



Regional Chapter Annual Report - 2015

Chapter Region	South Africa Africa
President	Shelley McGee, Healthcare Policy and Patient Access Manager, Sanofi Pharmaceuticals, shelley.mcgee@sanofi.com
President-Elect	
Past President	Professor Jacques Snyman, Clinical Pharmacologist, Agility Global Health Solution, jacques@dermav.co.za
Secretary	Paul la Cock, MPharm, FASSA Independent Consulting Actuary Cape Town, South Africa
Treasurer	Paul La Cock, Independent Consulting Actuary, paul@incisive.co.za
Director	Prof. Jacques Snyman, MBChB, MPharmMed, MD Clinical Pharmacologist, Agility Global Health Solution Pretoria, South Africa
Director	Heather Henry - Rn, ADBA, MBA, Cert. HTA, M Health Econ DISA Vascular Distribution Johannesburg, South Africa
Director	Carolle Kinyua, MSc Pharm Sci, MPH (Health Econ) Novartis Pharma Johannesburg, South Africa
Director	Dr. Tienie Stander, MBChB, MBA CEO, HEXOR SA Midrand, South Africa
Director	Harshal Thaker, B.Pharm, M Health Econ MediKedit Integrated Healthcare Solutions Johannesburg, South Africa
Director	Prof Ilse Truter, BPharm, MSc, PhD Professor in Pharmacy at NMMU and Leader: Drug Utilization Research Unit (DURU) Department of Pharmacy, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University Port Elizabeth, South Africa
# Members	40



Regional Chapter Annual Report - 2015

Educational Workshops: The chapter hosted two workshops in 2015: 1. Unpacking the South African Pharmacoeconomic Guidelines 2. A Common platform for HTA in South Africa To which we attracted approximately 60 participants
Conferences: 1. Paul La Cock presented at the African Network Issue Forum on "Budget Impact Analysis of epidemic diseases across Africa" at the ISPOR International Conference in Philadelphia.

<http://www.ispor.org/Event/Program/2015Philadelphia?day=3>
2. South African Medical Devices Conference (SAMED) - Shelley McGee presented on a panel to debate the potential for a common HTA process in South Africa
2. South African Health Technology Assessment Society Inaugural Conference: Shelley McGee Presented on the South African Pharmacoeconomic Guidelines
3. ISPOR European Conference: The South African Chapter presented a poster relating the South African pharmacoeconomic guidelines to existing legislation and examining challenges to implementation - McGee S, Truter I, Brand M & La Cock P.
The South African Guidelines for Pharmacoeconomic Submissions: A review in context of existing legislation and challenges to implementation. Value in Health, vol 18, nr 7, November 2015, A573. [Published abstract.]

Describe your Chapter's accomplishments for 2015 with regard to Scientific and Educational activities.

1. ISPOR SA Participated in and presented at the first International Decision Support initiative (iDSI) - which is closely affiliated to the National Department of Health and assisting in capacity building for HTA as a tool for Universal healthcare coverage, which the country is trying to achieve. Shelley McGee was part of the team which wrote up an editorial about the initiative and the need for an HTA agency for the country. National Health Insurance in South Africa: Relevance of a national priority-setting agency. Hofman KJ1, McGee S, Chalkidou K, Tantivess S, Culyer AJ. S Afr Med J. 2015 Sep 14;105(9):739-40. doi: 10.7196/SAMJnew.8584. Available at <http://www.samj.org.za/index.php/samj/article/view/9965>

Describe your Chapter's accomplishments for 2015 with regard to Policy-related activities.

We only hold a conference every second year - the next one is scheduled for 2016. We held two educational workshops this year - as described under Scientific and Educational Activities

Describe your Chapter's accomplishments for 2015 with regard to Chapter meetings or conferences.



Regional Chapter Annual Report - 2015

Describe your Chapter's accomplishments for 2015 with regard to membership engagement.

Having recognized a dwindling membership over several year, the directors initiated a membership drive alongside our educational workshops in September and October. This increased membership by 42%. Our AGM, which also serves as the Business planning meeting for the following year was well advertised and attended by 23% of the membership - which is an improvement on previous years. A year-end newsletter will also be sent out to the membership outlining plans for 2016.

Is your Chapter affiliated with any institutions, universities, government or associations (other than ISPOR)? If yes, please list and describe the nature of these affiliations(s).

No

Does your Chapter collect membership dues or fees from individuals for local Chapter membership? If yes, how much are the dues?

