



## THE DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

# Vital, viable & vibrant!\*

### Welcome by Professor Arfan Ikram

Welcome to the Department of Epidemiology! We are an ambitious, hard-working and prestigious department and strive to offer exciting research opportunities, excellent teaching and a safe and stimulating work environment to our staff. In this brochure, you will find all the necessary information to get to know us better and to get you on your way in our department. Thank you for joining the Department of Epidemiology.



**Arfan Ikram**  
Chair of the Department

The following departments  
together form the Theme  
Health Sciences:

- Epidemiology
- General Practice
- Medical Informatics
- Public Health

**Erasmus MC**  
University Medical Center Rotterdam



\* Cited from the final report of the independent SEP-reviewing committee for the period 2014-2020.

## Mission statement

The Department's mission is to:

- 1) Improve health across populations as well as optimize care for individual patients.
- 2) Develop and apply novel methods for quantitative research.
- 3) Deliver education of the highest academic standard.
- 4) Provide an optimal environment for scientific and academic development with a strong focus on scientific integrity.
- 5) Facilitate and maintain open communication with the academic and healthcare communities, as well as with the public.
- 6) Build strong collaborations with partners at institutional, regional, national, and international levels.

## Collaborations

We have a broad network of collaborations with:

Academic institutes, NGOs, and private organizations, including:



- KNAW, ZonMw, NIH, Chin. Academy of Sciences
- RIVM, CBS, Ministry of Health Welfare and Sports, United Nations International Criminal Tribunal
- BioGen Inc, Johnson & Johnson
- We have provided ad hoc methodological consultancy to various non-commercial entities, such as the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports, the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal, and various regional hospitals.



Universities and academic institutes in over 30 countries, including emerging economies as well as low- and middle-income countries.


Universities in the Netherlands at regional and national levels:




- We are the primary coordinator for three ongoing national programs.
- We also lead the theme Improving Health Journeys in the **Convergence** with TU Delft and EUR.

## Research integrity

The Department of Epidemiology pays special attention to research integrity, did you know that:

 We discuss research integrity during the yearly appraisal for every member of the staff.

 We ask you to sign confidentiality agreements with the Erasmus MC and with the Rotterdam Study, Generation R Study, or other datasets you will work with.

The agreements state that personal data that is not anonymized or pseudonymized is never allowed to be stored outside the department's drives (i.e., not your personal computer).

 We ask all PhD students to attend the 'Scientific Integrity' course.

 We have a Quality Assurance Program:


- All research data and scripts for published papers are archived by our data manager as part of this program.
- Also a random number of papers are selected twice a year for evaluation by the quality assurance committee.

 We have an open and transparent culture in which topics related to scientific integrity are openly shared and discussed.



**Chair**  
Prof. dr. Arfan Ikram<sup>1</sup>


**Quantitative Methods**



**Biostatistics**  
Prof. dr. Dimitris Rizopoulos



**Causal Inference**  
Dr. Sonja Swanson<sup>1</sup>




**Clinical Epidemiology**  
Prof. dr. Myriam Hunink<sup>2,11,12,13</sup>


**Epidemiology of Diseases**




**Cardiometabolic Epidemiology**  
Dr. Maryam Kavousi



**Neuroepidemiology**  
Prof. dr. Kamran Ikram<sup>3</sup>




**Psychiatric Epidemiology**  
Dr. Annemarie Luik<sup>4</sup>




**Pulmonary Epidemiology**  
Prof. dr. Guy Brusselle<sup>5,6</sup>


**Epidemiology of Determinants**




**Molecular and Systems Epidemiology**  
Dr. Mohsen Ghanbari



**Nutrition and Lifestyle Epidemiology**  
Dr. ir. Trudy Voortman<sup>7</sup>



**Pharmacoepidemiology**  
Prof. dr. Bruno Stricker<sup>8</sup>




**Population Imaging**  
Prof. dr. Meike Vernooij<sup>2,9</sup>




**Imaging of Arteriosclerosis**  
Dr. Daniel Bos<sup>1,2,10</sup>


**Support**



**Managing Director**  
Dr. Radjesh Manna



**Coordinator for Scientific Affairs**  
Dr. ir. Natalie Terzikhan



**Head Information and Technology**  
Eric Neeleman



**Secretariat**  
Gabriëlle Bakker  
Eline van Gent-Geertsema  
Erica Kroos  
Maaïke Oomens  
Mirjam Roosen-Niesing

**Other affiliations**

- <sup>1</sup> Department of Epidemiology, Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health
- <sup>2</sup> Department of Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, Erasmus MC
- <sup>3</sup> Department of Neurology, Erasmus MC
- <sup>4</sup> Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Erasmus MC
- <sup>5</sup> Department of Respiratory Medicine, Ghent University Hospital, Ghent University
- <sup>6</sup> Department of Respiratory Medicine, Erasmus MC
- <sup>7</sup> Division of Human Nutrition & Health, Wageningen University & Research
- <sup>8</sup> Inspectorate of Healthcare, The Hague, the Netherlands
- <sup>9</sup> Kyoto Prefectural University, Kyoto, Japan
- <sup>10</sup> Department of Cardiovascular Sciences, KU Leuven, Belgium
- <sup>11</sup> Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health
- <sup>12</sup> University for Health Sciences, Medical Informatics and Technology, Austria
- <sup>13</sup> Director of NIHES


**Affiliated staff**



Prof. dr. Albert Hofman  
**Chair, Department of Epidemiology**  
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health  
Boston - USA



