



SEMINAR ON RABIES

28 SEPTEMBER 2023

In-Session 09:00 – 12:00



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WEBINAR ON RABIES



World Rabies Day - "Rabies: All for 1, One Health for All"

DATE 28 SEPTEMBER 2023



This Seminar marks the World Rabies Day, commemorated on 28 September 2023, to raise awareness of the consequences of human and animal rabies and how to prevent it.

03 HOUR 00

TIME 09:00 – 12:00



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Background:

September 28 is World Rabies Day, this is the anniversary of the death of Louis Pasteur who, with the collaboration of his colleagues, developed the first efficacious rabies vaccine.

Objectives:

The Rabies Day meeting aims to raise awareness about the impact of rabies on humans and animals, provide information and advice on how to prevent the disease in at-risk communities, and support advocacy for increased efforts in rabies control



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WEBINAR: KWAZULU-NATAL SEMINAR ON RABIES

Chairperson: prof Lucille Blumberg

| | | |
|----------------|--|--------------------------|
| 09h00-09h15 | Welcome & Purpose | Miss Babongile Mhlongo |
| 09h15-09h25 | Rabies Day Opening Remarks | Mr. Wayne Ramkrishna |
| 09h25-09h40 | Overview of Animal Rabies | Mr. Kevin Le Roux |
| 09h40-09h55 | Overview of Human Rabies | Ms. Poncho Bapela |
| 09h55-10h10 | Lab Specimen | Dr Naazneen Moolla |
| 10h10-10h25 | Rabies Notification and Community-based surveillance | Ms. Sharika Odayan |
| 10h25-11h00 | Case Management | Prof. Moherndran Archery |
| 11h-11h15 | Risk Communication and Community Engagement / Health Promotion | Mr Ntokozo Maphisa |
| 11h15-11h45 | Questions and answers | All |
| 11h45-12h00 | Way forward and Closure | Babongile Mhlongo |
| Closure | | |



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Professor Lucille Blumberg is a specialist in infectious diseases and clinical microbiology at Right to Care, South Africa with honorary positions at the NICD and the Universities of Stellenbosch and Pretoria(veterinary faculty). Her major interests are in emerging diseases, One Health, outbreak prevention and response, zoonosis and travel- related diseases. She is a long-standing member of the Rabies Advisory Group, South Africa, and a member of the WHO strategic advisory group for Neglected Tropical Diseases.



Prof Lucille Blumberg



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Babongile Mhlongo

Babongile Mhlongo, Director: Environmental Health, Communicable Diseases Control and Malaria Control in KZN where she is leading a team that is responsible for surveillance & outbreak response. She is also responsible for driving Malaria elimination agenda and Coordination of environmental health services in the Province. She has 25 years' experience in environmental Health. Ms. Mhlongo has been in the forefront of health response covid-19 in KZN. She is the member of KZN OHAG, KZN Climate Technical Committee, member of the Water Research Committee Reference team



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Mr Wayne Ramkrishna is the Deputy Director for Zoonotic Diseases in the National Department of Health; he played a key role in establishing the Zoonotic Diseases Unit as well as the One Health Forum of South Africa. He was actively involved in the country's epidemic preparedness and response to the influenza pandemic, Ebola outbreak, Zika virus, MERS-CoV, rabies and COVID-19. He also played a lead role in developing several national policies and guidelines including the National Pandemic Preparedness Plan, National Influenza Policy and the National Epidemic Preparedness and Response Guidelines. He is the IHR National Focal Point for Zoonotic Diseases and is involved with core capacity assessments and strengthening.



Mr Wayne Ramkrishna



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Mr Kevin le Roux has worked for Veterinary Services of KZN for 32 years, where he has played a leading role in rabies research and control. He has qualifications in Animal Health and Project Management. Chairman of the South African Rabies Advisory Group. Chairman of the KZN One Health Action Group. Managed the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation Rabies Elimination project in KZN 2008-2014 reducing animal rabies by 93% stopping human fatalities.



