

NATIONAL ESSENTIAL MEDICINES LIST COMMITTEE

Member List and Summarised Biographies

MEMBER	PROFILE
 <p>Prof Marc Blockman CO-CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Prof Marc Blockman is a Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine and Senior Consultant in the Division of Clinical Pharmacology at Groote Schuur Hospital and UCT. He has been involved with South Africa's Essential Drugs Programme since 1995 and served as Chair of the National Essential Medicines List Committee from 2008 and Co-Chair from 2025. Prof Blockman chairs the Health Sciences Human Research Ethics Committee at UCT and the Senate Ethics in Research Committee and has chaired several Data Safety Monitoring Boards (DSMBs). He serves on the SAHPRA Clinical Expert Committee and previously chaired its Pharmacovigilance Expert Committee. He is also an international consultant to the WHO and has received the UCT Distinguished Teacher Award.</p>
 <p>Dr Renee de Waal CO-CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Renee de Waal is a medical doctor with a Master of Public Health (Health Economics) degree, and a Diploma in Pharmaceutical Medicine. She has a background in clinical pharmacology and currently works as a researcher at the University of Cape Town. She has been a co-editor of the South African Medicines Formulary since 2010; and served on various ERCs from 2011–2018 and NEMLC from 2016 onwards.</p>
 <p>Prof Jacqui Miot</p>	<p>Prof Jacqui Miot is a pharmacologist and health economist with over 30 years of experience in evidence-based medicine, health economics, and decision analysis, focusing on economic evaluations to inform health policy. She is an Associate Professor in the School of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of the Witwatersrand. As Division Director at the Health Economics and Epidemiology Research Office (HE2RO), she leads research and training programmes addressing HIV, tuberculosis (TB), non-communicable diseases, mental health, and SARS-CoV-2 across South Africa and sub-Saharan Africa. Her work focuses on cost-effectiveness analysis, epidemiological evaluation, and strengthening health systems, including human resources for health and service delivery optimisation.</p>
 <p>Dr Albert Z Muranda</p>	<p>Dr Muranda is a physician nephrologist and is the Head of Nephrology at Steve Biko Academic Hospital and works at the University of Pretoria. He is the current Chairperson of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Transplantation.</p>

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 <p>Dr Andrew Loftis Gray</p>	<p>Senior Lecturer, Division of Pharmacology, Discipline of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal</p> <p>Dr Gray is co-director of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Pharmaceutical Policy and Evidence Based Practice. He is also Honorary Senior Scientist: Consultant Pharmacist for the Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA) and non-executive Director of JEMBI Health Systems (NPC). Dr Gray is a Visiting Fellow in the Faculty of Pharmacy, Rhodes University, Makhanda. He currently serves on three technical advisory committees at the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) – Names and Scheduling; Legal; Pharmacovigilance. He is a Member of the World Health Organization's Expert Panel on Drug Policies and Management and has served as a member, rapporteur and co-chairperson of the Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines, as chairperson of the sub-committee on Essential Medicines for Children, and on the WHO Guidelines Review Committee.</p>
 <p>Ms Bilqees Sayed</p>	<p>Deputy Director: Cancer, Research and Surveillance, National Department of Health</p> <p>Ms Sayed is the Deputy Director responsible for the research and surveillance programme for non-communicable diseases, eye health, rehabilitation & disabilities, geriatrics and palliative care as well as the cancer policy and planning programme. She is responsible for supporting the collection of appropriate, reliable data; promoting research and supporting initiatives to improve primary and secondary prevention, early detection and management of adults with non-communicable diseases. Within the cancer policy and planning programme Ms Sayed is involved in various cancer-related projects and is also responsible for facilitating the development of Policies and Guidelines for priority cancers in South Africa.</p> <p>Most recently, Ms Sayed has served as the National Focal Point for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) imPACT Review Mission in South Africa, leading a multidisciplinary national team of twenty-four experts responsible for coordinating the country's comprehensive review of cancer control systems, services, governance, financing, and infrastructure.</p>
 <p>Ms Boitumelo Molongoana</p>	<p>Boitumelo "Tumi" Molongoana is a seasoned pharmacist and healthcare executive with over 25 years in the Health Sector, 18 years of experience in the public health sector and 7 years in non-governmental organizations and development partnerships, contributing to Pharmaceutical Systems Strengthening. She is currently appointed as CEO/ HEAD: Pharmaceutical Services, where she successfully managed the Provincial Roll Out of the Covid-19 Vaccination Programme from 2021-2022, contributing to the Free State Department of Health earning a national award for the best management of Covid-19 and vaccination coverage.</p> <p>Free State Pharmaceutical Services continues to achieve medicine availability above 90% despite financial constraints.</p> <p>Boitumelo has demonstrated exceptional executive management and leadership skills, driving strategic governance and clinical expertise to enhance pharmaceutical services at national, provincial, and local levels.</p> <p>She was appointed by the Minister to the SA Pharmacy Council where she was Vice President of Council from 2019 – 2023. She first served on NEMLC 2022 – 2024.</p>

