

Thank you to our Sponsors



2026 National Pioneer Pharmacy Awards
13 October 2026, Durban ICC

Gala Dinner

Souvenir Programme



South African
Pharmacy Council

Programme

Arrival Drinks

Welcome address by SAPC President

Address by the Deputy Minister of Health

Address by Aspen Pharmacare

Starters

Address by SPAR Health

Presentation of National Health Impact Recognition Award

Presentation of Legacy Awards

Address by Clicks Retailers

Address by Dis-Chem

Main Course

Presentation of Research Awards

Presentation of Conference Ambassador Award

Presentation of Professional Category Awards

Presentation of Facility Category Awards

Presentation of Pioneer Awards

Closing and vote of thanks

Dessert



National Health Impact Recognition Award

The inaugural National Health Impact Recognition Award is an honour bestowed on a South African Pharmacy professional who has made an extraordinary contribution to public health in South Africa and whose impact cuts across the health system and goes beyond their practice as a pharmacist.

Dr Precious Matsoso's exceptional contribution to public health leadership, medicines regulation, global health diplomacy and equitable access to essential health technologies, Precious Matsoso is honoured as a distinguished South African pharmacist and public health leader whose career reflects visionary leadership and an unwavering commitment to health equity.

Over more than three decades of service, she has contributed significantly to health policy and health systems strengthening. As Director-General of South Africa's National Department of Health for nearly a decade, she provided strategic leadership during major policy and legislative reforms. Her leadership of the Medicines Control Council, South Africa's former medicines regulatory authority, strengthened medicines regulation, patient safety and access to quality-assured health products.

Internationally, she served at the World Health Organisation (WHO) as Director of Public Health Innovation and Intellectual Property and Director of Technical Cooperation for Essential Medicines and Traditional Medicines. She also served as Vice-Chair and Chairperson of the WHO Executive Board, demonstrating her standing global health leadership.

Her influence extends across prominent international bodies, including the United Nations High-Level Panel on Access to Health Technologies, the WHO Health Emergencies Programme's Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee, the Lancet Global Health Commission on High Quality Health Systems, the WHO Digital Health Technical Advisory Group and the Unitaid Board, consistently championing equity, accountability and inclusive decision-making.

As Co-Chair of the WHO's Intergovernmental Negotiating Body, she played a pivotal role in negotiations culminating in the adoption of the first global pandemic agreement. Her contributions to global health diplomacy have earned international recognition, including Nature's 10 (2025), TIME100 Health and the Doha Best Negotiator of the Year honours.

She continues to advance regulatory science, health systems development and pandemic preparedness as Director of the Health Regulatory Science Platform at the Wits Health Consortium, leaving an enduring legacy of leadership, service and commitment to global health equity.



Legacy Award

Dr Andrew "Andy" Gray has devoted more than four decades to advancing pharmacy, leaving an enduring mark on pharmaceutical practice, education, medicines policy and public health in South Africa and internationally. From his early career in hospital pharmacy, he has consistently worked to strengthen the safe, rational and equitable use of medicines and to advance the pharmacist's role in

patient care.

His lifetime of service has encompassed leadership within the PSSA, SAAHIP, SAHPRA, WHO and International Pharmaceutical Federation, influencing medicines regulation, essential medicines policy and professional practice.

As an educator and mentor, he has supervised more than 30 postgraduate students, delivered over 200 invited lectures and authored more than 250 publications, helping shape generations of pharmacy professionals.

Dr Gray's career represents a lifetime of sustained service, leadership and advocacy—a legacy that has strengthened pharmacy in South Africa and extended its influence across the global profession.



Legacy Award

Professor Cassim M. Dangor has dedicated more than five decades to pharmacy, helping shape the profession through education, research, regulation and mentorship. Beginning his academic career in 1968, he rose from junior lecturer to Professor, Head of Pharmacy, Dean of Health Sciences and ultimately Professor Emeritus at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. A pioneer of modified drug-delivery research in South Africa, Professor Dangor

established laboratories and research programmes that developed generations of pharmaceutical scientists. At the heart of his legacy is education: he supervised more than 150 undergraduate research projects, mentored postgraduate students and continued teaching even after retirement.

His service extended to the South African Pharmacy Council and more than two decades with the MCC and SAHPRA, where his expertise helped strengthen medicines regulation and access to quality-assured medicines.

His enduring legacy lies not only in the institutions he strengthened, but in the generations of pharmacists, scientists and regulators he taught, mentored and inspired.



Legacy Award

Johan van Niekerk has dedicated more than four decades to pharmacy, with a career defined by public service, leadership, mentorship and the transformation of pharmaceutical care. Registered as a pharmacist in 1985, he has devoted more than three decades to strengthening pharmaceutical services, particularly within the Western Cape public health system.

His career has combined national policy development with practical improvements in medicine access. He contributed to the National Essential Medicines List Committee, helped expand the Chronic Dispensing Unit from approximately 25 000 patients in 2012 to more than 61 000 in 2026, and supported the growth of adherence clubs from 95 to 901, bringing chronic medicines closer to communities.

