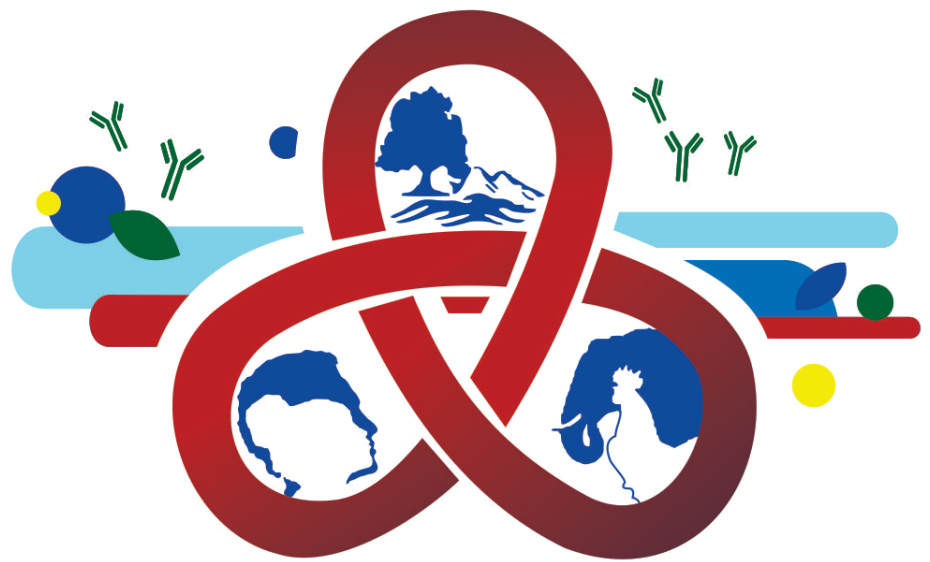




IMMUNOLOGY AT THE CENTRE OF ONE HEALTH

30 October - 1 November 2025

Garden Court Marine Parade, KwaZulu-Natal

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Programme correct at the time of publication 22 October 2025



South African Immunology Society

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER

07:30	Registration for Workshop and arrival refreshments	
08:00	Pre-Conference Workshop - Immunological memory: A One Health approach	
10:00	Mid-morning Refreshments (The Kearsney Room)	
10:30	Workshop Continues	
12:30	Workshop wrap-up/outcomes	
13:00	SAIS 2025 Conference Registration Opens	
13:00	Lunch in the Peppa Restaurant (Workshop & Conference attendees)	
Session 1 - Tolerance, Auto-Immunity & Allergy Session Chair: Dr Luyanda Kwofie		
Time	Theme & Topic	Speaker
15:00	Welcome and Introduction	Dr Luyanda Kwofie Conference Chairperson
15:15	<u>Opening Plenary Presentation</u> Systemic immune activation: lessons from viral infections in humans and animals	Prof. Theresa Rossouw University of Pretoria
16:00	[017] Investigating new immune mechanisms for severe asthma	Nontobeko Mthembu University of Cape Town
16:10	[046] Bradykinin pathway dynamics in ACE inhibitor-induced angioedema: evidence of distinct endotypes in a South African cohort	Sarah Pedretti University of Cape Town
16:20	Discussion / Questions and Answers	
16:30	POSTER SESSION 1 (Glenwood & Hilton)	
17:00	Welcome Reception in the Exhibition Venue (The Kearsney Room)	

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER

07:30 Registration and arrival refreshments

Session 2 - Non-communicable diseases

Session Chair: Dr Sabelo Hadebe & Dr Heena Ranchod

Time	Theme & Topic	Speaker
08:30	<u>Plenary Session 1</u> From fat to fate: Adipose-derived stromal/stem cells at the crossroads of obesity and cancer	Prof. Melvin Ambele University of Pretoria
09:15	[003] Establishing an in-house real-time polymerase chain reaction assay to quantify T-cell receptor excision circles and kappa-deleting recombination excision circles for use in screening newborn babies for inborn errors of immunity	Shudufhadzo S Singo University of Pretoria
09:25	[038] <i>Datura stramonium</i> and <i>Catha edulis</i> extracts display cytoprotective activity in an SH-SY5Y Parkinson's disease cell model	Tidimalo Mogale University of Pretoria
09:35	[052] Platelet activation and T-helper cytokine profiles in patients living with diabetes in sub-Saharan Africa	Bongani B. Nkambule University of KwaZulu-Natal
09:45	[041] The immunopathogenic mechanisms of severe cutaneous adverse drug reactions to first line anti-tuberculosis drugs	Phuti Choshi University of Cape Town
09:55	Discussion / Questions and Answers	