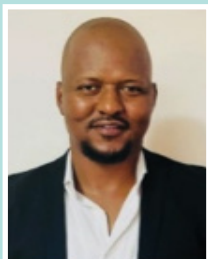
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 <p>Dr Boitumelo Semete-Makokotlela</p>	<p>Boitumelo is the CEO of the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority that is tasked with overseeing access to safe, quality and effective health products, as well as oversight for clinical trial conducted in South Africa. She has a Ph.D. (Biochemistry) and holds MSc in Management Finance and Investment. She was the chair of the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH) initiative, where she led the steering committee responsible for ensuring development and implementation of harmonized regulatory requirements across the continent. The AMRH, was a critical foundational platform for the established of the African Medicines Agency. She was also a member of the South African Ministerial Advisory Committee on COVID-19 at the National Department of Health. She has extensive research experience gained during her tenure at the CSIR as a Senior Researcher. She completed her postdoctoral research at the University of Nottingham and EPFL, Switzerland. She has published as a first author and co-author in scientific publications, review articles and book chapters.</p>
 <p>Mr Nchere David Rasebotsa</p>	<p>Mr Nchere David Rasebotsa is pharmacist with expansive experience in manufacturing, institutional and retail pharmacy. Current role includes providing leadership and oversight for the effective and efficient provision of pharmaceutical services. He currently serves on the following committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCS National Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee • NDoH BSC & BEC for Pharmaceutical Contracts • SAHPRA National Pharmacovigilance Working Group • SAPC Practice Committee
 <p>Dr Dudu Shiba</p>	<p>BA Cur Degree in Nursing Sciences (UNISA), BA Degree in Health and Social Services (UNISA), master's degree in public health (SMU), PhD in Public Health (SMU).</p> <p>Dr Shiba has extensive experience in the area of mental health both at implementation and policy levels. She has 31 years' experience in the mental health field both at implementation and policy level having worked in primary health care facilities, inpatient mental health facility, community psychiatric services and later as a mental health programme manager at District level, Provincial level and now at National level.</p>

