

## HIV Panel Discussion Speaker Biographies



### **Dr. Ashraf Grimwood**

Dr. Ashraf Grimwood is the **founder and Chief Executive Officer of Keth'impilo**, a South African NGO that supports the National Department of Health's HIV strategic plan. He is a medical doctor with a Master's in Public Health, bringing over 24 years of experience in planning and managing care and treatment programs. For the past 15 years, he has been responsible for overseeing the implementation of community-based health initiatives.

Dr. Grimwood's career spans the full arc of the epidemic in South Africa, having started his HIV work in Australia in the late '80s before moving to South Africa in 1992. He has held multiple leadership positions, including Chair of NACOSA, and currently serves on the boards of the SA HIV Clinicians Society and Dira Sengwe. His extensive clinical experience and focus on community health are informed by his previous roles as Executive Director of ARK SA and Deputy Director of SAHIVAC.



### **Assoc. Prof. Nisha Jacob**

Associate Professor Nisha Jacob is a **researcher at the University of Cape Town's School of Public Health**. Her research is focused on evaluating the programmatic and clinical outcomes of antiretroviral use in pregnancy, as well as strengthening health surveillance systems in the Western Cape. Her work aims to improve child and maternal health outcomes within public health programs.

Her research projects include the surveillance of health data, which is crucial for public health planning. Her academic and research contributions provide a data-driven perspective on health interventions and their effectiveness in a programmatic context.

## UNICEF VOLUNTEER



### **Fatima Hassan**

Fatima Hassan is a **human rights lawyer and social justice activist**, as well as the founder of the **Health Justice Initiative**. She has dedicated her professional life to defending and promoting human rights in South Africa, particularly in the field of HIV/AIDS, where she worked for the AIDS Law Project and acted for the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) in many of its legal cases.

Ms. Hassan has held numerous influential positions, including former executive director of the Open Society Foundation for South Africa, and has served on the boards of organizations such as MSF-SA and the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition. A recipient of prestigious fellowships from institutions like Yale and Duke University, as well as the 2022 Calgary Peace Prize, she has published and written extensively on issues of social justice, HIV, and access to medicines.



### **Prof. Jackie Hoare**

Professor Jackie Hoare is a **neuropsychiatrist and Head of the Division of Consultation Liaison Psychiatry at the UCT Neuroscience Institute**. She also serves as co-director of the UCT HIV Mental Health Unit. As a Principal Investigator on a number of NIH-funded research projects, she focuses on mental health, neurocognitive disorders, and developing adherence interventions in adolescents living with HIV.

Prof. Hoare is also the Chair of the Brain and Mental Health Scientific Committee for the NIH-funded International Maternal Paediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials (IMPAACT) Network. Her clinical work is focused on treating mental illness and neurocognitive disorders in adults and adolescents with chronic illnesses, and she has published on interventions that support the mental well-being of healthcare workers.