

## Who's who in pulmonology



Prof. Heather Zar heads the Division of Paediatric Pulmonology at Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital (RCWMCH), University of Cape Town (UCT), with Drs Marco Zampoli, Aneesa Vanker and Diane Gray, sharing consultant responsibilities. It is a diverse unit, managing a wide range of paediatric respiratory conditions, and has an active training and research programme with trainees from both South Africa (SA) and the African continent.

Heather is also Professor and Head of the Paediatrics and Child

Health Department, and Director of the School of Child and Adolescent Health at RCWMCH. She is Director of the Medical Research Council Unit on Child and Adolescent Health. Her work on childhood respiratory diseases, including pneumonia, tuberculosis, asthma and HIV-associated lung diseases has been internationally recognised; she has published more than 250 peer-reviewed publications and has substantial international grant support. She currently serves as President of the Pan African Thoracic Society and on the Forum of International Respiratory Societies. She received the World Lung Health Award in 2014.



Dr Marco Zampoli completed his paediatric and sub-specialist training at RCWMCH and UCT in 2007. His clinical and research interests in the field of paediatric pulmonology are wide and include HIV-related lung disorders, cystic fibrosis, neuromuscular diseases and sleep medicine. Dr Zampoli is head of

the cystic fibrosis clinic and provides clinical oversight and leadership for the Breatheasy programme at RCWMCH, which supports children on the tracheostomy and ventilation home-care programme. Dr Zampoli is the current chair of the SA Cystic Fibrosis Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee and treasurer of the South African Paediatric Association.



Dr Aneesa Vanker completed her paediatric pulmonology training at Tygerberg Children's Hospital and Stellenbosch University in 2010. Following that, she has been working as a paediatric pulmonologist at RCWMCH, UCT, where she is involved in the care of children with a wide range

of both congenital and acquired respiratory conditions. She is also a clinical researcher with a particular interest in the environmental determinants of childhood lung diseases. This is the subject of the PhD degree for which she is currently registered. Dr Vanker is the current paediatric pulmonology representative for the South African Thoracic Society.



Dr Diane Gray is a paediatric pulmonologist based at RCWMCH. Her interests include HIV-associated lung disease and respiratory function testing in children. She has spent much of the past 3 years developing infant and preschool lung

function tests for SA children while completing her PhD in the early-life determinants of lung function in African infants. She is also interested in adolescent health, and hopes to support the development of appropriate transitioning care for adolescents with chronic respiratory disease.