

DAY 1		27 AUGUST 2026			
TIME	TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3	TRACK 4	WORKSHOP
09:00 - 09:55	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: (AI)	PAEDIATRIC VISION	CONTACT LENSES	LOW VISION:	VISUAL OPTIC SCIENCE WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Tuwani Rasengane</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Enrique Nzula</i>	<i>Chair: Dr Casandra Seethal</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Nabeela Hasrod</i>
	Teleretina in the primary care setting. <b>Dr Tareq Issam Nabhan</b>	Digital Device use in Children. <b>Dr Glen Steele</b>	The Good, Bad and the Ugly of Scleral lens fitting. <b>Ms Marelize Le Roux &amp; Ms Annelize van Zyl</b>	Matching Patient Goals with Bi-optic Solutions: The Optometrist's Role. <b>Mrs Hazel Sachorowitz</b>	From laboratories to the real world: the China Eye Valley model. <b>Prof Yi Gao</b>
09:55 - 10:35	TEA BREAK & EXHIBITION				
10:35 - 11:35	RESEARCH (AI)	PAEDIATRIC VISION	CONTACT LENSES	PUBLIC HEALTH	CONTACT LENS WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i>	<i>CHAIR: Prof Tuwani Rasengane</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Enrique Nzula</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Thendo Mashudu</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Chris Eksteen</i>
	Innovation in Optometry. <b>Dr Naimah Khan</b>	Visual Examination of the Preschool Child: Foundations for Lifelong Vision. <b>Dr Marietjie Richter</b>	Navigating Contact Lens Complications: Preparing for 2030 and beyond. <b>Ms Dina Bornman</b>	Impact of eyecare health promotion on school communities in the Free State, South Africa. <b>Dr Xolani Nyathela</b>	Basic scleral handling techniques and care regiment. <b>Ms Marelize Le Roux &amp; Ms Annelize van Zyl</b>
11:35 - 12:35	OPENING CEREMONY – HALL 1A				
12:35 - 13:35	LUNCH, EXHIBITION & POSTERS (8)				SAFILO WORKSHOP
13:45 - 14:45	PAPERS: VISION SCIENCE	OCULAR PATHOLOGY	DISPENSING	PUBLIC HEALTH	ESSILOR WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Mr Dollars Boloka</i>	<i>Chair: Dr Naimah Khan</i>	<i>Chair Ms Marna Pieterse</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Thendo Mashudu</i>	
	Inter-examiner reproducibility of subjective refraction. <b>Prof Solani Mathebula</b>	Ocu-Path Challenge from Image to Intervention: Clinical Decision-Making Under Pressure. <b>Prof Nabeela Hasrod</b>	Rethinking Frame Design: Aligning Spectacle Fit with African Facial Anthropometry. <b>Mr Sanele Buthelezi</b>	WHO Specs 2030. <b>Prof Kovin Naidoo</b>	
	Ocular biometry of Zulu eyes differs significantly from that of European eyes. <b>Dr Tanya Evans</b>				
	Effect of Menstrual Cycle on Central Corneal Thickness. <b>Ms Seyuri Bisetty &amp; Dr Naimah Khan</b>				

