



Dr Raisa Bhikoo



Dr Raisa Bhikoo graduated from Stellenbosch University in 2011, and completed her FCP and MMed in 2020 at Stellenbosch University and Tygerberg Academic Hospital. After working a year in private practice, she realised her passion for pulmonology and critical care.

She is currently completing a fellowship in Pulmonology at SU and Tygerberg Academic Hospital. Her interests are in interventional bronchoscopy and critical care, and she would like to continue to contribute to academic and research medicine.

Dr Marie Stolbrink



Dr Marie Stolbrink is a pulmonologist and general internal medicine physician from Germany who works in Liverpool, UK, and is now based at Stellenbosch University. She is completing her PhD funded by the Wellcome Trust with the Pulmonology Department at Stellenbosch University and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, investigating the diagnosis and management of chronic lung

diseases in Cape Town. Her work involves a cross-sectional, clinical study in Tygerberg and Khayelitsha District Hospitals in Cape Town as well qualitative interviews exploring the experiences of patients and healthcare professionals. She also aims to review the access, availability and affordability to essential medicines for chronic lung diseases in low- and middle-income countries.

Prof. Elvis Iruken



Prof. Elvis Iruken trained under the supervision of Prof. Umesh Laloo at King Edward VIII hospital and the University of Natal. He followed in the footsteps of senior academics in South Africa with a visit to the Royal Brompton Hospital in London where he trained at Prof. Barnes' Unit at the National Heart and Lung Institute at Imperial College. He worked with Profs K Fan Chung and Ian Adcock in molecular immunology and biology, which culminated in his PhD on asthmatic inflammation, at the University of Natal.

He is a past-president of the SA Thoracic Society and SA representative on GOLD (Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease: 2010- 2018). He has received distinguished service awards from the European Respiratory Society and the Allergy Society of South Africa, as well the prestigious Rector's Excellence in Community Service award, several research prizes and Annual

Service Awards for research and teaching at Stellenbosch University.

He has over 130 publications, and serves or has served as a principal investigator/sub-investigator for over 100 pharmaceutical trials, national examiner in undergraduate and post-graduate Medicine, Masters and PhD theses, as a reviewer for numerous esteemed respiratory journals, and involved in the development of numerous guidelines.

A number of academic and private practice pulmonologists have trained under his guidance.

His research interests are in epidemiology and clinical and molecular aspects of respiratory medicine, particularly asthma and COPD. His radiological skills are often sought out, for his assistance with the interpretation of difficult images.

Prof. Iruken enjoys reading - particularly on astronomy - and running. He has completed 12 Two Oceans half-marathons and will soon complete his 250th Parkrun.