

Bio: Dr Anuschka Coovadia 2020

Dr Anuschka Coovadia is a founder and partner of Usizo Advisory Services, which is an independent Advisory firm (www.usizoas.co.za). She was the Head of Healthcare and Life Sciences for Africa at KPMG for 5 years, during which time she led over 23 projects, related to Universal Health Coverage, across Africa, Asia and the Middle East, as well as a consultant to the International Finance Corporation (IFC). She is now a strategic healthcare advisor to KPMG in Africa and an independent consultant.

She is also a Non-executive director at Dischem, a non-executive director for the Dawi clinics group in Egypt, a member of the Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research (CAPRISA) Investment Committee, a member of the Durban Girls' College board, a member of the Anton Lembede School of Innovation and Leadership board, a trustee for the Kendra Educational Trust, a board member for the Kendra Business Forum, a board member for the Kendra, a board member of St Johns DSG and the commercial lead for Vula Medical Referral App. Vula is healthcare communication platform that connects over 16000 doctors, in the public sector. She is working with Vula to support the country's Covid-19 efforts, by coordinating the referrals to the Covid-ICUs, the Covid-field hospitals, running free testing programs, data collection for the NICD; and supporting the National Vaccine hotline

During the Covid pandemic, she advised and supported many companies and community-based organizations, such as MTN, the Business Continuity network, Life Healthcare, MATCH (Maternal and Child Health), numerous small businesses and old-age homes, such as the Kendra Gardens. She was involved in setting up a network which provided free mental healthcare services and training to healthcare workers on the diagnosis and management of Coronavirus, as well as free Covid-19 testing to vulnerable communities. She is the co-founder and program manager of the Covid-19 Doctors on Call program, made up of 450 doctors, which provided free healthcare services to over 40 000 South Africans and an awareness campaign which reached over 10 million, during the lock-down. She was recently awarded the Galleon award, from Durban Girls College.

She was also a member of MIT's Solve Leadership group on Maternal and Newborn Health, which is technology incubator program, designed to fund and grow innovative platforms, which address key developmental issues, in emerging markets. Through her work on this platform, she supported health technology entrepreneurs grow and scale their services.

Recently, Dr Coovadia worked on a project to implement the National Health Insurance in Zambia; supporting a vaccine initiative in Botswana; conducting the 2021 Strategy for the Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS); developing reports for the World Health Organization (WHO); and to develop a health quality assessment tool for the IFC, to be used to improve health services delivery, in organizations in emerging markets. She also works with a number of private equity funds, on their investments in health technology and infrastructure.

In 2019 she conducted a diagnostic assessment for ISASA and built the organization's 2020 strategy. In 2020, she conducted the Silalele project for Durban Girls' College, to support the school with its transformation agenda. She has also spoken at the Founders' Day services of Durban Girls College 2020, St Johns 2019, Star College 2018 and numerous other schools.

She is a past member of the Innovation Board for the North West University and was a member of the Global KPMG Center for Universal Health Coverage, as well as a previous executive director for a private equity investment fund, Ayurveda Investments, which invested in healthcare organizations in Africa. She is also the past Clinical Governance advisor to Momentum Health medical scheme.

Dr Coovadia is a medically trained doctor with a Masters in Health Economics and the core technical Actuarial board exams. In addition, she has been trained in Maths and Statistics, Business Management, Good Clinical Practice, Health Informatics, Strategy and Governance. After qualifying

as a doctor, she worked for both public and private hospitals in KwaZulu-Natal, before taking up a researcher position at the Human Sciences Research Council, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, where she worked on models for Orphan and Vulnerable Children care. She then took up the lead role for African stakeholder management for Novartis Pharmaceuticals, where she worked with Ministries of Health and community organizations across SADAC. Thereafter she served her actuarial internship in Momentum Medical Scheme Administrators, where she went on to head the managed care division for MMI then serve as the clinical head for the Government Employees Medical Scheme.

In 2012, Dr Coovadia joined the healthcare team at KPMG. Over the last 8 years she has worked on projects for both the National and Provincial Departments of Health, conducting risk workshops, assessments on Primary Health Clinics, an analysis of the HIV/AIDS program amongst others; hospital groups such as Mediclinic, Life Healthcare, Joint Medical Holdings, Lenmed, Albert Luthuli, Intercare Holdings and the Clinix Group. In addition, she has done numerous engagements for medical schemes such as GEMS, Bonitas, Spectramed, Medshield, Cape Medical, LA Health, Private Health Administrators, Discovery Health, Momentum, CAMAF and the Board of Healthcare Funders. She has also worked with other healthcare organizations like the Gates Foundation, the Aga Khan, Medipost, the South African National AIDS Council and pathology labs such as Global Clinical and Viral Laboratories; and engaged with a wide range of healthcare professional organizations from specialist associations to the national and local general practitioner organizations such as the KwaZulu-Natal Managed Care Coalition, KZNMCC, and the South African Medical Association, SAMA; Not-for-profit and faith-based organizing, such as the Islamic Medical Association (IMA) and the Aryan Benevolent Home (ABH); and the national South African Dental Association, SADA.

In addition, she has led numerous engagements across Africa doing advisory projects in countries like Zambia, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Mauritius, South Sudan, Botswana, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Mozambique. These projects involve working with local and national ministries of health, hospital and pharmaceutical groups, international investors such as the CDC, The Abraaj Group, Ethos and the IFC; as well as performing clinical due-diligence assessments on healthcare facilities.

From 2017-2019, Dr Coovadia was appointed to a global task team, the Centre for Universal Health Coverage, at KPMG. This team worked across emerging markets to support the design, modeling, establishment, implementation and monitoring of national health insurance projects. Through this role, she presented at the World Economic Forum in Davos on healthcare investments in Africa; and worked on global health projects, such as advising the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Health in the Bahamas on the implementation of their NHI.

Her passion and life's commitment is to support the transformation of healthcare systems in across the African Continent, in order to alleviate suffering, increase access, improve affordability and deliver better patient care.