Prof. dr. Thomas Hankemeier  
**Head Analytical BioSciences & Metabolomics**  
Leiden Academic Centre for Drug Research  
Leiden - The Netherlands



Prof. dr. Kameshwar Prasad  
**Director**  
Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences  
Ranchi, Jharkhand - India

## The department coordinates or participates in the following studies and research infrastructure of the Erasmus MC



**The Rotterdam Study**  
www.ergo-onderzoek.nl

**Generation R Study**  
www.generationr.nl



**ERF Study**  
(Erasmus Ruckphen Family)

**Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Surveillance Database**



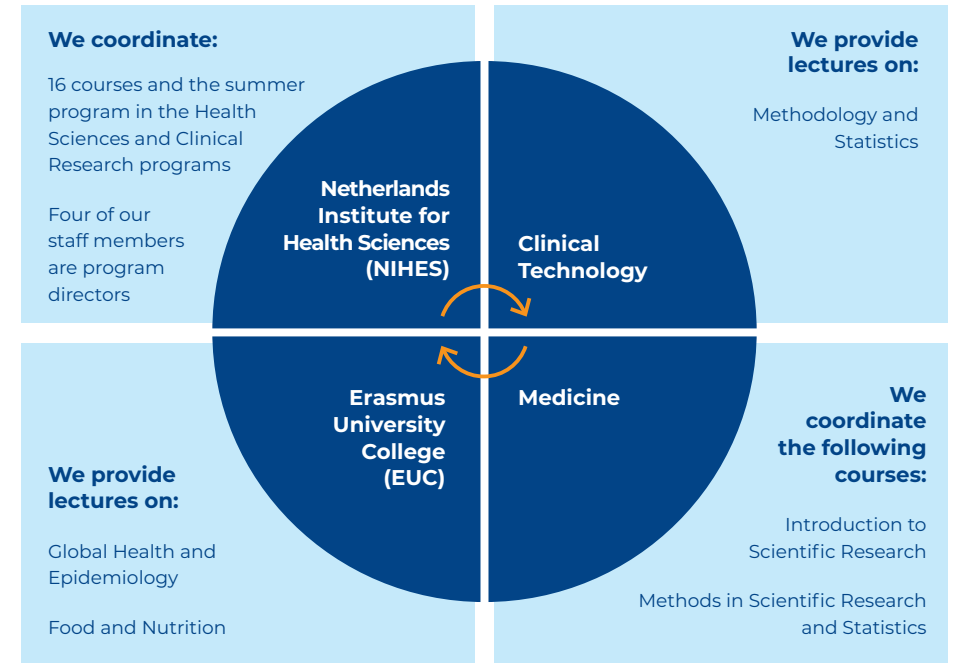
**DESTRESS Study**  
(DEcrease STress through RESilience training for Students)  
www.destress.info



**EraCORE Study**  
(Erasmus MC Covid-19 Observational Research)

## Education

We take part in the following educational programs:



## Research output

The Department of Epidemiology strives to be a world leader in terms of research impact. Our staff regularly contributes to policy documents, clinical and preventive guidelines, societal outreach, and innovative educational activities.

Year	Number of publications in scientific journals	PhD theses
2020	431	12
2019	466	10
2018	482	21

## Your well-being

Starting a new position is an exciting time and we are looking forward to working with you – when things go well but also when things might not go as well as hoped. We therefore want to emphasize that we value your well-being and have a dedicated program to promote well-being. For more information about this program please check the intranet page of the department of epidemiology.

# Practical info

Are you newly appointed at the department? Please be aware of the following important forms:

- PhD Training and Supervision Plan – fill in this form at the start of your PhD and update it when necessary.
- Rotterdam Study and/or Generation R Study confidentiality agreement – fill in this form when you start at our department and work with data of one of these cohorts.
- Annual leave card – on this form you register your hours worked/holiday/sick. At the end of the year you report the balance to the secretary of your group. Within our department it is mandatory to take 2 consecutive weeks of holiday per year and finish up the rest of your holiday hours as much as possible.
- Annual performance interview form – each year you will have an evaluation with your PI. The form is designed to help you with that.

For PhD candidates to be admitted to a PhD track, several steps are needed. This administrative procedure takes place through an online system called: **Hora Finita**. This system guides PhD candidates from their admission to their PhD track to the submission of their doctoral dissertation. For more information, please go to [www.eur.nl](http://www.eur.nl).

Should you need more information about all other practicalities, please feel free to ask the secretariat, your PI or our Scientific Affairs Coordinator Natalie Terzikhan.



Natalie Terzikhan  
**Coordinator for Scientific Affairs**



## Secretariat

Erica Kroos  
Assistant to Myriam Hunink, Kamran Ikram and Annemarie Luik

Mirjam Roosen-Niesing  
Assistant to Maryam Kavousi, Trudy Voortman and Bruno Stricker

Eline van Gent-Geertsema  
Assistant to Dimitris Rizopoulos

Gabriëlle Bakker  
Assistant to Arfan Ikram

Maaïke Oomens  
Assistant to Mohsen Ghanbari, Sonja Swanson and Daniel Bos



### EMAIL ADDRESS

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### INTRANET

[intranet-en.erasmusmc.nl/department/epidemiology](http://intranet-en.erasmusmc.nl/department/epidemiology)

### WEBPAGE

[erasmusmc.nl/en/research/departments/epidemiology](http://erasmusmc.nl/en/research/departments/epidemiology)