



THE INSTITUTE FOR PALLIATIVE MEDICINE

at San Diego Hospice

INTERNATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE



Hanneke Brits, MB Ch B, M Fam Med, FCFP

**Department of Family Medicine, University of the Free State,
Bloemfontein, South Africa**

Medical Director of Sunflower Children's Hospice

Dr. Hanneke Brits is a Family Physician in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa, involved in teaching and training of under and post graduate medical, nursing and allied health care students. She is a Principal Specialist at National District Hospital responsible for the Pediatric ward, as well as after hour Maternity services. She is the Medical Director of the Sunflower Children's Hospice, a NGO which consists of an in-patient unit, daycare centres, a home based care program and a training unit. She is a founder member and on the Executive Board of the St Nicholas Bana Pele Network, a PEPFAR funded network to provide palliative care to children in the Free State Province of South Africa. She is an established researcher and published several articles in peer reviewed journals and is on the Editorial Board of the South African Journal of Family Practice and the African Journal of Primary Health Care and Family Medicine. She is on the Research committee of the University of the Free State. She is an expert on anti-retroviral treatment for children and is on the training team of the Department of Health in the Free State. She is experienced in policy writing and is on the National Essential Drug Committee for Primary Health Care in South Africa, that ensures the availability of medicine and treatment guidelines in all state funded primary health care clinics.

Dr. Brits received her MB ChB degree in 1990 and her Masters degree in Family Medicine in 1995 from the University of the Free State. She completed a qualification in First Line Management at the University of South Africa in 2006 and Advanced Health Management at the University of Yale in 2009. She is currently busy with her Masters degree in Health Professionals Education. She has a special interest in Pediatric Palliative Care and HIV in children and gives regular talks to members of interdisciplinary teams and the public. She is currently appointed as an Associate Professor in Family Medicine.