10:05 Mid-morning Refreshments & Exhibitor Networking (The Kearsney Room)

Session 3 - One Health Focus on Influenza

Session Chair: Dr Sven Parsons

10:45	<u>Plenary Session 2</u> How immunology can support bacterial vaccine development to help combat AMR	Prof. Adam Cunningham University of Birmingham
11:30	Seasonal drift and avian threats: Update on influenza in humans	Dr Nicole Wolter NICD
11:50	Avian Influenza in South Africa: Patterns, pathways, and Public Health implications	Dr Lia Rotherham ARC
12:10	Building vaccine sovereignty for the next pandemic	Prof. Wendy Burgers University of Cape Town
12:30	Panel Discussion	

13:00 Lunch in the Peppa Restaurant

Session 4 - Clinical and Diagnostic Immunology Workshop

Session Chair: Prof. André van Niekerk

14:00	Background: Vaccine response testing in clinical practice: why, what and when?	Prof. Theresa Rossouw University of Pretoria
14:20	[067] Clinical immunology: awareness, structured laboratory evaluation, and immunogenetic sequencing are key in diagnosing & treating Inborn Errors of Immunity (IEI)	Prof. André van Niekerk University of Pretoria
14:30	Case presentation: An HIV-non-infected child presents with bronchiectasis	Prof. André van Niekerk University of Pretoria
14:35	Questions	
14:40	Vaccine response testing: why do we need alternative options?	Prof. André van Niekerk University of Pretoria
14:50	Serotype specific vaccine testing: challenges & solutions	Dr Lizelle Nagel Ampath
15:10	Conclusion: Questions, discussion & formulation of a congress position statement	Session Chair & Panel

15:30 POSTER SESSION 2 | Mid-afternoon coffee/tea/refreshments (Glenwood & Hilton)

16:15 SAIS AGM

17:30 SAIS AGM Ends

18:30 Depart for Gala Dinner @ uShaka Marine World

19:00	GALA DINNER @ Ushaka Marine World 19:00 – Arrival of Guests 19:00 – Welcome mocktails & entertainment by Uzuko Marimba Band 19:20 – Welcome by newly elected SAIS President 19:30 – Starters served 20:00 – Introduction of the Guest Speaker by the Conference Chair, <i>Dr Luyanda Kwofie</i> 20:30 – Mains and dessert on buffet 23:30 – End of event
22:00	Busses return to the Garden Court

DAY 3 – SATURDAY 01 NOVEMBER

07:30	Registration and arrival refreshments	
Session 5 - Infectious diseases (1) Chair: Dr Nancy Meulenberg & Dr Bongive Ndlovu		
Time	Theme & Topic	Speaker
08:30	<u>Plenary Session 3</u> The role of immunotherapy in achieving functional cures in people living with HIV	Prof. Thumbi Ndung’u University of KwaZulu-Natal
09:15	[012] Chimpanzee adenovirus vector-based vaccination: A promising approach for inducing T cell responses against HIV	Anele Mbatha Hutchinson Cancer Research Institute of South Africa
09:25	[077] Development of a novel serological assay capable of differentiating between animals vaccinated or naturally infected with lumpy skin disease virus	Antoinette van Schalkwyk Agricultural Research Council - Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute
09:35	[022] HIV-1 reprograms t cell metabolism and inflammatory responses based on virus replicative capacity	Murunwa Maimela Africa Health Research Institute
09:45	[079] Brain antigen presenting cells and T cells promote regulated Th1 immune responses during central nervous system tuberculosis	Khanyisile Kgoadi University of the Witwatersrand
09:55	[064] How asymptomatic sexually transmitted infections alter the epithelial-immuno-barrier of the penile genital tract	Cosnet Lerato Rametse Antibody Immunity Research Institute, NICD
10:05	Discussion / Questions and Answers	
10:15	Mid-morning Refreshments & Exhibitor Networking (The Kearsney Room) – Guest to check out of Hotel	
Session 6 - Infectious diseases (2) Chair: Dr Khanyisile Kgoadi & Dr Roanne Keeton		
11:00	<u>Plenary Session 4</u> Platelet activation and thromboinflammation in canine babesiosis	Prof. Amelia Goddard, University of Pretoria
11:45	[023] Interleukin 4-induced gene 1 is a major tryptophan catabolising enzyme that regulates Type 2 immunity in a tissue-specific manner	Sabelo Hadebe University of Cape Town
11:55	[049] CD68+ follicular macrophages harbour HIV reservoirs in human lymph node tissues during suppressive ART	Merantha Moodley Africa Health Research Institute
12:05	[034] Diabetes mellitus affects alveolar- and monocyte-derived macrophage effector function during latent tuberculosis	Tariq Webber Stellenbosch University
12:15	[050] Resistance to SARS-CoV-2 infection is not associated with pre-existing antibody responses to common cold coronavirus fusion peptides	Strauss van Graan Antibody Immunity Research Unit
12:25	[055] Altered immune activation and function in antigen-presenting cells of South African HIV-1 elite controllers	Asisipo Mohamed Lekoloane University of Witwatersrand/ NICD
12:35	Discussion / Questions and Answers	
12:45	Awards & Prize Giving	Prof. Theresa Rossouw & Dr Luyanda Kwofie
13:00	Lunch in the Peppa Restaurant	

