Dr Rizwana Roomaney is a research psychologist, registered counsellor and lecturer in the Psychology Department at Stellenbosch University. She developed a health-related quality of life measure for patients with endometriosis for her PhD. Rizwana is an experienced lecturer and supervisor with an interest in health psychology, psychometry and research methodology. She is particularly interested in women’s health and reproductive health. She conducts both qualitative and quantitative research and has trained in mixed methods at the University of Oslo.

**Topic:**

“Psychosocial predictors of symptoms of depression in a sample of South African women diagnosed with endometriosis.”

**Abstract:** Endometriosis is a chronic gynaecological illness that affects 10-15% of women of reproductive age. The primary symptom indicating endometriosis is chronic pelvic pain. Other symptoms include dysmenorrhoea, sub-fertility, ovarian cysts and dyspareunia (painful sexual intercourse). We assessed symptoms of depression and health related quality of life in a sample of 202 women with endometriosis in the Western Cape. In this presentation we will report on the prevalence of symptoms of depression among the sample. We will also report on the psychosocial predictors of symptoms of depression in the sample of women with endometriosis. Our predictors included medical variables namely, menstrual characteristics and physical functioning and psychosocial predictors namely, feelings about infertility, sexual functioning, and satisfaction with treatment.

The participants completed a battery of measures including a demographic questionnaire, Beck Depression Inventory, Stellenbosch Endometriosis Quality of life (SEQOL) Menstrual characteristics subscale, SF-12v2 Physical functioning subscale, and three modular components of the Endometriosis Health Profile 30 (EHP30), namely the Sexual Relationships, Feelings about the Medical Profession and Feelings about Infertility modules. We conducted a multiple-regression analysis and regressed symptoms of depression against the predictor variables. In this talk, Dr Roomaney will report on the results of the study and discuss how the identification of these predictors may be beneficial to patients.