

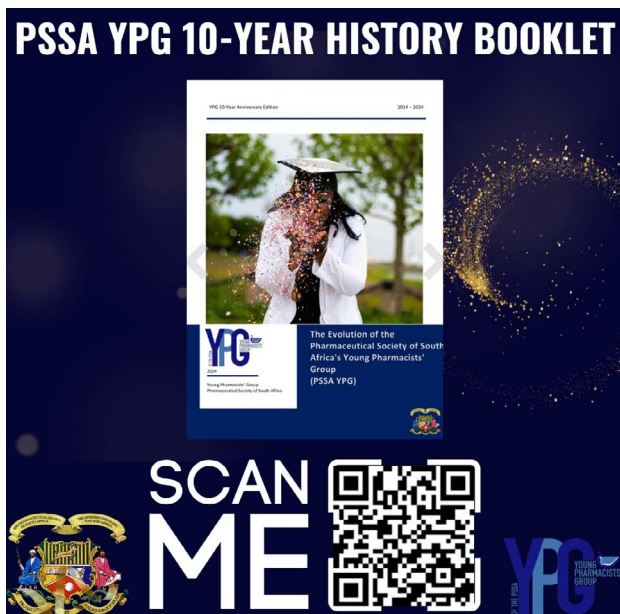


# PSSA Young Pharmacists' Group

Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa

## PSSA YPG: Let's Catch Up!

Last year, the PSSA YPG celebrated 10-years of existence. It has been a long journey of building, chopping and changing but ultimately a unified mission of promoting the goals of PSSA by encouraging the young members of PSSA to participate in PSSA projects and activities. The milestone was marked by two launches of the PSSA YPG 10-year History booklet, one that took place at the historical 82nd International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) World Congress in Cape Town, South Africa and another that took place at the PSSA National office in Lynwood Pretoria on 11 November 2024. If you have not come across the recollection of the achievements and activities of the YPG, scan the QR code below or click here to access the 48-page digital booklet



PSSA YPG History Booklet



PSSA History Book Celebration Event

### So what has the Steering Committee been up to since then?

#### 1. Attending the SAAHIP Limpopo branch "I Care for Eye Care" conference and AGM

This conference was well attended by many young pharmacists and pharmacy students and emphasised the need for pharmacists to pay closer attention to the vital organ that enables vision and can have detrimental effects on the quality of life if neglected. Kevin Baloyi was in attendance alongside Ntombizodwa Luwaca who delivered a presentation on Diabetic Retinopathy.



Left to right: K Baloyi, K Letuku, N Mafarafara, N Luwaca



**2. Attending the SAAHIP Mpumalanga branch conference and AGM**

Kevin Baloyi attended this intriguing and thought-provoking conference and delivered a presentation titled "The digital revolution in Pharmacy."



**3. Attending the SAPSF Conference Gala Dinner**

Ntombizodwa Luwaca attended the SAPSF conference Gala dinner which took place in Gqeberha on Saturday 1 February 2025. This was an evening filled with many of the pharmacy students' achievements in 2024. The PSSA YPG witnessed the launch of the second publication of SAPSF and enjoyed a night of celebration with the future of pharmacy and those that have mentored and guided their paths. Alice Lategan from PSSA Cape Midlands, lecturers from Nelson Mandela University and the PSSA Executive Director Refloe Mogale were also in attendance.



**4. PSSA YPG at the CIPC IP Youth Awards**

Kevin Baloyi attended this evening function that celebrated the achievements of youth of South Africa.



**5. PSSA YPG at the SAPHEX symposium**

Ntombizodwa Luwaca attended the SAPHEX Pharmaceutical Indaba which was organised by the PSSA to initiate dialogue on pharmacy human resources in South Africa. She delivered a presentation titled "Yini Indaba" which outlined the results of the PSSA YPG unemployment survey. This presentation was thought-provoking and provided some statistics on the ongoing unemployment crisis among South African youth which is currently affecting young pharmacists. The Pharmaceutical Indaba was recorded and is accessible [here](#).



**6. PSSA YPG at the National SAAHIP Conference and AGM**

Anele Khwela, Kevin Baloyi, and Ntombizodwa Luwaca attended this conference and AGM at the Champagne Sports Resort in Drakensburg, Kwa-Zulu Natal. Subcommittee members Aisha Adams, Matladi Stanley Morapedi, and Sharon Phiri were also in attendance. This conference provided an excellent platform for young pharmacists to network, enhance their knowledge, and of course have plenty of fun! The conference focused on the future of pharmacy 5.0 with the integration of digital technologies to enhance the practice of pharmacy. Ntombizodwa delivered a presentation on the PSSA YPG's current structure and the results of the unemployment survey, similar to those presented at the Pharmaceutical Indaba.



## Where can you find the PSSA YPG next?

The PSSA YPG is committed to bringing young pharmacists closer to opportunities that will foster their growth and contribution to the advancement of the pharmacy profession. The mentorship programme, professional and innovation project are two dynamic projects that will soon be available to young pharmacists nationwide and we encourage full participation to reap the benefits of these programmes. There are also many networking opportunities available this coming year:

**1. PSSA South African Association of Pharmacists in Industry conference**

**Date:** 4–6 June 2025

**Venue:** CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria, Gauteng

**2. PSSA Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences conference**

**Date:** 31 August–2 September 2025

**Venue:** Lagoon Beach Hotel, Cape Town, Western Cape

**3. PSSA National Conference**

**Date:** 7–9 August 2025

**Venue:** Indaba Hotel and Conference Centre, Fourways, Johannesburg, Gauteng

The PSSA YPG is also continuously committed to voicing their professional opinion on matters that affect pharmacists in South Africa and globally. This includes the creation of 1650 jobs for public health care workers that was announced in April 2025 by the Minister of Health. Of these 1650 job opportunities, only 200 were allocated to “other healthcare professionals” which includes pharmacists. With the current shortage of pharmacists and a struggling healthcare system that critically needs our expertise and diverse knowledge, the PSSA YPG implores the Minister to revise the current allocation and consider providing more opportunities for young pharmacists and acknowledging the importance of pharmacists in the healthcare chain.

You can keep up with the PSSA YPG’s activities via our newsletters and social media pages.



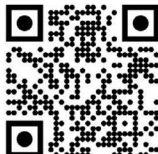
**Website**

[www.pssa.org.za/young-pharmacists-group](http://www.pssa.org.za/young-pharmacists-group)



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**THANK YOU**