Yes

\$70 USD, \$26 Academic/Government

How many ISPOR International members (paying dues to ISPOR Headquarters) does your Chapter have? Provide an estimate if you do not have an exact count.

Does your Chapter have any agreements or sponsorship arrangements with any for-profit companies, governments, health authorities or associations? If yes, please describe.

No

Does your Chapter employ paid administrative or management staff (Association Management Company, contracted staff)?

Yes

Other than the page for your Chapter on the ISPOR website, does your Chapter maintain a website?

No

When did your Chapter last update the ISPOR Chapter Constitution?

We have never updated the ISPOR Chapter Constitution.

Has your Chapter (as a group, not as individual members) submitted formal comments or responses to any government or health authority in 2014 or 2015? If yes, what was the topic or issue?

No

Does your Chapter (as a group, not as individual members) interact in some way with the HTA or other official guidelines in your country? If yes, please name guideline(s) and describe.

Yes

South African Guidelines for pharmacoeconomic submissions



Regional Chapter Annual Report - 2015

Does your Chapter have any committees or special interest groups? Please indicate and briefly describe.

Academia %	No
Government/HTA Agency %	Not currently - but we hope to develop these in 2016
Industry %	13
Consulting %	20
Clinicians %	54
Student %	13
Other %	0
	0
	0

What benefits does your Chapter offers to its members?

Discounts to attend workshops and conference

What are the most significant achievements of your Chapter in 2015?

1. Turning membership from a negative trend to a positive growth in 2015 2. The chapter ran two successful technical workshops during the year. These were well attended, and well rated in terms of content. They have also set the platform for more workshops in 2016. 3. Several requests to partner with other local organizations in training programs and conferences - we have solid partnerships now with the Southern African Health technology Assessment Society (SAHTAS) as well as the University of Stellenbosch and the Pharmaceutical Care Management Association (PCMA) all of whom have requested assistance with training or events in pharmacoeconomics in 2016.

What are the greatest challenges facing your Chapter?

1. The part time commitment of the board members - all have demanding full time work commitments, which means that ISPOR activities unfortunately come second. 2. Fund raising - this has always been a challenge although we have looked at several ways to try to improve this for 2016. Costs to attend the international meetings are largely prohibitive for many local chapter members, and the idea of a standalone African network meeting is also hampered by travel costs (which can be higher within Africa than to travel to Europe). 3. Lack of government engagement - there is deep-seated mistrust between the ministry of health officials and the pharmaceuticals and devices industries. This presents a challenge to engagement as well as to common platforms at meetings. However, authorities have indicated willingness to engage with ISPOR in 2016, as we have an agenda for the year which supports their guidelines and policy direction. 4. Virtually absent student involvement. This is for two reasons: very few students studying pharmacoeconomics and related studies, and historically through lack of targeted efforts on the part of ISPOR SA. Several directors now have partnerships with pharmacy schools in the country which we aim to leverage.



Regional Chapter Annual Report - 2015

How does your Chapter fulfill ISPOR's mission to promote health economics and outcomes research excellence to improve decision making for health globally? Describe how it supports the development and promotion of the discipline of health economics and outcomes research in your region.

We are the only organization in the country with a focus on pharmacoeconomics, and have actively partnered in 2015 with organizations such as SAHTAS who have similar objectives. Our 2015 workshops have sought to clarify issues around the South African pharmacoeconomic guidelines, as well as health technology assessment as a tool for decision-making for medical insurers in the country, and will seek to develop this even further in 2016. ISPOR SA is recognized as a "go to" organization when others are planning training for HTA or pharmacoeconomics in the country and directors participate on several platforms collectively or individually to maintain this. We have participated in Africa network initiatives (admittedly this could be far better)

How can the ISPOR organization as a whole (Staff, Board, Consortia, Networks, etc.) better support your Chapter?

ISPOR SA is thankful for the support from the International ISPOR office, as well as for the sponsorship we receive from ISPOR International every second year which allows us to hold a national ISPOR conference and support international expert inputs. ISPOR International staff is always engaging, supportive of our ideas and keen to give input, for which we are very thankful. While we would like to be in a position to offer travel sponsorships to students for ISPOR international events - the costs are simply too high for the chapter to bear. We would welcome the opportunity to propose additional travel funding for South African Pharmacoeconomics students to attend international events. We have also elected at our AGM on 3 December 2015, to try to host the ISPOR HTA Training Program as detailed on the International Website in South Africa in July or August 2016. This as a partnership event with SAHTAS. We would welcome the opportunity also to include other Africa chapters in this initiative.

Please indicate who prepared this report, include title, phone, email.

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