



PSSA 80th Annual General Meeting

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The PSSA held its 80th AGM on Saturday 09 August 2025. This is a significant milestone for the Society reflecting the important role that the Society plays in supporting and promoting the profession of pharmacy in South Africa.

The PSSA was honoured to welcome the Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, to the Conference Opening, which coincided with his birthday. Delegates marked the occasion by singing "Happy Birthday" to him.



Dr Aaron Motsoaledi

During the AGM, the PSSA elected new Office Bearers. The new President is Renier Coetzee, the Deputy President is Johannes Ravele, and Lynette Terblanche was re-elected as the Honorary Treasurer.



Johannes Ravele (Deputy-President), Lynette Terblanche (Treasurer), and Renier Coetzee (President)

The PSSA National Executive Committee for the 2025/2026 terms is as follows:

PRESCO

President	Renier Coetzee
Deputy-President	Johannes Ravele
Treasurer	Lynette Terblanche
Past President	Tshif Rabali
APSSA	Lorraine Thom
SAACP	Jameel Kariem
SAAHIP	Seshnee Moodley
SAAPI	Ingrid Duvenhage

Members

Border & Eastern Districts	Qaqamba Mtshabe
Cape Midlands	Alice Lategan
Cape Western Province	Ronel Boshoff
Cape Western Province	Kobus Le Roux
Cape Western Province	Brent Sin Hidge
Cape Western Province	Michelle Viljoen
Free State	Martlie Mocke-Richter
KwaZulu-Natal Coastal	TBC
KwaZulu-Natal Coastal	TBC
KwaZulu-Natal Inland	Azraa Bassa
Limpopo	Rhulani Maluleke
Mpumalanga	PJ Kleinsmidt
North West	Vacant
Northern Cape	Vacant
Pretoria	Byron Chukwu
Pretoria	Murial Kopanye
Southern Gauteng	Rashmi Gosai
Southern Gauteng	Stephanie Leigh
Southern Gauteng	Thanushya Pillaye
Southern Gauteng	Patricia Tharage
Ordinary member	Joggie Hattingh
Ordinary member	Nhlanhla Mafarafara
Ordinary member	Sham Moodley
Co-opted member	Kevin Baloyi
	(YPG Chairperson)
Co-opted member	Andy Gray

PSSA Awards

Fellowship of the Society

Any member of the Society who has significantly furthered the aims of Pharmacy in any sphere of the Profession may be invited

to be elected a Fellow. The following members were nominated by the Fellows Committee to be recognised as a Fellow for his/her exceptional achievements in the profession of pharmacy:

Morné Adamson
Sue Burton
Kaajal Chetty
Carrie de Beer
Tammy Gopal
Jameel Kariem
Hannelie Meyer
Seshnee Moodley

Honorary Life Membership

The PSSA had the opportunity to recognise two of their members for their lifelong contributions to the PSSA and the profession by awarding them Honorary Life Membership at the PSSA's 80th AGM and Gala dinner on Saturday, 09 August 2025.

In terms of the PSSA Constitution any ordinary member who by long and active membership of the Society for at least 15 years has been substantially responsible for the promotion and attainment of any of the objects of the Society at national level AND/OR who has rendered distinguished services in or to the profession of Pharmacy, may be selected an Honorary Life Member.

Prof. Nadine Butler and Lorraine Osman were nominated to be recognised as Honorary Life Members in recognition of their services and the attainment of the objects of the Society. The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that both Nadine and Lorraine have made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Honorary Life Membership of the Society be conferred upon them.



Lorraine Osman and Prof Nadine Butler

William Paterson Award

The William Paterson Award is the highest award that can be bestowed by the PSSA. The PSSA was honoured that Dr Natie Finkelstein was present at the PSSA Conference and 80th AGM. Dr Natie is the only living recipient of the William Paterson Award. He

is a Fellow of the PSSA as well as an Honorary Life Member. He is also an Honorary Life Member of the South African Pharmacy Students' Federation (SAPSF) and was a founding member of the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences (APSSA).

Dr Natie received the William Paterson Award in 2023 in recognition of his exceptional dedication in pursuit of the Society's objectives and the development of the profession over more than 60 years. During this lifetime of service to the profession, he has held the highest office at both Branch and Sector levels. He has been recognised internationally for his contribution to and advocacy of the pharmacy profession. Dr Finkelstein has been a distinguished leader and demonstrated exceptional initiative in developing and implementing high standards of academic excellence, quality patient care and pharmacy practice. Through every phase of his professional career, he served his colleagues selflessly and diligently, including as a member of both the South African Pharmacy Council and the S.A. Nursing Council.

This award serves as a symbol of appreciation of his impeccable character, honesty, integrity and dedicated service to his colleagues and the profession.



Dr Natie Finkelstein with his William Paterson medal

The outgoing PSSA Executive Committee 2024-2025 were thanked for their contributions during their term of office.



Exhibitors and Sponsors

The PSSA would like to thank all the exhibitors and sponsors for their generous support of the PSSA Conference. Your commitment and contributions played a vital role in making this event a success. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey.

CONFERENCE SPONSORS

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Name tags and lanyards



Tea break and room drops



A journey through the 2025 PSSA Conference: Evolve – Enhancing Healthcare Integration

From 7–9 August 2025, the Indaba Hotel and Conference Centre in Johannesburg became the heartbeat of pharmacy in South Africa. Under the theme “**Evolve – Enhancing Healthcare Integration**”, pharmacists, academics, regulators, policymakers, and industry leaders gathered to share ideas, challenge perspectives, and imagine a bold future for pharmacy and healthcare.

