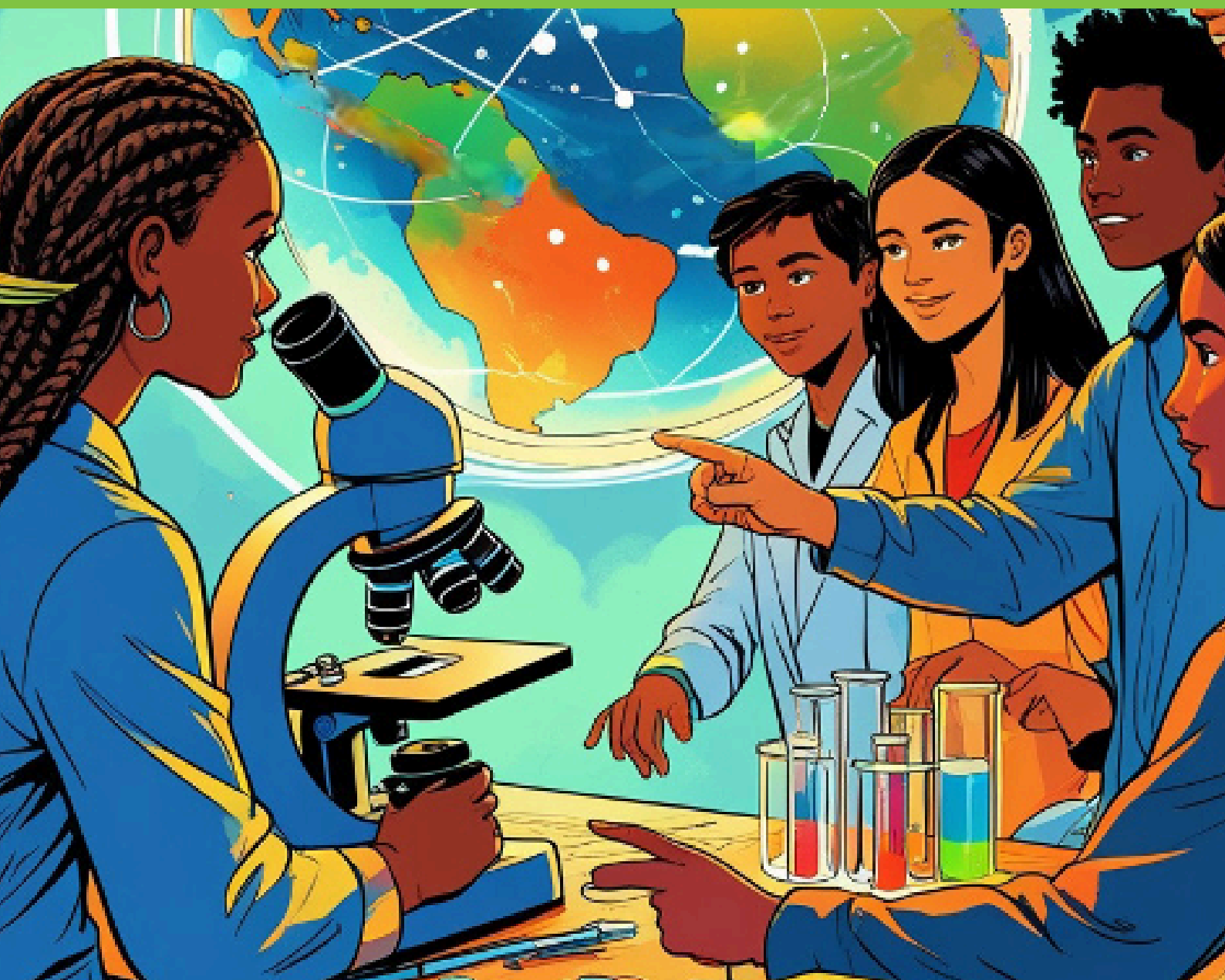


RCD 17th EARLY CAREER SCIENTIST CONVENTION

SAMRC Research Capacity Development

19 & 20 November 2025

Theme: Empowering Emerging Researchers to
Navigate Complexity and Drive Real World Impact



**PROGRAMME
BOOKLET**



MESSAGE FROM SAMRC RCD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr Michelle Mulder

I warmly welcome you to the 2025 Early Career Scientist Convention. This gathering is an essential space for reflection, connection and foresight during a time when the global research ecosystem is in flux.

