



UNIVERSITY OF
KWAZULU-NATAL™
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

COLLEGE OF
HEALTH SCIENCES

DRUG AWARENESS WEBINAR

PROFESSOR BUSISIWE NCAMA,
DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR AND HEAD: COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
EXTENDS AN INVITATION TO YOU TO JOIN OUR CHS WEBINAR

OUR PANEL



Dr Rene Khan



Dr Andy Gray



Dr Hemant Nowbath



Ms Babalwa Dano



Dr Mluleki Luvuno



Dr Katy Harries

26TH JUNE 2024

WEDNESDAY

13h00 – 15h00

For any queries, please email: memelal2@ukzn.ac.za



BIOSKETCHES OF PANELLISTS



Dr Rene Khan

CONVENER - DR RENE KHAN

Dr Rene Khan was raised in the suburb of Wentworth, Durban. She obtained her PhD (Medical Biochemistry) from the University of KwaZulu-Natal in 2017. Dr Khan is a medical scientist and senior lecturer in the Discipline of Medical Biochemistry at the School of Laboratory Medicine and Medical Sciences. She is committed to improving teaching and learning at UKZN, as well as expanding the research capacity. Her role in the teaching and learning committee and overall program co-ordinator for Medical Biochemistry Honours, affords her the opportunity to influence and nurture young minds. Dr Khan's research focusses on the molecular mechanisms of disease, specifically pertaining to mycotoxin-induced carcinogenesis. Recently, Dr Khan has broadened her research niche to include the ameliorative potential of Indigenous plant extracts and synthesized compounds in reversing the pathogenic molecular modifications in cancer and diabetes. Her greatest wish to make the slogan 'cancer can be beaten' a reality by finding a cure to this dreaded disease.



Dr Andy Gray

PANELLIST - DR ANDY GRAY

Mr Andy Gray BPharm, MSc (Pharm), FPS, FFIP is a pharmacist whose research interests include policy analysis (in particular, the development and implementation of National Medicines Policies), rational medicines use and the application of antiretroviral therapy in resource-constrained settings. He is a Senior Lecturer in the Division of Pharmacology, Discipline of Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Health Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa. He 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). Mr Gray is a Visiting Fellow in the Faculty of Pharmacy, Rhodes University, Makhanda. Mr Gray is a Fellow and Honorary Life Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (PSSA) and a Fellow of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP). He is a past President of the South African Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists (SAAHIP) At the FIP, he served as President of the Hospital Pharmacy Section, Chairman of the Board of Pharmaceutical Practice and as a Vice-President. He is currently a Director of the FIP Foundation for Education and Research. He was appointed to the South African National Essential Medicines List Committee in 2013. He is currently chair of the Names and Scheduling Committee of the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) and serves on its Legal Committee and Pharmacovigilance Committee. 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, on the WHO Guidelines Review Committee, and the WHO Guideline Steering Group for Family Planning Guidance. Widely published, he has served as a reviewer for a number of international and local journals, is associate editor of the South African Pharmaceutical Journal, section editor of the Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice, and serves on the editorial boards of the International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy, Health Systems and Reform, BMC Health Services Research and the Journal of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research. He has also been a member of the editorial committee of the South African Health Review. Mr Gray has reviewed funding applications for several agencies, including the Health Systems Trust, National Research Foundation, Medical Research Council and UNITAID. He has been actively involved in the development and assessment of medicines and other health-related law in South Africa. Mr Gray is a member of the Rotary Club of Westville, and chairs two related Trusts: the Don McKenzie TB Trust and the Mike Strong Educational Trust.



Dr Hemant Nowbath

PANELLIST - DR HEMANT NOWBATH

Dr Hemant Nowbath eluded capture by State and is a psychiatrist in private practice in Durban. He works at Life Mount Edgcombe Hospital and Mondia Umhlanga. He qualified in Medicine at the University of the Witwatersrand and specialised in Kwazulu-Natal. An avowed hedonist, he dabbles in psychiatry and bonsai and seeks truth in golf and good whisky. He is a founder member and past president of the South African Addiction Medicine Society and served on the executive of the Durban Chess Club.



Ms Babalwa Dano

PANELLIST - MS BABALWA DANO

Babalwa Dano is a Lecturer in Social Work at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She holds a Master in Social Work (UKZN), a Bachelor of Social Science in Social Work (University of Natal), a Diploma in Project Management (Damelin), Employee Wellness Certificate from the University of Pretoria. With over 15 years of experience in Social Work in health care and academia, she has taught courses in Social Work, Child Protection in Emergencies (UNICEF-UKZN Project), and the Social Auxiliary Work Program. Babalwa has also been a guest lecturer in Social Work at the University of Jonkoping in Sweden and in the School of Social Work at the University of Denver in the USA. She is a Fulbright fellow with SUNY- Stony Brook in the USA. Babalwa has published on topics related to HIV/AIDS and HIV Serodiscordance and edited a book titled "HIV/AIDS in

Africa: The not so silent presence". Her current research interests include HIV Serodiscordant Couples, Adolescent substance abuse and mental health, Teenage pregnancy and parenting, Social Policy, Geriatric social work, Social Work Education, Caring for caregivers, Mental Health and the effects of COVID-19 on caregivers providing care to family members living with mental and neurological disorders.



Dr Mluleki Luvuno

PANELLIST - DR MLULEKI LUVUNO

Dr Mluleki Luvuno has been a lecturer at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) since late 2021. He holds a Bachelor of Medical Sciences in Physiology and Anatomy (2014), an Honours in Medical Sciences (Physiology) (2015), and a PhD in Health Sciences (Physiology) (2020) from UKZN. His Master's study, converted to a PhD in 2017, involved developing an animal model for prediabetes to mimic the asymptomatic intermediate state of diabetes in humans. After earning his PhD, Dr Luvuno joined UKZN as a postdoctoral fellow, where he published his research in reputable journals, mentored postgraduate students, and participated in undergraduate teaching. Now a dedicated lecturer, he actively engages in both undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and supervises numerous neuroscience research projects. He has

graduated two Master's students. His current supervision includes two Honours students, seven Master's students, and three PhD candidates. These projects explore cancer, Alzheimer's, schizophrenia, HIV and cognitive abilities, and the impact of diet on brain performance. Dr Luvuno is passionate about advancing medical science and fostering the next generation of researchers through his dynamic involvement in academia and research.



Dr Katy Harries

PANELLIST - DR KATY HARRIES

Dr Katy Harries holds a BSc(Pharm), MMedSci (Pharmacology), MEd (Higher Ed) and PhD qualifications, all obtained from University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is a Lecturer in the Division of Pharmacology, Discipline of Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Health Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa. She teaches pharmacology to undergraduate students in the MBChB, BPharm programmes and to physiotherapy and occupational therapy students as part of their Clinical Sciences module. She started working as a lecturer in the Department of Experimental & Clinical Pharmacology, Nelson R. Mandela School of Medicine, University of Natal in 1999. Before that, she worked for a number of years as a hospital pharmacist. Her main areas of research interests are in healthcare education and quality of care and quality use of

medicines, particularly in the area of reproductive healthcare research. She has published research findings in national and international peer-reviewed journals, and has also presented at several national as well as international conferences. She has supervised pharmacy research projects at the honours level for a number of years, has graduated four postgraduate students to date, at Masters level, and is currently supervising several postgraduate projects.