# SAOA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION 2026: PROGRAMME

14:50-15:10	TEA BREAK & EXHIBITION				
15:15 - 16:15	PAPERS: EPIDEMIOLOGY	OCULAR PATHOLOGY	LOW VISION	PEADIATRIC VISION PANEL	DISPENSING WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Dr Raymond Mabaso</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Caroline Berry</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Joanne Kalil</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Ingrid Metsing</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Marna Pieterse</i>
	<p>The Effect of Vaping on Tear Film Stability Among University Students: A Cross-Sectional Study. <b>Prof Tuwani Rasengane</b></p> <p>Prevalence and Determinants of Vernal Conjunctivitis. <b>Mr Thendo Mashudu</b></p> <p>Strengthening Eye and Metabolic Health Evidence in Sub-Saharan Africa. <b>Prof Levi Osuagwu</b></p>	<p>How to Elevate your Glaucoma Diagnosis and Treatment Effectively. <b>Prof Prithipaul Ramkissoon</b></p>	<p>Low vision: What should I be doing in a low vision examination and can I really help this patient? <b>Ms Annelize van Zyl</b></p>	<p>Big considerations for little people. <b>Dr Glen Steele, Dr Casandra Seethal &amp; Dr Naimah Khan</b></p>	<p>Trouble Shooting in Dispensing – How to Manage the come-back patient. <b>Mr Asenso Prince &amp; Mr Anthony Carlson</b></p>
16:20 - 17:20	PAPERS: PUBLIC HEALTH	OCULAR PATHOLOGY	LOW VISION	ETHICS	
	<i>Chair: Dr Raymond Mabaso</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Caroline Barry</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Joanne Kalil</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Ingrid Metsing</i>	
	<p>Readiness of Undergraduate Optometry Students for Sustainable HealthCare: Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices. <b>Dr Rayishnee Pillay</b></p> <p>Eye Care for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: A Systematic Review. <b>Dr Joas Ramaja</b></p> <p>Towards Sustainable Clinical Practice: A Decision-making model for Waste Management in Optometry. <b>Dr Rayishnee Pillay</b></p>	<p>Winning the Dry Eye Battle: Practical Strategies That Actually Work. <b>Prof Waleed Alghamdi</b></p>	<p>An Update on Macular Pigments, Lifestyle, and Charles Bonnet Syndrome. <b>Mr Manny Moodley &amp; Ms Karen Denton</b></p>	<p>Navigating Medical Malpractice in a Digital Age: Ethics, Risk, and Resilience. <b>Ms Fia Samuels &amp; Ms Noleen Podrouzek</b></p>	
17:30 - 21:00	Cocktail evening co-sponsored by SAOA & Cooper Vision: (EXHIBITION ARENA)				

DAY 2					28 AUGUST 2026	
TIME	TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3	TRACK 4	CAMP SIDE STORY & COMPLIMENTARY STUDENT PRESENTATIONS	WORKSHOP
08:00 - 09:00	BINOCULAR VISION	CONTACT LENSES	NEURO-OPTOMETRY	SPORTS VISION	SAOSA PRESENTATION	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Prof Solani Mathebula</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Tania Noach</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Leane Cilliers</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Patrick Mawila</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Harry Rosen</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i>
	Binocular vision considerations in Myopia. <b>Prof Alvin Munsamy</b>	Managing Contact Lenses in the Paediatric Population. <b>Dr Khaled Alzahrani</b>	Effects of concussion on the visual system. <b>Ms Catherine McCarthy</b>	Visualisation Assessment and Training Among University Football Players. <b>Dr Joas Ramaja</b>		The latest advancements in Binocular Vision and Myopia Management. <b>Ms Ilse Homan</b>
09:00 - 10:00	BINOCULAR VISION	CONTACT LENSES	NEURO-OPTOMETRY	SPORTS VISION	SAOSA PRESENTATION	
	<i>Chair: Prof Solani Mathebula</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Tania Noach</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Leane Cilliers</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Patrick Mawila</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Harry Rosen</i>	
	Investigating an acute symptom of double vision with no history of trauma: A systematic approach to the examination. <b>Dr Nashua Naicker</b>	Contact lens options for managing pediatric myopia. <b>Dr Obinwanne Chukwuemeka</b>	I spy with my pupil: Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). <b>Mr Dharmendra J Bhoola</b>	Promoting Active Lifestyles for Visual Impairment: A Vision Beyond Sight. <b>Mr Manny Moodley &amp; Ms Linsey Engelbrecht</b>		<b>ACCUVUE - 09:30 - 10:30</b>
09:55 - 10:35	TEA BREAK & EXHIBITION					
10:35 - 11:35	PAPERS: SPORTS VISION	MENTAL HEALTH	MYOPIA	DISPENSING	CAMP SIDE STORY	CONTACT LENS WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Mr Quinton Hindricksen</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Sandy Govender</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Prelina Ramkissoon</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Nabeela Hasrod</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Chris Eksteen</i>