The present circumstances call for agility and resilience from our researchers. The United States funding cuts for health research and similar financial pressures in other regions are intensifying competition for resources. Meanwhile, emerging challenges and opportunities such as artificial intelligence, climate change, shifting geopolitical landscapes, and the changing role of science in society are transforming how research is funded, conducted and valued.

Academic leaders and funders worldwide constantly emphasise three key themes that will shape your careers: securing sustainable research funding, demonstrating tangible real-world impact, and managing talent in increasingly global and competitive settings. Consequently, future research leaders must be not only scientifically competent but also politically aware, technologically adaptable, and adept at navigating regulatory change and a new funding landscape.

Most importantly, you must be able to articulate the value of your work beyond the lab. Demonstrating societal, economic, and environmental impact is no longer optional; it is essential for sustaining public trust and investment in research. This requires foresight, crisis and complexity management, policy literacy, and the ability to engage effectively with policymakers, funders, and communities.

At the South African Medical Research Council, we recognise that future leadership will be shared and inclusive. No single individual can master all the skills required to succeed in today's environment. Instead, our strength will lie in collective leadership, partnership and in building diverse research communities that are adaptable, collaborative, and forward-looking.

This conference provides a platform to share ideas, foster partnerships, and refine the skills necessary to navigate uncertainty and achieve tangible impact. As early-career scientists, you are not only the future of research but also its current source of innovation, courage, and transformation.



Dr Michelle Mulder
Grants, Innovation and Product Development
Executive Director

17th Early Career Scientist Convention

SAMRC Research Capacity Development



MESSAGE FROM THE SAMRC RCD DIVISIONAL MANAGER

Dr Abeda Dawood

Greetings to all attendees, especially to our emerging coming from all over South Africa!! Molweni, Sanibonani, Dumelang, Ndaa (Aa), Goeie more, and Good morning!! Greetings to all our emerging researchers coming from all over South Africa!! Molweni, Sanibonani, Dumelang, Ndaa (Aa), Goeie more, and Good morning!!

To our scholarship beneficiaries, those in person at the SAMRC Cape Town campus, and those who have joined us virtually, I warmly welcome you to the 2025 SAMRC Division of Research Capacity Development (RCD) Early Career Scientists Convention, themed **"Empowering Emerging Researchers to Navigate Complexity and Drive Real World Impact"**! At our last gathering I expressed the sincere hope that our next meeting would be fully in person, alas, that was not to be. And again, similar to the cost-containment reason in 2023, the reason for this being a hybrid meeting is budgetary constraints. I sincerely thank all the online participants for their understanding.

This year's event brings together emerging researchers to form part of a dynamic community driving health research excellence in South Africa. This convention is your **platform to showcase your work, share insights**, and very importantly, to **strengthen your professional networks**. I encourage you to use this opportunity to connect with peers, identify potential collaborators, and engage with experts and SAMRC leadership.

