

SAPA WEBINAR SERIES

Join us on the last Wednesday of each month at 5pm, for up-to-date information on important paediatric topics. Presenters are paediatric experts from all over South Africa. You can engage with them and have your pressing questions answered!

Webinars are also recorded (unless there is content the speaker cannot make publicly available) and available on the SAPA YouTube channel for viewing, at your convenience. SAPA members earn 1 CPD point per webinar for attendance.

In recent months we have discussed the effect of the common respiratory pathogens on our patients, climate change, as well as delved deeper into the intricacies of adolescent medicine. We truly enjoy challenging the depth and breadth of our knowledge with these webinars. If you haven't joined one yet, go to paediatrics.org.za for details on how to register.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

SAPA and SASPID hosted a workshop on paediatric infectious diseases in July 2022.

While the world of paediatric HIV and TB is rapidly changing, and keeping up with the latest can be tricky, South African paediatric ID specialists provided bite-sized chunks on new treatment regimens, and how to use them. Attendees received updates on rabies, congenital syphilis (you're not alone if you don't have Penicillin available at your hospital!), tetanus and hepatitis, and also learnt why 'TORCH' is out of date.

SAPA members can access this workshop recordings by logging in to the SAPA website: paediatrics.org.za

GROUP B STREPTOCOCCUS AWARENESS

Group B Strep Support Group of South Africa was started by a team of passionate health care professionals with the hopes of improving the awareness and treatment of all those affected, directly or indirectly, by Group B Streptococcus (*Streptococcus Agalactiae*).

While still in very early stages, they have set an ambitious plan to grow their social media presence and create support groups for both parents and patients, affected by GBS. Social media is used to share material relevant to both healthcare workers and parents – aiming to improve awareness around prevention, diagnosis and treatment of GBS. They also have a support group/network for parents or patients affected by GBS to connect.

You can find them on Instagram ([@gbssupportsa](https://www.instagram.com/gbssupportsa)) or Facebook (Group B Strep Support Group SA). Alternatively, Whatsapp "Hi" to the Group B Strep Support Group SA Hotline +27 72 907 1622, or email your name and contact details to groupbstrepsa@gmail.com to find out more, and how you can get involved in this exciting project.

TEACHING? REVISING THE BASICS? CHECK OUT PEDS CASES

In addition to practicing as clinicians, many of us have the opportunity to share our knowledge of how to care for children with our junior colleagues and medical students. A valuable resource is **Peds Cases**, a repository of podcasts, short notes, cases and videos on common paediatric problems. The content is aimed at the undergraduate level and succinctly conveys key learning points that will help our students grasp the concepts they need in the field of paediatrics. This resource can be used to plan teaching, design assessments or simply share with students to aid learning.

POLIOVIRUS ERADICATION – WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Polio eradication has been a global priority since 1988, with a 99,9% reduction in cases to date. South Africa's polio-free status was withdrawn in 2017 due to a decline in poliovirus immunisation coverage and inadequate surveillance of acute flaccid paralysis cases. With a recent case of wild type poliovirus in Malawi and increasing concern regarding circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus, efforts in polio eradication have had to be revisited. Learn more about the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) strategies for eradication of wild type poliovirus, including the innovations in poliovirus immunisations, [here](#). For additional data on polio with amazing interactive graphics (such as the share on one-year-olds vaccinated against polio, pictured below) visit [Our World in Data](#).

