SASS 2026

COMPLEX WOUNDS, COMPLEX PATIENTS: THE OSTOMY CHALLENGE

INVISIBLE DISABILITIES, VISIBLE SUPPORT

SASS SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY OF STOMATES

2-3 OCTOBER 2026 | DoubleTree by Hilton Conference Centre, Cape Town

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Who is SASS

The South African Society of Stomates (SASS) is a patient-led organization committed to improving the lives of people facing complex wounds, surgical diversions, and pelvic floor or continence impairments through advocacy, education, support and better access to quality care.

FRIDAY 2 ND OF OCTOBER 2026

Day 1: Integrating Ostomy and Wound Care in Colorectal Health

TIME	PRESENTATION	SPEAKER
07:00 - 08:30	Registration & Exhibition Visits	ALL
08:30 -08:40	Opening & Welcome	Jolanda Jv Noordwyk (JHB) - Conference Convenor & Chair
08:40 - 09:00	Life with a Stoma - when survival is not enough.	Mr. Faizel Jacobs (CT) - SASS President
09:00 - 09:10	Complex Patients, Connected Systems: Building a Digitally Enabled, Multidisciplinary Health System under NHI	Prof. Nicholas Crisp (CT) - ADG: Health, Deputy Director General: NHI
09:10 - 09:40	Improving Ostomy outcomes through multidisciplinary care: A shared responsibility	Dr. Shakeel Kader (Durban) - Colorectal Surgeon
09:40 - 10:10	Modern Colorectal Surgical Techniques and their impact on post-operative Nursing Care	Dr. Daniel Surridge (JHB) - Colorectal Surgeon
10:10 - 10:40	Colorectal Cancer in SA: Future Projections/ Trends and the Critical Role of Early Detection and Screening	Ms. Tumi Ramasodi (JHB) - Regional Director Global Cancer Alliance SA
10:40 - 11:15	Coffee/ Tea & Exhibition Visits	ALL
11:15 - 11:45	Managing Complex Colorectal Patients: The Role of Integrated Stoma and Wound Care	CNS Laura Obbes (Namibia) Stomaltherapist & AWC Practitioner
11:45 - 12:15	Infection, Biofilm & Inflammation control. Mastering the invisible barriers to healing.	PhD© Zhavandre van der Merwe (PTA) - AWC Practitioner
12:15 - 12:45	Advanced Wound & Peristomal Wound Assessment Tools. Identifying surgical, dermatological, and systemic red flags.	CNS Liezl Naudė (PTA) - Educator & AWC Practitioner
12:45 - 13:45	Lunch & Exhibition Visits	ALL
13:45 - 14:15	Abdominal Post-surgical Integrated Care Pathways - ERA's to reduce readmission rates, and enhancing long-term QOL.	Mr. Ricardo Siljeur - (CT) Biokinecicist (BASA)
14:15 - 14:45	Guiding a patient to return to work after major abdominal and ostomy surgery: They are not disabled!	Ms. Marijke Krijt (Summerset West)- Occupational Therapist (OTASA)
14:45 - 15:15	UCT Research Study: Physical activity behaviors in people living with a stoma	PhD© Naila Edries (CT) - Senior Educator, PhysiotherapyDept UCT (PASA)
15:15 - 15:45	Coffee/ Tea & Exhibition Visits	ALL
15:45 - 16:00	The Role of the EOA in Unifying Practice, Addressing Shared Challenges, and Strengthening Continental Collaboration.	Mr. Jon Torkelsson (Iceland) - President European Ostomy Association
16:00 - 16:30	Pediatric gastrostomy placement best practice and complication management.	Dr. Marion Arnold (CT) - Pediatric Surgeon & Senior Lecturer UCT
16:30 - 17:00	Clinical Challenges and Therapeutic Strategies of Lipoedema and Lymphoedema in Wound Care	CNS Roelene Faihst (CT) - Lymph- & Lipoedma certified therapist, AWC
17:00 - 19:00	Free Time	ALL
19:00 - 22:00	**Dinner @ Bistro31 - "Night of the Stars"**	**RSVP booking required - *collect access tag at SASS stand during lunch***

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WHY SASS 2026?

Because ostomy care does not exist in isolation. Wounds, surgery, complications and healing are all part of the complex journey many ostomates face. SASS 2026 brings wound and ostomy care together, connecting clinical expertise, multidisciplinary perspectives and lived experience.

SATURDAY 3RD OF OCTOBER 2026

Day 2 - Advanced Wound, Ostomy & Continence - Clinical Excellence in Practice

TIME	PRESENTATION	SPEAKER
06:30 - 07:00	Arrival and registration at the Continence Breakfast Symposium Sponsored by **Hollister - HARTMANN GROUP**	RSVP booking required for entry
07:00 - 07:20	Start comfortable. Stay confident and live life. How Hydrobalance technology supports better bladder health and quality of life. (RSVP's only)	International Speaker (TBC)
07:30 - 08:30	Arrivals & Exhibition visits	ALL
08:30 - 09:00	NPWT in the complicated open abdominal wound, managing fistulas as functioning ostomy, and ostomy as mucous fistula	CNS Jolanda J van Noordwyk (JHB) - AWC Practioner & Stomaltherpist
9:00 - 09:30	Fundamentals in the Advanced Pathophysiology of chronic pressure injuries in the paraplegic patient and the need for fecal diversions for wound healing.	Dr. Ethel Andrews (JHB) - Stomaltherapist & AWC Practitioner
09:30 - 10:00	Neonatal Stomas: From Creation to Closure – Comprehensive Management, Complications, Nutrition, Fluid Balance, and Distal Refeeding	Dr. Josie Middleton (CT) - Consultant Pediatric Surgeon
10:00 - 10:40	Coffee/ Tea & Exhibition Visits	ALL
10:40 - 11:10	Endoscopic Enteral Access: Early gastrostomy complications leading to complex wounds - necrotizing fasciitis & treatment	Dr. Nazeer Chopdat (JHB) - Specialist Phycisian Gastroenterologist
11:10 - 11:40	Managing Complex, Non-healing wounds / Peristomal wounds when standard wound care fails in Pyoderma Gangrenosum, Vasculitis, Malignancy, etc.	Dr. Febe Bruwer (JHB) - AWC Practitioner
11:40 - 12:10	Advanced dressing selection in a contaminated, high-moisture environment, managing SSI with exudate, and effluent.	CNS Nicci Peterson (CT) - Operational Manager Stoma Therapy Dept Groote Schuur Hospital
12:10 - 13:00	Lunch & Exhibition Visits	ALL
13:00 -13:30	Wound and stoma care in high-risk populations with a focus on Age, Diabetes, Obesity, Oncology, and Palliative care	CNS Leonie Van Wyk (CT) - AWC Practitioner & Stomaltherapist
13:30 - 14:00	Nutrition, Output & Wound Healing. What you and wound nurses need to know, but aren't always told.	PhD© Thandeka Mhlanga - (PE) - Dietician
14:00 - 14:30	Psychological impact of stoma formation, sexuality, body image, and intimacy after surgery.	Mr. Pierre Matthee (JHB) - Social Worker
14:30 - 15:00	From Complications to Confidence: The Nurse's role in my Ostomy Journey	Ms. Jearlean Taylor (USA) - An accomplished fashion model & double ostomate
15:00-15:10	Closure and Reflections	Mr. Faizel Jacobs (CT) -SASS President
15:10 - 15:30	Coffee/ Tea & Departure	ALL

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WCET® World Council of Enterostomal Therapists

WHASA — Wound Healing Association of Southern Africa