All the researchers presenting have been funded through the SAMRC's Division of Research Capacity Development. This reflects the capacity development principle of focusing on building strong teams for research sustainability. It also highlights that research capacity building is not an overnight endeavour; it requires long term commitment from various stakeholders - from the individual researcher to the supervisors, the institution, funders and government - to ensure research as well as societal impact. This leads me to the theme of the meeting (navigating complexity and driving impact) and I want to emphasise the importance of doing impactful research. As you listen to the presentations during the conference think about impact at the four following levels:

- Individual
- Institution or team
- Societal
- Knowledge – or impact on your research discipline

17th Early Career Scientist Convention

SAMRC Research Capacity Development

I thank all our distinguished speakers who have shown their commitment to imparting their knowledge by giving freely of their valuable time. We appreciate this very much. To our conference chairpersons and programme director (Dr Dudu Ndwandwe and Professor Nadine Harker), session chairs, keynote speakers, facilitators, and reviewers—thank you for sharing your expertise and contributing to the professional growth of our beneficiaries.

Furthermore, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the team from various business units of the SAMRC who worked tirelessly to organise this event. Thank you to colleagues from Corporate and Marketing Communications, Conference Centre, and the various Research Units which gave RCD their scientists' time to constitute and work as the Conference's Scientific and Organising Committees, to our Executive Director, Dr Michelle Mulder for her unwavering commitment, our CEO and President for his support, and, last but not least, to the awesome team RCD—I thank you!

May this gathering inspire new partnerships, bold ideas, and continued success as we work together to strengthen South Africa's health research capacity.



Dr Abeda Dawood
Research Capacity Development
Divisional Manager



17th Early Career Scientist Convention

SAMRC Research Capacity Development

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE



Dr Duduzile Ndwandwe

Chairperson,
SAMRC, Cochrane SA



Prof Nadine Harker

SAMRC Mental Health,
Alcohol, Substance Use
and Tobacco



Dr Awelani Mutshembele

SAMRC Office of Aids and TB



Dr Zandisiwe Magwebu

SAMRC Primate Unit and
Delft Animal Centre



Dr Nobuhle Mchunu

SAMRC Biostatistics
Research Unit



Dr Cindy George

SAMRC Non-Communicable
Diseases Research Unit



Dr Nonhlakanipho Sangweni

SAMRC Biomedical
Research and Innovation
Platform



Dr Lawrence Mabasa

SAMRC Biomedical
Research and Innovation
Platform



Dr Jillian Hill

SAMRC Non-Communicable
Diseases Research Unit

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Research Capacity Development



Dr Abeda Dawood
Divisional Manager



Dr Lindokuhle Ndlandla
Programme Manager:
RCD Scholarships



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IT Support Intern



Ms Lesedi Morare
Project Coordinator,
GIPD



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Event Coordinator

17th Early Career Scientist Convention

SAMRC Research Capacity Development

MEET THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Prof Ntobeko Ntusi | President and CEO, South African Medical Research Council

Professor Ntobeko Ntusi is the President and CEO of the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) effective 1 July 2024. He joins the SAMRC from the University of Cape Town and Groote Schuur Hospital where he was the Chair and Head of the Department of Medicine. He is a distinguished and highly respected figure in the medical community as a key global opinion leader. His lifelong passion for evidence-based healthcare, health systems research, noncommunicable disease multimorbidity, and universal health coverage has positioned him as a trailblazer in medical research. Prof. Ntusi obtained a BSc(Hons) degree in Cellular and

Molecular Biology from Haverford College, USA, and an MBChB degree from the University of Cape Town. He is a qualified physician and cardiologist, and holds numerous additional qualifications, including a DPhil in Cardiovascular Medicine from the University of Oxford, St. Cross College, and an MD in Cardiology from the University of Cape Town.



Prof Thumbi Ndung'u | Programme Director Sub-Saharan African Network for HIV/TB Research Excellence

Thumbi Ndung'u is Director of Basic and Translational Science at the Africa Health Research Institute, Programme Director of SANTHE, Professor of Infectious Diseases at University College London, and Scientific Director and Victor Daitz Chair at the University of KwaZulu-Natal's HIV Pathogenesis Programme.

He holds a Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Nairobi, a PhD in Biological Sciences in Public Health from Harvard University, and completed postdoctoral training in virology at Harvard Medical School.

