MEDICINE

**Dr Jeff Chanoch** (BDS 1961) retires after 59 years as a practicing dentist. <https://bereamail.co.za/241807/29tgdentist/>

**Dr Francesca Conradie** (MBBCh 1988, DTM&H 2000) warns against loading minibus taxis to full capacity. <https://video.channel24.co.za/show/309076>

**Dr June Fabian** (BPharm 1990, MPharm 1994, MBBCh 1998, MMed 2008), Research Director at the Wits Donald Gordon Medical Centre, is among the five clinicians who volunteered to participate in the COVID-19 vaccine trial. <https://ewn.co.za/2020/07/17/finding-working-covid-19-vaccine-means-faster-access-for-sa-wits-researcher>

**Professor Sharon Fonn** (MBBCh 1982, DOH 1985, PHD 1989) Professor of Public Health, Co-Director Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa and Private Healthcare Market Inquiry at Wits co-authors this article with Sam Kinyanjui about Africa’s growing research capacity. <https://theconversation.com/africas-research-capacity-is-growing-thats-good-news-for-pandemic-response-efforts-142293>

**Professor Glenda Gray** (MBBCh 1986) is candid about lockdown rules. <https://www.timeslive.co.za/sunday-times/opinion-and-analysis/2020-07-05-dr-glenda-gray-gets-candid-on-lockdown-controversy/>

* Urges South Africans to take the COVID-19 pandemic more seriously <https://ewn.co.za/2020/07/21/prof-gray-urges-south-africans-to-take-covid-19-seriously>
* Discusses tackling the challenge of schooling during COVID-19. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ToPeNqalNC4>
* Explains the report released by the South African Medical Research Council on excess deaths recorded in South Africa between May and July 2020 compared to the same time last year. <https://time.com/5870723/south-africa-coronavirus-death-rate/>
* Says it’s too soon to estimate the deaths expected in Africa because the nature of COVID-19 remains unclear. <https://ewn.co.za/2020/07/20/too-soon-to-estimate-africa-s-covid-19-death-rate-says-glenda-gray>

**Dr Dan Israel** (BSc 2001, MBBCh 2006) outlines basic steps on how people can deal with the virus. <https://www.702.co.za/articles/389073/what-to-do-when-you-find-out-that-you-have-tested-positive-for-covid-19?ref=pid:94>

**Dr Daksha Jivan** (MBBCh 1996, MMed 2012) tells how COVID-19 has unmasked diabetes. <https://www.sabcnews.com/sabcnews/coronavirus-unmasking-undiagnosed-diabetes-on-patients/>

**Dr Elizabeth Kimani-Murage** (PhD 2010) a public health specialist, writes about her experiences with Right To Food Project in Kenya. <https://theconversation.com/testing-strategies-to-help-kenyas-urban-poor-get-access-to-food-125255>

**Professor Shabir Madhi** talks about probability of airborne transmission of COVID-19. <https://www.capetalk.co.za/articles/389691/covid-19-how-dangerous-is-airborne-transmission-prof-mahdi-explains>

<https://www.sowetanlive.co.za/news/south-africa/2020-07-08-we-have-underestimated-airborne-transmission-of-covid-19-says-wits-professor-shabir-madhi/>

