The National Research Foundation (NRF) has contributed to South Africa’s health sector by investing in the creation of a highly skilled scientific workforce through various grants, scholarships, fellowship programmes and initiatives. Over the years, the NRF has funded researchers in disciplines including epidemiology, virology, immunology, medicine and public health, amongst others, and established Centres of Excellence and Research Chairs to take the lead in researching areas of national interest and create impact for societal benefit.

**Investments in DSI-NRF Centres of Excellence**

From 2009 to 2018, the NRF has invested to the establishment of the following DSI-NRF Centres of Excellence:

- Biomedical Tuberculosis Research (CBTBR), which develops new tools for diagnosis, treatment and prevention of TB in both humans and animals;
- Epidemiological Modelling & Analysis (SACEMA), which develops customised computational, mathematical and statistical models to support disease surveillance, strategic planning for (and evaluation of) interventions in South Africa and across the African continent;
- HIV Prevention (hosted by CAPRISA), which develops new technologies and strategies to reduce the spread of HIV in women, especially young women, in South Africa.

In the period of 2004-2018, the human capacity developed in the CoE’s includes:

- **173** Post-Doctoral Researchers
- **431** Doctoral students
- **435** Master’s students
- **145** Honours/B Tech students

**Investments in the South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI)**

The NRF has awarded 43 Research Chairs in Health Professions & Related Clinical Sciences from 2006 to 2020. Investments from 2014–2018 were over R410 million, which translated to human capacity development of:

- **143** Post-doctoral researchers
- **309** Doctoral students
- **235** Master’s students
- **95** Honours students

Research Chairs awarded with a focus on Human Virology including HIV/AIDS Research includes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Research Chair</th>
<th>Name of Chair Holder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine Preventable Diseases</td>
<td>Professor S.A Madhi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virus-Host Dynamics for Public Health</td>
<td>Professor P.L. Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems Biology of HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>Professor P.T Ndung’u</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Vaccine Translational Research</td>
<td>Professor C.T Tiemessen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vaccinology</td>
<td>Professor A.L Williamson</td>
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