# SAOA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION 2026: PROGRAMME

	<p>Vision and Sports Science: A Systematic Review. <b>Dr Joas Ramaja</b></p> <p>Short-Term Effects of Exercise on IOP Among Two South African University Student Athletes. <b>Mr Dimakatso Given Mashala</b></p>	<p>Mental health in African higher education: what data and experiences in Sub Saharan Africa, tell us. <b>Dr Isaura Brito Dos Santos</b></p>	<p>How Have Animal Models Increased our Understanding of Human Myopia? <b>Prof Mark Bullimore</b></p>	<p>Progressive lens Dispensing Masterclass. <b>Mr Derek McCarthy</b></p>	<p>A comparative evaluation of mohindra retinoscopy and contralateral fogging methods with cycloplegic refraction in paediatric patients. <b>Ms Nimra T Naveed et al</b></p> <p>Communication with Hope: A narrative from community eye health outreach. <b>Ms Andiswa Zulu</b></p> <p>Growing into Confidence. <b>Ms Lesedi Mphahlele</b></p> <p>Helping The Child I Once Was. <b>Ms Noxolo Mahlangu</b></p>	<p>Assessing keratoconus risks and fitting contact lenses in low resource contexts. <b>Prof Vanessa Moodley &amp; Ms Yurisa Naidoo</b></p>
11:35 - 12:35	<p><b>PAPERS: POLICY</b></p> <p><i>Chair: Prof Solani Mathebula</i></p>	<p><b>NEURO OPTOMETRY</b></p> <p><i>Chair: Ms Leane Cilliers</i></p>	<p><b>MYOPIA MANAGEMENT PANEL DISCUSSION</b></p> <p><i>Chair: Mr Dollars Boloka</i></p>	<p><b>DISPENSING</b></p> <p><i>Chair: Ms Prelina Ramkissoon</i></p>	<p><b>CAMP SIDE STORY</b></p> <p><i>Chair: Prof Nabeela Hasrod</i></p>	<p><b>CONTAMAC</b></p>
	<p>A Strategic Framework for Vision Screening Standards for Driving in South Africa. <b>Dr Tsholofelo Tamenti</b></p> <p>Health Regulation Policy Shaping the Landscape for Optometry. <b>Ms Yurisa Naidoo</b></p>	<p>Hidden Chemistries: The Link Between Concussions and Motor Neuron Disease. <b>Mr Dharmendra J Bhoola</b></p>	<p>Understanding the Myopia Pandemic. <b>Prof Mark Bullimore, Mrs Martelie Burger &amp; Ms Ilse Homan</b></p>	<p>Dispensing pearls, processes and procedures for vision excellence. <b>Ms Jorina Lombard</b></p>	<p>Investigating the Accuracy and Agreement of Cycloplegia and Borish Delayed Refraction Test Compared to Cycloplegic Refraction in Myopia and Hyperopia. <b>Ms Fezile Nkosi</b></p> <p>The Campside Story Track. <b>Ms Betty Thobakgale</b></p> <p>The Optrex Blink test. <b>Ms Kiara Kisten</b></p> <p>Through a Different Lens: A Call for Equitable Eye Care in Rural South Africa. <b>Mr Thabiso Chili</b></p>	

# SAOA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION 2026: PROGRAMME

12:35 - 13:35	LUNCH, EXHIBITION & POSTERS (7)					
13:35 - 14:45	PAPERS: LOW VISION, CLINICAL OPTOMETRY	CONTACT LENSES	THERAPEUTICS	OCULARISTRY	CONTACT LENS	COOPER VISION
	<i>Chair: Ms Ronel Ducci</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Quinton Hindricksen</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Dollars Boloka</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Harry Rosen</i>	<i>Chair: Dr Naimah Khan</i>	
	Exploring mobilization strategies for the hard-to-reach visually impaired individuals in the Free State Province: A Qualitative Study. <b>Dr Matieho Belina Mokhua</b>	Orthokeratology for Myopia, Hyperopia, Astigmatism and Presbyopia. <b>Mr Chris Eksteen</b>	The Evolving Landscape of Glaucoma Management. <b>Dr Sarah Gleason</b>	The Magic of Ocularistry. <b>Ms Gail Altona &amp; Ms Beryl Carvalho</b>	Breaking Barriers: Building Your Specialty Lens Practice with Confidence. <b>Dr Elizabeth Chetty</b>	
	Comparative Assessment of Diurnal Variations Across Intraocular Pressure Measurement Devices. <b>Dr Mahwash Khan</b>					
	A comparison of Patient – Reported Dry Eye Symptoms Using the Ocular Surface Disease Index (ODSI). <b>Mr Percy Khosa</b>					
14:45 - 15:45	PAPERS: EPIDEMIOLOGY, MENTAL HEALTH	CONTACT LENS PANEL DISCUSSION:	OCULAR THERAPEUTICS	PAEDIATRIC VISION	MYOPIA	BINOCLAR VISION WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Ms Ronel Ducci</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Pieter Naude (CLSSA)</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Dollars Boloka</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Tuwani Rasengane</i>	<i>Chair: Dr Naimah Khan</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i> 15:00 - 16:00
	Evaluation of the risk of Keratoconus (KC) among secondary school learners in the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality of Gauteng Province, South Africa. <b>Ms Lebohang Ntlabathi</b>	The Future of Contact Lenses. <b>Dr Khaled Alzahrani, Dr Obinwanne Chukwuemeka, Dr Elizabeth Chetty &amp; Prof Vanessa Moodley</b>	Beneath The Surface: Branded Versus Generic Ophthalmic Drugs. <b>Mr Dharmendra J Bhoola</b>	Small Means, Big Impact: Advancing Paediatric Vision and Eye Health in South Africa. <b>Dr Casandra Seethal</b>	Myopia Management: What I know now, that wish I'd known then. <b>Prof Mark Bullimore</b>	Binocular vision made simple. <b>Prof Alvin Munsamy</b>
	The Association between Cataract and Visual Function in Elderly Patients in Limpopo, South Africa. <b>Mr Moshe Makombela</b>					
	Optometry Students' Mental Health: Investigating the Links Between Anxiety, Depression, and Key Variables. <b>Dr Velibanti Sukati</b>					

