Safia Mahomed

Safia Mahomed is a non-practising attorney with a special interest in biotechnology law. Her area of speciality is human tissue legislation. She is currently pursuing her doctoral theses with the Steve Biko Centre for Bioethics, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, the title of which is: An ethico-legal framework for the regulation of Biobanks in South Africa.

The main objectives of her thesis are:

- To discuss and analyse the ethico-legal framework governing health research in South Africa with a view to critiquing the hiatuses as regards biobanks;
- To describe and analyse the various existing ethical guidelines that could impact policy on biobanks;
- To describe and analyse the current legal situation in South Africa which impacts policy on biobanks;
- To analyse Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs) from a local, regional and international perspective with a view to developing a generic MTA for biobank research in South Africa; and
- To describe and analyse legislative and ethical frameworks of pertinent international counterparts with a view to suggesting the most appropriate model for our South African context.