Professor Jeffrey Mphahlele

Professor Jeffrey Mphahlele, PhD, is the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation at the North-West University (NWU). He is an elected member of Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf). His research publications cover epidemiology, control of infectious diseases through vaccination and strengthening immunisation services and policies. Prior joining the NWU, he was the Vice President for Research at the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) (Oct 2014 to Jun 2021). He was a full-time academic at Medunsa / University of Limpopo Medunsa Campus (now Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University) in various capacities: Professor and Academic Chair of the Department of Virology and National Health Laboratory Service (2005 to Sep 2014) and Co-Director of the SAMRC/Diarrhoeal Pathogens Research Unit, which is a WHO Rotavirus Regional Reference Laboratory for Africa (2010 to March 2018). He trained, supervised, and mentored several Post-Doctoral, Doctoral and Master students as contribution towards developing the next generation of researchers. He currently serves as the Chairperson of National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF) and Vice-Chairperson of the National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS) Board, member of WHO Scientific Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) Polio Working Group, and South African NITAG (National Advisory Group on Immunisation – NAGI). He is the former member of Ministerial Advisory Committee on Covid-19 vaccines and the Committee for Medical Science of Medical and Dental Professions Board of the Health Professions Council of South Africa. He previously served on various governance bodies nationally and internationally including the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) Association Board, Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness (GloPID-R) Board, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) Board and South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) Board.