

SAAHIP conference 2020

Left right, left right

"To dream anything that you want to dream. That's the beauty of the human mind.

To do anything that you want to do. That is the strength of the human will.

To trust yourself to test your limits. That is the courage to succeed."

Bernard Edmonds

Theme of the conference

As we are boldly marching forward into the new decade, already faced with a plethora of challenges, the SAAHIP Mpumalanga branch, as hosts of the conference, encouraged delegates to trust themselves to test their own limits. Delegates were invited to join world leaders and the global community, in marching towards the realisation of Sustainable Development Goal 3, which aims to ensure healthy lives and the promotion of well-being for all, at all ages.



KwaZulu-Natal Coastal ready to march into improving health and well-being for all

"The theme challenged the youthful spirit of all pharmacists to take a stand, breathe rejuvenating life and make a difference in encouraging the public to adopt healthy lifestyles," said SAAHIP president, Refiloe Mogale. "This resonates well with pharmacists using and sharing their knowledge and skills towards helping South Africans to make the necessary lifestyle changes to improve their health."

Shake, shift and show up

Conference began with energy – Nhlanhla Mafarafara, Limpopo branch member, is both a pharmacist and a motivational speaker. He encouraged delegates to make the most of their lives and of their careers



Refiloe Mogale



Nhlanhla Mafarafara

The Annual General Meeting

SAAHIP knows how to party! Outsiders might be taken in by the misconception that nothing happens at the SAAHIP conference other than evening functions. Nothing could be further from the truth.

In addition to the wide range of podium and poster presentations, the Annual General Meeting takes place in late afternoon sessions over three days. The National Executive Committee is held responsible at this meeting for the work that they have done during the past year.

Focus areas – an important contribution to pharmacy

SAAHIP does not have any employees, so its members need to be active in addressing topics that affect their work. Each branch is allocated a focus area and needs to explore it both with branch members and with other pharmacists. The results of their work are shared during the AGM.

- 1. Policies and legislation** – this is an important responsibility of the National Executive Committee. All draft legislation must be scrutinised and the potential impact on the profession analysed. One challenge encountered is that very few SAAHIP members send the Exco comment on draft legislation. All members are welcome to do so. Some members may submit their comments directly rather than via SAAHIP. It would be appreciated if they would also send their comment to their branch chair so that the Exco may be made aware of how draft legislation will affect pharmacists. During the past year, 12 pieces of draft legislation required comment. SAAHIP commented directly on some, but most comment was submitted by the PSSA on behalf of all members.
- 2. Membership, marketing and branding** – Northern Gauteng and Eastern Cape branches work together on this area. Several branches have visited local schools and universities to provide career guidance. Two very special awards were made by branches this year in order to recognise exceptional service from members. The Northern Gauteng branch awarded Honorary Life Membership to Richard and Dalene Kuisis, who have been loyal and exemplary members for many years. Their enthusiasm and hard work for the branch have always been appreciated. In Limpopo, Betty Labuschagne received an Award of Honour for her contribution to the branch. Betty has been particularly active in the Vhembe district and has inspired many young pharmacists

to participate in SAAHIP's activities.

The CPD activities that branches organise are not only beneficial to SAAHIP members but are also useful to ensure that pharmacists know about and benefit from the branch activities.

3. **Relationships with employers and policy makers** – the Presidential Committee and the Union Liaison Committee perform the important function of ensuring that SAAHIP and its members are visible and active in areas where decisions are made that affect the work of pharmacists.

Some matters are ongoing and are expected to continue to be so. These include salary discussions and the Occupation Specific Dispensation. There has however been very little interaction with the unions during the past year, as most discussions evidently took place at a high level within the unions, with decisions being filtered down to members through the union structures.

SAAHIP is active at the SAPC's stakeholders' meetings, and at the Pharmacy Month working group.

Interestingly, SAAHIP's involvement with the PSSA has been increasing in recent years, with the inclusion of SAAHIP branch chairs in local PSSA branch committees. This has been mutually beneficial and facilitated exchange of information and ideas.