A recipient of multiple scientific leadership awards, he has mentored over 50 postgraduate students and published more than 320 research papers. His work focuses on HIV-immune system interactions and their application to HIV prevention and cure.

MEET THE PLENARY SPEAKERS



Prof Rubin Pillay | Executive Director Marnix E. Institute for Biomedical Innovation

Prof Rubin Pillay is a leading voice at the intersection of healthcare and entrepreneurship. A medical doctor with a PhD in Business Administration, he combines clinical and business expertise to promote innovative, entrepreneurial approaches in healthcare.

He serves as Assistant Dean in the School of Medicine, Executive Director of the Heersink Institute for Biomedical Innovation, and Chief Innovation Officer for UAB Health. Widely recognized for his visionary leadership, he champions the integration of medical knowledge and entrepreneurial thinking to drive the future of healthcare.

Ms Cassi Rubin | Risk Manager Discovery

Cassi Rubin leads the mental health strategy and portfolio in Population Health Management at Discovery Health. With a Master's Degree in Neuroscience from the Division of Neurosurgery at the University of Cape Town and a background in computational neuroscience, Cassi leverages clinically-validated and evidence-based innovations to address mental health trends and patterns at scale.

Cassi strives to answer the 'so what' questions, advocating for both preventative and curative initiatives at the intersection of brain and data science.



Prof Landon Myer | Head of Division Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of Cape Town

Professor Landon Myer is an epidemiologist with over 25 years of research and training experience in South Africa. He is Professor and Head of Epidemiology & Biostatistics at the University of Cape Town's School of Public Health.

Trained in clinical medicine, social sciences, and epidemiology, his work focuses on women's, maternal, and child health in southern Africa. He teaches and supervises postgraduate students and has made major contributions to research on HIV, TB, and STIs, particularly antiretroviral therapy for pregnant and breastfeeding women.

His recent work addresses obesity and related non-communicable diseases, and he specializes in epidemiologic research methods across observational and experimental designs. He leads a large research group and oversees a community-based research site at the Gugulethu Community Health Centre.

17th Early Career Scientist Convention

SAMRC Research Capacity Development

MEET THE SESSION CHAIRS

Day 1, 19 November 2025



Dr Marlon Cerf

SAMRC Grants, Innovation and Product Development

Masterclass 1: Translating Research into Impact: The Role of Emerging Researchers

This masterclass examines critical pathways including evidence synthesis, innovation, global partnerships, capacity building and access. Participants will gain insights for bridging research, policy and innovation to maximize societal impact.



Dr Awelani Mutshembele

SAMRC Office of Aids and TB

Masterclass 2: Shaping the Future Researcher – Personal Development and Career Management

This masterclass is designed to equip early-career scientists with the tools and insights to thrive in complex research environments while making deliberate career decisions that foster both personal growth and societal impact.



Dr Cindy George

SAMRC Non-Communicable Diseases Research Unit

Seminar:

AI and the future of cardiometabolic care



Ms Yolanda Phakela

SAMRC Corporate and Marketing Communications

Keynote Address:

Building a resilient, relevant and responsive health research enterprise



Dr Zandisiwe Magwebu

SAMRC Primate Unit and Delft Animal Centre

Flashtalk Facilitator



Dr Nobuhle Mchunu

SAMRC Biostatistics Research Unit

Flashtalk Facilitator

17th Early Career Scientist Convention

SAMRC Research Capacity Development

MEET THE PANELISTS

Day 1, 19 November 2025

Masterclass 1:



Prof Mark Engel

Chief Specialist Scientist, Cochrane SA



Prof Hans Strijdom

Head of Division: Medical Physiology,
Stellenbosch University



Dr Charlotte Maserumule

Senior Manager: Biotech Innovation
& Commercialisation Market
Access Africa



Dr Michelle Mulder

Executive Director: Grants, Innovation
and Product Development and
Research Capacity Development
SAMRC

Masterclass 2:



