilization project for sub-Saharan Africa. ECOVID-19 Recommendations Map & Gateway to Contextualization (RecMap): Deliberative dialogue workshop. McMaster University and Canadian Institute of Health Research. 18 May 2023

## INTELLECTUAL INPUT

### INTERNATIONAL

#### Bango F

1. Peer reviewer, Health and Policy Planning. May 2023

#### Carries S

1. Peer reviewer, PLoS Global Health. June 2023

#### Doherty T

1. Technical guest editor, NEST360-linked supplement for BMC Pediatrics. April - ongoing

#### Durao S

1. Peer reviewer, Cochrane. May 2023

#### Govindasamy D

1. Academic editor (Health Economics). PLoS Global Health. April 2023

#### Kredo T

1. Member, Najoua Mlika-Cabanne Award Committee – June 2023 - Ongoing

#### Leong T

1. Member, GRADE EML Technical Working Group. April – June 2023

### LOCAL

#### Govindasamy D

1. Health economist reviewer, SAMRC Extramural Unit Review. June 2023

#### Jonas K

1. Scientific reviewer, SAMRC Office of Research Strategy (scientific review prior to ethics submission)

**FUNDING PROPOSALS SUBMITTED**

None submitted during the reporting period.

**GRANTS AWARDED**

None awarded during the reporting period.

**TRAINING COURSES ATTENDED**

1. McClinton Appollis T. Searching EBSCOHOST. Virtual. 14 June 2023. Cost: Nil
2. Oliver J. Searching EBSCOHOST. Virtual. 14 June 2023. Cost: Nil
3. Sithole N. Fundamentals of epidemiology. Stellenbosch University. 1 February – 18 May 2023.  
Cost: R 4,900