

# Curriculum Vitae

## Personal details

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Name	Annette Gerritsen
Date of birth	January 31, 1975
Country of birth	The Netherlands
Address	PO Box 3887, Louis Trichardt, 0920, South Africa
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## Work experience

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October 2008 – ... In October 2008 I started Epi Result, a firm offering research consultancy, quantitative research and epidemiology courses. [www.epiresult.com](http://www.epiresult.com)

February 2007 – ... Senior lecturer, Department of Public Health, University of Venda, Thohoyandou, South Africa. [www.univen.ac.za](http://www.univen.ac.za)

- Developing educational materials (e.g. block books including Problem Based Learning (PBL) as a teaching/learning method) for modules on epidemiology and biostatistics, and research methodology for Master of Public Health (MPH) students and teaching these modules (e.g. Introduction to epidemiology and biostatistics, Research methodology (quantitative), Advanced epidemiology, Advanced biostatistics)
- Supervising research projects of MPH students
- Coordinating the MPH programme (responsible for the selection of students, contacts with students and staff, planning and practical organisation)
- Revising the framework of the MPH programme (e.g. revising the structure, the blocks, and including PBL)
- Conducting research projects e.g. in collaboration with the Malaria Control Programme in Tzaneen, the Agincourt Health & Population Unit of the University of the Witwatersrand and the South African Cochrane Centre.

March 2006 – January 2007 Researcher, Centre for Infectious Disease Control, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment, Bilthoven, the Netherlands. [www.rivm.nl](http://www.rivm.nl)

Conducting research with respect to the national immunisation programme:

- Evaluating a pilot project on the surveillance of rash illness (i.e. evaluating non-invasive diagnostic tests for measles, rubella and parvovirus B19).
- Contributed to: de Melker HE. [The National Immunisation Programme now and in the future: developments in 2005]. Bilthoven: RIVM, 2006. And edited the report on 2006.
- Worked on a needs assessment for the introduction of universal human papillomavirus vaccination.

- June 2005 – September 2005      Researcher, Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research, Utrecht, the Netherlands. [www.nivel.nl](http://www.nivel.nl)
- Analysing data from the Second Dutch National Survey of General Practice to assess gender differences in health and health care use in the general population of the Netherlands and in the four largest migrant groups in the Netherlands.
- February 2005 – May 2005      Researcher, Community Health Services for Asylum Seekers (GGD Nederland), Utrecht, The Netherlands. [www.ggd.nl](http://www.ggd.nl)
- Conducting additional analyses on the data of the group of asylum seekers (post-doc project) and contributing to a report.
- July 2002 – March 2006      Post-doctoral researcher, Department of Medical Psychology, VU University Medical Centre (VUmc), Amsterdam, the Netherlands. <http://www.vumc.nl/english/ongoing/index.html>
- Project manager of a survey on the prevalence of health problems and the utilisation of health care among more than 400 refugees and asylum seekers from Afghanistan, Iran and Somalia living in 3 major municipalities and 14 reception centres in the Netherlands.
- Main responsibilities:
1. organising the study (including design, project planning, finance)
  2. development of measurement instrument
  3. recruitment of participants and coordination of the data collection
  4. supervising the research team (consisting of 33 interviewers from Afghanistan, Iran and Somalia) and 1 research assistant)
  5. developing and conducting interview training sessions
  6. maintaining contacts with relevant partners in the field
  7. data-analysis (SPSS) and reporting of the results in academic publications and a report
  8. presentation of the results at (inter)national meetings
  9. organising a conference meeting about the project
- April 1998 – June 2002      Junior-researcher, Institute for Research in Extramural Medicine (EMGO Institute), VUmc. <http://www.emgo.nl/aboutemgo/index.asp>
- Project manager of a randomised controlled trial on the treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome with splinting or surgery. The trial included almost 200 patients and was conducted in 13 hospitals. The research team consisted of 3 physiotherapists and 2 research assistants.
- Main responsibilities: see 1 t/m 4, 7-8 above
- September 1997 – March 1998      Junior-teacher, Department of Epidemiology, Catholic University of Nijmegen (KUN), Nijmegen, the Netherlands. <http://www.ru.nl/english/>

Teaching epidemiology and developing new teaching materials.