4. **Communication** – the North West branch manages this important portfolio. The SAAHIP communication strategy is reviewed and updated annually. This has been critical with the evolution of social media as the predominant choice of communication channel for many SAAHIP members.
5. **Compliance with health system standards** – this portfolio has been allocated to the Limpopo branch, which monitors the suitability of and ease of compliance with existing standards. Where necessary, recommendations for amendments are made to the authorities. Areas of interest in the past year included standards for CCMDD pick up points, control of medicines in various hospital locations, control over emergency after-hours medicine stocks, staffing norms and the Ideal Clinic requirements.
6. **National Health Insurance** – the Western Cape branch monitors the current status of NHI progress, with specific focus on hospital pharmacy. SAAHIP actively supports the PSSA in its exploration of the topic. The areas which apply particularly to SAAHIP members include recognition of the role of pharmacists, the comprehensive services that pharmacists can and do provide, and the current and future contributions that primary healthcare pharmacists can make.
7. **Human resources for health** – the President and Past President of SAAHIP regularly monitor and contribute to discussions on staffing norms, training of human resources, and recruitment and retention of personnel.
8. **Improved access to essential medicines** – the KwaZulu-Natal Inland branch has embarked in a project to identify ways in which the pharmaceutical supply chain can be improved in order to improve the quality of service delivery.
9. **Quality and safety of health services** – the KwaZulu-Natal Coastal branch has been committed to identify ways in which pharmacists can contribute to this pillar of the Presidential Health Compact. It

has identified areas in which SAAHIP members can participate in activities which can improve quality and safety, and will continue developing suitable interventions.

10. **Governance and leadership** – the Free State and Northern Cape branch believes that collaboration with the PSSA in its Mentorship Programme will facilitate professional and personal development of pharmacists within a structured environment.

Conference awards

Every year, generous sponsors join SAAHIP in recognising the contributions of members to the SAAHIP conference. The excellence of work presented is recognised as being representative of the work that pharmacists engage in daily, and the skills of the presenters of the work are celebrated.

- **Life Healthcare Best Podium Presentation**

Winner: Katekani Munisi

Topic: Pharmacists' interventions to improve mental health care users' understanding of their psychiatric medication at Weskoppies Hospital, Gauteng Province

- **Life Healthcare Best Poster Presentation**

Winner: Faith Dhladhla

Topic: Development and implementation of a pharmacovigilance daily monitoring tool at Standerton TB Hospital, Mpumalanga Province



Faith Dhladhla

- **Sanlam Best Academic Presentation**

Winner: Hannelie Meyer

Topic: Evidence that vaccine hesitancy was the major contributor to low human papillomavirus vaccination uptake amongst girls attending private schools in South Africa



Hannelie Meyer and Phindile Zulu

• **Mediclinic Best Scenario Presentation**

Winner: Nirupa Misra

Topic: Improving pharmacovigilance of new and repurposed medicines to treat drug resistant tuberculosis in KwaZulu-Natal through active drug safety monitoring

• **Adcock Ingram Pearl Presentation**

Winner: Paul Voigt

Topic: Doctor, Dokter



Paul Voigt

• **People's Choice Presenter**

Winner: Katekani Munisi

Topic: Pharmacists' interventions to improve mental health care users' understanding of their psychiatric medication at Weskoppies Hospital, Gauteng Province

• **Membership Award**

Winner: North West branch



Armand Algra receiving the branch's award from Shawn Zeelie

• **Spirit Award**

Winner: KwaZulu-Natal Coastal branch



Kirtan Kasiram (centre front) with the feisty KwaZulu-Natal Coastal branch delegates

Most active Whova App User

Winner: Shawn Zeelie

• **Best Trade Exhibition**

Winner: Adcock Ingram

• **Best Hospitality Trade**

Winner: Adcock Ingram

• **Best Appearance Trade Stand**

Winner: Adcock Ingram

• **Most Informative Trade Stand**

Winner: National Bioproducts

Recognising excellence

This year, two very special SAAHIP members were recognised for their contribution to SAAHIP's success.

Dr Nirupa Misra received the SAAHIP Award of Honour, while Andy Gray was awarded Honorary Life Membership.

The newly elected Presidential Committee

Congratulations and best wishes to the new Presidential Committee. You will have a challenging year ahead, but you are well-equipped to deal with the matters that affect the daily lives of SAAHIP members.

