

PHASA 2025

Partnerships for Public Health:
Sculpting a Healthier Future Together



PHASA
Public Health Association
of South Africa



PROF PAGOLLANG MOTLOBA

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY DENTISTRY,
SEFAKO MAKGATHO HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

Prof. Pagollang Motloba is a highly accomplished academic and leader in the field of Community Dentistry, currently serving as the Head of Department (HOD) of Community Dentistry at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU). With a robust academic foundation, he holds a Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), a Master of Public Health (MPH) in Epidemiology, a Master of Dentistry (MDent) in Community Dentistry, and a Master of Business Leadership (MBL). His research expertise spans oral health systems, patient satisfaction, and public health, with dissertations focusing on performance systems in oral health services and patient waiting times in tertiary dental care.

Prof. Motloba has held numerous leadership roles, including Acting Dean of SMU's School of Oral Health Sciences, Head of Cluster for multiple dental disciplines, and Chief Specialist in Community Dentistry. He has been instrumental in shaping national health policies, serving on the Clinical Expert Advisory Panel for the National Health Insurance (NHI) and leading a university consortium awarded R3.6 billion to pilot NHI service delivery models. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he was a key member of the Gauteng Department of Health's War Room, contributing to the provincial response.

A prolific researcher, Prof. Motloba has published over 67 peer-reviewed articles and authored book chapters on organizational analysis and intergovernmental relations. He is an active reviewer for local and international journals and has supervised over 26 postgraduate students (MDent, MMed, MDS) and 20 PGD students. Additionally, he provides statistical support and research mentoring across SMU.

Prof. Motloba's external engagements include representing the South African Committee of Dental Deans (SACODD) on the NHI Joint Medical and Health Sciences Deans Committee and serving as a convener and accreditation panel member for dental programs at various universities. His dedication to advancing oral health and public health makes him a respected voice in his field and a sought-after speaker at conferences like the PHASA Oral Health Plenary.