



Welcome to the newest edition of the CAPHRI newsletter. This month, we're delighted to showcase a diverse array of accomplishments, innovations, and opportunities from our dynamic research community. Here's what you can look forward to in this issue:

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Join us as we celebrate these accomplishments and explore the cutting-edge research shaping the future of care and public health. Happy reading!



Bram de Boer Wins Alzheimer Nederland Research Talent Award

CAPHRI News

Bram de Boer (ALTC) received the prestigious Research Talent Award from Alzheimer Nederland. This accolade supports talented dementia researchers in expanding their vital work.

Bram is committed to creating a meaningful daily life for people with dementia in nursing homes. His research focuses on developing an app that visualises a resident's daily rhythm, including activities and social interactions.

"We are dedicated to giving people with dementia in nursing homes a meaningful daily life, and we hope our research can achieve this. This award provides a real boost to our work," Bram commented.

The Research Talent Awards are presented to researchers early in their careers to retain talent in dementia research, supporting their innovative ideas for better care and a future without dementia.



One-Stop Breath Analyser: Faster, Less Invasive Diagnostics for Patients

CAPHRI news

Professor Edward Dompeling (OPC), is leading the development of the one-stop Breath Analyser, an innovative diagnostic tool funded by the ZonMw/NWO Innovative Medical Devices Initiative (IMDI). This simple breath test aims to aid in the diagnosis of asthma and lung cancer, potentially offering a major step forward in patient care.

In his practice as a paediatric pulmonologist, Prof. Dompeling is acutely aware of the need for more accurate, cost-effective, and less burdensome diagnostics, particularly for young children with asthma symptoms. While a previous breath test showed promise, its complexity and cost made it unsuitable for routine hospital use.

The one-stop Breath Analyser aims to overcome these limitations. It standardises the collection of exhaled air during quiet (tidal) breathing, making it usable for patients of all ages, from children to vulnerable older adults. The device analyses the breath for volatile substances indicative of conditions like inflammation or oxidation, which can be linked to diseases such as asthma and lung cancer.

Crucially, this technology offers a less invasive alternative to procedures like CT scans and biopsies, especially in the early detection of lung cancer. By quickly establishing if a patient's breath profile is consistent with lung cancer, the analyser could spare many from unnecessary follow-up procedures, leading to cost savings and reduced patient anxiety. The project, which involves collaborations with Maastricht Instruments and startup Breath Medics, is currently undergoing initial testing on healthy volunteers.

[Read the full ZonMw interview with Prof. Dompeling on the steps towards implementation of the one-stop Breath Analyser \(in Dutch\)](#)



The Netherlands Leads with Evidence-Based Sexual Health Policy

CAPHRI news

The Netherlands is a leader in sexual healthcare. At the recent IUSTI conference in Athens, a Dutch research team presented groundbreaking results on the de-implementation of chlamydia testing in asymptomatic individuals. This makes the Netherlands the first country to implement this policy change.

Effective 1 January 2025, asymptomatic persons will no longer be routinely tested for chlamydia at Centres for Sexual Health (CSG). This decision is based on years of scientific research conducted within the ZonMw studies Femcure and Neccst. These studies demonstrated that routine testing in people without symptoms does not provide proven health benefits.

The team, with contributions from researchers

including Nicole Dukers-Muijters (PHPC), Birgit van Benthem, Zoïe Alexiou (PHPC), and Bernice Hoenderboom, received international recognition for their work. Zoïe Alexiou was even awarded the prize for best oral presentation.

The Dutch approach shows that successful de-implementation requires:

- Support among stakeholders
- Clear communication to the public and professionals
- Monitoring of processes and patient perspectives
- Continuous feedback of data to healthcare professionals

This approach offers an inspiring example for other countries looking to revise their testing policies. A great step toward efficient, scientifically substantiated public healthcare!

[Read more about the approach \(in Dutch\)](#)

Reflecting on our joint CCC/EuroHealthNet workshop

CCC news

On November 13th, colleagues from CAPHRI (Maastricht University, Maastricht) and chs (Heinrich-Heine-University, Dusseldorf) came together for an online workshop on 'EU Advocacy' made possible through our CCC collaboration and shared membership of EuroHealthNet.

The session offered a valuable opportunity to deepen our understanding of EuroHealthNet's work and to explore how their expertise in EU policy, advocacy, and health equity can strengthen our own research and activities. Together, we discussed the evolving European policy landscape and reflected on effective strategies for advocacy in the fields of care and public health. Finally, the workshop provided an excellent opportunity to connect across the institutes.

We warmly thank all who have joined us and look forward to the next CCC-event!





[Click for more information on CCC.](#)

Join Us: Basics of Participatory Research Workshop!

CCC event

Following the successful CCC/EuroHealthNet workshop, we are delighted to invite you to the next event: "Basics of Participatory Research."