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 <p>Ms Ednah R Baloyi</p>	<p>Ramokone Ednah Baloyi is a public health specialist and epidemiologist with over a decade of experience in infectious disease control, health systems strengthening, and strategic programme management. She currently serves as Director of Malaria and Other Vector-Borne Diseases at the National Department of Health, leading South Africa's national malaria elimination agenda and coordinating multi-sectoral and cross-border initiatives.</p> <p>Ednah holds a master's in public health and is pursuing a PhD at the University of Pretoria, with expertise spanning epidemiology, monitoring and evaluation, outbreak investigation, and data analytics. Her career includes senior roles with the World Health Organization, USAID, Médecins Sans Frontières, and the SADC Malaria Elimination Eight Secretariat.</p> <p>She has authored peer-reviewed publications in the Malaria Journal and contributed to the development of national and regional malaria strategies. Passionate about innovative disease surveillance and community health impact, she combines research excellence with strategic leadership.</p>
 <p>Mr Fundile Gebremedhin</p>	<p>Fundile Gebremedhin is a clinical engineering technologist and medical device specialist with more than 15 years experience working in healthcare provider and Medtech sectors. With his engineering background, he has keen interest in creating value by applying systems engineering methods to healthcare service improvement, together with health technology assessment of medical devices. Fundile currently leads health products work focussed on medical device selection and procurement for NHI. He convenes and chairs the National Department of Health's technical working group developing the essential medical devices list, including diagnostics.</p>
 <p>Dr Germain Kapiamba</p>	<p>Dr Germain Kapiamba is a compassionate and dedicated medical practitioner with a strong commitment to public health and clinical governance. Since 2007, Dr Kapiamba has worked extensively in rural district hospitals in both KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga provinces.</p> <p>Dr Kapiamba is an active contributor to the advancement of healthcare systems in the region. He currently serves as a member of the Mpumalanga Provincial Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics committee and chairs the Ehlanzeni District Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics committee. In these roles, he provides leadership in implementing policies that promote rational medicine use and enhance therapeutic outcomes throughout the province.</p>
 <p>Adjunct Prof Gary Reubenson</p>	<p>Gary Reubenson is a Paediatric Infectious Diseases subspecialist based at Rahima Moosa Mother & Child Hospital, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg where he heads one of the General Paediatric units. He is the President of the Council of the College of Paediatricians.</p> <p>He has held representative positions with the Federation of Infectious Disease Societies of Southern Africa (FIDSSA), the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA), the South African Paediatric Association (SAPA), the Ministerial Advisory Committee for Antimicrobial Resistance, and the National Essential Medicines List Committee (NEMLC).</p> <p>He is passionate about practicing, teaching and evaluating evidence-based medicine within the fields of Paediatrics and Infectious Diseases.</p>



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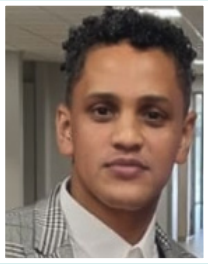
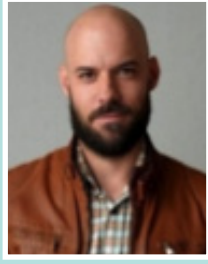
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 <p>Mr Itumeleng Setlhare</p>	<p>Nurse by trade with BPAHons, Postgraduate Diploma in Health Systems Management Executive Leadership, MBA, and MPA and 25 years' experience in the public health sector.</p> <p>Worked for 8 years at the hospital and then moved to policy development in the Non-Communicable Diseases environment since 2004 to date.</p> <p>Mr Setlhare's duties amongst others involves developing Strategies, Guidelines and Protocols for NCDs, assist provinces with their implementation, and monitor implementation.</p>
 <p>Prof Johanna C Meyer (aka Hannelie)</p>	<p>Prof Hannelie Meyer is a pharmacist with 40 years' experience within the South African academic, pharmaceutical and public health sectors, specialising in vaccine safety, vaccine confidence and vaccination as a pillar of antimicrobial stewardship. She currently heads the South African Vaccination and Immunisation Centre at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University; chairs the National Immunisation Safety Expert Committee; and serves on the National Advisory Group on Immunisation and the WHO's Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety.</p>
 <p>Adjunct Prof Lesley Robertson</p>	<p>Lesley Robertson is a retired psychiatrist affiliated with the University of the Witwatersrand. She has 15 years' experience as a community psychiatrist in Sedibeng District Health Services in the Gauteng province, and, before specialising, about 17 years' experience in general medicine, mainly in primary health care at non-governmental clinics. She has been involved with the National Department of Health's Essential Drugs Programme since 2017 and now serves as co-Chair of the Expert Review Committee. She is also appointed to the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Health Technology Assessment and represents South Africa on an informal contributory group in the WHO, the Systems Strengthening Working Group on access to psychotropic medicines.</p>
 <p>Dr Lesley Bamford</p>	<p>Dr Lesley Bamford is a paediatrician who has worked in Child, Youth and School Health in the National Department of Health since 2006. She has extensive experience in knowledge management, policy and guideline development, programme design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of national maternal and child health programmes. During the COVID-19 pandemic she co-ordinated the delivery platform for the country's vaccine roll-out.</p> <p>She is currently responsible for the department's Maternal, Women's and Child Health programmes. Her work focuses on ensuring that women, mothers and children survive and thrive through strengthening delivery of women's, maternal, newborn and child health services at community, primary health care and hospital levels.</p>

