

TITLE OF INAUGURAL LECTURE

CLIMATE CHANGE AND MATERNAL HEALTH IN AFRICA: FROM THERMAL PHYSIOLOGY TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND ADVOCACY

DATE: 24 AUGUST 2022
TIME: 17H00

ATTEND IN PERSON:

Marie Curie Lecture Theatre of
Wits Medical School
7 York Rd, Parktown, Johannesburg

ONLINE EVENT REG DETAILS:

Here is the link to the Zoom Meeting that
has been scheduled: <https://cutt.ly/wZXna2l>

UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND
JOHANNESBURG



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2022



University of the Witwatersrand

WITS RH



RESEARCH PROF. MATTHEW CHERSICH

MBBCh, MSc(PHDC), DTM&H, DObst,
DCH, DFPH, PhD

LECTURE DESCRIPTION:

Global temperatures have increased by 1.1°C since the industrial revolution, and are projected to rise an additional 1-2°C in the coming decades. Extreme heat causes a range of adverse birth outcomes, including preterm birth and stillbirths. Most health programmes in Africa focus on pregnant women and infants, making these groups a strategic focus for climate change research.

The lecture presents a body of transdisciplinary work, ranging from the physiological pathways underpinning vulnerability to heat during pregnancy, to data science applications, public health approaches, and advocacy around reducing carbon emissions. It concludes by considering whether we need a new Climate Change and Health sub-specialty, and a national programme on climate and health.