This online session, organised within the CCC framework, will introduce the fundamentals of participatory research. It will feature insights into current projects, with contributions from both CAPHRI Maastricht and CHS Düsseldorf.

Date: 2 December 2025

Time: 12:30 – 14:30

We look forward to an engaging exchange!

[Register here](#)

BMJ Group

BMJ–Maastricht University Collaboration on Transparency in Systematic Reviews

CAPHRI news

BMJ Group has posted an article highlighting its ongoing collaboration with the Department of Epidemiology at Maastricht University. Since 2020, BMJ and Maurice Zeegers (OPC) and his Meta-Research team have jointly run a PhD programme dedicated to "Responsible Publishing".

This partnership brings together BMJ's editorial expertise and Maastricht University's strengths in epidemiology and meta-research, fostering innovative methodological work directly relevant to scientific publishing and evidence-based health decision-making.

The featured article highlights one of the PhD projects within this programme, focusing on

improving the quality, transparency, and methodological rigor of systematic reviews.

[You can read the full BMJ article here.](#)



Streamlining Partnership Assessment: Introducing the Sensitive Partnerships Form (SPF)

[UM news](#)

Maastricht University (UM) is committed to ensuring that all research collaborations are conducted safely and responsibly. To simplify the assessment of individual international collaborations against UM's standards, the Sensitive Partnerships Unit (SPU) has launched a new online tool: the Sensitive Partnerships Form (SPF).

This form integrates the three established assessment frameworks, knowledge security, human rights, and a fossil-free society, into a single, quick questionnaire. Staff can now efficiently check which frameworks apply to a prospective collaboration with a researcher abroad, eliminating the need for multiple forms.

While the use of the SPF and the resulting advice from the SPU remain voluntary and non-binding, we strongly encourage CAPHRI staff to utilise this tool. By doing so, you help ensure that our research remains safe and socially responsible, aligning with UM's standards.

[Read more about the three assessment frameworks in the article 'How to assess individual collaborations with researchers abroad'](#)



The Klokhuis Science Award 2026!

[Call for Nominations](#)

It is time to nominate your innovative projects for one of the most exciting science prizes in the Netherlands: the Klokhuis Science Award.

The renowned children's TV show, Klokhuis (airing weekdays around 18:45 on NPO 3), excels at sparking children's interest in science through playful and engaging content. The winning research will be celebrated with its own dedicated Klokhuis episode, presented during the International Science Film Festival in Nijmegen on Sunday, 8 March 2026.

Why Nominate?

This year, alongside the main awards ceremony, a special Meet the Researcher session will be held. This provides a fantastic opportunity for children and young people to meet the finalists in person!

We are looking for research—either ongoing or recently concluded—that:

- Connects with the world and experience of children (aged 9-12).
- Can be clearly and engagingly explained to a young audience.

Crucially, the research does not necessarily have to be about children.

Submission deadline: 9th of January 2026

Give your research the stage it deserves. Nominate now and inspire the next generation of scientists!

[More information \(in Dutch\) and the submission form](#)



Experience an International Mobility in EHESP School of Public Health

[Visiting Professor Programs](#)

For 2026 and as part of its internationalization policy, EHESP is launching two Visiting Professor Programs:

- A program for long stay, lasting from 1 to 6 months (for 1 professor).
- A program for short stay, lasting from 2 weeks to 1 month (for 2 professors).

The invited teacher-researchers are selected among french or foreign teacher-researchers who hold teaching or research positions in a foreign higher education or research institution.

How to apply ?

Candidates can submit their application until January 30, 2026 by completing the application form available on the [EHESP's website](#) and submitting it to the following addresses:

- Long-term visiting professor: drh-recrutement@ehesp.fr, indicating "Application for Long-Term Visiting Professor" in the subject line of their email.
- Short-term visiting professor: international@ehesp.fr, indicating "Application for Short-Term Visiting Professor" in the subject line of their email.

Applications must be supported by a teacher-researcher from the EHESP, who is responsible for organizing the visiting professor's program, in coordination with their laboratory/department, the Research Department, and the International relations Department.



Brightlands Academy

[Brightlands news](#)

Are you a researcher or professional looking to accelerate your career? Are you seeking new skills, inspiration, or a valuable network? Join the Brightlands Academy Masterclasses Entrepreneurial Skills this year!

[Find out more about the Brightlands Academy →](#)



CAPHRI Funding

Streamlined Access to Research Funding Opportunities

Researchers can 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. To stay up to date with calls, deadlines, and training opportunities, join the [FHML/MUMC+ Research Funding Support group](#) on UMPLOYEE. This group provides weekly updates, ensuring you never miss relevant funding news.

[Visit the UMPLOYEE Funding Page](#)

This is your Call

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Open Mind 2026

Open Mind funds innovative research proposals that break through conventional thinking frameworks and use technology for sustainable social impact. Think of ideas that, for example, transform education, promote inclusivity, tackle climate issues or enable new forms of communication. The call invites researchers from all disciplines who tackle global challenges with groundbreaking and creative solutions. Researchers with exciting, high-risk, high-gain ideas are encouraged to submit their outside-the-box research proposals and compete for a chance to receive €100,000 to explore their research ideas over the course of one year.

