AFRICAN PAEDIATRIC FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME (APFP) SCHOOL OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH, UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN PAEDIATRIC HAEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY FELLOWSHIP

The haematology-oncology fellowship supported by APFP at the Red Cross Children's Hospital is a one-year training programme that offers extensive hands-on exposure to most aspects of in-patient and outpatient paediatric haematology and oncology. The Haematology and Oncology Service at Red Cross Children's Hospital is one of the few dedicated paediatric oncology training centres in the country. The service manages all childhood cancers and sees a broad range of complex haematological conditions.

The training experience involves active participation in patient management, tutorials, weekly tumour boards, clinical meetings and journal club activities. The diligent team of consultants, nurses and administrative staff are supportive and provide an environment conducive for learning. During one's training there's the opportunity to spend time at relevant supportive and shared care environments like the Radiotherapy Unit, Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, Haematology Pathology Laboratory and Blood Transfusion Service.

The training experience at this centre of excellence is unique in that one learns how patient care can be provided at an international level whilst taking into consideration the limitations of being located in a resource-limited country.

The fellowship programme has expanded my knowledge and skill set in paediatric haematology-oncology and provided a solid foundation on which to improve my practice in this sub-specialty.

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