

Jeffrey MPHAHLELE, PhD

Jeffrey Mphahlele, PhD, is the Vice President for Research at the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) since October 2014, the largest science council dedicated to funding and conducting health research in South Africa. He serves on the following Boards and Governance structures: Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness and Innovations (CEPI www.cepi.net Nov 2016 to present, Member); General Assembly of the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP www.edctp.org Jun 2015 to present, South African Deputy Representative); Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness (GloPID-R www.glopid-r.org Oct 2014 to present, Vice Chair); and Oversight Committee of the Network for Education and Support in Immunisation (NESI www.nesi.be) at University of Antwerp (2014 to present). He also serves in ministerial-appointed committees of the National Dept of Health including the National Advisory Group on Immunisation (NAGI - member); South African National Task Force (NTF) for Laboratory Containment of Wild Poliovirus and Potential Infectious Materials (Chairperson) and National Certification Committee on Polio Eradication (NCC - member). He is a member of the WHO Scientific Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Polio Working Group.



Jeffrey is elected member of Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) (since October 2016), and is academically affiliated to and is a Co-Director of the SAMRC/Diarrhoeal Pathogens Research Unit, a WHO Rotavirus Regional Reference Laboratory for Africa, based at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (formerly MEDUNSA) in Pretoria (2010 to present). Previous services include Professor and Academic Chair of the Department of Virology, National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS) at University of Limpopo Medunsa Campus (2009 to Sep 2014) and Head of the South African Vaccination and Immunisation Centre (SAVIC) at the same institution (2005 to 2014).

Jeffrey's research interests in prevention and control of human viral diseases had covered a wide range of topics, including the viral hepatitis, gastrointestinal viral infections, human papillomaviruses, molecular epidemiology of HIV, genomics of infectious diseases, vaccination control of hepatitis B, rotavirus and HPV, and strengthening immunisation services and policies. He is actively involved in developing the next generation of scientists; and to date has trained, supervised and mentored several PhD and Master students. He published widely and achieved C1 NRF rating (Jan 2017 to Dec 2022).