COSOSA
CARDIO ONCOLOGY SOCIETY
OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

3rd Annual COSOSA Conference
26 – 27 May 2023, Somerset West, South Africa

The Cardio-Oncology Society of Southern Africa successfully hosted its **3rd Annual Cardio-Oncology Conference from 26 – 27 May at the Lord Charles Hotel in Somerset, Western Cape, South Africa**.

The conference focused on addressing challenges related to the cardiovascular adverse effects of cancer therapy. Attendees had the opportunity to engage in interdisciplinary learning, discussions, and networking with colleagues, distinguished international faculty, and national key opinion leaders **in cardiovascular health management for cancer patients**. The program featured sessions on cardiovascular toxicity, complex cardiovascular complications in cancer patients, multi-faceted cardio-oncology care, and the role of imaging in cardio-oncology, among other notable presentations on advancements in the field.

Dr Rowland Illing, Medical Director at Amazon Web Services (AWS), delivered the keynote lecture. His talk explored the transformative potential of AI and digital solutions in healthcare, focusing on their impact on diagnostic accuracy, treatment personalisation, and patient outcomes. Attendees gained valuable insights into the crucial intersection of AI, digital medicine, and cardio-oncology care.

Other esteemed faculty included international pioneers in Cardio-Oncology such as **Dr Alexander Lyon** (Cardio Oncologist - UK, President of Cardio-Oncology ESC), **Prof. Sebastian Szmit** (Cardiologist – Poland, President IC-COS Poland), **Prof. Susan Dent** (Medical Oncologist - USA, President of IC-OS), **Dr Teresa Lopez** (Cardiologist – Spain, Vice-President IC-OS and President IC-OS Spain), **Prof. Tomas Neilan** (Cardiologist - USA), **Dr Chris Plummer** (Cardiologist - UK), **Dr Tharshini Ramalingam** (General Practioner focused on cardio-oncology - UK), **Prof Ashutosh Wechalekar** (Haematologist - UK), **Mr Ulrich Rosendahl** (Cardiac Surgeon - UK), **Dr Susannah Stanway** (Medical Oncologist - UK), **Dr. Wanzhu Zhang** (Cardiologist - Uganda). Notable local experts included **Dr YT (Trishun) Singh** (Cardiologist/Cardio-Oncologist, President COSOSA), **Dr Ines Buccimazza** (Breast & Endocrine Surgeon), **Prof Ashley Chin** (Electrophysiologist), **Dr Ria David** (Medical Oncologist**), Dr Jacqueline Hall** (Radiation Oncologist), **Prof Gita Naidu**

(Paediatric Oncologist), **Prof Ntobeko Ntusi** (Cardiologist), **Dr Alexia Oliver** (Medical Doctor), **Prof Andrew Sarkin** (Cardiologist), **Prof Alicia Sherriff** (Radiation Oncologist), **Dr Len Steingo** (Cardiologist), and **Dr Pieter van der Bijl** (Cardiologist).

We are delighted by the overwhelmingly positive feedback from the delegates, who rated the conference as excellent and highly beneficial. The in-person attendance at the COSOSA Conference **exceeded 100 healthcare professional delegates**, including Cardiologists, Radiation- and Medical Oncologists, Cardiology- and Oncology Fellows, Surgeons, Haematologists, Radiologists, Endocrinologists, Specialist Physicians, General Practitioners, Pharmacists, and other allied health professionals involved in cancer patient management. Delegates joined us from various countries, including **South Africa, Namibia, Poland, Spain, Tanzania, Uganda, the UK, the USA,** and **Zimbabwe**.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors, **Zydus, Boehringer Ingelheim, Biotronik, Aspen, Pfizer, Cipla, Siemens, AWS, Netcare, Baroque Medical, Bayer, Kairos, Novartis,** and **Ascendis Medical.** Their generous support and participation made this conference possible.

We aim to build on the success of this meeting and continue organising future educational events to raise awareness of Cardio-Oncology in Africa and improve the lives of cancer patients.