Day 1 – Opening the Conversation

The conference began with a warm welcome from Ms Refiloe Mogale. The energy in the room was one of optimism and determination, amplified when Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, took the podium. He emphasised that health is a fundamental human right and underscored the central role of National Health Insurance (NHI) in achieving equity. Importantly, he reminded the profession that pharmacists are not merely custodians of medicines but architects of a stronger, more equitable health system; key players in making NHI a reality.



Tshifhiwa Rabali and Dr Aaron Motsoaledi

The day unfolded with thought-provoking discussions. In “Evolving Health Systems”, delegates explored what it truly means to integrate pharmacy into the broader healthcare fabric. The excitement grew as technology took centre stage in “AI and Pharmacy,” where experts demonstrated how artificial intelligence could revolutionise everything from prescribing to patient engagement. The day closed on a powerful note with Adv. Sello Maletle, who reminded pharmacists of their responsibility in ensuring compliance, ethics, and community trust.

Day 2 – Shaping the Future

The second day was alive with conversations about the expanding scope of pharmacy practice. From chronic disease management to new models of care, speakers highlighted how pharmacists are stepping forward to fill crucial gaps in the health system.



Adv. Sello Maletle

Regulatory updates from SAPC, SAHPRA, and the National Department of Health kept delegates grounded in the realities of compliance and governance, while sessions on TB, diabetes, oncology, and family planning showcased pharmacy’s growing role in specialised care.

An energising highlight came from IQVIA’s sponsored session, where data-driven insights revealed how self-care and chronic care services can be expanded in practical, patient-focused ways. Delegates left buzzing with ideas of how to make these insights a reality in their own settings.

Day 3 – Reflecting, Celebrating, Inspiring

The final day carried a spirit of reflection and celebration. In the session on pandemic preparedness, pharmacists revisited hard-learned lessons from COVID-19, committing to being better prepared for the next public health crisis.

Then came one of the most inspiring highlights of the conference — “**Walk in My Heels**”. Women leaders from across the profession shared their journeys in advocacy, oncology, nuclear pharmacy, and medico-legal practice. Their stories were raw, powerful, and a reminder of the resilience and brilliance within the profession.

The energy carried through to Cipla’s session by Gundo Nevhutanda, an accomplished attorney, titled “Own Your Story”, where pharmacists were encouraged to embrace authenticity and



Walk in My Heels speakers

self-leadership. And finally, Dr Stavros Nicolaou (Aspen) lifted the conversation to a global stage, reminding us that South Africa's pharmacists are not only part of the national health system, but also contributors to a wider, interconnected pharmaceutical world.

The conference closed with a renewed sense of unity as PSSA President, Mr Tshifhiwa Rabali, thanked delegates and called on pharmacists to continue evolving for the sake of patients and communities.

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm distance learning programme 2025

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm distance learning programme continues to offer pharmacists useful, practical, up-to-date information that enables them to provide optimal pharmaceutical care to their patients.

Module 4, 2025 – Headache

Most people will have experienced a headache at some stage in their life and up to one adult in 20 experiences frequent headaches (a headache every day or nearly every day). Although headaches are rarely caused by a serious condition, they can significantly interfere with the ability to work and perform daily tasks.

When headaches occur repeatedly, they could be a symptom of a headache disorder. The most common headache disorder is tension-type headache. Migraine is another common headache disorder, affecting at least one in seven adults.

Headache disorders can cause substantial personal suffering, affecting family life, social life and employment. Despite this, many people perceive headaches as a trivial complaint and the physical, emotional, social and economic burdens of headaches are poorly acknowledged. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), headache has been underestimated, under-recognised and under-treated throughout the world.

The community pharmacist is in the ideal position to play a role in the management of headache and to refer patients appropriately for further medical attention, if needed. This module discusses headache and the most common types of headache disorders that the community pharmacist is likely to encounter.

For more information about this programme, contact Gill or Glynis at Insight Medicine Information on 011 706 6939 or email: cpdalphapharm@insightmed.co.za.

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm clinical education programme 2025 for pharmacy staff

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm pharmacy staff clinical education programme continues to offer front-shop assistants or pharmacists' assistants up-to-date information that enables them to provide optimal pharmaceutical care to their patients. All pharmacy staff need to be familiar with the use of unscheduled medicines and should be reminded of when it is necessary to refer the patient to the pharmacist.

Module 4, 2025 – Headache

Headache is one of the most common medical complaints. Nearly everyone will have a headache from time to time. Although most headaches are not caused by life-threatening illnesses, headaches are painful and cause personal suffering. When headaches occur often, they can affect family life, social life and employment.

Despite this, many people – including many health professionals – tend to think of a headache as a minor complaint. Yet, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), headache has been under-estimated, under-recognised, and under-treated all over the world.

The front shop staff are in an ideal position to talk about headache and its treatment when customers present in the pharmacy looking for a medication to relieve their headache quickly. Headache, particularly migraine, can also affect children and adolescents, but symptoms can be different, and it is best to refer children presenting in the pharmacy with a headache to a doctor.

This module talks about the most common headaches in adults that can be treated with medicines available over-the-counter in the pharmacy. The module also outlines the questions that you, as the front shop member of staff, need to ask so that patients with headaches that could be more serious can be referred to the pharmacist and/or doctor.

If you would like to participate in the PSSA/Alpha Pharm pharmacy staff clinical education programme, please contact Gill or Glynis for further information on 011 706 6939 or email: cpdalphapharm@insightmed.co.za.