



Ms Marietjie Venter

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Ms Venter is an expert in mosquito transmitted and respiratory viruses in humans and animals and specializes in One Health. She obtained her PhD in medical virology from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg on Respiratory Syncytial Virus and the postdoctoral training at the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases on West Nile virus in the United States of America.

She worked on respiratory and zoonotic arboviruses as a medical scientist at the National Institute for Communicable diseases (NICD) and at the University of Pretoria. Between 2009 and 2014, she was the co-director of the Centre for Respiratory Diseases and Meningitis and the Director of the National Influenza Centre at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases of South Africa. Between 2014 and 2016, she served as One Health Program director at the Global Disease Detection Centre (US-CDC) in South Africa. Since 2016, she is a full-time position as full Professor in the Department Medical Virology at the University of Pretoria.

She has contributed or published more than 135 publications in international accredited journals in the fields of respiratory, arbo and emerging viruses. She acts as an advisor to the World Health Organization (WHO) on respiratory syncytial viruses and influenza surveillance. She also serves on the Scientific Advisory board of the Global One Health Platform on Zoonotic diseases. She is currently the Vice President for Africa for the World Society for Virology.

