

DR. BENARD NDUNGU PARTICIPATES IN THE ASSA SAGES CONFERENCE 2017

Every alternate year, all the surgical societies in the republic of South Africa hold a unified joint meeting. Between 4th and 8th August, 2017 the Association of Surgeons of South Africa (ASSA), incorporating South African Society of Endoscopic Surgeons (SASES), South African Gastroenterology Society (SAGES), and the Hernia Interest Group (HIG) of South Africa, held their 25th Congress at the Boardwalk Convention Centre, Port Elizabeth at the East Coast of RSA.

One of the three invited international Guest speakers was Dr. Bernard M. Ndung'u, a senior lecturer in the Department of Human Anatomy, UoN and a consultant Laparoscopic GI/Hernia and Metabolic Surgeon.

He gave three plenary sessions presentations on 'An approach to the challenging groin hernia', 'Everything you wanted to know on retrorectus open ventral hernia repair', 'Current status of practice & training of Minimal Access Surgery: Role of continental society and a state of the art lecture entitled ' Evolution and Current Status of Laparoscopic Antireflux surgery for GERD'

The presentations were well received by the keen, attentive and knowledgeable audience. They were followed by detailed discussions which sometimes were carried over to the ensuing social events in the evenings.

The attendants were very impressed to have the first black African International guest portraying such an in-depth knowledge of the subject matter in these relatively new techniques and giving a potential solution to the apparent slow pace of development, practice and training of advanced of minimal access surgery in Africa.

Dr. Ndung'u, B. M has been one of the leading personalities in the practice of MAS in the country and has trained hundreds of surgeons in both basic and advanced laparoscopy from East and Central Africa at the Nairobi Surgical Skills Centre (NSSC), Chiromo campus and the Lutheran Medical Centre, Arusha, Tanzania.

He is the founding and current president of the Hernia Society of Kenya (HSK).

In this congress, he was accompanied by his able research assistant and BSc anatomy student, Brian Kariuki Ngure BSc (Anat), MBChB V.