

## **Professor Heather McLeod**

Heather studied actuarial science at the University of Cape Town and her early career was in investments. Since 1993 she has worked as a consultant on healthcare financing, initially with employers and trade unions. She joined the University of Cape Town in 1998 to develop courses in private sector healthcare financing and consulted to the South African government on healthcare financing and social security policy.

In 2010 Heather married a New Zealand citizen and is currently resident in New Zealand. She continues to consult and write on issues relating to the introduction of universal coverage and national health insurance. Heather has appointments as a visiting professor at the University of Cape Town and the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa.

Heather has long had a particular interest in traditional and complementary medicine. Initial courses on massage and flower remedies in the early 1990s were followed by studies in naturopathy and formal studies in homeopathy. Heather was licenced as an Ayurvedic Primary Care Advisor with the Allied Health Professions Council from 2002 onwards. She more recently studied clinical hypnotherapy in New Zealand and at the Gawler Foundation in Australia as a meditation teacher.

She has been chair of the Traditional and Complementary Medicine team for the International Actuarial Association Health Section (IAAHS) since 2004 and is currently collaborating with the New Zealand Centre for Evidencebased Research into Complementary and Alternative Medicine (ENZCAM), at the University of Canterbury. Her current research interest is the integration of traditional and complementary medicine in health systems and healthcare financing. She consults on integration for both public and private healthcare funders and for CAM practitioners.

### **Heather McLeod**

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