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 <p>Mr Lindsey Andrews-Jacobs</p>	<p>Mr Andrews-Jacobs is a government official advancing organ transplantation and renal dialysis programs within South Africa's national health system. With a strong foundation in nursing and specialised training in nephrology, complemented by advanced studies in public administration and governance, Mr Andrews-Jacobs combines clinical expertise with strategic leadership to drive health system transformation.</p> <p>In his current role as Deputy Director at the National Department of Health, he oversees the development and implementation of national policies, compliance frameworks, and innovative health solutions to enhance organ donation and dialysis services across the country. His work includes leading the DoNation national awareness campaign, developing quality assurance and regulatory tools, and collaborating with local and international partners to align South Africa's transplantation programs with global best practices.</p> <p>Mr Andrews-Jacobs is passionate about evidence-based policy, equitable access to healthcare, and leveraging strategic partnerships to build sustainable health systems that save lives.</p>
 <p>Ms Lucy Chisale</p>	<p>Ms Lucy Chisale is the Deputy Director: Nursing Practice in the Chief Directorate Nursing Services and is responsible for providing strategic direction to provincial nursing directorates through the development, implementation, and monitoring of policy frameworks towards achieving the required nursing skills and capacity in the nursing workforce.</p> <p>She is a nurse by profession, with a vast of experience in paediatric nursing in both the public and private sectors.</p> <p>Ms Chisale previously served as a TB/HIV integration nurse/coordinator within the NDoH, working closely with the HIV/AIDS & STIs and the TB Control and Management Chief Directorates. She is experienced in healthcare regulation and compliance, having worked as a compliance inspector in the Office of Health Standards Compliance.</p>
 <p>Ms Marione Schonfeldt</p>	<p>Marione Schonfeldt is a Senior Pharmaceutical Policy Specialist at the National Department of Health, South Africa, where she is responsible for Contracting, Governance, and Policy within the Cluster: Health Products Procurement under the Branch: National Health Insurance.</p> <p>She has more than 20 years' experience in pharmaceutical services, combining clinical, managerial, and policy expertise. In her current role, Marione plays a pivotal part in facilitating the procurement, distribution, and supply of essential medicines to public health facilities across the country.</p> <p>With a strong commitment to strengthening pharmaceutical systems, she contributes to ensuring equitable access to medicines, enhancing supply chain governance, and aligning procurement strategies with national health priorities.</p>
 <p>Prof Michael McCaul</p>	<p>Prof Michael McCaul (PhD) is an Associate Professor in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, clinical epidemiologist and guideline development enthusiast within the Department of Global Health, Stellenbosch University, South Africa. He has a clinical background in emergency care and a special interest in research methods, evidence synthesis and guideline development. He is involved in various guideline development projects, including across Africa and internationally (such as the WHO) as a guideline methodologist. Michael is involved in editorial roles for journals both nationally, regionally (Africa) and internationally. Michael coordinates the MSc Clinical Epidemiology programme at Stellenbosch University and convenes various postgraduate modules and short courses in evidence-based decision making. His research focuses on producing and supervising high-quality and impactful evidence synthesis and responding to and advancing guideline development methods globally, including evidence-informed decision making. In his spare time, Michael enjoys spearfishing and trying to convince his daughter that he is not a rideable dinosaur.</p>