Prof Angela Mathee

Director: Transformation SAMRC



Prof Thulani Makhalanyane

Professor of Microbiology
Stellenbosch University



Dr Priscilla Mensah

Director: Research Development
Nelson Mandela University



Dr Marguerite Blignaut

Researcher: Division of Medical
Physiology
Stellenbosch University

17th Early Career Scientist Convention

SAMRC Research Capacity Development

MEET THE PANELISTS

Masterclass 1:



Dr Heather Sherwin

Chief Specialist Scientist, Cochrane SA



Dr Thandi Mgwebi

Vice Chancellor & Principal Walter Sisulu University



Dr Carly Young-Bailie

Postdoctoral Research Fellow South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative



Prof Linda Gail-Bekker

CEO and Director Desmond Tutu HIV Centre, UCT



Dr Terusha Chetty

Deputy Director: HIV and other Infectious Diseases Research Unit SAMRC

Masterclass 2:



Prof Nandi Siegfried

Chief Specialist Scientist: Mental Health Alcohol Use and Tobacco SAMRC



Prof Colleen Aldous

Vice Chancellor & Principal Walter Sisulu University



Ms Ncengani Mthethwa

Project Manager: HIV and Other Infectious Diseases SAMRC



Dr Brenda Kubheka

Managing Director Health IQ Consulting



Prof Carmen Pheiffer

Chief Specialist Scientist: Biomedical Research and Innovation Platform SAMRC

Masterclass 3:



Ms Rizwana Mia

Vice Chair: International Consortium of Personalised Group Senior Program Manager: Strategic Health Innovation Partnerships SAMRC



Prof Nicola Mulder

Head of Medicine Computational Biology University of Cape Town

Day 2, 20 November 2025

17th Early Career Scientist Convention

SAMRC Research Capacity Development

MEET THE SESSION CHAIRS

Day 2, 20 November 2025



Prof Phumla Sinxadi

University of Cape Town, Division of Clinical Pharmacology

Masterclass 1: Resilience in Research - Charting a Path Through Global Funding Uncertainty

This masterclass highlights the journey of translating research into real-world impact. Each speaker will address a key stage in the pathway from evidence synthesis, through global alignment and academic innovation, to capacity building and market access. Together, the presentations will tell a complete story of how African research can deliver meaningful health outcomes.



Dr Lawrence Mabasa

SAMRC Biomedical Research and Innovation Platform

Masterclass 2: Innovation in collaboration - working across disciplines and communities

This masterclass focuses on fostering innovation through collaboration across disciplines, sectors, and communities. It explores how integrative approaches, linking research, policy, industry, and community engagement, can generate impactful and sustainable health solutions. Speakers will share lessons from diverse experiences in collaborative science, ethical leadership, translational partnerships, and community-based innovation models that strengthen Africa's research ecosystem.



Dr Duduzile Ndwandwe

SAMRC, Cochrane SA

Masterclass 3: Data Visitation & AI in Research

This masterclass explores how data visitation frameworks and artificial intelligence (AI) are transforming research. Speakers will present international and African perspectives on governance, interoperability, and practical applications of AI in health research. The session will highlight both opportunities and challenges in leveraging these tools responsibly for African research ecosystems.



Dr Nonhlakanipho Sangweni

SAMRC Biomedical Research and Innovation Platform

Plenary Talk: Innovation in collaboration- working across disciplines and communities

