



Welcome to the February edition of the CAPHRI PhD Post for 2025. As we continue to refine our communication channels, we're excited to bring you this month's newsletter packed with engaging content and valuable updates from our vibrant research community. Here's what you can look forward to in this issue:

- Discover PhD candidate Darin Elabbasy's work on measuring the true impact of Epilepsy
- Learn about streamlined access to research funding
- Registrations are open for the CAPHRI Spring Meeting
- Your chance to shape the future of Europe through Health Journalism
- Upcoming courses and events
- A look at the PhD defences for February and March

We hope you find this edition both informative and inspiring. Happy reading!



Measuring the true impact of Epilepsy

CAPHRI - UM News

On International Epilepsy Day, February 10th, we highlighted the far-reaching effects of epilepsy beyond seizures. This condition affects daily life, well-being, and financial stability for millions worldwide.

Darin Elabbasy, PhD student (VHC), is conducting ground-breaking research into the societal and economic burdens of Drug-Resistant Epilepsy (DRE). Her work focuses on understanding these challenges to improve care and quality of life for patients and their families.

This research is part of the AIM@EPILEPSY project, funded by the Dutch Research Council (NWO). The project is a collaborative effort involving partners such as Maastricht UMC+ Kempenhaeghe, EpilepsieNL, TU Delft, and Clinical Neuro-Science projects (CNSp).

[Learn more about her research](#)



Streamlined access to research funding opportunities

CAPHRI Funding Alert

From this year, CAPHRI's funding alert system is evolving to provide faster, more comprehensive information on funding opportunities. Researchers can now access an extensive overview of national and European fellowships, health funds, and mobility grants on UMPLOYEE. For tailored searches, Research Connect is available through individual UM/MUMC+ accounts. Weekly updates on calls, deadlines, and training opportunities will be posted in the new FHML/MUMC+ Research Funding Support group on UMPLOYEE. [Join to stay informed](#) about the latest funding news.

[Visit the UMPLOYEE Funding page](#)



CAPHRI PHD
SPRING MEETING
COMMUNICATING
WITH NON-EXPERTS

Communicating with non-experts for CAPHRI PhD students

Spring Meeting 2025

In today's research landscape, effectively communicating scientific work to non-experts is crucial. Whether you're addressing policymakers, patients, journalists, or other audiences, targeted storytelling can enhance your societal impact, expand your network, and improve your grant writing and presentation skills.

Mark your calendars! On April 9, 2025, as part of the Spring Meeting, the CAPHRI PhD Representatives are hosting an engaging online

workshop focused on communicating with non-experts. Participants will learn to craft impactful stories, select key messages, and refine their communication using the "6 Cs" framework.

Don't miss this opportunity to boost your science communication skills! Registration is open until April 1st. Will we see you there?

[Secure your spot](#)



Calling all CAPHRI PhD candidates: share your research stories!

[This is your cue](#)

Have you recently contributed to a podcast, given an interview, or presented at a conference?

Reached a significant milestone in your research?

Perhaps you're organizing an event or have an exciting project in the pipeline?

We want to hear from you! Your innovative work and achievements deserve recognition. By sharing your stories, you'll not only highlight your contributions but also inspire fellow researchers and showcase CAPHRI's commitment to impactful public health research.

Contact us to explore opportunities for featuring your work on our social media channels and in our newsletter. Let's collaborate to amplify your voice and celebrate your successes within our international academic community.

[Share your story](#)

The European Correspondent

Shape the Future of Europe through Health Journalism

Call for Contributions

CAPHRI researchers are invited to contribute to The European Correspondent's series, "The Europe That Could Be", exploring the EU's major challenges in 2025 and beyond.

Dr. Koen van Zon seeks early-career academics (PhD candidates, assistant professors) to write 600-word op-eds on pressing health issues. Authors will receive editorial support and gain visibility in a pan-European media platform.

Interested? Share your name or nominate colleagues by contacting Dr. Koen van Zon today!

[I am interested!](#)

Save the Date and Register

Events and Courses

Spring Meeting 2025: Communicating with non-experts - Online
April 9, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Navigating the journal jungle: choosing the right publication in the age of open access & predatory journals - Online
April 24, 2025

- Stay tuned for more information

International (Bio)Medical Student Conference - Leiden
May 14-18, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Navigating Research Ethics by David Shaw - Online
May 29, 2025

- Stay tuned for more information

EHMA 2025 Conference - Rennes
June 4-6, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

CAPHRI Research Day - Maastricht
June 18, 2025



- [Click to explore the details](#)

AWO-L Symposium - Maastricht

June 19, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Public Health Strategy III Seminar - Salzburg

October 26 - November 1, 2025

Application Deadline: May 31, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)
- [Register and enhance your skills](#)

PhD Ceremonies

February and March 2025

Rose Geurten | VHC

07-02-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Collective Health, Individual Lives: Utilizing routine data in a Population Health Management approach for type 2 diabetes"

Esther Geurts | HISP

12-02-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Have a little faith: Validating student voices in vocational education"

Kathryn Ashton | VHC

19-02-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Capturing and measuring the wider health impacts and associated social value of sustainable investment in public health"

Nikita Lee Poole | PHPC

20-02-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"From Tobacco Policy to Person: Multilevel Influences on Smoking Cessation"

Coen Hacking | VHC

20-02-2025 | 16:00 (CET)

"AI in Nursing Homes: Utilizing Artificial Intelligence to Enhance Data-analysis in Long-term Care for Older Adults "

Judith Veugen | HISP

11-03-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Sight Under Siege: Understanding Corneal Infections and Ocular Health"

Dajana Roshi | VHC

11-03-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Pharmaceutical Policies in Post-Communist Albania"



*Good luck and congratulations
to the CAPHRI PhD's*

Stijn de Joode | FPR

13-03-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Secondary shoulder surgery in brachial plexus birth palsy patients:
Long term results and novel insights"

Niklaus Stefan Bernet | ALTC

13-03-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Fair and meaningful comparison of inpatient fall rates in acute care
hospitals"

Caroline Gurtner | ALTC

13-03-2025 | 16:00 (CET)

"Exploring Shared Decision Making in Swiss Acute Psychiatric Care"

Hanneke Goense | HISP

18-03-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Implementing home-based sexual health care in public health: An
evidence-based integrated care approach for ending the HIV
epidemic"

Laurens Holst | VHC

20-03-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Exploring Health Insurance Literacy in the Netherlands, Citizens'
Skills and Needs in Choosing a Health Insurance Policy"

[Watch the PhD Defences Live](#)

UM

PHD Community

Have you already discovered our CAPHRI PhD community group on Umployee? In this group you will find the latest news, events and other relevant internal information.

[Follow us now!](#)

Navigating through the PhD Journey

CAPHRI PhD Guide

In the CAPHRI PhD Guide you will find information on all aspects of doing a PhD at CAPHRI, ranging from the training programme, guidelines for supervision, and the PhD defense. It contains valuable information for current and prospective PhD students as well as for supervisors.

[Check out the CAPHRI PhD Guide](#)

[Support](#)

[Communication](#)

Contact persons for PhD candidates

Please check out the [CAPHRI website](#) for information and contact persons for PhD candidates.

Your project, publication or event in this newsletter?

Note: You cannot reply to this email. For questions, newsletter topics, ideas, announcements, feedback and more please email info-caphri@maastrichtuniversity.nl.



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