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Dr. Clare Cutland is a senior research medical officer at the Respiratory and Meningeal Pathogens Research Unit (RMPRU) based at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital (CHBAH), Soweto, South Africa. She qualified with a Bachelor in Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MBBCh) from The University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), Johannesburg, South Africa. After completing a Diploma in Child Health (DCH), she joined RMPRU as a full time research doctor, under Professor Shabir Madhi. She has been an investigator on numerous phase I, II and III paediatric and maternal vaccine trials and principal investigator on a phase II paediatric measles vaccine trial, a phase III quadrivalent influenza vaccine trial in children and a phase III maternal influenza immunization trial in HIV-positive women.

She was lead trialist on a grant-funded trial to assess the efficacy of chlorhexidine maternal vaginal and newborn skin wipes on reducing neonatal sepsis and vertical transmission of significant pathogens, especially *Streptococcus agalactiae* from mother to infant (2004-2008). The results of this trial were published in The Lancet in 2009. She conducted surveillance of pathogens associated with-, and the impact of maternal HIV infection on sepsis in young infants admitted to CHBAH. She is completing her PhD on aetiology and prevention of sepsis in young infants.

The increasing proportion of under-5 year deaths which occur during the neonatal period has encouraged investigation of immunization of pregnant women to protect their newborns.

Dr. Cutland was the clinical lead for the grant-funded maternal seasonal influenza immunization studies which were conducted between 2010 and 2013.

She is currently leading a large grant-funded study to establish a sero-correlate of protection against *Streptococcus agalactiae*, and is involved in maternal influenza and respiratory syncytial virus vaccine trials. She is author or co-author on 40 peer-reviewed journal articles.