Day 1: 19 November 2025

09:00-09:30 REGISTRATION/ <u>LOG-IN</u>		
09:30-09:45	Welcome and Housekeeping by Programme Director	Dr Duduzile Ndwandwe
	Health and Safety Briefing	Ms Thandazile Mbombela
09:45-09:50	Welcome by RCD Division Manager	Dr Abeda Dawood
09:50-10:00	Welcome Address by RCD Executive Director	Dr Michelle Mulder
10:00-10:30	Keynote address: "Building a resilient, relevant and responsive health research enterprise"	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
	Session Chair: Ms Yolanda Phakela (Corporate and Marketing Communications)	Keynote speaker: Professor Ntobeko Ntusi CEO and President of the South African Medical Research Council
10:30-10:45 TEA BREAK		
10:45-11:30	Masterclass 1: Translating Research into Impact: The Role of Emerging Researchers	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
	Session Chair: Dr Marlon Cerf	Speakers: Prof Mark Engel (Cochrane SA), Dr Michelle Mulder (GIPD), Prof Hans Strijdom (SUN), Dr Charlotte Maserumule (Market Access Africa)

Day 1: 19 November 2025

11:30-11:35		Short Break	
11:30-12:30	Session 1A: Non-communicable diseases Facilitator: Dr Frederic Nduhirabandi Co-facilitator: Dr Sinenhlanhla Mthembu (VA) Venue: Auditorium <i>Join using the following link</i>	Session 1B: Communicable diseases- respiratory diseases Facilitator: Dr Siyanda Ndlovu (VA) Co-facilitator: Dr Stephanie Minnies Venue: African Jacana <i>Join using the following link</i>	
	White tea aqueous extract and Ascorbic acid counteract oxidative damage in Human Sperm - Ndivhuho Takalani	Medical consequences and return-to-sport considerations following acute respiratory infections in physically active individuals - Marcel Jooste	
	Discovery of HDAC3 inhibitors for Alzheimer's disease: A computational and bioassay approach HDAC3, HDAC3-selective inhibitors, Molecular docking, Virtual screening, Alzheimer's - Thabo Makgoba	Integrating Post-TB Lung Disease Care into South Africa's TB Programme: Stakeholder Insights - Yochanan Hoppenstein	
	Exploring the potential of DNA methylation as biomarkers for screening Gestational Diabetes Mellitus - Matladi Masete	Mycobacterial Nucleotide Excision Repair: A Hub for DNA Damage Response Crosstalk - Tshepiso Nkonyane	
	Gene Expression Profiling in DMBA-Induced Mammary Carcinogenesis: The Role of Maternal Methyl Donor Nutrients - Anathi Burns	Identification of Mycobacterium tuberculosis essential genes that potentiate the efficacy of clinical TB drugs - Tumelo Maila	
	Chitosan-coated Edaravone-N-benzyl pyridinium hybrid Polycaprolactone/Ploxamer 188 Nanoparticle for enhanced Alzheimer's Disease Drug Delivery - Enoch Teboho Tutubala	Patterns of drug resistance and genomic DNA methylation in Mycobacterium tuberculosis isolates - Unarine Matodzi	
12:30-13:15		LUNCH	
13:15-13:25	PICTURE MOMENT		

Day 1: 19 November 2025

13:25-14:25	Session 2A: Public Health Facilitator: Dr Naomi Okugbeni Co-facilitator: Dr Samukelisiwe Madlala Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link	Session 2B: Non-communicable diseases Facilitator: Dr Nonhlakanipho Sangweni Co-facilitator: Dr Zainonesa Abrahams Venue: African Jacana Join using the following link
	Assessing the impacts of Covid-19 on the HIV care continuum among men who have sex with men in South Africa: An Implementation Science Study - Ramakgahlela Betty Sebati	Angioedema Biomarkers in Africa - Cascia Day
	Perceptions and Knowledge of Health Professionals about Telerehabilitation in Limpopo Province, South Africa - Maphoko Phindile Malema	The relationship between resting heart rate and cardiovascular risk factors among the Ellsiras rural population - Mohale Gift Maake
	Death by a Thousand Cuts: Microaggressions and LGBTIQ+ Health Profession Students in South Africa - Atholl Kleinhans	Angiotensinogen and diastolic blood pressure in young adults: The African-PREDICT study - Noncedo Maseko
	Beyond viral suppression of HIV: Quality of life of people living with HIV in the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa - Zanele Nomatshila	Vascular health measures and associations with cardio-metabolic biomarkers in children stratified by risk factor prevalence - Tshepang Kgomotso Molawa
	Psychological Distress and Burnout Among Academic Staff at a South African University - Veena Abraham	Quantifying pericardial fibrosis burden on CMR - using the SUNHeart pericardial segmentation model - Louis Giliomee
14:25-14:30 SHORT BREAK		
14:30-15:15	Masterclass 2: Shaping the Future Researcher – Personal Development and Career Management Session Chair: Dr Awelani Mutshembele (Office of Aids and TB)	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link Speakers: Prof Angela Mathee (EHRU), Dr Marguerite Blignaut (SUN), Prof Thulani Makhalanyane (SUN), Dr Priscilla Mensah (NMU)

