

Ali Esmail



Ali Esmail is a specialist physician and pulmonologist at the University of Cape Town Lung Institute, and the respiratory clinic at Groote Schuur Hospital. He currently heads the Clinical Trials Unit at the Centre for Lung Infection and Immunity, which co-ordinates all research activities within the centre. Dr Esmail has a special interest in the field of interventional pulmonology. He also

forms a key part of the multidisciplinary team at the respiratory clinic that facilitates lung resection surgery in highly infectious and treatment-destitute tuberculosis (TB) patients. He currently sits on the provincial TB review committee, which provides guidance to clinicians on the management of complex patients with TB. Dr Esmail has been involved in research in various aspects of pulmonary medicine, including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease,

pneumonia, asthma, pulmonary hypertension and obstructive sleep apnoea; however, his focus is the field of diagnostics and management of drug-sensitive and multidrug-resistant (MDR) TB. Dr Esmail is a recipient of the EDCTP Career Development Fellowship, undertaking his PhD in identifying biomarkers that portend favourable outcomes in MDR-TB. This project is nested within the NExT RCT of which Dr Esmail is the regional principal investigator and national medical monitor. He has also won numerous other awards including the DP Marais TB Research Award, AstraZeneca and South African Thoracic Society Research Fellowship Award, Sandoz and Lekhy prizes for undergraduate academic excellence. Dr Esmail has published over two dozen peer-reviewed papers in journals such as the *International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease*, *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Medicine*, *Lancet Respiratory Diseases*, *Lancet Infectious Diseases* and *Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases*. He has authored two book chapters on the management of drug-resistant TB and currently co-supervises three MMed students in various aspects of pulmonary medicine.

Greg Symons



Greg Symons is physician/pulmonologist practising at Groote Schuur (GSH) and UCT Private Academic Hospitals. Greg qualified from the University of Cape Town in 2000 and, after completing his internship at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, returned to his alma mater to finish his FCP in

2008 and Certificate in Pulmonology in 2010. Greg has developed an interest in pulmonary hypertension and pulmonary vascular disease, as well as sleep-disordered breathing. As well as setting up the Pulmonary Hypertension Clinic at GSH, Greg is also involved in the extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) and lung transplant programmes. Greg heads up one of the five medical firms at GSH, with a keen interest in training both undergraduate and postgraduate students. Other interests include travel and overlanding through Africa, rebuilding vehicles and cycling.

Lynelle Sarasvathie Mottay



Dr Mottay completed her general physician and pulmonology training at Groote Schuur Hospital (GSH) and the University of Cape Town (UCT) in 2012 and 2015, respectively. Thereafter she was appointed in a joint UCT/GSH consultant position, during which time she managed the adult cystic fibrosis clinic and a general pulmonology clinic. She has

also been co-involved with the interventional pulmonology service, and undergraduate and postgraduate medical training. Subsequently, she has been employed by the Centre for Lung Infection and Immunity as a clinical research physician involved in projects dealing with tuberculosis (TB) diagnostics, drug-resistant TB and asthma. In addition, she has been appointed in a part-time consultant position at GSH, developing an urgent pulmonology service and supporting interventional pulmonology. She is currently a member of the South African Thoracic Society (SATS) as well as of Interventional Pulmonology South Africa (IPSA).