Central to Mr van Niekerk's legacy is his investment in people. He has mentored generations of pharmacists and pharmacy support personnel, developed future leaders and strengthened pharmacy education through collaboration with universities.

His lifetime of quiet, principled service has left an enduring legacy in the professionals he has developed and the sustainable pharmaceutical systems that continue to serve South African patients.



4th National Pharmacy Conference Ambassador Award

The Conference Ambassador Award is awarded to a member of the pharmacy profession whose social media activity relating to the 4th NPC is observed to be the most impactful.

Ms Nomaphelo Krakri's social media conversations around the 4th National Pharmacy Conference have been assessed to be the most impactful and participation at the 4th National Pharmacy Conference.



Future Pharmacist Award

Mahlorhi Baloyi is an award-winning emerging pharmacy professional and MPharm student at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU), where he also serves as an Academic Intern. His achievements span academic excellence, professional advocacy, leadership, research and public health. He received SMU's Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence, becoming the first pharmacy student in the University's history to receive the honour, and was recognised as Overall Student Leader of the Year. Mr Baloyi has contributed to the profession through interprofessional education, mentorship, curriculum development and the establishment of the Pharmacy Month Showcase. His public-health activities include vaccination programmes, antimicrobial stewardship, patient education and community health initiatives reaching hundreds of people annually. His leadership extends internationally, including recognition among the Top Five Global Contributors in the South American Business Forum Ambassador Programme. His MPharm research focuses on health-economic evaluation to support equitable access to innovative therapies and sustainable healthcare financing.



Pharmacy Support Personnel Award

Willemien Cherien Charles is a Post-Basic Pharmacist's Assistant whose 40 years of service to the Western Cape Department of Health have been distinguished by exceptional dedication to patients, colleagues and the pharmacy profession. Her career has included service at Groote Schuur, Karl Bremer and, since 2002, Tygerberg Hospital. A respected mentor and patient advocate, Ms Charles is recognised for identifying medication discrepancies, assisting children with autism and other special needs, and voluntarily working beyond her contracted hours to maintain patient care during staff shortages. For more than 20 years, she has voluntarily served as the Pharmacy Health and Safety Officer, while also supporting staff orientation, health-promotion initiatives and Pharmacy Month activities. Her contribution was nationally recognised in 2013 when she was named Second Runner-Up for Best Pharmacist Assistant.



Community Pharmacist Award

Johannes Tendani Ravele is a community pharmacist with more than 35 years of service, combining patient-centred care with significant leadership and advocacy for the pharmacy profession. As owner and Responsible Pharmacist of Khutsong Pharmacy in Mamelodi East, he has developed the pharmacy into an accessible primary healthcare hub providing comprehensive clinical, screening, immunisation and preventive-health services. A Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa, Mr Ravele served as President of the South African Association of Community Pharmacists from 2021–2025 and currently serves as Deputy President of the PSSA. His contribution includes community health-screening programmes, substance-abuse prevention, mentorship and training of future pharmacy professionals, multidisciplinary healthcare collaboration and environmental stewardship. Through sustained professional leadership, community service and education, he has helped strengthen the role of community pharmacists as accessible primary healthcare providers in South Africa.



Public Sector Institutional Pharmacist Award

Dr Martlie Mocke-Richter is an accomplished ward-based pharmacist, researcher and healthcare leader with more than 14 years of service in South Africa's public healthcare sector. At National District Hospital in Bloemfontein, she reviews approximately 8 000–10 000 patient records and performs more than 1 200 antimicrobial stewardship interventions annually, advancing medicine safety, rational prescribing and patient outcomes. Her expertise in antimicrobial resistance has contributed at institutional, provincial and national level, including service on the National Department of Health Ministerial Advisory Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance and national stewardship and surveillance working groups. She chairs the PSSA Free State Branch, serves on its National Executive Committee and was awarded Fellowship of the PSSA in 2024. A PhD-qualified pharmacist, researcher and international presenter, she has made a sustained contribution to pharmaceutical education, healthcare policy, antimicrobial stewardship and evidence-based pharmacy practice.



Private Sector Institutional Pharmacist Award

Nicholus Malesela Magongwa is a clinical pharmacist and healthcare leader whose eight-year career has combined patient care, mentorship, public health and pharmacy network development. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he provided clinical pharmacy support in ICU and high-care settings, trained nurses in complex medicine use and led antimicrobial stewardship activities.

Recently, as Pharmacy Networks Manager, Magongwa helped expand a pharmacy network from 2 774 to 3 089 pharmacies, improving access particularly in rural and peri-urban communities. He also led implementation of the GEMS PCDT pharmacist benefit, providing approximately 2,4 million beneficiaries access to services through 3 200 network pharmacies. His achievements include increasing wellness screening claims by 384%, contributing to fraud, waste and abuse prevention that saved more than R20 million, and leading HPV-awareness initiatives. He is also a committed mentor to students, interns and early-career pharmacists, strengthening the next generation of pharmacy professionals.



