

SAMRC PRESIDENT AND CEO LECTURE

Lecture by **Dr Patrick Ngassa Piotie**

From Declaration to Action: The Role of the SAMRC in Addressing South Africa's Diabetes Crisis.



**SAMRC Cape Town Offices,
VC Main Board Room, Building A,
2nd Floor and Online**



12h00



**Thursday,
4 June 2026**

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About the Lecture

This lecture will introduce the Johannesburg Declaration as a unified call for urgent action on diabetes in South Africa, highlighting its rising burden, health system gaps, and economic impact. It will outline the SAMRC's role in advancing the Declaration through research, innovation, improved surveillance, implementation science, and evidence-based policy. The session will also emphasise the need for strong collaboration between researchers, policymakers, and civil society to drive a coordinated national response.

About the Speaker

Dr Patrick Ngassa Piotie is a public health expert and passionate advocate with over two decades of experience in global health, focusing on non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

He is the Chairperson of the Diabetes Alliance and Co-founder of the University of Pretoria Diabetes Research Centre. Dr Piotie holds a medical degree and a PhD in Public Health from the University of Pretoria and serves as an Extraordinary Lecturer at the School of Health Systems and Public Health.

He has been recognised as an Emerging Leader in the World Heart Federation Salim Yusuf Emerging Leaders Programme and is a Fellow of the Kofi Annan Global Health Leadership Programme. His work focuses on health systems strengthening, implementation research, and policy advocacy to improve diabetes prevention and care in South Africa.