MR Kevin Le Roux



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Moshibudi Poncho Bapela is the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) Provincial Epidemiologist in Kwazulu-Natal since April 2019. The NICD plays a crucial role in disease surveillance, outbreak response, and public health research in South Africa. The Provincial Epidemiology team provides epidemiological support to public health activities in the provinces and contributes to the strengthening of public health capacity in South Africa. The critical role of the NICD epidemiologists in the provinces became more evident and established during this Covid-19 pandemic. Prior to working for the NICD, Poncho worked for the South African National Defense Force as an enrolled nurse and a Clinical Associate. She obtained her Masters degree in Public Health from the University of Pretoria, under the South African Field Epidemiology Training Programme (SAFETP) and is currently a PhD fellow at Durban University of Technology.



○ **Ms. Poncho Bapela**



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Ms Sharika Odayan is a registered professional nurse, working for the National Institute of Communicable Diseases, within the Notifiable Medical Conditions Surveillance System NMCSS. She is based within the KwaZulu Natal Communicable Disease Centre, conducting surveillance and training on the NMCSS. She has occupied this position since 2017.



Ms. Sharika Odayan



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Dr Naazneen Moolla is a senior medical scientist at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) , Special Viral Pathogens Laboratory (SVPL). The Special Viral Pathogens Laboratory is the national reference laboratory for diagnosis of human rabies cases in South Africa. Dr Moolla has over 10 years experience working at the NICD where she takes the lead in SVPL diagnostic services for viral hemorrhagic fevers and rabies..



Dr Naazneen Moolla



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Prof Archary MBChB. DCH(SA). FCPaeds(SA). Paeds ID (SA). PhD (UKZN) is an Honorary Professor in the School of Clinical Medicine and a Paediatric Infectious Disease Specialist in the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health at the University of KwaZulu-Natal/King Edward VIII Hospital. Prof Archary specialises in the management of HIV-infected children in resource-limited settings. As part of his PhD thesis, he investigated the pharmacokinetics of antiretroviral drugs in severely malnourished HIV-infected children. His research interests include antiretroviral drug therapeutics, viral resistance, and the optimal timing of antiretroviral therapy initiation in the developing world. He is a member of the Paediatric ARV Working Group (PAWG) and Paediatric Antiretroviral Drug Optimization (PADO) under the World Health Organisation. The working group aims to support the fast-track process of developing priority ARV drugs and formulations in children and adolescents, providing expert advice, and informing WHO on paediatric ARV drug optimisation. In addition, he is actively involved in developing clinical guidelines at the provincial (KwaZulu-Natal) and country (SA National Consolidated ART Guidelines) levels. He advises the South African Department of Health on ART for treatment-naïve and experienced patients. He is the Vice-Chair of the Treatment Scientific Committee in the International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials (IMPAACT) Network. He serves as the PI on several studies in Durban, focusing on investigating novel ARV and TB therapies in children. Prof Archary serves on several national and international committees and actively manages children living with HIV locally and nationally within South Africa.



Prof. Moherndran Archary



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Mr. Ntokozo Maphisa is Chief Director communication in KZN department of Health. Mr Maphisa is a seasoned government communicator with more than 20 years experience in the government communication, public administration, policy and programme management. Currently he is the head of communication in the KwaZulu Natal Department of Health. Before joining the Department of Health as the Head of Ministry, he came from Provincial Treasury where he served on the same position for more than three years. Amongst others, Mr Maphisa served in the following portfolios: Director: Head Of Communication, Deputy Director Media Liaison officer. It all emanated from humble beginnings as the Communication Officer in the KZN Department of Education later growing to the ranks of deputy manager (media liaison officer) where he served with the highest level of professionalism and continued to serve in the same spirit when he was transferred later to the same position at KZN provincial treasury. Before communication carrier inception, he also served as a teacher and a student nurse. He holds a Bachelor degree in media and communication and Masters in Business administration (MBA) and currently is the PHD candidate at UKZN



Mr Ntokozo Maphisa



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- Thank you for attending this webinar.
- For any enquiries regarding the webinar, please email: wayne.ramkrishna@health.gov.za and babongile.mhlongo@kznhealth.gov.za
- The session recording and all the presentations will be shared on the Knowledge Hub – www.knowledgehub.health.gov.za



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