



**International College of Prosthodontists**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Biennial Scientific Session - VIRTUAL - September 22 – 25, 2021**

**Program Speaker – Matshediso ‘Kuki’ Mothopi-Peri**

**Title**

The Craniofacial Multidisciplinary Team: The South African Experience

**Abstract**

Patients presenting with craniofacial defects present with more problems than just the defect. To achieve the best treatment outcomes for these patients, a multidisciplinary approach is required. There are few centres around the world which have craniofacial multidisciplinary teams. These teams consist of surgeons, prosthodontists, physiotherapists, psychologists, dieticians and speech therapists amongst others. Management of patients by these teams will produce the best treatment outcomes for each patient depending on their needs and circumstances.

Ten years ago, clinicians from three academic hospitals, two general and tertiary centres, and one oral health centre, came together to initiate the Craniofacial multidisciplinary team. Hundreds of patients have been treated or managed in this clinic and a number of staff members from different disciplines have rotated through the clinic. There have been many successes achieved by this team but there have also been numerous challenges which are still continuing, and which threatens its existence.

The purpose of this presentation is to share the experiences of the craniofacial multidisciplinary team from Wits University and its associated health centres in Johannesburg, South Africa. The presentation will cover the successes, failures and challenges experienced by this team in the past ten years of its existence. By doing so, it is hoped that the lessons learnt will be useful to others elsewhere in the world.

**Biography**

Dr Matshediso ‘Kuki’ Mothopi-Peri completed both her Bachelor of Dental Science (BDS) and Masters in Dentistry (Prosthodontics) (MDent Pros) at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.

She is currently the Head of the Department of Paediatric and Restorative Dentistry in the School of Oral Health Sciences at the University of the Witwatersrand. Before assuming this position she worked as a Prosthodontic Consultant and Lecturer in the Department of Oral Rehabilitation at the same institution, where she was also in charge of the Maxillofacial Prosthodontics clinic. She is still involved in the Maxillofacial Prosthodontic teaching and clinical supervision of the postgraduate students.

Dr Mothopi-Peri’s research interests are in maxillofacial prosthodontics, the orofacial effects of radiation therapy and their management, the impact of cancer and HIV in Prosthodontic rehabilitation, Removable Prosthodontics, and all these in relation to the philosophy of Appropriatech.