

SAMRC UHC/NHI FORUM WEBINAR

Evidence-informed healthcare decision-making in South Africa for Universal Health Coverage

Progress and future priorities for building government-academic partnerships

Date: Thursday, 26 November 2026
Time: 15:00 to 16:30 (SAST)
Where: Online, Microsoft Teams

This is an HPCSA CPD-accredited webinar.

Register here →

OBJECTIVES

- Share experiences and advances in evidence-informed decision-making across the NDoH, sharing examples from programmes for the review of the National Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) and Essential Medicines List (EML), and Essential Equipment List (EEL).
- Share progress and plans of the Evidence to Decision Collaboration, an academic-government partnership supporting national decision-making methods and evidence services.
- Engage in open discussion with practitioners, policy makers, researchers and the public on what is needed to strengthen research evidence use and government-research partnerships across the health system for the institutionalisation of evidence-informed decision-making.

FACILITATOR

Prof Tamara Kredo

Director: Health Systems Research Unit, South African Medical Research Council

Professor Tamara Kredo is Director of the Health Systems Research Unit at the South African Medical Research Council. She is a clinical epidemiologist leading research in health policy, evidence synthesis, knowledge translation, 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-resource settings such as in Africa. She has served on the South African National Essential Medicines List Committee and the National Advisory Committee on Immunisation, and founded the sub-Saharan African regional network, Cochrane Africa, in 2017. She co-leads the South African GRADE Network, consults to WHO as a methodologist, and in 2020 was elected to the Cochrane Board, where she is completing her second term.

OPENING AND CLOSING REMARKS



Ms Khadija Jamaloodien

Chief Director: Health Products Procurement, National Health Insurance Branch, National Department of Health

PANELLISTS



Dr Janine Jugathpal

Deputy Director, Essential Drugs Programme, National Department of Health

Dr Jugathpal graduated with her B.Pharm (2002) and PharmD (2012) from Rhodes University. Janine served as member of the Expert Review Committees (between 2010 and 2014) of the South African National Essential Medicines Committee (NEMLC) which develops the national Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines List. In November 2013, she was appointed as a pharmaceutical policy specialist at the National Department of Health. As Deputy Director/Senior Pharmaceutical Policy Specialist of the Essential Drugs Programme (EDP), Janine oversees the technical work related to strengthening of guideline development and Health Technology Assessment processes. Janine is also currently providing technical and administrative support to the recently appointed Ministerial Advisory Committee on Health Technology Assessment.



Dr Fundile Gebremedhin

Director: Medical Devices and Health Technology Procurement, National Department of Health

Fundile Gebremedhin is a qualified clinical engineer and health technology expert, and he is a candidate system engineer focused on designing and developing biomedical technologies and healthcare systems. Fundile is equipped with an MBA in healthcare leadership from Stellenbosch University. As topic owner, he leads policy development work focused on health financing and procurement management of medical devices and health technology at the National Department of Health. He is experienced and well-skilled in key result areas of medical devices and health technology, such as health technology assessment, regulation, acquisition, supply chain management, solution implementation and commissioning, healthcare technology management, clinical engineering management and technical services, performance management, safety and quality assurance. In addition to other roles in key governance committees, Fundile oversees and chairs the Essential Equipment List Technical Committee which develops the essential medical devices list.



Mrs Solange Durão

Senior Scientist, South African Medical Research Council

Solange is a Senior scientist in the Health Systems Research Unit at the South African Medical Research Council. She is the co-Director of Cochrane Africa and is on the Executive Committee of the Cochrane Nutrition and Physical Activity Thematic Group. Her work focuses on conducting various types of evidence synthesis that address priority issues in response to decisionmaker needs to support evidence-informed decision-making. She works with the National Department of Health supporting methods and processes for decisionmaking, producing reviews, and building capacity in EIDM. She has supported WHO guideline development as a systematic reviewer and a member of guideline development groups. She supports Cochrane review production as a senior editor for the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews.



Mr Moremi Nkosi

Chief Director: Healthcare Benefits and Provider Payment Design, National Department of Health

Moremi Nkosi is a Health Economist by training, possessing a Master of Public Health specialising in Health Economics and a Postgraduate Diploma in Health Management from the University of Cape Town. He has extensive experience in the health policy and health financing space, having worked on the National Health Insurance policy processes since the early days.

Register here →

All welcome. For questions or suggestions, please contact
Tamara Kredo tamara.kredo@mrc.ac.za or **Kim Jonas** kim.jonas@mrc.ac.za

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Department:
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