

THURSDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER

07:30 - 17:00 Registration

08:30 - 17:00 Exhibition

Opening Session

08:30 - 08:40 Welcome | *Kelly du Plessis, Rare Diseases South Africa*

08:40 - 09:10 Opening | *Nonhlanhla Dlamini, Chief Director: Child and Youth Health, National Department of Health*

09:10 - 09:30 **Session 1: Keynote | Kelly du Plessis, Chairperson**

Keynote

09:10 - 09:30 Chasing the rainbows through the storms: A courageous journey with Moyamoya disease | *Timothy Stones*

09:30 - 10:30 **Session 1: Genetic Landscape in Africa | Thirona Naicker, Chairperson**

Session 1

09:30 - 10:00 Role and structure of human genetics policy | *Manala Makua, National Department of Health*

10:00 - 10:30 Overview of congenital disorders and rare diseases in South Africa | *Helen Malherbe, University of KwaZulu-Natal*

10:30 - 11:00 Refreshment break

11:00 - 12:30 **Session 2: Diagnostics and Research | Marli Dercksen, Chairperson**

Session 2

11:00 - 11:30 Metabolic diseases and the continued importance of biochemical studies in the new -omics era | *Ronald JA Wanders, University of Amsterdam*

11:30 - 11:45 Genetic diagnosis of disorders/differences of sex development (DSD): The DSD-translational research network experience | *Eric Vilain, Children's National Medical Center, Washington, DC*

11:45 - 12:00 Impact and cost effectiveness of newborn screening | *Chris Vorster, North-West University*

12:00 - 12:15 Utilising facial recognition software for the detection of genetic syndromes: A focus on the Democratic Republic of the Congo | *Matthew Bramble, Children's National Medical Center, Washington, DC*

12:15 - 12:30 An evaluation of preimplantation genetic diagnosis outcomes in Johannesburg, South Africa | *Bianca Carzis, National Health Laboratory Service, University of the Witwatersrand*

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch

13:30 - 15:00 **Session 3: Current and Emerging Treatments | Chris Hendriksz, Chairperson**

Session 3

13:30 - 14:00 Limb Girdle Muscular Dystrophy (LGMD): An expanding family of rare genetic myopathies | *Mark Roberts, Greater Manchester Neurosciences Centre*

14:00 - 14:15 Exome sequencing of the first reported South African x-linked primary immunodeficiency case identifies a hemizygous mutation in MSN | *Brigitte Glanzmann, Stellenbosch University*

14:15 - 14:30 The development of a therapeutic approach for the treatment of individuals with Prader-Willi Syndrome and their primary caregivers | *Molelekeng Sethuntsa, Dr George Mukhari Academic Hospital*

14:30 - 14:45 Mitochondrial disease in South Africa: Clinical, biochemical and genetic outcomes in paediatric patients | *Maryke Schoonen, North-West University*

14:45 - 15:00 Neuroendocrine tumours (NETs0) | *John Devar, Wits Donald Gordon Medical Centre supported by Novartis*

15:00 - 15:30 Refreshment break

15:30 - 17:15 **Session 4: Rare Disease Access Frameworks: Challenges and Solutions | Kelly du Plessis, Chairperson**

Session 4

15:30 - 16:15 Prescribed Minimum Benefits and National Health Insurance updates | *Peta-Anne Durrant, Elsab é Klinck & Associates*

16:15 - 17:00 Diagnosis, treatment, and management of rare diseases in Africa | *Chris Hendriksz, FYMCA Medical Ltd*

17:00 - 17:15 Poster presentations | *Flavia Zita Francies and Elzette Nienaber*

17:15 Welcome Networking Reception (Riversands Cafe)

FRIDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER

	07:30 - 17:00	Registration
	08:30 - 17:00	Exhibition
Keynote	08:30 - 09:15	The Fabry masquerade <i>Bertram Henderson, University of the Free State, supported by Sanofi Genzyme</i>
	09:15 - 10:45	Session 5: Rare Diseases in Public Health Chris Hendriksz, Chairperson
Session 5	09:15 - 09:45	From common to rare long-term conditions <i>Neil McKerrow, KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health</i>
	09:45 - 10:00	Neonatal mortality remains unacceptably high: No stone should be left unturned <i>Manala Makua, National Department of Health</i>
	10:00 - 10:15	Barriers to diagnosis of rare genetic diseases in the South African state healthcare system <i>Michael Urban, Tygerberg Hospital, Stellenbosch University</i>
	10:15 - 10:30	Public health approach to birth defects: The Argentine experience <i>Boris Groisman, National Network of Congenital Anomalies of Argentina (RENAC)</i>
	10:30 - 11:15	Refreshment break
	11:15 - 12:45	Session 6: The Multidisciplinary Approach Helen Malherbe, Chairperson
Session 6	11:15 - 11:30	Introduction to the multidisciplinary approach <i>Kelly du Plessis, Rare Diseases South Africa</i>
	11:30 - 11:45	Genetics services and role in diseases affecting multiple systems <i>Bertram Henderson, University of the Free State</i>
	11:45 - 12:00	A pilot study evaluating depression in mothers with children diagnosed with Down Syndrome in state healthcare <i>Melissa Swanepoel, University of the Witwatersrand, National Health Laboratory Service Braamfontein</i>
	12:00 - 12:15	Palliative care for children with rare diseases <i>Busi Nkosi, International Children's Palliative Care Network</i>
	12:15 - 12:30	Pulling it all together: The role of genetic counsellors <i>Sarah Walters, AMPATH Trust</i>
	12:30 - 12:45	From the head to the heart <i>Julia Ambler, Umduduzi - Hospice Care for Children</i>
	12:45 - 13:45	Lunch
	13:45 - 15:30	Session 7: Adaptive Approaches to Care Chris Hendriksz, Chairperson
Session 7	13:45 - 14:15	Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS): A rare potentially treatable disorder <i>Mark Roberts, Greater Manchester Neurosciences Centre</i>
	14:15 - 14:30	The Kidney Beanz Trust <i>Stacey Hanekom, The Kidney Beanz Trust</i>
	14:30 - 14:45	Olive Children's Foundation <i>Colin Noel, Olive Children's Foundation</i>
	14:45 - 15:00	Differences/disorders of sex development: A world of uncertainty <i>Eric Vilain, Children's National Medical Center, Washington DC</i>
	15:00 - 15:15	Breakthrough for Huntington's Disease <i>Michael Howard, Huntington's Association of South Africa</i>
	15:15 - 15:30	Huntington's Disease Youth Organisation <i>Catherine Martin, Huntington's Disease Youth Organisation</i>
	15:30 - 16:00	Refreshment break
Session	16:00 - 17:15	Session 8: Panel discussion: "Patient-centricity" and what it actually means (Kelly du Plessis, Bertram Henderson, Julia Ambler, Lauren Pretorius, Michael Urban)
	17:15	Genetic Alliance South Africa General Meeting

SATURDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER

07:30 - 17:00 Registration

08:30 - 18:00 Exhibition

Keynote

08:30 - 09:00 The Jenna Lowe Trust | *Gabi Lowe, The Jenna Lowe Trust*

09:00 - 10:45 **Session 9: Patient Registries / Surveillance** | *Helen Malherbe, Chairperson*

Session 9

09:00 - 09:15 Surveillance methods and the proposed way forward | *Manala Makua, National Department of Health*

09:15 - 09:30 Harnessing technology for innovative and efficient integrated disease surveillance and control | *Portia Mutevedzi, National Institute for Communicable Diseases*

09:30 - 09:45 Public health surveillance of birth defects: The experience of the National Network of Congenital Anomalies of Argentina | *Boris Groisman, National Network of Congenital Anomalies of Argentina (RENAC)*

09:45 - 10:00 National cancer surveillance registry: Lessons learnt from mandatory reporting for cancer | *Elvira Singh, National Health Laboratory Service*

10:00 - 10:15 Development of a register to optimise care of children in South Africa with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy | *Alhaji Alusine Jalloh, Paediatric Neurology, University of Cape Town*

10:15 - 10:30 Diamond-Blackfan Anaemia: An African registry makes strides for research and diagnosis | *Colin Noel, Olive Children's Foundation*

10:30 - 10:45 Undiagnosed? Have you considered testing for 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome? | *Benita Penfold, The 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome Foundation South Africa*

10:45 - 11:15 Refreshment break

11:15 - 12:45 **Session 10: Support Groups** | *Lauren Pretorius, Chairperson*

Session 10

11:15 - 11:30 Global rare disease advocacy: Where are we, future plans, where does Africa fit in? | *Yann Le Cam, Rare Diseases International*

11:30 - 11:45 Driving policy change through advocacy: How to, what is needed, what opportunities are available? | *Kelly du Plessis, Rare Diseases South Africa*

11:45 - 12:00 Advocacy 101 | *Lauren Pretorius, Prime Consulting*

12:00 - 12:45 STEP 1 - Defining the current state of the problem: Developing a list of issues | *Group exercise*

12:45 - 13:45 Lunch

13:45 - 15:15 **Session 1: Patient Huddle** | *Helen Malherbe, Chairperson*

Session 1: Patient Huddle

13:45 - 14:15 STEP 2 - Finding solutions: Charitable access programmes | *Tanya Collin-Histed, European Gaucher Alliance*

14:15 - 14:35 Problem + Solution = Advocacy Issues | *Lauren Pretorius, Prime Consulting*

14:35 - 14:55 Developing a tailored issue tree | *Group exercise*

14:55 - 15:15 STEP 3 - The role of data and research in advocacy | *Helen Malherbe, Genetic Alliance South Africa*

15:15 - 15:45 Refreshment break

15:45 - 17:00 **Session 2: Patient Huddle** | *Kelly du Plessis, Chairperson*

Session 2: Patient Huddle

15:45 - 16:00 Resourcing and sustaining an advocacy: What is needed, how to secure resources? | *Weronika Wojtowicz, Care Beyond Diagnosis*

16:00 - 17:00 Narrating problem statements | *Group exercise*

18:30 Rare Diamond Awards (Indaba Hotel)

SUNDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER

08:30 - 12:00 Registration

08:30 - 17:00 Exhibition

09:00 - 10:30 **Session 3: Patient Huddle | Helen Malherbe, Chairperson**

Session 3:
Patient Huddle

09:00 - 10:00 STEP 4 - Who do we speak to? What do we say? | *Lauren Pretorius, Prime Consulting*

10:00 - 10:30 STEP 5 - Building support for your plan | *Lauren Pretorius, Prime Consulting*

10:30 - 11:00 *Refreshment break*

11:00 - 11:30 Solutions: Plans for the way forward | *Collective report*

11:30 - 12:00 Closing session | *Kelly du Plessis, Rare Diseases South Africa*