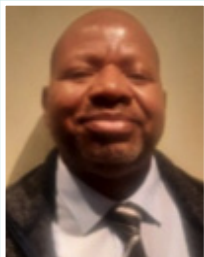
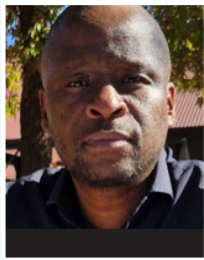
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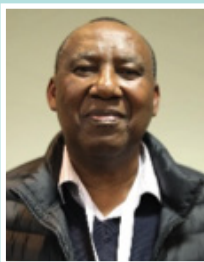
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 <p>Dr Mulimisi Ramavhuya</p>	<p>Dr Mulimisi Ramavhuya is a Senior lecturer, a Clinician and Consultant in the Department of Family Medicine at Mankweng hospital and the University of Limpopo. He is a member of National committee of the South African Academy of Family Physicians. He is an examiner in the CMSA Fellowship Colleges of Family Physicians.</p>
 <p>Dr Nolene Naicker</p>	<p>Dr Nolene Naicker is a registered dietitian with extensive expertise in nutrition policy, clinical dietetics, and public health nutrition. She holds a BSc in Dietetics and a Postgraduate Diploma in Dietetics from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, as well as a master's degree in Early Childhood Intervention and a PhD in Dietetics from the University of Pretoria.</p> <p>Dr Naicker has been working with the National Department of Health since 2012 and currently serves as Deputy Director in the Directorate: Nutrition. Her work focuses on the technical coordination and support of facility-based nutrition programmes, including clinical nutrition, nutritional supplementation, food service management, and national enteral and parenteral feed contracts. She contributes to the development and implementation of nutrition policies, regulations, norms and standards, clinical guidelines, and evidence-based interventions aimed at improving nutrition outcomes across all levels of care.</p> <p>She also represents South Africa on the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses and provides technical support to health facilities through nutrition assessments, clinical audits, and support visits. Dr Naicker is committed to strengthening health systems and improving population health outcomes through evidence-based nutrition practice.</p>
 <p>Mrs Riona Sonne</p>	<p>Mrs Riona Sonne obtained her BPharm degree from Rhodes University in 2006 and her MSc (Med) (Pharmaceutical Affairs) from Wits University in 2013. Having worked with one of Africa's largest private health funders, Discovery Health, in the managed healthcare environment and two large multinational companies in pharma (Novartis and Sanofi), she has gained in-depth knowledge of formularies and their design, reference pricing, negotiation tactics, strategic drug risk management in the managed healthcare space, in addition to an advanced understanding of medicines access and pricing strategies. She completed a 12-month assignment based in Paris, France, through Sanofi in 2019, as the Market Access Head for Africa. During that time, she was responsible for enabling access to diabetes, cardiovascular and central nervous system medication for 2 billion people across 48 Eurasia, Middle East and Africa markets, which broadened her insights into healthcare systems management across multiple international markets. She is an avid yoga enthusiast, online PC gamer with her husband of 17 years and fur-parent to her beloved rescued German Shepherds, Lucy and Rocky.</p>
 <p>Mr Simthembile Langa</p>	<p>Simthembile Langa is a pharmacist with over 25 years' experience in both public and private sectors. He is currently GDoH-MSD depot manager and acting chief director: GDoH-Pharmaceutical Services.</p> <p>He has B.Pharm and MBA, and over 15 years' experience in Pharmaceuticals Supply Chain environment, ensuring effective and efficient supply of medicines. At all levels of healthcare, GDoH pharmaceutical services has consistently achieved more than 90% medicine availability under his stewardship.</p>