* He explains the details of vaccine trial to Ina Skosana in this article. <https://theconversation.com/covid-19-vaccine-trial-in-south-africa-everything-you-need-to-know-142305>
* He argues that government’s new regulations on taxis won’t slow the rate of infection. <https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/new-covid-19-taxi-rules-will-not-slow-the-rate-of-transmission-top-professor-20200715>
* Prof warns with **Professor Karen Hofman** (MBBCh 1978)that South Africa faces unintended consequences of lagging behind in treatment of other diseases. <https://www.iol.co.za/the-star/news/treatment-for-other-killer-diseases-lags-behind-in-sa-due-to-focus-on-covid-19--21425fc4-20ca-4fd7-ade3-3e8efd346027>
* Participated in Economist Corporate Network Africa webinar saying results from the Ox1Cov-19 Vaccine VIDA-Trial are expected as early as end of November this year. <https://www.health24.com/Medical/Infectious-diseases/Coronavirus/vaccine-developments-update-on-the-sa-trial-and-more-reaction-to-positive-news-from-oxford-20200724-5>
* Explains positive immune response from vaccine trial in Oxford study. <https://video.channel24.co.za/show/311921>
* Co-authors with group of scientists including **Professor Francois Venter**, **Mohammed Majam** (BSc 2005, MBA 2016), **Dr Jeremy Nel**, **Dr Lucille Blumberg** (MBBCh 1974, DTM&H 1987, DOH 1991, MMed 2003), **Professor Lucy Allais** (BA 1995, BA Hons 1996), **Professor Glenda Gray** (MBBCh 1986) providing practical advice on how long one should isolate. <https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-07-28-how-long-should-i-isolate-or-quarantine-for/#gsc.tab=0>
* He was lead author of study published in *New England Journal of Medicine* which showed immunising pregnant women with a vaccine could prevent common cause of pneumonia in their babies. <https://www.wits.ac.za/news/latest-news/research-news/2020/2020-07/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-vaccination-of-pregnant-women-could-prevent-pneumonia-in-babies.html>

**Professor Maeyane Stephens Moeng** (MBBCh 1991), Director of Trauma Surgery at Charlotte Maxeke Hospital, welcomes the alcohol ban. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202007130531.html>

* Ward where treating COVID-19 patients is growing. <https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/ward-dedicated-to-covid-19-patients-has-grown-to-more-than-7-wards-in-10-14-days-trauma-surgeon-20200702>

**Dr Yastira Ramdas** (MMed 2018) shared the impact of radiodermatitis on cancer patients. <https://www.buddiesforlife.co.za/july-aug-2020/#julyaug2020/page28-page29>

**Professor Helen Rees,** Executive Director of the Wits Reproductive Health and HIV Institute, chats about vaccine trials at Oxford University showing extremely positive signs. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sa5d358B25Y>

* Clears up misperceptions around COVID-19 cure. <https://iono.fm/e/90009F4>

**Professor Guy Richards**, Professor emeritus in critical care at Wits, addressed whether SA has enough staff and oxygen to treat patients. <https://www.news24.com/citypress/news/sa-does-not-have-enough-staff-or-ventilators-to-treat-covid-patients-20200705>

<https://www.702.co.za/articles/388988/i-don-t-think-sa-will-have-enough-beds-staff-and-oxygen-for-covid-19-peak>

* The US has bought up most stock of Remdesivir – the antiviral is one of two shown to reduce COVID-19 recovery time. He talks about story here on eNCA <https://www.gate5.co.za/read/59986/qv/86631299/17152415/145215/p>

**Professor Ian Sanne** (MBBCh 1990, DTM&H), Clinical Research Unit at Wits, was among four medical experts deployed to the Eastern Cape to prepare hospitals for the surge in infections. <https://www.timeslive.co.za/sunday-times/news/2020-07-19-the-situation-is-dire-eastern-cape-hospitals-shock-expert-team/>

**Professor Martin Veller**, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, volunteered to participate in the South Africa’s first COVID-19 vaccine trial with two other senior clinicians **Professor Francois Venter**, divisional director of Ezintsha and **Dr June Fabian** (BPharm 1990, MPharm 1994, MBBCh 1998, MMed 2008) research director at the Wits Donald Gordon Medical Centre. <https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2020-07-16-i-trust-the-science-wits-professors-on-the-line-in-covid-19-vaccine-trial/>

**Dr Milton Waner** (MBBCh 1977) is a leading paediatric facial plastic surgeon with the Vascular Birthmark Institute in New York. <http://deckbiz.com/news/milton-waner-md-fcs-sa-facs-a-pediatric-facial-plastic-surgeon-with-the-vascular-birthmark-institute-of-new-york/0237128/>