



## PVRI South Africa & Sub-Saharan Africa Report 2016

Paul Williams



The past few years have seen the efforts of the South Africa & Sub-Saharan Africa Task Force produce pivotal data published in highly respected journals, which has provided extensive insight into the incidence, prevalence and nature of pulmonary hypertension in Sub-Saharan Africa, thus highlighting the importance of this clinical problem to the region.

The imperative now is to translate this data into better care for our patients, irrespective of the great differences in access to sophisticated medical care and vast disparity in economic resources.

A step toward a more united approach to the management of pulmonary hypertension has been made over the past two years with the establishment of the Working Group for Pulmonary Hypertension in South Africa, which was the first attempt of the pulmonology and cardiology community at a formal collaborative approach.

Publication of recommendations in the South African Medical Journal is aimed as a first step toward endorsement of the ESC/ERS 2015 Guidelines in a form adapted to local conditions and, at the same time, broadening the awareness of, and improving access to, better medical care for patients with pulmonary hypertension.

While the above efforts were conducted independently of the PVRI, or indeed any other formally constituted organisation, there is a pressing need for and eagerness to have collaborative input over and above that of the many individual members of the international PH community who have been so willing to assist our efforts thus far.

### Congratulations to Karen Sliwa-Hahnle



In June 2016, during the World Congress of Cardiology and Cardiovascular Health in Mexico, Professor Karen Sliwa-Hahnle was elected President Elect of the World Heart Federation.

We would like to thank Karen for her enthusiasm, hard work and commitment as the previous Task Force leader.

### Published Data

**WORLD HEART FEDERATION**

**Karen Sliwa elected as World Heart Federation President-Elect**

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Last night at the World Congress of Cardiology & Cardiovascular Health 2016, we held our General Assembly, during which election were held for several positions, including that of World Heart Federation President.

**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CARDIOLOGY**

International Journal of Cardiology

Contents lists available at

International Journal of Cardiology

Journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ijcard](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ijcard)

The causes, treatment, and outcome of pulmonary hypertension in Africa: Insights from the Pan African Pulmonary Hypertension Cohort (PAPUCO) Registry

**FORUM**

**SAMJ**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Management of pulmonary hypertension**

M R Essop, N Galle, D B Badesch, U Lalloo, A G Mahmood, D P Naidoo, M Ntshhe, P G Williams

Prof. Mohammed R Essop is head of the Division of Cardiology at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital and the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, and co-chairman of the Working Group Committee on Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension; Prof. Nazareno Galle is Associate Professor of Cardiology and Head of the Pulmonary Hypertension Centre, University of Bologna, Italy; Prof. David B Badesch is Professor of Medicine in the Division of Pulmonary Sciences, Critical Care Medicine and Cardiology and Clinical Director,

**Review**

**THELANCET.COM**

**A global view of pulmonary hypertension**

Maria M Haugen, Marc Humbert, Rogério Sousa, Magdy Aklel, Steven M Kawut, Karen Sliwa-Hahnle, Zhu-Chengling, J Simon R Gibbs

Pulmonary hypertension is a substantial global health issue. All age groups are affected with rapidly growing importance in elderly people, particularly in countries with ageing populations. Present estimates suggest a pulmonary hypertension prevalence of about 1% of the global population, which increases up to 10% in individuals aged more than 65 years. In almost all parts of the world, left-sided heart and lung diseases have become the most frequent causes of pulmonary hypertension. About 80% of affected patients live in developing countries, where pulmonary hypertension is frequently associated with congenital heart disease and various infectious disorders, including schistosomiasis, HIV

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See Online for more

**EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF HEART FAILURE**

European Journal of Heart Failure (2016)  
doi:10.1002/ehf.1594

**Pulmonary hypertension and pregnancy outcomes: data from the Registry Of Pregnancy and Cardiac Disease (ROPAC) of the European Society of Cardiology**