



Romy Parker

Romy Parker is a Professor and Director of the Pain Management Unit in the Department of Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine at the University of Cape Town. She is an active researcher who has successfully supervised numerous postgraduate students. Professor Parker is the course convenor of the Postgraduate Diploma in Interdisciplinary Pain Management, the first programme of its kind in Africa. She is an experienced physiotherapy clinician working in chronic pain management as part of the Chronic Pain Management interdisciplinary team of Groote Schuur Hospital. Her research focusses on pain, with emphasis on developing and testing mechanism-based treatments relevant to a South African context. She serves as a Councillor for the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP - African representative), she is a Past-President of PainSA (the South African chapter of IASP), Past-Chair of the Pain, Mind and Movement Special Interest Group of IASP and an Honorary Life Member of the Pain Management Physiotherapy Group of the South African Society of Physiotherapy. Romy was awarded the UCT Distinguished Teacher's Award for 2019 – the university's highest honour for teaching. Her personal goal is for every South African with pain to be able to access a healthcare professional who understands pain.