



Health technology assessment is a process intended to standardise evaluation of health technologies and optimise resource utilisation to promote equitable access and improve health outcomes



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Meet the team driving impact through strengthening health technology assessment processes through the evaluation of essential medicines in South Africa. With diverse expertise, shared passion and a commitment to excellence, this (incidentally) all-female team leads the coordination and oversight of the review of the national Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) and Essential Medicines List (EML) and implementation thereof, in the South African public health sector.

The Essential Drugs Programme (EDP) supporting the National Essential Medicine List Committee (NEMLC) and the Expert Review Committee of NEMLC is a strong example of **“Think Health, Think Pharmacy – One Profession, Many Roles”** and highlights the diverse and critical functions of pharmacists in healthcare and their potential contributions towards the strategic goal of National Health Insurance and Universal Health Coverage. The team brings together a wealth of experience in clinical pharmacy, evidence-informed decision-making, clinical research, pharmacoepidemiology, health economics as well as reimbursement models.

Driven by a passion for enhancing healthcare access and patient outcomes, the EDP team use their considerable local, and international expertise, across private, public and nonprofit sectors, to shape solutions and strengthen systems towards healthcare transformation.

The collaboration is a testament to the capacity of women to lead strategic development and create substantial impact at all levels of care. At the juncture of Women’s Month and Pharmacy Month, we are proud to shine the spotlight on this all-female team highlighting the impact of pharmacists in the South African healthcare system.



From L to R: Ms Olwethu Mambinja, Ms Amanda Brewer, Dr Millidhashni Reddy, Ms Khadija Jamaloodien, Dr Janine Jugathpal, Ms Zahiera Adam, Ms Maropeng Rapetsoa, Ms Derusha Frank