

LITERATURE

For this master class series the basic literature will be the book:

Haveman-Nies A, Jansen SC, van Oers JAM, van 't Veer P (2010). *Epidemiology in public health practice*. Wageningen Academic Publishers, The Netherlands. ISBN 978-90-8686-140-8.

Additional literature will be distributed during the respective master classes.

ORGANIZATION

The master class series is organized by:

- Dr. Joanne Leerlooijer, Wageningen University, ACC AGORA and GGD Noord- en Oost-Gelderland: joanne.leerlooijer@wur.nl
- Dr. Annemien Haveman-Nies, Wageningen University, ACC AGORA and GGD Noord- en Oost-Gelderland: annemien.haveman@wur.nl
- Ingeborg van Leeuwen-Bol, Graduate School VLAG: ingeborg.vanleeuwen-bol@wur.nl
- Prof. Maria Jansen, Department Health Services Research, CAPHRI School for Public Health and Primary Care of Maastricht University and GGD Zuid Limburg: maria.jansen@ggdzl.nl
- Prof. Klasien Horstman, Department of Health, Ethics & Society, CAPHRI School for Public Health and Primary Care of Maastricht University: k.horstman@maastrichtuniversity.nl
- Prof. Silvia Evers, Department Health Services Research, CAPHRI School for Public Health and Primary Care of Maastricht University: s.evers@maastrichtuniversity.nl
- Dr. Hennie Boeije, Department of Methodology & Statistics, Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Utrecht University: h.boeije@uu.nl
- Dr. Joyce de Goede, The Research Department Tranzo of Tilburg University and GGD West-Brabant: j.goede@ggdwestbrabant.nl
- Piet van der Smissen, MPH, The Research Department Tranzo of Tilburg University and GGD West-Brabant: p.smissen@ggdwestbrabant.nl

DATES

Participants can take part in the whole master class series or can follow individual master classes.

Master class 1: Filosofie en praktijk van burgerschap en participatie in gezondheid en zorg (Philosophy and practice of citizenship and participation in health).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maastricht, 3+4 December 2014• Language: Dutch
Master class 2: Costs and benefits of public health interventions to advice local government: challenges and limitations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maastricht, 11+12 March 2015• Language: English
Master class 3: Experience as evidence in public health: the contribution of qualitative research methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utrecht, 3+4 June 2015• Language: English (in case of Dutch participants only: Dutch)
Master class 4: How to develop effective interventions in public health practice?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wageningen, 26+27 October 2015• Language: English
Master class 5: How to use research data for the benefit of local priority setting and policy development?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breda, 9+10 March 2016• Language: English (in case of Dutch participants only: Dutch)
Master class 6: How to evaluate interventions in public health practice?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wageningen, 24+25 October 2016• Language: English

PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH IN PRACTICE

Series of six Master Classes December 2014 - October 2016

Organized by

Academic Collaborative Centres for Public Health



BACKGROUND

In the past ten years, Academic Collaborative Centres (ACC) have been established to bridge the gap between the fields of policy, practice and research. These ACC's are consortia of Public Health Services and Universities in the Netherlands. At present there are nine ACC's in the field of public health.

COURSE AIM

The aim of this master class series is to make knowledge and experiences acquired in these ACC's available for public health professionals and researchers working in the domain of public health.

TARGET GROUP

The master classes are especially developed for public health researchers and professionals from policy or practice, working in the field of population health, health promotion, epidemiology, nutrition and health sciences, infectious diseases, primary health care, youth health care, health policy and communication sciences.

LANGUAGE

The master classes will be either conducted in English or in Dutch. This is indicated in the description of each master class.

CONTENT

The master class series is set up to strengthen the working processes of researchers and professionals working at the interface of policy, practice and research. To facilitate this, the master classes are organised around the public health cycle, a shared model for policy, practice and research, including the four stages of agenda setting, programme development, implementation and evaluation.

During the master classes new and applied theories, concepts and methodologies are taught to support the planning, implementation and evaluation of public health policies and programmes.

The series of master classes was developed and implemented in 2012-2014 with financial support of The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development (ZonMW).

PROGRAMME TOPICS

Master class 1: Philosophy and practice of citizenship and participation in health

This master class focuses on the meaning of citizenship and participation in health and health care. Western authorities promote the change of the well-known welfare state towards a participatory, civil society. We elaborate on the further meaning of this policy shift with respect to citizenship, participation and public health practice. During the master class new and applied theories, concepts and methodologies are taught to improve tailoring of public health to current policy changes.

Master class 2: Costs and benefits of public health interventions to advise local government: challenges and limitations

This master class gives insight into the methodological principles of measuring costs and benefits of public health interventions. Not only costs and benefits in health are taken into account, but also social costs and benefits. The master class combines a deepening of understanding of the theoretical concepts with a hands-on training of the basic elements of a trial-based economic evaluation. The master class will consist of plenary sessions with theoretical lectures and illustrations of cost-benefit studies, and a distance-learning module to train cost-benefit analysis.

Master class 3: Experience as evidence in public health: the contribution of qualitative research methods

This two-day master class focuses on the contribution of qualitative research methods in all stages of the public health cycle. Increasingly, qualitative methods are used to obtain knowledge about feasibility and acceptability of interventions and experiences of clients and professionals. In the master class the different components of a qualitative design are addressed. We will pay attention to issues that have to do with conducting research in real-life settings, e.g., qualitative research with a scarce (time) budget or difficulties with recruitment of participants.

Master class 4: How to develop effective interventions in public health practice?

To shape (inter)national and local policies, effective public health interventions need to be implemented geared to the local situation. Central question in this master class is: how do we develop effective interventions in real-life settings?

In this course we follow the first steps described in the Intervention Mapping approach and apply this in practice. Focus will be on theory- and evidence-based intervention development in practice as well as on identifying and selecting active intervention elements that target individual behaviours and change towards a supportive environment. The master class will consist of plenary sessions with theoretical lectures and illustrations from research and practice, group work, and a distance-learning module to bring in own experiences with intervention development in practice.

Master class 5: How to use research data for the benefit of local priority setting and policy development?

This two-day master class focuses on the first phase of the public health cycle: agenda setting. We will discuss the use of research data for the benefit of local priority setting and policy development. The first day is dedicated to data collection and presentation, guided by the development of regional public health status forecasts. On the second day the policy-making processes will be studied and especially how research can strengthen these processes.

Master class 6: How to evaluate interventions in public health practice?

Evaluation studies are conducted to answer the questions whether and how the objectives of public health programs have been achieved and at what costs. Evaluation in public health practice is challenging as evaluation contributes to multiple purposes: policy-makers seek out distributional consequences, practitioners are concerned about the applicability of the intervention and researchers want to make causal inferences.

Evaluating interventions in real-life settings requires specific methods as these interventions are not conducted under standardised conditions, but tailored to local social and cultural contexts. The master class will learn students to design evaluation studies in public health practice that answer questions from policy-makers, practitioners and researchers.