

Martie Wege



I am a paediatric critical care specialist with a passion for teaching and training. I've worked in the Western Cape Province for many years, and recently moved to KwaZulu-Natal to Queen Nandi Regional Hospital in Empangeni, in a search for open space and fresh air. I now work in a regional hospital serving a more rural, vulnerable community with a massive drainage area, and a great need to promote and protect the health of the children in this region.

I strongly believe that less is more in the critical care environment, and that our children do better when we do and teach the basics very well. There is a massive need for equal education and training of healthcare workers in all areas of South Africa, and specifically for those working with children. I believe in the collaboration of academic facilities in Africa,

to share knowledge and skills across the paediatric platform and to try to create and encourage learning opportunities for all.

I truly hope that my involvement in this community will help empower and inspire young healthcare workers to look after sick children with a new passion and interest, so that we can improve the quality of healthcare for our children.

The most important lesson I've learned from working in critical care is to practise self-care. This job becomes impossible if you haven't taken care of yourself and your family first. I try to keep the balance by spending time with people I love and admire, and by getting outdoors and running as far and fast as possible. I hope this approach will help me to take care of fragile and chaotically ill children for the rest of my career.

ST Hlophe



Dr Sbekezelo Hlophe is a paediatric intensivist at Grey's Hospital in Pietermaritzburg in KwaZulu-Natal. She has a special interest in infections and lung disease. She has a keen interest in research and has published on lung disease, *Klebsiella* pneumonia and invasive fungal infection in a paediatric intensive care unit. She is currently a PhD student at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is a

supervisor for MMed research paediatric registrars, and co-ordinator for 5th-year medical students. She is passionate about mentoring and educating young doctors. She is also part of the early research career group in Africa through an NIHR-funded study, Achieving Control of Asthma in African Children (ACACIA), a multicentre study to understand asthma in seven African countries.

Folasade Adeniyi



Dr Folasade Adeniyi is a paediatrician and clinical lecturer at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Currently, she is based at Grey's Hospital Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, where she provides evidence-based clinical care to patients, as well as teaching and supportive supervision to medical students, registrars and medical officers. She obtained an MScMedSc

in clinical epidemiology in 2012, and subsequently an MMed in paediatrics from Stellenbosch University in 2018. She is passionate about curriculum development and teaching of evidence-based medicine. Her publications include systematic reviews on asthma and HIV care delivery. Her clinical interests are paediatric critical care, allergy and asthma.