



SAAPS 2025 Conference Edition

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## **Editorial for the “Pediatric Surgery in Africa” issue of PST Journal**

### **Introduction**

It is with great pleasure that we introduce this special “Pediatric Surgery in Africa” issue of the journal Pediatric Surgery in Tropics, dedicated to the articles coming out of the biannual Conference of the South African Association of Paediatric Surgeons (SAAPS2025). As a part of the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the foundation of the department of Paediatric Surgery in East London, Eastern Cape, South Africa, this conference took place on the first weekend of May 2025 at the picturesque Mpekweni Beach Hotel, near East London. The conference was attended by 70 colleagues (more than 50% of the workforce) from the country. There was a total of eleven guest speakers, three from South Africa, four from India, and one each from Zimbabwe, Malawi, the US and Brazil. Trainees delivered the remaining 23 oral and 20 poster presentations on a variety of topics.

In this special issue, we have included a total of 15 manuscripts coming out of the SAAPS 2025 conference. The collection of articles presented here will serve as a valuable resource for researchers, practitioners, and students alike, fostering new insights and stimulating future directions in Pediatric Surgery.

### **Thematic Focus**

The articles in this special issue delve into various facets of Pediatric Surgery, addressing key challenges and highlighting innovative solutions. We have curated a selection of papers that represent the diverse perspectives and methodologies employed in this domain. Topics covered include:

- Original articles
- Neonatal surgery
- Hepatobiliary
- Rare and interesting cases

### **Contributions**

Each paper has undergone a rigorous peer-review process to ensure the highest standards of scientific quality and relevance. We extend our sincere gratitude to all the authors for their exceptional work and dedication to advancing knowledge in Pediatric Surgery.

### **Acknowledgments**

Our heartfelt thanks also go to the many reviewers whose constructive feedback and tireless efforts were instrumental in shaping the content of this publication. Their commitment to scholarly excellence is deeply valued. We also thank [Dr Jessica Davies](#)

and team for their invaluable assistance with the formatting process. We would like to express our profound appreciation to the editorial board of Pediatric Surgery in Tropics for their support and guidance throughout the development of this special issue.

### **Conclusion**

This special issue will contribute significantly to the ongoing discourse in Pediatric surgery in Africa and inspire further research and collaboration. We hope that readers will find the articles both informative and thought-provoking.

**Sincerely,**

**Milind Chitnis**

**Guest Editor**

**Corné de Vos**

**Co-Editor**