

Shaheen Mehtar

Shaheen works at the Unit for Infection Prevention and Control at Tygerberg Academic Hospital and Faculty of Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University. She trained in the United Kingdom in Medical Microbiology, Infectious Disease and Community Health. She was Head of the Dept of Microbiology at the North Middlesex Hospital linked to Royal Free Hospital; she moved to South Africa in 2000.

In South Africa as Deputy Director of Public Health in South Cape Karoo District she established several IPC teaching programmes. In 2004 she moved to Tygerberg Hospital and Stellenbosch Uni where she established the Unit of Infection Prevention and Control

She is an internationally recognised expert in IPC and has been involved in setting up IPC programmes in the UK, Europe, Far East, Asia and Latin America. She has served on executive committees of the Hospital Infection Society, The British society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, European Society of Microbiology and Infectious Disease, the International Society of Chemotherapy and serves on several WHO committees.

She is the founder member of the Infection Control Africa Network (ICAN) and the current chair. Through ICAN, Shaheen has been extensively involved in setting up many IPC training programmes in 15 countries and setting up IPC structures across Africa. She is currently involved in fighting Ebola in Sierra Leone and helping to establish a robust IPC structure in that country