

Professor Refiloe Masekela

MB BCh, MMed (Paeds) Pret., Dip Allerg (SA), Cert Pulm (SA) Paeds, FCCP, PhD



Professor Masekela obtained her undergraduate qualification at the University of the Witwatersrand in 1997. She completed her internship and community service training at the Polokwane/Mankweng Hospital complex, after which she spent a year in the UK as a medical officer. In 2005 she undertook her paediatric specialist qualification at the University of Pretoria. She then went on to train as a subspecialist in Paediatric Pulmonology

at the Catholic University in Leuven, Belgium and at the University of Pretoria, which she completed in 2007. She is a Fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians. She obtained her PhD in 2012 with a thesis titled 'Chronic inflammatory lung disease in human immunodeficiency virus-infected children. Epidemiologic considerations, aetiological

determinants and the efficacy of low dose erythromycin in bronchiectasis.' She recently joined the University of KwaZulu-Natal as the Head of Department of Paediatrics and Child Health.

Professor Masekela has a special interest in chronic lung disease (bronchiectasis) and cystic fibrosis in African children. Her research areas include cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis, non-cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis, pneumonia in HIV-infected children, childhood asthma and spirometry in African children.

She is passionate about education for doctors, students and the lay person about lung diseases, particularly asthma in children. She has been a chairperson of the South African National Asthma Education Programme. She serves as an executive member on various boards, namely the South African Thoracic Society, National Asthma Education Program, Pan African Thoracic Society and the South African Cystic Fibrosis Association (Scientific Advisory Board).

Dr Medeshni Annamalai

MB BCh (WITS), DCH (SA), DipAllerg (SA), DipHIVMan (SA), FCPaed, Cert Pulm(SA)



Dr Annamalai is a Paediatric Pulmonologist currently employed at Stanger Regional Hospital, KwaZulu-Natal. She has obtained a Diploma in Child Health, a Diploma in HIV Management and a Diploma in Allergy. After her fellowship she worked at Edendale Hospital, KwaZulu-Natal, as a consultant for 3 years.

In 2011 Dr Annamalai had the good fortune of joining The Gift of the Givers on a mission to Somalia. In 2012, she was the recipient of the Nycomed-Takaeda Pulmonology Scholarship. She completed her 2-year subspecialty in Paediatric Pulmonology at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital under the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

She now focuses her attention on establishing a Respiratory Unit at Stanger Regional Hospital.

Visva Naidoo

MB BCh, FCPaed (SA), Dip Allerg (SA), Cert Pulm (SA) Paed



Visva Naidoo is a Paediatric Pulmonologist providing a general paediatric and pulmonology service at King Edward VIII Hospital as well as supporting the paediatric pulmonology service at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Hospital. He has honorary lectureship status with the University of KwaZulu-Natal where he assists with both undergraduate and postgraduate training.

Visva's undergraduate training was at the University of the Witwatersrand. He qualified as a Specialist Paediatrician in 2008 after completing his registrarship through the University of KwaZulu-Natal. He subsequently completed his Certificate in Paediatric Pulmonology in 2013.

He is a keen bedside clinician and enjoys teaching students and registrars.