# SAOA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION 2026: PROGRAMME

16:00 - 17:00	PAPERS: SPECIAL INTEREST PAPERS: CONTACT LENSES, PAEDS	PUBLIC HEALTH	ETHICS	PAEDIATRIC VISION	CAMP SIDE STORY	OCULAR PATHOLOGY WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Prof Solani Mathebula</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Ntombi Zitha</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Harry Rosen</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Tania Noach</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Lesego Mokoka</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Paul Ramkissoon</i>
	<p><b>Contact Lenses:</b> South African Optometrists' Contact Lenses Prescribing Practices. <b>Ms Woanda Tshidino</b></p> <p><b>Paediatric Vision:</b> Exploring the Management modalities for the pediatric population presenting with binocular vision anomalies in public health care facilities in Limpopo South Africa. <b>Ms Ennie Maribeng</b></p> <p><b>Paediatric Vision:</b> Development of a Children's Visual Function Quality of Life (CVF-QoL) Instrument for Rural School-Going Children with Visual Impairments Within a South African Context: Item Generation and Validation. <b>Dr TSS Magakwe</b></p>	<p>Effectiveness of Dance-Integrated Educational Videos in Improving Eye Health Knowledge and Preventive Behaviours in Nigeria. <b>Dr Ngozi Uwagboe</b></p>	<p>To Follow or Not to Follow? The Ethical Imperative of Clinical Guidelines in Optometry. <b>Dr Ansel de la Rey &amp; Ms Yurisa Naidoo</b></p>	<p>Fetal alcohol syndrome and its effects on the visual system of children. <b>Prof Ingrid Metsing</b></p>	<p>Medical Gaslighting- Who is affected, and how to avoid it. <b>Dr Carel Masemola</b></p> <p>Strengthening human resources to achieve who's 2030 refractive error targets in South Africa. <b>Prof Tuwani Rasengane &amp; Dr Haseena Majid</b></p> <p>Assessing knowledge and perceptions of South African optometrists on the National Health Insurance. <b>Mr Thobeka Mathenjwa</b></p> <p>From Limitation to Liberation – Embracing Blindness and Maximizing Potential. <b>Mr Manny Moodley</b></p>	<p>Maximizing Dry Eye Diagnosis and Management Using Everyday Clinical Techniques. <b>Prof Waleed Alghamdi</b></p>
18:30 - 19:00	SAOA GALA DINNER: HALL 1 A					

