

# The Wrongs of Matthias Rath

## The end of the Matthias Rath affair?

[A TAC statement on the end of the court case to stop Rath conducting unlawful experiments on people.](#)

## Matthias Rath and TAC's efforts to stop his harmful activities

Matthias Rath is the definitive charlatan. Armed with huge amounts of money, megalomania, a lack of conscience and most importantly, the support of South Africa's incompetent Minister of Health Manto Tshabalala-Msimang, Rath has sown confusion in South Africa about the treatment and prevention of HIV. The Rath saga demonstrates how damaging politically-supported AIDS denialism is.

- [TAC statement court case against Matthias Rath and the Minister of Health - 11 March 2008](#)
- [TAC statement on the harmful activities of Matthias Rath - 18 April 2005](#)
- [A list of Rath's condemnations, wrong-doings, etc.](#)
- [Analysis of deaths on Matthias Rath's illegal clinical trial](#)

Also see:

- [Echoes of Lysenko: State-Sponsored Pseudo-Science in South Africa](#)
- [The Price of Denial](#)
- [Encouraging Deadly Choices: AIDS Pseudo-Science in the Media](#) (5.5MB)

## Interdict against Rath's clinical trial, unregistered medicines and false advertising court case

On 13 June, the Cape High Court handed down a landmark decision in a court action initiated by TAC and the South African Medical Association (SAMA) against Matthias Rath and the Government of South Africa. The High Court's decision upholds the rule of law and the sovereignty of science in South Africa.

This judgment unequivocally establishes the duty of the state to enforce the scientific governance of medicines as defined in the Medicines and Related Substances Act 101 of 1965 (hereafter referred to as the 'Medicines Act?'). This case has demonstrated how the Minister of Health has wilfully obstructed the rule of law and promoted pseudoscience, resulting in the unnecessary deaths of many people. We call on the President and the ANC to demonstrate their commitment to the rule of law by immediately relieving the Minister of her duties.

This judgment is effectively a stern warning to all purveyors of untested and unregistered medicines, especially those selling so-called 'cures' for HIV/AIDS. Zebulon Gwala, 'inventor' of the quack AIDS-remedy *Ubhejane*, the makers and financiers of Comforter's Healing Gift and Secomet products, as well as Tine van der Maas, should pay particularly close heed to it and cease their unlawful activities.

TAC thanks its counsel Geoff Budlender, its attorney William Kerfoot and the Legal Resources Centre for their critical roles in the success of this case.

For information on the ruling, and to read the court judgment, [click here](#).

For background on the case, [click here](#).

To view the judge's order, [click here](#).

To download the full judgment, [click here](#).

The Cape High Court has also issued a judgment on Rath's application to appeal, TAC's counter-appeal and TAC's successful application for an interim execution order. To read it, [click here](#).

Here are many of the court documents:

- Notice of Motion [PDF](#)
  
- Amended Notice of Motion [PDF](#)
  
- Heads of Argument (Updated 11 March 2008) [PDF](#)
- Oral reply to respondents' heads of argument (delivered orally to the Cape High Court on 14 March 2008) [PDF](#)
- Founding Affidavit by Nathan Geffen [PDF](#)
  
- South African Medical Association Founding Affidavit [PDF](#)
  
- Andrew Gray Affidavit on Medicines [PDF](#)
  
- Andrew Gray Attachment [PDF](#)
  
- Nigel Rollins on nutrition and HIV [PDF](#)
  
- Francois Venter Affidavit on the Science of HIV [PDF](#)
  
- Leslie London Affidavit on Ethics [PDF](#)
  
- Peter Saranchuk Affidavit on the Effect of Rath Activities on four of his patients [PDF](#)

- Nandipha Ntsholo on what happens to patients who participate in the Rath clinical trial [PDF](#)
- Zondani Magwebu on how his wife, who was treated by Rath's agents, died [PDF](#)

## **Response from the Government**

- Government's Filing Notice [PDF](#)
- Affidavit of Thamsanqa Mseleku (Director-General for Department of Health) [PDF](#)
- Affidavit of Peter Eagles (Chairperson of the Medicines Control Council) [PDF](#)
- Affidavit of Pierre Uys (Member of the Executive Council For Health of the Western Cape) [PDF](#)

## **TAC's Responses**

- Replying Affidavit of Nathan Geffen [PDF](#)
- Replying Affidavit of Zackie Achmat [PDF](#)
- Replying Affidavit of Siphon Mthathi [PDF](#)
- Replying Affidavit of Robert Dorrington [PDF](#)
- Replying Affidavit of Francois Venter [PDF](#)
- Replying Affidavit of George Ellis [PDF](#)
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Replying Affidavit of Dr. Graeme Ayton Meintjes [PDF](#)

*Please note that there are many more other affidavits including testimony about how Rath's activities have endangered patients.*

## **Interdict against defamation court case**

### **Full Bench of Cape High Court rules in favour of TAC**

The full bench of the Cape High Court interdicted Matthias Rath and his foundation from making defamatory allegations against TAC.

- Cape High Court Judgment [DOC](#)

### **TAC's Application to Court**

- Notice of Motion [PDF](#)
- Founding affidavit by Zackie Achmat [PDF](#)
- Affidavit by Nathan Geffen [PDF](#)

### **TAC's responding papers to Rath's agents' affidavits**

- Response by Zackie Achmat [PDF](#)
- Response by Debbie Matthews [PDF](#)
- Response by Laura Morrison [PDF](#)
- Response by Mandla Majola [PDF](#)
- Response by Mark Heywood [PDF](#)

- Response by Robin Wood [PDF](#)
- Response by Steve Andrews [PDF](#)
- Response by Zaid Mohamed [PDF](#)
- TAC's replying affidavit to the Traditional Healers' Organisation, who decided to enter the case on the side of Rath [PDF](#)

### **Poor quality of AIDS denialist arguments demonstrated in debate on Tim Modise show.**

See the transcript of a debate between TAC's Nathan Geffen and Anthony Brink of the Rath Foundation. ([Transcript](#))

- [Defamation Interdict](#)
- [Experiments on People Interdict](#)
- [Medicine Access](#)
- [Quackery](#)
  
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