



Welcome to the first newsletter of 2025. We are pleased to introduce this edition, which features a refreshed design and enhanced layout following the implementation of our new e-mail marketing platform. This month's newsletter offers a comprehensive overview of recent developments within our research community, including:

- Introduction of two new PhD representatives
- Research insights from PhD candidate Veja Widdershoven on vaccine hesitancy
- Recent publication by Robin Peeters exploring healthcare network effectiveness
- Podcast insights on the futures of elderly care reablement by Lise Buma
- Upcoming courses and events
- PhD defence schedule for the current and upcoming month

Enjoy your reading!

Meet the New PhD Representatives

We're thrilled to introduce our incoming PhD Representatives, set to join the team this March. These dynamic individuals will bring fresh energy and ideas to our vibrant PhD community. They'll play a crucial role in organising events, facilitating communication, and representing your interests within CAPHRI. Let's give them a warm welcome!



Nice to meet

Anne Verkerk

I'm Anne Verkerk, and I'm thrilled to step into the role of PhD representative for research line Health Inequities and Societal Participation. My research takes an unconventional path through the hidden world of microbiology. In my project I investigate where in the hospital bacterial reservoirs with antibiotic resistance reside, which bacteria are in them, and how these reservoirs interact with patients. This leads me to less standard places such as hospital wards and the hospital wastewater.

Beyond the laboratory, I find joy in connecting with nature. You'll often find me hiking and photographing nature. When I'm not exploring outdoors or investigating bacterial mysteries, I love immersing myself in a good book.

Contact Anne



Nice to meet

Nienke de Graef

My name is Nienke de Graef, and I'm excited to step into the role of PhD representative for the Value-Based Healthcare research line. My research focuses on shared decision-making within vulnerable populations, particularly those with type 2 diabetes. At its heart, our work aims to make healthcare more inclusive and equitable, creating opportunities for everyone to live healthier lives.

Outside of research, I thrive on creativity—whether it's drawing, painting, or crocheting. You'll often find me curled up with a book or out exploring nature. I'm here to be a bridge between PhD candidates and the CAPHRI board, so please don't hesitate to share your ideas or concerns with me!

Contact Nienke

Feeling inspired? We have an opening for a passionate PhD researcher from the *Optimising Patient Care* line to join our Representatives. If you're eager to shape the PhD experience at CAPHRI, don't hesitate to reach out. Contact us at caphri-phdreps@maastrichtuniversity.nl to learn more about this rewarding opportunity.



Why some people hesitate to vaccinate and how healthcare can address this

CAPHRI - UM News

Doubts about vaccination continue to be a significant challenge for global public health. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has listed vaccine hesitancy as one of the top ten threats to global health.

But what exactly is vaccine hesitancy and how does it impact our society? How can we address it, particularly in healthcare? PhD candidate Veja Widdershoven (HISP) conducted research into these questions and proposed ways to approach vaccine hesitancy.

[Read the full article](#)



New publication: Increasing networks in healthcare, but demonstrating their effectiveness is difficult

CAPHRI - UM News

The number of networks in healthcare is growing. In these networks, healthcare providers and organisations collaborate with each other.

This is sorely needed, as people increasingly require different types of care simultaneously. However, measuring whether these networks are effective proves challenging and is therefore rarely substantiated. And even when people feel a network is ineffective, they continue with it. These conclusions are drawn by PhD candidate Robin Peeters (VHC) in her latest research published in Social Science and Medicine.

[Read the full article \(only in Dutch\)](#)



Podcast Insights: Lise Buma Explores the Future of Elderly Care Reablement

CAPHRI - AWO-L News

Reablement has emerged as a significant trend in elderly care, but its true nature and benefits remain a subject of inquiry. The Living Lab in Ageing & Long-term Care (AWO-L) has been at the forefront of reablement research since 2014, establishing a learning network in 2023 to facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration.

In a recently released podcast, PhD candidate Lise Buma (HSR) offers valuable insights into the complexities of reablement. Alongside colleagues from Cicero Zorggroep and Woonzorggroep Samen, Buma bridges the gap between academic research and practical implementation, providing a comprehensive understanding of how reablement strategies can effectively support older individuals in maintaining their independence and improving their quality of life.

Discover the podcast on
reablement (only in Dutch)

[Save the Date and Register](#)

Events and Courses

CCC Workshop: Peer review of scientific articles - Online

February 4, 2025

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



Information session EIC Pathfinder, Accelerator & Transition

February 13, 2025

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

Economic Evaluation in Healthcare Seminar - Salzburg

April 13-19, 2025

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

EHMA 2025 Conference - Rennes

June 4-6, 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

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

PhD Ceremonies

January and February 2025

Anne-Marie Hanff | OPC

13-01-2025 | 16:00 (CET)

"A mixed-methods investigation of the trajectories of patient-reported functional mobility in people with Parkinson's disease"

Uthman Albakri | FPR

15-01-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Improving Sleep Quality in Nurses Who Work Irregular Shifts: Necessity and first steps towards intervention"

Merel van Lierop | ALTC

21-01-2025 | 13:00 (CET)

"Keep on learning! Fostering continuous learning and improvement in long-term nursing care"

Melissa Rethlefsen | OPC

21-01-2025 | 16:00 (CET)

"Improving the reproducibility and reporting quality of search strategies in biomedical systematic reviews"

Robin Peeters | VHC

24-01-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"All That Glitters Isn't Gold: Examining how and why organizations collaborate to address wicked problems in healthcare"

Dieudonné Bwirire Lwabauma | OPC

27-01-2025 | 10:00 (CET)

"Understanding Health Inequalities among Vulnerable Populations in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo"



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

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 "

[Watch the PhD Defences Live](#)

UMployee

CAPHRI 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

Contact persons for PhD candidates

Communication

Your project, publication or event in this newsletter?

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

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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