*Other activities:*

- June 2008 - ... Member of the executive committee of the Public Health Association of South Africa
- February 2008 - ... External examiner for the National School of Public Health (University of Limpopo – Medunsa campus, South Africa) for dissertations of the Master of Public Health programme
- October 2007 - ... External examiner for the School of Health Systems and Public Health (University of Pretoria, South Africa) for exams and dissertations of the Master of Public Health programme
- January 2002 - ... Reviewer for several journals e.g. South African Medical Journal; Water SA; African Journal for Physical, Health Education, Recreation & Dance; European Psychiatry; Journal of clinical epidemiology; Lancet; Journal of Neurology; Muscle & Nerve
- May 2002 – December 2005 Part of a committee of the Dutch Institute for Healthcare Improvement, Utrecht, the Netherlands ([www.cbo.nl](http://www.cbo.nl)), that developed an evidence-based clinical guideline on the diagnosis and treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome
- September 1999 – November 2003 Teaching research methodology and biostatistics for the Postgraduate Epidemiology Programme (EMGO Institute: [www.epidemiologievumc.nl](http://www.epidemiologievumc.nl)) (e.g. introduction to epidemiology and biostatistics, introduction to SPSS, logistic and linear regression, survival analysis), the training for general practitioners (VUmc) and a postgraduate course for physiotherapists (Hogeschool van Utrecht, Utrecht, the Netherlands)
- April 2002 – June 2002 Developed an online manual ‘Practical information for conducting research’ (EMGO-Institute)

**Education**

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- June 2007 Attended a 5-day workshop on Mastering the art of facilitation organised by SeP Serfontein Consulting and NUFFIC in South Africa
- May 2007 Attended a 2-day workshop on Supervision organised by SANPAD in South Africa
- February-March 2007 Attended a 5-day NUFFIC workshop on Problem Based Learning (block construction and case development) in South Africa
- June 2003 Registration as epidemiologist ‘B’ (senior epidemiologist) with the National Committee for Medical-Biological Training in the Netherlands

- April 2002            Defended dissertation and received PhD title (Vrije Universiteit (VU), Amsterdam, the Netherlands)  
<http://www.emgo.nl/archive/Annette%20Gerritsen%20Dissertation.asp>
- May 1998 –            Several postgraduate courses in epidemiology and biostatistics:  
 May 2000            intervention-prognostic research (O.S. Miettinen), clinimetrics, analysing longitudinal data (D.G. Kleinbaum), systematic reviews, clinical trials (S. Piantadosi)
- September 1993    Biomedical health sciences, major in epidemiology (KUN)  
 – June 1997            *Other courses*
- September 2001    - Dutch development co-operation (KUN), Development Issues (VU),  
 – July 2002            Health and development (University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands)
- July 2000 –            - Several courses on teaching in higher education (VU)  
 June 2001
- November 1998    - All-round English, Writing English for publication, Oral presentations in  
 – February 2001    English (VU)
- September 1997    - Introduction health education, Communication and health promotion  
 – December            (Wageningen University, Wageningen, the Netherlands)  
 1997

## **Publications**

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### *Dissertation:*

Gerritsen AAM. Is there light at the end of the carpal tunnel? Conservative and surgical treatment options for carpal tunnel syndrome. (Vrije Universiteit; Promotors: Prof. dr. L.M. Bouter; Co-promotor: Dr. R.J.P.M. Scholten, Prof. dr. ir. H.C.W. de Vet). (2002)

### *International scientific publications:*

1. Gerritsen AA, Deville W. Gender differences in health and health care use in migrants in the Netherlands. Submitted.
2. Gerritsen AA, Kruger P, Schim van der Loeff MF, Grobusch MP. Malaria incidence in Limpopo Province, South Africa, 1998-2007. *Malaria Journal* 2008, 7:162.
3. Boot HJ, Wallenburg I, de Melker HE, Mangen MJ, Gerritsen AA, van der Maas NA, Berkhof J, Meijer CJ, Kimman TG. Assessing the introduction of universal human papillomavirus vaccination for preadolescent girls in the Netherlands. *Vaccine*. 2007;25:6245-56.
4. Korthals-de Bos IB, Gerritsen AA, van Tulder MW, Rutten-van Molken MP, Ader HJ, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Surgery is more cost-effective than splinting for carpal tunnel

syndrome in the Netherlands: results of an economic evaluation alongside a randomized controlled trial. *BMC Musculoskelet Disord*. 2006;7:86.