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 <p>Prof Paul Ruff</p>	<p>Professor Paul Ruff, current Chair of the University of Witwatersrand Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) (Medical) and Professor Emeritus in the School of Clinical Medicine, was previously Professor and Head of the Division of Medical Oncology at the University of Witwatersrand Faculty of Health Sciences and Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital from October 2002 to December 2021. He was the Principal Investigator of the SA Medical Research Council / University of Witwatersrand Common Epithelial Cancer Research Centre (CECRC) from 2015 to 2025 and co-Principal Investigator of NIH Grant 1R01CA192627 with Drs. A. Neugut and J. Jacobson of Columbia University, New York, USA, and Dr M. Joffe of Wits Health Consortium. Professor Ruff was ranked as a B2-rated scientist by the National Research Foundation (NRF) in 2017 and has an H-index of 46. Professor Ruff was Chair (and ongoing Member) of the SAHPRA Clinical Trials Committee (previously MCC CTC) from 2015 to 2024, Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Cancer Control and Prevention (MACC) from 2020 to 2021 (Member from 2013), and Member of the National Essential Medicines List Committee (NEMLC) since 2017. Professor Ruff was a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) International Affairs Committee from 2013 to 16, the ASCO International Clinical Trials Workshop (ICTW) Working Group from 2015 to 2018, the ASCO International Quality Steering Group (IQSG) from 2020 to 2023 and since 2026, and was part of the UICC Review Team of the WHO's List of Essential Cancer Medicines from 2015 to 2016. He was Inaugural Chair (and ongoing Member) of the ASCO Sub-Saharan Africa Regional Council from 2022 to 2024. Professor Ruff has authored or co-authored over 150 peer-reviewed scientific papers, predominantly in the field of oncology, especially colorectal cancer, and has presented over 250 papers and posters at local and international scientific meetings and was appointed onto the Lancet Commission on Colorectal Cancer in 2025.</p>
 <p>Ms Sisanda Mtatambi</p>	<p>Ms Sisanda Mtatambi is a qualified pharmacist with more than 20 years' experience within the public and private sectors. She is passionate about protection of children against vaccine preventable diseases. She has experience in hospital pharmacy, managed healthcare, vaccine industry, immunisation programme with specific focus on effective vaccine management.</p> <p>She is currently working for the National Department of Health as the EPI Pharmaceutical Policy Specialist. Ms Mtatambi is part of the NISEC secretariat with key focus on preparation of cases for Causality Assessment, communication of CA outcomes and strategies to prevent Immunisation Error related AEFIs.</p>
 <p>Prof Solomon Tshimong Rataemane</p>	<p>Prof Solomon Tshimong Rataemane is a specialist by profession. He trained in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the Institute of Psychiatry (Maudsley Hospital) in the UK. Prof Rataemane is the former head of Department of Psychiatry at Sefako Makgatho Health Services as well as the University of the Free State. He has also served in various committees and boards including as the President of African Psychiatric Association and Allied Professions, World Psychiatric Association (WPA) Board member and WPA Representative Zone 14 and Chair of the WPA Section on Conflict Management and Conflict Resolution, Deputy Chair of the Medical Research Council of South Africa and the Central Drug Authority. He is a member of the College of Psychiatrists of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa; World Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation (Africa Regional Vice President); American Psychiatric Association (International Fellow); International Council on Alcohol and Addictions (Member of management committee). He has special interest in child psychiatry, mood disorders and addiction medicine. Prof Rataemane served in the previous Ministerial Advisory Committee on Mental Health from 2015 to 2020 as a Chairperson and has been reappointed to serve in the current committee in the same capacity.</p>



