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Van den Ende Memorial Lecture 2015

If the right to health and the health system is under threat- What's your role?

By

Dr. Prinitha Pillay

Dr Prinitha Pillay – Programme Manager: HRH and Policy Implementation

Dr Prinitha Pillay joined the RHAP as a Programme Manager in May 2014. She previously worked at Wits RHI in the Adult HIV/TB Care and Treatment Technical Department. She graduated from the University of the Witwatersrand as a doctor and completed her Masters in Infectious Diseases from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (UK). Prinitha has worked for Doctors without Borders/Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) in many different and dire environments from Lesotho, Sudan, South Sudan, Libya, India, Sierra Leone and in both rural and urban South Africa. She also served as President of the Board of Doctors without Borders/Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) South Africa. Prinitha features in the health chapter of the 2011 edition of the Mail and Guardian's [Book of South African Women](#), which is "an annual efforts to discover and represent people who are doing transformative work".

21 October 2015

16h30

NEW LEARNING CENTRE LECTURE THEATRE

RSVP: Mpho.mogotsi@uct.ac.za for catering purposes, by 16 October 2015



Professor Marinus van den Ende was a UCT medical graduate who was appointed to the Chair of Bacteriology in the University of Cape Town in 1945. He built up a large and active department of virology and bacteriology, with an emphasis on research. The South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research recognized his rare qualities and in 1950 established a virus research unit under his leadership, the first such unit in South Africa. He became widely recognized as an authority and in 1954 was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. In 1954, while on a Sims Travelling Fellowship in Melbourne in the laboratories of Sir Frank McFarlane Burnet, he was diagnosed with what was to be a fatal illness. He returned to Cape Town, where he faced his remaining days with remarkable courage, working fervently to the end. He was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and national advisor on many committees. He died at the age of 45 in 1957. His friends, admirers and colleagues made it possible for a Memorial Lecture to be held at intervals in the memory of a remarkable man, who among his many achievements established the first Division of Virology in this country.