DAY 3					29 AUGUST 2026	
TIME	TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3	TRACK 4	CAMP SIDE STORY & COMPLIMENTARY STUDENT PRESENTATIONS	WORKSHOP
08:00 - 09:00	PAPERS: OCULAR PATHOLOGY/ THERAPEUTICS, AI (Emerging Technologies)	OCULAR PATHOLOGY	VISION SCIENCE	AI TECHNOLOGY	CAMP SIDE STORY	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Prof Ingrid Metsing</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Tshepo Malatji</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Nabeela Hasrod</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Martelie Burger</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Nivien Subramany</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Dharmendra J Bhoola</i>
	<p><b>Ocular Pathology</b></p> <p>Great Clinical Pearls of Ocular Therapeutics Cases. <b>Prof Prithipaul Ramkissoon</b></p> <p>Recent Advances in Corneal Cross Linking. <b>Ms Ayesha Suliman</b></p> <p>Meibomian Gland Dysfunction: An Ocular Surface Profile in Keratoconic Patients Attending an Eye Clinic in Johannesburg. <b>Mr Adam Choma</b></p> <p><b>AI (Emerging Technologies)</b></p> <p>Exploring the Integration of Augmented Reality in Optometric Practice. <b>Ms Seyuri Bisetty</b></p>	<p>The future of vision science: Innovation, Technology and Patient Care. <b>Prof Liang Hu</b></p>	<p>AI for an Eye. <b>Dr Tareq Issam Nabhan</b></p>	<p>Loving optometry still in 2026. <b>Ms Leane Cilliers</b></p> <p>Evaluation of the JENVIS Pro Dry Eye Report as a Diagnostic Tool for Dry Eye Disease in a University Clinic. <b>Ms Tebatso Tsotetsi</b></p> <p>A Measure of Vision. <b>Mr Frederik Jansen</b></p> <p>Access to eyecare in rural South Africa: Bridging the gap with mobile clinics. <b>Ms Kirthi Rewasankar</b></p>	<p>Myopia Management: how do I know it's working? <b>Prof Mark Bullimore</b></p>	
09:00 - 09:55	PAPERS: EPIDEMIOLOGY	DISABILITY	VISION SCIENCE	DISPENSING PANEL DISCUSSION	CAMP SIDE STORY	PEADIATRIC WORKSHOP
	<i>Chair: Dr Raymond Mabaso</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Tshepo Malatji</i>	<i>Chair: Prof Nabeela Hasrod</i>	<i>Chair: Ms Marna Pieterse</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Enrique Nzula</i>	<i>Chair: Mr Quinton Hindricksen</i>
	Determinants of Eye Care Seeking Behaviour Among Grade 8 - 12 Learners in Giyani, South Africa. <b>Mr Justice Mulungwa</b>	Silent Sight: Practical Clinical Insights Strategies for Examining Deaf and Hard-of-	Are visual perception and visual functions affected in myopic populations? <b>Prof Yi Gao</b>	Optical Dispensing: The art and the science. <b>Mr Anthony Carlson, Ms Prelina Ramkissoon, Mr</b>	I can't read through these new glasses. <b>Prof Prithipaul Ramkissoon</b>	Just Look Retinoscopy and Child

# SAOA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION 2026: PROGRAMME

	Barriers to the accessibility of Eye and Vision Care Services in Gqeberha, Eastern Cape. <b>Ms Anche Oosthuizen</b>	Hearing Patients. <b>Dr Ansunel De La Rey &amp; Ms Erna Bruwer</b>		<b>Asenso Prince &amp; Ms Angeliqwe Walbrugh</b>	Traumatic Thrills: The Impact of G Forces on Vision. <b>Mr Dharmendra J Bhoola</b>	Development. <b>Dr Glen Steele</b>
	A retrospective Analysis of the Prevalence of Non Strabismic Binocular Vision Anomalies Among University Students: A cross-sectional study. <b>Mr Justice Mulungwa</b>				Scoliosis - Go Left, to go Right. <b>Mr Abdurazaak Abdol</b>	
					A Whole New World in Sight: Restoring Lives with Scleral Lenses—Reflections from the Camp side. <b>Ms Dina Bornman</b>	
<b>09:55 - 10:15</b>	<b>TEA BREAK &amp; EXHIBITION</b>					
<b>10:15 - 11:15</b>	<b>OCULAR PATHOLOGY</b>	<b>PUBLIC HEALTH</b>	<b>ETHICS</b>	<b>PAEDIATRIC VISION</b>		<b>OCULAR THERAPEUTICS WORKSHOP</b>
	<i>Chair: <b>Dr Naimah Khan</b></i>	<i>Chair: <b>Ms Ntombi Zitha</b></i>	<i>Chair: <b>Ms Jenny Gopal</b></i>	<i>Chair: <b>Dr Casandra Seethal</b></i>		<i>Chair: <b>Prof Paul Ramkissoon</b></i>
	DEWS III - Key changes to diagnosing Dry Eye Disease. <b>Ms Marilize le Roux</b>	Humanitarian values in Optometry. <b>Dr Tariq Issam Nabhan</b>	Ethical Quagmires with 2030 In Sight. <b>Mr Harry Rosen</b>	Seeing through Autistic Eyes. <b>Mr Abdurazaak Abdol</b>		Clinical Decision-Making in Glaucoma: Interactive Case-Based Workshop. <b>Dr Sarah Gleason</b>
<b>11:15- 12:15</b>	<b>OCULAR PATHOLOGY:</b>	<b>LOW VISION</b>	<b>ETHICS</b>	<b>PAEDIATRIC VISION</b>		<b>EUROTECH</b>
	<i>Chair: <b>Dr Naimah Khan</b></i>	<i>Chair: <b>Ms Ntombi Zitha</b></i>	<i>Chair: <b>Ms Jenny Gopal</b></i>	<i>Chair: <b>Dr Casandra Seethal</b></i>		
	Leukocoria- All white pupils are not due to cataract. <b>Ms Mologadi Ntsoane</b>	Clinical Pearls of Low Vision. <b>Ms Hazel Sachorowitz</b>	A Whole New World: An ethical Perspective. <b>Dr Pheagane Nkoana</b>	It's Not Rare If It's in Your Chair: Clinical Recognition of Genetic Disorders in Optometric Practice. <b>Dr Ansunel De La Rey &amp; Ms Chantelle Brits</b>		
<b>12:30 - 13:30</b>	<b>CLOSING CEREMONY: EXHIBITION ARENA</b>					
<b>13:30 - 14:30</b>	<b>LUNCH, EXHIBITION &amp; POSTERS (4)</b>					

