



SAMLA 2026 CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The Human Factor in Medical Error: Ethics, Accountability and the Law Beyond Technology

DAY 1: Medico-Legal Status in SA & Accountability

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
08:00 – 09:00	Registration & Welcome Refreshments	
09:00 – 09:10	SAMLA Conference 2026 Opening – Director: Conference	Ms Carina van de Wall
09:15 – 09:55	Opening Address	Dr Stephanus Jansen van Vuuren
10:00 – 10:40	Current Status of Medico-Legal Claims in South Africa	National Auditor-General: Ms Tsakani Maluleke
10:40 – 11:10	Tea / Coffee Break & Networking	
11:10 – 11:40	Keynote Address 1: The Human Factor in Medical Error: Ethics, Accountability and the Law Beyond Technology	Prof Alex van den Heever
11:45 – 12:35	Case Studies about Catastrophic Medical Errors	Prof Ethelwynn Stellenberg and Ms Carina van de Wall
12:40 – 12:50	Main Sponsor Slot	
12:50 – 13:50	Networking Lunch	
13:50 – 14:30	Public Health Defence	Prof Alex van den Heever
14:35 – 15:15	Malpractice litigation in Nursing Practice in South Africa: A national study	Prof Ethelwynn Stellenberg
15:20 – 15:25	Sponsor Session	
15:25 – 15:55	Afternoon Break & Networking	
16:00 – 16:40	Accountability in the Healthcare Sector: Governance, Reporting & Patient Safety	Dr Siphiwe Mndaweni

16:45 – 17:05	International Law Conference in Antwerp 2026 – Feedback	Dr & Adv Anton van den Bout
17:05 – 17:20	Recap & Closure	Ms Shelley Broughton
DAY 2: Accountability, Governance, Technology & Ethics: How does it Impact the Human Factor		
08:00 – 08:30	Registration & Welcome Refreshments	
08:30 – 08:40	Welcome by SAMLA Board Member	Adv Clementine Makhoana
08:45 – 09:25	Professional Accountability and Disciplinary Processes in Healthcare Practice	Adv Alton Samuels
09:30 – 10:10	Leadership, Governance & Organisational Accountability	Dr Brenda Kubheka-Chauke
10:10 – 10:40	Tea / Coffee Break & Networking	
10:40 – 11:20	Keynote Address 2: Technology, Ethics & Accountability in the Future of Healthcare	Prof Malegapuru Makgoba
11:25 – 12:05	Sponsor Session	
12:10 – 12:50	Accountability Challenges in State Healthcare Facilities: Systems, Staffing & Ethical Responsibilities	Dr Meshack Mbokota
12:50 – 13:50	Networking Lunch	
13:50 – 15:20	Navigating Ethical Healthcare in an Era of Human and Technological Complexity: Exploring the impact of clinical wellbeing, emerging technologies, and ethical leadership on decision-making, patient safety, and medico-legal accountability.	Ms Jualande Brink Dr Sharon Munyake Dr Ife Ofunne Mr Doug Reed
15:20 – 15:50	Tea / Coffee Break & Networking	
15:50 – 15:55	Sponsor Session	
16:00 – 16:40	System Failure versus Individual Factors	Dr Willem Moore
16:45 – 17:25	Validated guidelines that contribute to the prevention of malpractice litigation in nursing practice in South Africa	Dr Luleka Gcawu
17:30 – 17:45	Recap & Closure	Dr & Adv Santa-Marie Venter
19:00 – 21:30	Cocktail Function	Mr Johan Jordaan – MC

DAY 3: Lessons Learned & the Future of Medico-Legal Practice

08:00 – 08:30	Registration & Welcome Refreshments Networking Tea	
08:30 – 08:40	Welcome Address by SAMLA Board Member	Ms Naomi Williams
08:45 – 09:25	Cutting Medico-Legal Claims through Effective Communication between Doctor and Patient	Adv John Mullins
09:30 – 10:10	Medico-Legal Lessons from Medico-Legal Case Law	Adv Maryke Pienaar and Dr & Adv Santa- Marie Venter
10:15 – 10:55	Informed Consent in the Digital Era	Ms Retha Britz and Ms Naomi Williams
10:55 – 11:25	Tea / Coffee Break & Networking	
11:25 – 11:30	Sponsor Session	
11:35 – 11:50	Patrimonial Damage Revisited	Dr & Adv Anton van den Bout
11:55 – 12:35	Panel Discussion – Beyond Technology: Preserving Humanity in Healthcare	Dr Nonceba Koranteng Dr Hlombe Makuluma Dr Chris Mathew
12:40 – 13:10	Conference Resolutions & Future Directions	Dr Mogori Mogashoa
13:15 – 13:30	Final Reflections & Closing Remarks	Dr Stefan Jansen van Vuuren
13:30 – until we meet again	Packed Lunches	

In Pursuit of Excellence

Shaping the Future of Medico-Legal Standards