Academic Pharmacist Award

Professor Rajesh Vagiri is a pharmacist, academic, researcher and healthcare leader with more than 20 years of experience across public-sector pharmacy and higher education. He currently serves as Deputy Dean and Associate Professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy at Rhodes University, following 13 years as Manager of Pharmaceutical Services at Weskoppies Hospital.

His contributions span pharmacy education, health-systems strengthening, mental health, HIV/AIDS, pharmacovigilance and pharmaceutical research. He has published extensively, secured competitive research funding and supervised numerous Master's and PhD students.

His achievements include the Gauteng Province Khanyisa Service Excellence Awards in 2016 and 2017, alongside recognition for excellence in management, teaching, research and professional service.

Through academic leadership, mentorship, curriculum development and professional engagement, Professor Vagiri continues to strengthen pharmacy education and develop the next generation of pharmacy professionals.

Community Pharmacy Award



Pharmacy at SPAR – Brownsdrift is an independent community pharmacy in Durban North committed to accessible, patient-centred pharmaceutical care, professional excellence and meaningful community engagement. Since coming under new management in May 2024, the pharmacy has undergone significant transformation, achieving an SAPC A-Grade inspection result of 98% while substantially expanding its services and community reach.

Serving a predominantly elderly community, the pharmacy provides comprehensive dispensing, chronic disease management, medication counselling, vaccinations, health screening, blister packing and a seven-day home-delivery service. Its primary healthcare clinic has grown from approximately 20 consultations per month to 291 in June 2026, while home deliveries have reached a record 60 in a single day. Innovation is central to its service model. An AI-assisted WhatsApp platform has reduced average chat-handling time from approximately 30 minutes to five minutes, improving access while maintaining direct pharmacist support.

Its contribution extends well beyond the dispensary. Through the Durban North Sai Centre Medical Camp, the team provides medicines and pharmaceutical services free of charge to approximately 200 underserved patients every month. The pharmacy also supports preventative health screening, vaccination campaigns, medicine-safety and substance-abuse education, staff development, wheelchair donations and broader community initiatives—demonstrating a sustained commitment to improving both pharmaceutical care and community health.

Public Sector Institutional Pharmacy Award



Dr George Mukhari Academic Hospital (DGMAH) Pharmacy is a pioneering public-sector pharmacy serving approximately 420 000 patients annually, distinguished by its commitment to clinical pharmacy, patient safety, rational medicine use, education and public health. Since 2021, five full-time clinical pharmacists have been deployed across critical hospital units, strengthening multidisciplinary care, antimicrobial stewardship and evidence-based prescribing. The pharmacy has achieved significant measurable impact through Medicine Use Evaluations. Its clotting-factor initiative reduced monthly expenditure by 66% in adults and 38% in paediatrics, earning first place at the 2026 Gauteng Pharmaceutical Services Operational Research Day. Pharmacist intervention also reduced dexmedetomidine consumption by nearly 50%, with the medicine subsequently falling out of the hospital's top ten cost drivers. DGMAH has further strengthened pharmacovigilance through an electronic adverse-drug-reaction database and was selected by SAHPRA as a pilot site for MedSafety Plus. Its contribution extends to structured bedside training of BPharm and MPharm students, extensive public-health campaigns and improved access to chronic medicines. Through the CCMDD programme, 6 779 patients were enrolled between April 2025 and March 2026, reinforcing DGMAH Pharmacy's contribution to accessible, innovative and patient-centred pharmaceutical care.

Private Sector Institutional Pharmacy Award



Netcare Krugersdorp Pharmacy is a progressive private institutional pharmacy serving hospital and community patients across the West Rand and Randfontein. Operating 12 hours a day, the pharmacy processes approximately 9 500 prescriptions and 16 000 items each month, while providing pharmaceutical care to inpatients, outpatients, discharged patients, chronic and oncology patients. The pharmacy has distinguished itself through its commitment to digital transformation and medication safety. Electronic prescribing and integrated medical records provide clinical decision support for allergies, interactions, duplicate therapy and dose appropriateness, improving prescription evaluation and reducing the risk of dispensing errors. This commitment earned the pharmacy second place for digital adoption improvement across Netcare in the 2025 financial year. Patient safety is further strengthened through electronic CareNotes, high-alert medicine education, monthly medication-incident monitoring and ongoing training of healthcare professionals. The pharmacy is also a registered training facility, developing pharmacist interns, pharmacist assistants and pharmacy students through practical workplace experience. Beyond the hospital, the team contributes to community health screenings, vaccination campaigns and medicine education, particularly at community centres and old-age homes. Its commitment to environmental stewardship includes safe pharmaceutical-waste disposal, paperless systems, recycling and participation in sustainability initiatives, reflecting a comprehensive contribution to patient care, professional development and responsible pharmacy practice.