

THE UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL & THE SUNFLOWER FUND
Cordially invite you to a webinar

**CHALLENGES FACED BY ONCOLOGY PATIENTS
DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

PRESENTERS:

MS AGIE GOVENDER
Social Worker at CHOC

DR JULIA AMBLER
Deputy Director and Head of
Clinical Services at Umduduzi
Hospice Care for Children

MR XOLANI HLONGWANE
KZN Donor Recruitment &
Education Support
Specialist at the Sunflower
Fund

MS TRACEY BRAND
Co-founder of Umduduzi Hospice Care
for Children and an honorary lecturer
in the Department of Paediatrics at the
UKZN Medical School.

DR SHARLENE PARASNATH
Head of the Clinical Unit,
Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central
Hospital in Durban

FACILITATOR:

DR MARIAM SEEDAT KHAN
Head of Sociology, Industrial-Sociology and Social Policy College of Humanities, University of KwaZulu-Natal

DATE: THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2020

TIME: 17H00-18H30

PLATFORM : ZOOM

CLICK TO RSVP

ENQUIRIES ONLY:

SHAKILA THAKURPERSAD
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P R E S E N T E R B I O G R A P H I E S



MS AGIE GOVENDER

Ms Agie Govender is a Social Worker by profession and worked in several NGOs. Her interest has always been in looking out for the best interest of the child. Angie been with CHOC for 10 years advocating on behalf of childhood and teenage cancer.



DR JULIA AMBLER

Dr Julia Ambler graduated from the University of Cape Town with her MBChB in 1998. After her junior doctor years, she spent 6 years in Oxford, UK returning home in early 2008. Whilst in the UK she trained and worked as a general practitioner and a children's hospice doctor at Helen and Douglas Houses in Oxford.

Since returning to South Africa in 2008, Julia has focused on providing paediatric palliative care services in her home province of KwaZulu-Natal. She is currently deputy director and head of clinical services at Umduduzi – Hospice Care for Children. In her role, she consults in children's palliative care and trains health professionals and medical students. She is a sessional lecturer in the Department of Paediatrics, Nelson Mandela Medical School, University of KwaZulu-Natal. As a communication skills expert, she is also a workshop facilitator for the Medical Protection Society.

She has contributed chapters on paediatric and neonatal palliative care in 5 different textbooks and instrumental in writing local clinical guidelines, the most recent for care during COVID-19.



MS TRACEY BRAND

Ms Tracey Brand graduated from the former University of Natal, Durban with an Honours Degree in Social Work in 1995. She started her career as a social worker for the Margate & District Child & Family Welfare Society. From there she moved on to project manage various AIDS programmes, focusing on the care and well-being of children. In 2003 Tracey graduated from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban with a Master of Social Work (Clinical Practice). She also holds a post-graduate diploma in Marriage Guidance & Counselling.

From 2008 to 2012, as project manager, Tracey opened the Durban Branch of the Bigshoes Foundation. It was through this work that she cultivated an interest in paediatric palliative care. Since then Tracey has been involved in teaching and training doctors, nurses and social workers in paediatric palliative care and has designed course work material for this purpose. She also provides direct services to children and their families.

In January 2013 Tracey co-founded Umduduzi – Hospice Care for Children, an NPO set up to continue the work of Bigshoes in KZN. She is also an honorary lecturer in the Department of Paediatrics at the UKZN Medical School.



MR XOLANI HLONGWANE

Mr Xolani Hlongwane is a KZN Donor Recruitment & Education Support Specialist at The Sunflower Fund. A Hodgkin's lymphoma survivor himself, Xolani has been in remission for 2 years. He enjoys working for "The Sunflower Fund, a NPO that creates awareness and educates the public about the need for and the process involved in becoming a blood stem cell donors."



DR SHARLENE PARASNATH

Dr Sharlene Parasnath grew up and completed her schooling in Durban. She completed her undergraduate MBChB at the Medical University of Southern Africa in Pretoria in 1999 and returned to Durban and to complete her internship and community service at Addington hospital. In 2002 Sharlene joined the Department of Haematology at the University of KwaZulu-Natal as a registrar in Haematopathology. She obtained her FCPATH(Haem) degree in May 2007. In December 2007 she commenced subspecialty training in the Department of Clinical Haematology at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital in Durban and completed her Certificate in Clinical Haematology (SA) in May 2010. Sharlene continued to work as a Clinical Haematologist in the unit and in October 2015 she took over as the Head of the Clinical Unit.

The unit manages a broad spectrum on haematological conditions both benign and malignant, this includes Acute Leukemia, Haemoglobinopathies and Aplastic anaemia. The unit is also involved in both autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplantation. As this is an academic unit, she is also involved in both undergraduate and post-graduate training. She is currently registered for an MScI at UKZN, studying the prevalence of Acute Leukemia in the province of KwaZulu-Natal.



DR MARIAM SEEDAT KHAN

Dr Mariam Seedat Khan is one of only 40 internationally certified Clinical Sociologists in the world and one of three in South Africa, who is accredited and certified by the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACS). She is the Head of Sociology, Industrial-Sociology and Social Policy at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. As a cancer survivor, early detection advocate, academic, practitioner, researcher, facilitator and a passionate South African, her work focuses on optimizing learning for all recipients of knowledge. Born in Durban, she emigrated to Canada in the 1980's and completed high school at Thornlea in Toronto. Thereafter, Mariam enrolled at the prestigious York University in Canada, where she successfully graduated with a degree in Sociology and Political Science. Returning to South Africa following the release of Nelson Mandela, she enrolled for a postgraduate degree at the former University of Natal. Whilst completing her Master's Degree, Mariam worked as a volunteer for one of South Africa's most prominent sociologists, Professor Fatima Meer, at the Institute for Black Research (IBR). Mariam went on to graduate with her PhD in 2006. She has used her knowledge and skills to develop the SMART programme, Simply Managing Academic Related Tasks, which saw the Vice Chancellor acknowledging Dr Mariam Seedat Khan as a phenomenal woman. She is a prolific writer and has published extensively in academic texts and scientific journals.