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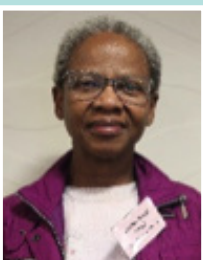
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 <p>Ms Yulene Kock</p>	<p>Ms Yulene Kock is a public health nurse with knowledge of infectious diseases of TB & HIV and experience & technical ability at National, Provincial, Primary Health Care, and community level. Ms Kock is currently occupying the Deputy Director's post of Drug-Resistant TB, TB & HIV at National Department of Health, South Africa since 2017. She is actively involved in support and clinical management of the DR-TB programme in the nine provinces; monitoring, reporting, and conducting Impact Assessment; providing training; supervision & support to provinces.</p>
 <p>Mrs Yasmina Johnson</p>	<p>Yasmina Johnson is a pharmaceutical policy specialist within the Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness. She holds a B.Pharm and an MPH: Health Economics from the University of Cape Town. Her expertise spans policy development, evidence-based medicine selection, rational medicine use, antimicrobial stewardship and strategic health systems improvement.</p>
 <p>Mrs Thandeka C Njapha</p>	<p>In her Pharmacy career, Thandeka has been exposed in both Community and Institutional Pharmacy. She has vast experience in public sector procurement, logistics, distribution services.</p> <p>Thandeka is currently a member of the Bid Specification and Evaluation committee for Pharmaceutical Tenders and Contracts at National Department of Health</p> <p>She has served as a member of the National Essential Medicine List Committee (NEMLC) since 2021 and is a member of the Provincial Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee (PTC).</p> <p>Mrs Njapha is actively involved as a member, past NEC member and branch chairperson for the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (PSSA) and South African Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists (SAAHIP).</p>
 <p>Prof Tamara Kredo</p>	<p>Prof Tamara Kredo holds the position of Director of the Health Systems Research Unit, South African Medical Research Council. She is clinical epidemiologist leading research in the field of health policy, evidence synthesis and clinical guidelines and HTA methods. She trained as a medical doctor, specialising in Clinical Pharmacology, and completed a PhD in Public Health. Tamara is dedicated to enhancing credible, transparent evidence-informed healthcare decision-making, particularly in lower resources settings, such as in Africa. Tamara has fulfilled several leadership roles, including being an appointed members of the South African National Essential Medicines Committee and National Advisory Committee on Immunisation. She was a founder of the sub-Saharan African regional network, Cochrane Africa in 2017. Among many highlights, she co-leads the South African GRADE Network; consults to WHO as a guideline methodologist; was a co-opted Trustee of the Guidelines International Network Governing Board; was the host and chair of the local organizing committee for the Global Evidence Summit in 2017; and in 2020 was elected to the Cochrane Board where she is entering her second term.</p>

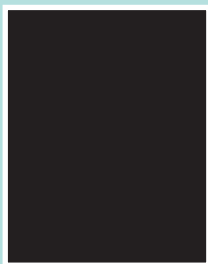
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 <p>Ms Zina Bam</p>	<p>Deputy Director: Emergency Medical Services, National Department of Health</p> <p>Zina Bam is an emergency care practitioner and rescue technician with over 15 years of experience in the EMS sector. She plays a key role in strengthening emergency care and building health system resilience, particularly through her leadership in the Respond pillar of the International Health Regulations (IHR) framework as the IHR National Focal Point. Her academic credentials include a BTech in Emergency Medical Care, an MPhil in Emergency Medicine, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Health Economics, giving her a well-rounded perspective on clinical and economic aspects of healthcare. Driven by a passion for leadership, systems thinking, and operational efficiency, she remains committed to enhancing South Africa's emergency health response and public service delivery in her current role as the deputy director for EMS.</p>
 <p>Dr Angela Hartwig</p>	<p>Dr Angela Hartwig is a medical doctor with more than 15 years' experience in clinical work within the public, private and NGO sectors. She is passionate about health of communities, especially with regard to mental health, mother and child health, and TB/HIV. She holds a master's in public health from the University of Liverpool and is currently working in hospital management at rural district level.</p>
 <p>Col Jacobus Nortje</p>	
 <p>Dr Lindiwe Mvusi</p>	
 <p>Dr Hanri van Niekerk</p>	

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 <p>Dr Kgomotso Vilakazi-Nhlapo</p>	
 <p>Mr Kgwiti Mahlako</p>	
 <p>Dr Musa Manganye</p>	
 <p>Dr Ntobeko Mpanza</p>	



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 Dr Samantha Iyaloo	



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