Poster Session 1

Thursday 30 October | 16:30-17:00

Abstract Nr.	Topic	Speaker
002	A comparative study of the effects of lopinavir and dolutegravir on the pro-inflammatory activities of human neutrophils <i>in vitro</i>	Atlehang K. Letsiri University of Pretoria
005	The potential role of red blood cells in the innate immune response to <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	Kondwani Alyce Kapisa University of Stellenbosch
009	Migration of intestinal CD4+ T cells promote vaginal eosinophil accumulation following hookworm infection	Alisha Chetty University of Cape Town
010	Characterization of activin expression and its role in host immune responses in a murine model of cutaneous leishmaniasis	Gina de Klerk University of Cape Town
013	Identification of somatic hypermutations responsible for the development of neutralization breadth in an HIV-1 N332-directed antibody lineage	Nomcebo Shusha AIRU-National Institute for Communicable diseases
014	Exploring gartanin and long non-coding RNA-286 as a host-directed drug therapy for tuberculosis	Whoghuwah Muntonia Heidi Makena University of Cape Town
015	Optimization of BD flow cytometer high throughput sampler (HTS) system loader settings for high-throughput laboratories and rare cell analysis	Saleha Omarjee Cape Town HVTN Immunology Laboratory
016	Interleukin 4-induced gene 1 regulates Type 2 immunity during <i>Schistosoma mansoni</i> infection	Nomthandazo Msipha University of Cape Town
019	Regulators of neuroimmune function in the manifestation of Central Nervous System Tuberculosis in the absence of microglia	Limpho Thipane University of Cape Town
020	Enhancing the reliability of immune cell-type identification in scRNA-seq through improved damaged cell quality control	Alicen Joy Henning Stellenbosch University
021	Novel insights into the biology and functional relevance of innate lymphoid type 2 cells in cutaneous leishmaniasis using a mouse model of infection	Laura Emery University of Cape Town
029	Comparative immunogenicity of reduced vs. standard dose <i>Brucella abortus</i> S19 vaccine in cattle administered via different routes	Itumeleng Moeketsi Design Biologix; and Lehlohonolo Tabane University of Pretoria
031	Antemortem diagnosis of <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i> infection in African lions (<i>Panthera leo</i>)	Rachiel Gumbo Stellenbosch University
032	Rural cattle as reservoirs of zoonotic mycobacteria: genomic insights from KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa	Tristen Lourens University of the Free State
035	TB and the male sex bias: Investigating the effect of sex hormones on mycobacterial killing <i>in vitro</i>	Raadhiyah Mathee Stellenbosch University
036	The impact of inflammatory and metabolic breast milk profiles associated with maternal HIV on infant growth and development	Tafadzwa Nerwande University of Pretoria
037	Host responses to chikungunya infection and their association with long-term arthritis	Mario Rankin University of KwaZulu-Natal
039	Characterization of T cell immune responses to SARS-CoV-2 and cross-reactivity to variants of concern in South African children	Ntombi S.B. Benede University of Cape Town
040	Investigating the process of neutrophil extracellular trap formation using imaging and cytometric techniques	Claudia C. du Plessis University of Pretoria
042	The effect of cationic DNA-binding proteins on HIV-1 latency	Senzo Cebekhulu University of KwaZulu-Natal
043	Characterization of antigens to assess T cell responses in the HVTN 605 TB vaccine trial	Boitumelo Mosito Cape Town HVTN Immunology Laboratory