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|----------------------------|------------------|
| President: | Shawn Zeelie |
| Vice President: | Kaajal Chetty |
| Secretary: | Kristien Schutte |
| Honorary Treasurer: | Hannes Stegman |
| Past President: | Refiloe Mogale |



(l to r) Kristien Schutte, Shawn Zeelie, Kaajal Chetty, Hannes Stegman, Refiloe Mogale



The SAAHIP branch chairs form a guard of honour as Shawn Zeelie and Refiloe Mogale arrive for the induction of the new president



Shawn Zeelie accepts the President's chain of office

Thanks to the organising committee

The Mpumalanga branch of SAAHIP, ably led by Obey Madzingo, succeeded in hosting a successful SAAHIP conference 2020. We thank them for their efforts and look forward to conference 2021!



Obey Madzingo



The conference organising committee

Exhibitors and sponsors

Thank you so much to our wonderful exhibitors and sponsors. Thank you for attending the conference so that our delegates could benefit from your knowledge and expertise.

As always, but perhaps more than ever before, SAAHIP thanks each of you for your contribution to making our conference successful!

Adcock Ingram
Allergan
A-Thermal
Bayer
Biovac
Cipla
Equity
Fresenius Kabi
GEMS
Life Healthcare
Mediclinic
Medipost
National Bioproducts Institute

Novartis
Novo Nordisk
Pfizer
Pharmacy Direct
Pharma Dynamics
PPS
Sandoz
Sanofi Pasteur
Sun Pharma
Sonke
Ranbaxy
Velocity Vision
Sanlam

A (long) day to remember....

Kaajal Chetty

A room filled with brilliance. With passion and purpose. Every councillor a commander of excellence in pharmacy. "Left, right". We march to a brighter future. Together we can! Together we will!

SAAHIP conference 2020 has been one of the most honourable events of my career. Having been bestowed the honour of Vice President, I vow, alongside our president, to protect and enhance our profession to the best of my ability.

Congratulations to our newly elected President, Shawn Zeelie. Your humanity, passion and integrity are noteworthy. There is much I will need to learn from you and those who came before. I am eager to accept the challenge and grow. I look forward to the journey we will travel as the Presco of SAAHIP. Onwards to the future.

To Hannes and Kristien, you complete this team. Thank you for your passion and commitment. With a standard of excellence, no doubt, you both will make this committee proud.

To all the nominees for positions on the Presidential Committee... you are the inspiration for everyone to maintain this profession. You are the success of SAAHIP. This platform has created numerous leaders, as displayed during the conference. So many of us have developed the confidence and passion to lead because of SAAHIP. Thank you for inspiring me.

To our outgoing Past President, Joggie Hattingh, thank you for the strong leadership and guidance through the years. Your clarity of thought and sound advice has helped many. Thank you for the support.

And finally... Madame Past President, Refloee Mogale, you have been an inspiration to all, instilling confidence and building future leaders. I pray that you are proud of the influence you have had over our SAAHIP family. You are dynamic and inspirational. We are grateful and honoured to follow in your footsteps.

Honouring our heroes

• Award of Honour – Nirupa Misra

A woman of today, who respects the practices of yesterday and yet envisions the promise of tomorrow, Dr Nirupa Misra is a role model to many. She has inspired me and countless others on what it takes to be a go-getter and achiever, to not wait for opportunities to arise but to create them and enable yourself. It's difficult to say that she performs tricks but I will admit that she is an expert juggler. Very skilled at it in fact... she juggles her multiple roles as pharmacy

manager, researcher, wife, mother, daughter, mentor, spiritual leader, philanthropist. Her passion for helping others is evident in her community work and in her workplace. Many late nights, many sacrifices. We congratulate this phenomenon on her Award of Honour, and wish her only the best for the future.



Nirupa Misra

• Honorary Life Membership – Andrew Lofts Gray

Andy Gray – a walking pharmacist encyclopaedia, South African edition, but a textbook featured around the world. A name said with pride, an extraordinary individual, Andy Gray, is a household name... I know that we have all told our non-pharmacy family and friends about this gentleman. A brilliant mind with the unfathomable capacity for knowledge and yet a moral standing that we all look up to. I wonder sometimes what the statistical probability of another such mastermind as Andy Gray is. The efforts of a great man such as Andy have benefited our profession tremendously. With the foundation of his knowledge, Andy has always made himself available to SAAHIP at literally any time of the day or night. Our brand ambassador to the world, representing hope for our profession, a man, a mentor, a friend and an idol – we thank him and honour him for his contribution.



Andy Gray