Deadline: 10 March 2026

An (online) information session is scheduled on January 22 2026 14:00 CET.

ZonMw Clinical Fellows 2025

The Clinical Fellows program offers PhD-level medical specialists at the beginning of their scientific careers the opportunity to establish their own first line of scientific research. ZonMw promotes the translation of clinical questions into scientific research by investing in PhD-level medical specialists who can bridge the gap between the lab and the clinic. This way, clinical problems are translated into scientific questions, and the answers can simultaneously be brought back to clinical practice.



Max. funding: 200.000 euro per project

Co-financing: 50.000 euro

Deadline: 3 February 2026

An (online) information session is scheduled on December 3 2025
11.00-12.00 CET.

ANS Foundation

Nonprofits, foundations, and knowledge institutions can receive up to €250,000 for research, technology development, or healthcare projects that improve people's well-being. The program supports initiatives that reduce inequality and align with the UN goals for health, innovation, and partnership. Applications can be submitted by email to the fund's secretariat.

Max funding: 250.000 euro per project.

Co-financing: at least 50 % of the project costs

Contact details: info@ans-foundation.org

Deadline: applications can be submitted continuously.

[More information on Guidelines and Terms and Conditions ANS Foundation \(in Dutch\).](#)

[Save the Date and Register](#)

Events and Courses

Basics of Participatory Research CCC Workshop - Online

December 2, 2025

- [Click to register](#)

Expanding Horizons The Ongoing Impact of The Maastricht Study - Maastricht

December 3, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Brightlands Winter Drinks - Maastricht

December 4, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

RVO Info Session and Impact Workshop on Horizon Europe - Maastricht

December 12, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Citizen Science Matchmaking event- Maastricht

December 15, 2025

- [Click to explore the details](#)



Advanced European Bioethics Course - Nijmegen

March 24-27, 2026

- [Click to explore the details](#)

Public Health Strategy Seminar October June 2026 - Salzburg

June 28 - July 4, 2026

Application Deadline: January 31, 2026

- [Click to explore the details](#)

CAPHRI Research Day 2026 - Maastricht

June 10, 2026

[Save the Date and Register](#)

Inaugural Lectures and Farewells

Inaugural Lecture Prof. dr. Jeroen Hendriks - Maastricht

4 December 2025

Farewell symposium Prof. dr. Klasien Horstman - Maastricht

27 February 2026

Farewell symposium Prof. dr. Stefan Wilm - Düsseldorf

6 March 2026

Farewell symposium Prof. dr. IJmert Kant

13 March 2026

Farewell symposium Prof. dr. Paul Savelkoul - Maastricht

5 June 2026

Farewell symposium Prof. dr. Onno van Schayck - Maastricht

11 June 2026

Inaugural Lecture Prof. dr. Mickael Hiligsmann - Maastricht

2 October 2026

PhD Ceremonies

November and December 2025

Lieve Vonken | PHPC

12-11-2025

"Unraveling how healthcare professionals perceive antibiotic resistance: From perceptions to practice"

Ganesh Babu Balu Subburaman | VHC

13-11-2025

"Evidence-Based Management In Eye Hospitals: Drivers, Practices, And Organizational Outcomes"

Carlijn Wiertz | FPR

19-11-2025

"From struggle to strength: Post-COVID rehabilitation"

Chitegetse Archangela Minanago | PHPC

27-11-2025

"Exposure to Inter-Parental Violence and Child Development: An Exploration in the Context of Tanzania"

Marc van Hoof | VHC

02-12-2025

"Skin integration for better acceptance of hearing implants"

Eunice Lobo | OPC

03-12-2025

"Early years matter: Contextual factors shaping caregiving and child development in urban poor neighbourhoods of Bangalore, India"

José van Dorst | ALTC

11-12-2025

"Same client, different care? Investigating practice variation in home care needs assessment"

Marleen van der Velde | ALTC

12-12-2025

"Acute care demands in older adults: predicting outcomes, evaluating quality and optimising care"

Roos van der Ven | VHC

16-12-2025

"The complexity of multi-hospital oncology networks: a widely used and promising structure without a blueprint"

Nadine Blankvoort | HISP

17-12-2025

"Modern citizens, unmodern others: Epistemic and everyday



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

governance of difference in dutch migrant integration practices"

Ralph Jeuken | FPR

19-12-2025

"Knee joint preservation throughout life"

Ken Peeters | OPC

19-12-2025

"Electronic consultations between general practitioners and hospital specialists: shifting expertise, not patients"

Communication

Your project, publication or event in this newsletter?

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?

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

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



Maastricht University



Maastricht UMC+



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