Poster Session 2

Friday 31 October | 15:30-16:00

Abstract Nr.	Topic	Speaker
044	Phenotyping positive sequential additive challenge reactions following severe cutaneous adverse reactions to anti-TB medications	Rose Selim University of Cape Town
045	Insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1) signalling in tuberculosis and tuberculosis/diabetes co-morbidity	Thobekile S. Leyane University of Cape Town
047	<i>In vitro</i> immunomodulatory effects of African traditional medicines in H1299-ACE2 cells co-cultured with peripheral blood mononuclear cells in response to SARS-CoV-2 infection	Ata Thabo Mokoena University of KwaZulu-Natal
048	Characterization of the naïve B-cell repertoire and antigen-specific precursors in South African populations	Zama Dlamini Africa Health Research Institute
053	Investigating the function of host gene factors in <i>listeria monocytogenes</i> infection	Robert Ruhangariyo University of Cape Town
054	Targeting the monocyte: lymphocyte ratio and osteopontin as potential diagnostic markers for TB disease and treatment response	Bongani Motaung South African Medical Research Council/Stellenbosch University
056	Evolution of the extensively mutated SARS-CoV-2 BA.3.2 Omicron subvariant	Zesuliwe Jule Africa Health Research Institute
057	Assessing the burden of dengue virus infection in northern KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa	Siphokazi Silangwe Africa Health Research Institute
058	Variations in HIV-1 subtype C env sequences and neutralization sensitivity between lymph nodes, peripheral blood mononuclear cells and plasma-derived sequences	Keyura Velan University of KwaZulu-Natal
060	Evaluating the immunomodulatory potential of atorvastatin in reducing inflammation and tissue damage post-tuberculosis treatment	Jesse R. Conradie University of Cape Town
061	Cytomegalovirus infection in preterm and HIV-exposed infants: a prospective South African cohort study	Tariq Webber Stellenbosch University
063	Phenotypic profiling of TST-induced local T cell immune responses in Mtb-exposed individuals	Mahlatse K. Maseeme Africa Health Research Institute
065	Seroprevalence of pre-existing neutralising antibody responses to clinically relevant adenoviruses in a Southern African population	Mamodiane Anna Patjane University of the Witwatersrand, SAMRC Antibody Immunity Research Unit
066	Oral pre-exposure prophylaxis does not modulate lymphoid/myeloid HIV target cell density in the foreskin: results from the CHAPS clinical trial	Cosnet Lerato Rametse Antibody Immunity Research Unit, NICD
068	Association between total IgE levels and multiple allergen sensitizations in patients undergoing allergy testing at a tertiary immunology laboratory	Lucas Tabata University of Pretoria
069	Association of aldosterone, protein levels, and inflammatory markers in Angora Goats affected by Swelling Disease	Refilwe Bokaba University of Pretoria
073	Animal-friendly diagnostic reagents: a renewable, universal source based on avian genes	Jeanni Fehrsen University of Pretoria
074	Host proteins associated with strong neutralizing antibody responses to SARS-CoV-2 infection	Afrah Khairallah Africa Health Research Institute and University of KwaZulu-Natal
075	Mechanisms driving colorectal cancer (CRC) formation and differentiation in people with HIV (PWH)	Bronwyn L. Ramsamy Africa Health Research Institute and University of KwaZulu-Natal
078	Immune activation and thrombotic risk in African adult patients with B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia on maintenance therapy	Zekhethelo A. Mkhwanazi University of KwaZulu-Natal
080	Antibody responses elicited by different SARS-CoV-2 vaccines: Durability and impact of HIV infection	Shannon Ramkistan Africa Health Research Institute and University of KwaZulu-Natal
081	BactiVac, the Bacterial Vaccines Network	Jamie Pillaye BactiVac Network

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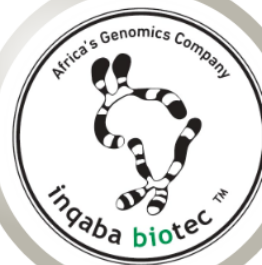
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