

Seminar on Thursday, April 19, 2018, 16:00 (ISPM seminar room 606, 1st floor)

Questionable Research Practices in Health Services

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In bio-medical research there is an ongoing lively debate about integrity of research practices. In the Netherlands, 13 institutes involved in Health Services Research have joined forces to address questionable research practices in Health Services Research. A research project, led by the Academic Medical Centre in Amsterdam is underway to assess the occurrence and nature of questionable research practices as derived from scientific papers produced by the 13 Dutch institutes. Questionable reporting of conclusions and messages in HSR is defined as; to report, either intentionally or unintentionally, conclusions or messages that may lead to incorrect inferences and do not accurately reflect the objectives, the methodology or the results of the study. A detailed list of 35 type of QRP's was developed through interviews with heads of the HSR institutes and validated by 5 international HSR experts. The intended sample was to include 10 HSR publications per institute. Actual selection included 118 publications randomly identified. All publications were independently assessed by 2 assessors and conflicting judgements discussed in the core research team of 4 persons. First results of this assessment, through which an average of 7 QRP's per paper were identified, will be presented. These results were discussed in a meeting with the heads of the research institutes and in the next phase of the project focus groups with junior researchers and a survey amongst first authors of the articles that were assessed will be executed. Also, an analysis of societal publications related to the assessed articles is performed. Although not all questionable practices should be considered a threat to integrity, the study has helped to identify potential areas for improvement of the reporting practices of the Dutch HSR institutes and findings are used to raise awareness and related research reporting competences within the community of Dutch HSR researchers



Niek Klazinga

Niek Klazinga is since 2006 the coordinator of the Health Care Quality Indicator program at the OECD in Paris. He combines this work with a professorship in Social Medicine at the Academic Medical Centre at the University of Amsterdam. Dr. Klazinga has been involved over the past 30 years in numerous health services research projects and policy debates on quality of care and published widely on the subject. Present commitments include a visiting professorship at the Corvinus University in Budapest and the University of Toronto, advisor to WHO/Euro, advisor to the Canadian Institute for Health Informatics and member of the board of trustees of the Isala Clinics (Zwolle, a large teaching hospital in The Netherlands) and Arkin (Amsterdam, one of the largest mental health care institutes in The Netherlands). Dr. Klazinga has (co)authored around 200 articles in peer-reviewed journals and to date completed the supervision of 36 PhD trajectories.

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