

7th International Conference & Exhibition on

TRADITIONAL & ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

October 24-26, 2017 | Dubai, UAE

African traditional medicine in South Africa: History of the practice and current developments in its regulation

Conrad Tsiane and **Nceba Gqaleni**

Interim Traditional Health Practitioners Council, South Africa

Statement of the Problem: The practice of African traditional medicine (ATM) in South Africa (SA) is as old as the cradle of human kind. It is possibly the oldest medical system in the world. However, it has suffered the longest from colonial and apartheid laws which are being modified in accordance with the World Health Organization guidelines. This paper will articulate the history of African traditional medicine in South Africa, the various categories of practitioners, and the steps taken in the country for its development.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: This is based on an Afrocentric and decolonization approach.

Findings: The Constitution of SA, the Health Act, and the Traditional Health Practitioners (THP) Act form the basis for the transformation of ATM. The Interim THP Council of SA is leading the process of regulating THPs
Conclusion & Significance: ATM will never be the same again in SA

info@drttsiane.co.za