

## The Critical Care Society of Southern Africa mourns the passing of our colleague and friend Prof. Robin J Green (4 October 1961 – 27 May 2022)

*From the President of the Critical Care Society of Southern Africa, Prof. Fathima Paruk, University of Pretoria:*

The passing of Professor Robin J Green leaves a huge void in many facets of clinical and academic medicine, including critical care. Robin held a double Doctorate and Fellowships in the Royal College of Physicians, American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology and the American College of Chest Physicians. He was a Full Professor and Head of the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health and also served as the Head of School of Medicine, at the University of Pretoria. As a passionate clinician, established researcher and a supportive mentor, Robin touched the lives of many across South Africa and beyond. A highly-regarded paediatric pulmonologist, Robin was instrumental in the founding of the National Asthma Education Programme and he previously chaired the Allergy Society of South Africa. His clinical and academic expertise saw him hold many leadership positions in his career, including the Presidency of the College of Paediatricians of South Africa, and serving on the editorial boards of journals. The Critical Care community also enjoyed a close working relationship with Robin.

Robin regularly contributed to the Critical Care Society of Southern Africa's national congress and refresher meetings, not only as a speaker but also as an organising committee member. Robin's contributions were appreciated and valued by senior colleagues from various specialties. Robin's caring nature certainly touched the lives of the many clinicians, colleagues and students that he encountered. Many of his mentees have progressed to successful leadership positions. His legacy will continue through the many individuals his life has inspired. Heartfelt condolences to Professor Green's family, friends and colleagues.

*From Prof. Refiloe Masekela, Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, University of KwaZulu Natal:*

Professor Robin Green was a stalwart of the Paediatric Pulmonology community in South Africa. As a pulmonologist he ran the Paediatric Critical Care unit at the University of Pretoria for a number of years. What was unique about Robin, was that he saw critical care as an extension and large part of every paediatric pulmonologists' training, and supported both fellows and students to be involved in congresses, both national and international, to acquire knowledge and improve their skills.

His contribution to the field of critical care in children is established with him as a supervisor of seminal work that has informed policy on management of children with *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia in HIV-infected children. The Unit in Pretoria was one of the first in the country to support ventilation of vulnerable children, who at the time, were largely not accessing intensive care due to the deemed poor outcomes. Robin cared about all the children in his care and led a fantastic team in the critical care unit at the University of Pretoria and mobilised many resources for both staff, children and parents who were in the unit.

Robin's laughter, gentle nature and absolute love for his work will be remembered by all those who worked with him. He was a true gentleman who respected his profession. Nothing was ever too much to ask of him from parents who he happily shared his number with and his open-door policy to both parents and colleagues alike.

Robin will be sorely missed and for all those of us who worked and were mentored by him, we certainly stood on shoulders of a giant.

Lala ngoxolo Robin!