



Cardiothoracic Surgery
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CT-Surgery Profile

The vision of the Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University states “To be one of the top 100 universities in the world in teaching, research and service”.

The Department of Cardio Thoracic Surgery (CTS) whilst aligning itself to the vision of the University, aims to become the best department the world over. That is the goal we hope to achieve.

We aim to achieve this goal in the spheres of teaching and training, research and service delivery. We envisage achieving this, among others, by following the strategy of “TOPAC-G” as taught by Prof Raj at Gibs (what is Gibs please unpack) .

We aim at trending, following trends and leading trends in the field of cardiothoracic surgery. We not only want to trend, but we want good outcomes and lower mortality rates within our speciality and subspecialities. There are still challenges in establishing subspecialities within the department. Subspecialities like pediatric cardiac surgery need to be worked on, and subspecialities like adult cardiac and thoracic surgery need to be strengthened even further.

We plan to take advantage in opportunities that this new university is offering us, not only this new university, but the SADC region and communities at large. Opportunities to teach and train new consultants, to research in the field of rheumatic heart disease, infective endocarditis, etc., to establish the relevance of ablation in mega-atria to treat atrial fibrillation.

The opportunities presented by the resurgence of mesothelioma in the absence of asbestos mining, the phenomenon of acoustic ingestion and oesophageal disease, etc., the opportunities in service delivery and how these may be made better. The opportunities are too many to enumerate.

We are well positioned, geographically, continentally and academically in a place where all is happening. We are prepared to take advantage of this position to achieve our goals, that would leave a legacy worth talking about in future.

But, we also wish to align ourselves to other units within the country, continent and world in terms of doing and experiencing things. We aim at collaborating with colleagues from elsewhere in tackling issues of common concern to human kind.

Our competencies are unparalleled in terms of caseloads and case differentiation. Our case mix

remains true for Africa and its diaspora, which is much different from what the Western World normally see and experience. The scores, e.g. Euroscore, etc. do not necessarily hold true for our African patients. But these have not been explored scientifically and need to be explored. Therein lies our competencies and the world is waiting to hear from us.

In order to achieve these, communication remains key within and without. We, therefore aim to make this website key in terms of “without” communication to our stakeholders.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to the management of the complex (SMU & DGMAH) for their support and continuing support in assisting us to make our goal a reality.

The support of private companies is also appreciated and welcomed.

We pledge that we shall not rest until this dream is achieved and realized.

I thank you.

Compiled by:

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