Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the South African Thoracic Society (SATS), I would like to encourage you to attend the 2018 SATS/PATS (Pan African Thoracic Society) Joint Congress in Durban from 12 to the 15 of April 2018. The congress will be hosted by SATS and PATS and the meeting will therefore also serve to replace the 20th National SATS congress. The last congress was held at Century City, Cape Town, in August 2017.

The combined congress will comprise several parallel tracks covering adult pulmonology, paediatric pulmonology, thoracic surgery, and physiotherapy, among others. Several internationally renowned experts have already confirmed their attendance. A thought-provoking programme is being planned with an appropriate session devoted to showcasing health priorities and challenges facing African pulmonologists, and research from Africa. A broad range of ‘bread and butter’ topics will be covered, and topical areas that will be discussed will include the use of electronic cigarettes, new combination inhalers, new drugs and diagnostics for TB, advances in the management of interstitial lung disease, pulmonary vascular and thromboembolic diseases, and sleep medicine. New techniques and technologies such as medical lung volume surgery and bronchial thermoplasty will also be covered. There will be several pre-conference workshops, and an exciting array of events has been planned including a gala dinner, awards evening, evening entertainment, as well as a comprehensive congress exhibition with many industry partners attending. Durban is an exotic and interesting city to visit with excellent connections to Cape Town and other cities in South Africa – it would be an ideal starting location for a back-to-back post-congress holiday.

On behalf of SATS, I wish to extend a very warm welcome to delegates from the public and private sectors, and all our exhibitors and sponsors. See you in April 2018! Do not miss it!

Professor Keertan Dheda
President: South African Thoracic Society

---

**2018 SATS membership fees**

**SATS** R500  
**IPSA** R350

Register online via the SATS website:  
www.pulmonology.co.za