# SAOA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION 2026: PROGRAMME

POSTER PRESENTATIONS		
<b>Day 1 – 27 August 2026</b>		
Knowledge and practices of South African optometrists regarding childhood myopia management	Ms Shivani Naipal	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT
Eye safety practices and knowledge of occupational hazards among workers in selected quarry mines, Limpopo province, South Africa.	Ms Thudzelani Mukwevho	OCCUPATIONAL OPTOMETRY
Myopia Control Awareness and Practices of Optometrists in Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa	Dr Urvashni Nirghin	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT
Normative Interpupillary Distance Measurements Among Different Ethnic Groups in Witbank, Mpumalanga	Ms Bevily Nukeri	OTHER
Preference in usage of spectacles and low vision devices by visually impaired students at the University of Limpopo	Ms Gloria Ramonyai	LOW VISION
Prevalence of refractive error Among Children presenting at selected private optometry practices in Witbank, Mpumalanga	Ms Bevily Nukeri	PEADIATRIC VISION
Ready-made readers vs CR-39: A study of refractive index, clarity, and scratch resistance	Ms Mieke Vermeulen	RESEARCH
Lead time of optometry services in selected public hospitals in rural South Africa	Ms Mapula Precious Rapao	PUBLIC HEALTH
<b>Day 2- 28 August 2026</b>		
Primary Challenges Facing Optometrists Today	Ms Caitlin Jogiana	OTHER
Profile of ocular conditions for patients presenting at selected public eye care facilities in the uMgungundlovu district, KwaZulu-Natal, South African ocular conditions	Ms Rorisang Mosololi	PUBLIC HEALTH
Protocol Overview of a Controlled Clinical Trial Evaluating the Efficacy of Myopia Control Lenses in African Children	Ms Asiphe Tobotshane	MYOPIA MANAGEMENT
Retinal nerve fibre layer thickness of male rugby players at the University of the Free State	Ms Siddeeqa Jhetam	SPORTS VISION
Tearfilm viscosity, lipid layer colour interference patterns and their association to tearfilm integrity in patients at university clinic	Ms Patience Maleta	CONTACT LENSES
Vision-Specific Tools for the Assessment of Health-Related Quality of Life (HR-QoL) in Children and Adolescents with Visual Impairment: A Scoping Review	Dr T Sello Simon Magakwe	RESEARCH
Knowledge, attitude and perception of dry eye among students of the University of Benin	Mr Oghenekume Oghenetega	PUBLIC HEALTH
<b>Day 3- 29 August 2026</b>		
Viewing distance of smartphone users: a comparison between sitting and standing postures	Dr Nishanee Rampersad	OTHER
Integrating Private Optometry with Community Screening: A Cross-Sectional Study of Eye Care Access Amongst SASSA Pensioners in Atlantis	Mr Frederik Jansen	PUBLIC HEALTH
An evaluation of peripapillary choroidal vascularity index and choroidal thickness in low to moderate myopia	Dr Lungile Buthelezi	RESEARCH
The visual acuity, refractive error and stereopsis in children with mild and moderate intellectual disabilities in the Capricorn District Municipality, Limpopo Province	Ms Lorato Segwati	PEADIATRIC VISION