Day 1: 19 November 2025

15:15-15:45	Seminar: AI and the future of cardiometabolic care	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
	Session Chair: Dr Cindy George (NCDRU)	Speaker: Professor Rubin Pillay <i>Executive Director, Marnix E. Heersink Institute for Biomedical Innovation</i>
15:45-16:30	Top 10: Flash-talks Session Chairs: Dr Zandisiwe Magwebu (<i>PUDAC</i>) and Dr Nobuhle Mchunu (<i>BRU</i>)	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
16:30-16:35	CLOSING	

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SAMRC Research Capacity Development

Day 2: 20 November 2025

08:30-08:45		REGISTRATION/ <u>LOG-IN</u>
08:45-08:55	Welcome and Housekeeping by Programme Director	Dr Duduzile Ndwandwe (Cochrane SA)
08:55-09:25	Keynote Address: HIV Immunotherapy Research	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
	Session Chair: Dr Nobubelo Ngandu (HIV and Other infectious diseases)	Keynote Speaker: Professor Thumbi Ndung'u Sub-Saharan African Network for TB/HIV Research Excellence, UKZN
09:25-10:10	Masterclass 1: Resilience in Research - Charting a Path Through Global Funding Uncertainty	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
	Session Chair: Prof Phumla Sinxadi (UCT)	Speakers: Prof Linda Gail-Bekker (Desmond Tutu Foundation), Dr Terusha Chetty (HIV and Other Infectious Diseases), Dr Thandi Mgwebi (NRF), Dr Heather Sherwin (Elma Philanthropies), Dr Carly Young (UCT)
10:10-10:25		TEA BREAK
10:25-11:25	Session 3A: Public Health	Session 3B: Communicable Diseases-Vaccines
	Facilitator: Dr Kim Jonas Co-facilitator: Dr Funeka Bango Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link	Facilitator: Dr Hygon Mutavhatsindi Co-facilitator: Dr Zama Mahlobo Venue: African Jacana Join using the following link
	Adverse events in a neonatal intensive care unit in South Africa - Sandi Lee Holgate	The durability of vaccine-induced humoral immunity from novel vaccine schedules - Daniel Justin Kapelus

DAY 2: 20 NOVEMBER 2025

	Healthcare utilisation among adult Men in Mbombela sub-district, South Africa: A mixed method analysis - Jonas Mahlapahlapa Langa	Manufacturing GMP-grade Enzymes for mRNA Vaccine Synthesis: Bioprocess Development and Economic Evaluation - Hudson Nyikadzawanda
	Latent class analysis of multimorbidity and all-cause mortality: DIMAMO HDSS clinic linkage dataset - Kagiso Peace Seakamela	Bioengineering of a glycoconjugate vaccine candidate against Group B Streptococcus - Nelisa Makeleni
	South Africa's health system performance for surgical care delivery - Gabriella Hyman	COVID-19 vaccine uptake and hesitancy among adolescents living with HIV: A mixed-methods study - Yolanda Mayman
	The development of a Weighted HIV Risk Scoring Algorithm for high-risk women in KwaZulu-Natal - Thembelihle Nozipho Dladla	HLA-E-Restricted Mycobacterium tuberculosis (Mtb) vaccine candidate development - Nkanyezi Masondo
11:25-11:30	SHORT BREAK	
11:30-12:30	Session 4A: Communicable/Non-communicable diseases Facilitator: Dr Koena Moabelo Co-facilitator: Dr Noluxabiso Mangwana (VA) Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link	Session 4B: Non-communicable Diseases Facilitator: Dr Kamogelo Senyatsi Co-facilitator: Dr Sihle Mabhida Venue: African Jacana Join using the following link
	MicroRNA Expression in Murine Female Genital Tracts Following Helminth–HSV-2 Co-Infection - Roxanne Pillay	Phytochemical Profiling and Cytotoxic Evaluation of Ozoroa paniculosa Leaf Extracts - Aphang Polette Neo

