



Webinar: Updates to the Epilepsy and Related Conditions

New Edition of the Primary Healthcare, Adult and Paediatric Hospital Level Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) and Essential Medicines List (EML) Webinar

Date: 10 Feb 2026
Time: 13h00 – 15h00



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Dr Renée de Waal

Is a researcher based at the School of Public Health, University of Cape Town. She is the co-Chair of the South African National Essential Medicines List Committee (NEMLC). She has been a co-editor of the South African Medicines Formulary (SAMF) since 2009; and has been involved in NEMLC or its technical expert review sub-committees since 2011.

Qualifications: MBChB, MPH (Health Economics)

Time	Topic	Presenter
<p>Session Chair: Dr Renee de Waal <i>NEMLC Co-Chairperson</i> <i>Research Officer: Centre for Integrated Data & Epidemiological Research (CIDER)</i> <i>University of Cape Town</i></p>		
13:00 – 13:10	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Dr Renee de Waal
13:10 – 13:55	Epilepsy and Related Conditions – Updates to the STGs and EML	Prof Lesley Robertson <i>Co-Chairperson: NEMLC Expert Review Committee</i> <i>Head of Clinical Unit: Sedibeng District Specialist Mental Health Team</i> <i>Adjunct Professor: University of Witwatersrand</i>
13:55 – 14:05	Sodium Valproate Risk Form	Ms Sasani Chauke <i>Medicine Registration Officer</i> <i>South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA)</i>
14:05 – 14:15	Epilepsy Training in Adult Medicine	Dr MV Gule <i>Epilepsy Subcommittee member</i> <i>Consultant Neurologist: Groote Schuur Hospital and University of Cape Town</i>
14:15 – 14:25	Paediatric Epilepsy Training Courses	Prof Jo Wilmshurst <i>Epilepsy Subcommittee member</i> <i>Paediatric Neurologist, Head of Paediatric Neurology: Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital</i>
14:25 – 14:55	Questions and Discussion	All
14:55 – 15:00	Closure	Dr Jane Riddin <i>Pharmaceutical Policy Specialist</i> <i>Essential Drugs Programme</i> <i>National Department of Health</i>





Prof Lesley Robertson

Is jointly appointed as the head of unit psychiatrist in the Sedibeng District Specialist Mental Health Team and as Adjunct professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits). As a member of the NEMLC, co-Chairperson of the Expert Review Committee of the NEMLC and the Gauteng Provincial Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, Prof Robertson supports progress towards universal health coverage in South Africa.

Qualifications: MBBCH (Wits), DCH (SA), DMH (SA), FC Psych (SA), MMed Psych (Wits)



Ms Sasani Chauke

Is a Pharmacist who holds a B Pharm degree. She is currently working as a Medicine Registration Officer at the Pharmacovigilance unit of the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA). She is involved in benefit risk evaluation management function.

Qualifications: BPharm



Dr Manqoba Gule

Is a Neurologist at Groote Schuur Hospital and the University of Cape Town (UCT), where he there leads emerging epilepsy clinical and research programmes and is an executive officer on the South African Chapter of the International League Against Epilepsy.

Qualifications: MBChB, MMed, FCP(SA), FC. Neurol (SA)



Professor Jo Wilmshurst

Is Head of Paediatric Neurology at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, UCT. She is past-President of the International Child Neurology Association (2018-2022). She is a member of various Commissions and Task Forces for the International League Against Epilepsy, past Chair of the African Region (2021-2025) and currently Secretary General for ILAE (2025-2029).

Qualifications: MB BS (Lond), FC Paed (SA)



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