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SAMRC Research Capacity Development

Day 2: 20 November 2025

11:30-12:30	Reprogramming the Foreign body response in polymeric implant tissue integration using helminth-derived extracellular vesicles - Theodora Amoa	The Transcriptional Profile of Cord and Peripheral Blood Cells from Infants with Moderate and Severe NESHIE; ex vivo correlation following exposure of cord blood cells to hypoxia - Odireleng Mosuwe
	Transcriptomic profiling of SRPK1 inhibition reveals HPV-dependent gene network disruption in cervical cancer cells - Afra Basera	Alleviation of cisplatin-induced nephrotoxicity through the modulation of DNA damage, inflammation and oxidative stress - Mante Dolly Kgakishe
	Pathways to HIV Risk/Acquisition Among Multiple Groups using Structural Equations Modelling - Georgie van der Merwe	Dual Electrospray Ionization Mode Metabolomic Profiling Unravels Signature Metabolites of Lippia javanica and Acorus calamus - Mmamudi Anna Makhafola
	Causal modelling of COVID-19 relative vaccine effectiveness of Ad26.COV2.S and mRNA-1273 boosters - Nqobile Sthembele Dlamini	The Epidemiology of retinopathy of prematurity in South Africa - Tshilidzi Hulisani van der Lecq
12:30-13:15		LUNCH
13:15-13:45	Plenary Talk: Innovation in collaboration- working across disciplines and communities	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
	Session Chair: Dr Nonhlakanipho Sangweni (BRIP)	Speaker: Professor Landon Myer Head of Division, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, UCT
13:45-14:30	Masterclass 2: Innovation in collaboration - working across disciplines and communities	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
	Session Chair: Dr Lawrence Mabasa (BRIP)	Speakers: Prof Nandi Siegfried (MASTRU), Dr Brenda Kubheka (Health IQ Consulting), Prof Colleen Aldous (UKZN), Prof Carmen Pheiffer (NCDRU), Ms Ncengani Mthethwa (HIDRU)

17th Early Career Scientist Convention

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Day 2: 20 November 2025

14:30-14:35		SHORT BREAK
14:35-15:20	Masterclass 3: Data Visitation & AI in Research	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
	Session Chair: Dr Duduzile Ndwandwe (Cochrane SA)	Speakers: Ms Rizwana Mia (ICPermed), Prof Nicola Mulder (UCT)
15:20-15:50	Plenary Talk: Shaping the Future of Self Care: The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Personalized Medicine	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
	Session Chair: Dr Lindokuhle Ndlandla	Speaker: Ms Cassi Rubin Discovery Risk Manager
15:50-16:20	Celebrating Completed Scholars and Prize Giving Presented by: Dr Abeda Dawood (RCD) and Dr Lindokuhle Ndlandla (RCD) And In Memory of Neo Sematlane	Venue: Auditorium Join using the following link
16:20-16:25		CLOSURE

CONNECT



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Password: ctn303387

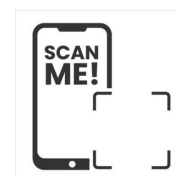


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Notes

Notes