5. Gerritsen AA, Bramsen I, Deville W, van Willigen LH, Hovens JE, van der Ploeg HM. Use of health care services by Afghan, Iranian, and Somali refugees and asylum seekers living in The Netherlands. *Eur J Public Health*. 2006 Aug;16:394-9.
6. Gerritsen AA, Bramsen I, Deville W, van Willigen LH, Hovens JE, van der Ploeg HM. Physical and mental health of Afghan, Iranian and Somali asylum seekers and refugees living in the Netherlands. *Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol*. 2006;41:18-26.
7. Schrijver HM, Gerritsen AA, Strijers RL, Uitdehaag BM, Scholten RJ, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Correlating nerve conduction studies and clinical outcome measures on carpal tunnel syndrome: lessons from a randomized controlled trial. *Clin Neurophysiol*. 2005;22:216-21.
8. Gerritsen AA, Bramsen I, Deville W, van Willigen LH, Hovens JE, van der Ploeg HM. Health and health care utilisation among asylum seekers and refugees in the Netherlands: design of a study. *BMC Public Health* 2004;4:7.
9. Gerritsen AA, Korthals-de Bos IB, Laboyrie PM, de Vet HC, Scholten RJ, Bouter LM. Splinting for carpal tunnel syndrome: prognostic indicators of success. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 2003;74:1342-4.
10. Scholten RJ, Gerritsen AA, Uitdehaag BM, van Geldere D, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Surgical treatment options for carpal tunnel syndrome (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library*, Issue 4, 2004. Oxford: Update.
11. Gerritsen AA, de Vet HC, Scholten RJ, Bertelsmann FW, de Krom MC, Bouter LM. Splinting versus surgery in the treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome. A randomized controlled trial. *JAMA* 2002;288:1245-1251.
12. Gerritsen AA, de Vet HC, Scholten RJ, van Tulder MW, Bouter LM. Enabling meta-analysis in systematic reviews on carpal tunnel syndrome. *J Hand Surg* 2002;27A:828-832.
13. Gerritsen AA, de Krom MC, Struijs MA, Scholten RJ, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Conservative treatment options for carpal tunnel syndrome: a systematic review of randomised controlled trials. *J Neurol* 2002;249:272-280.
14. Gerritsen AA, Scholten RJ, Assendelft WJ, Kuiper H, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Splinting or surgery for carpal tunnel syndrome? Design of a randomized controlled trial. *BMC Neurology* 2001;1:8.
15. Konijnenberg HS, de Wilde NS, Gerritsen AA, van Tulder MW, de Vet HC. Conservative treatment for repetitive strain injury. *Scand J Work Environ Health* 2001;27:299-310.
16. Gerritsen AA, Uitdehaag BM, van Geldere D, Scholten RJ, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Systematic review of randomized clinical trials of surgical treatment for carpal tunnel syndrome. *Br J Surg* 2001;88:1285-95.

17. Zielhuis GA, Gerritsen AA, Gorissen WH, Dekker LJ, Rovers MM, van der Wilt GJ, Ingels K. Hearing deficits at school age; the predictive value of otitis media in infants. *Int J Pediatr Otorhinolaryngol* 1998;44:227-34.

*Letters to the editor:*

Gerritsen AA, Vet HC, Scholten RJ, Bertelsmann FW, Krom MC de, Bouter LM. Splinting vs surgery for carpal tunnel syndrome. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 2003; 289: 420-3.

*National (Dutch) scientific publications:*

1. Gerritsen AA, Deville W, van der Linden FA, Bramsen I, van Willigen LH, Hovens JE, van der Ploeg HM. [Mental and physical health problems of, and the use of healthcare by, Afghan, Iranian and Somali asylum seekers and refugees] *Ned Tijdschr Geneesk*. 2006;150:1983-9.
2. Gerritsen AA, de Vet HC, Scholten RJ, Bertelsmann FW, de Krom MC, Bouter LM. Betere klinische effecten op carpale-tunnelsyndroom van operatie dan van spalkbehandeling; resultaten van een gerandomiseerd klinisch onderzoek. *Ned Tijdschr Geneesk* 2002;146:2153-2156.

*Book chapters:*

1. Devillé W, Gerritsen A, Kramer S, Laban K. Asielzoekers en vluchtelingen – Een praktische handleiding voor gezondheids(zorg) onderzoek. In: *Gezondheids(zorg)onderzoek onder allochtone bevolkingsgroepen*. Foets M, Schuster J, Stronks K (eds). Amsterdam: Aksant, 2007.

*Reports:*

1. de Melker HE, Gerritsen AAM, Hahné SJM (eds.). *The National Immunisation Programme in the Netherlands. Developments in 2006*. Bilthoven: RIVM, 2007.
2. Goosen S, Gerritsen A. Het onderzoek “Gevlucht – Gezond?” vanuit het preventieperspectief. *Epidemiologische gegevens over de gezondheidstoestand en het zorggebruik van asielzoekers*. Utrecht: GGD Nederland, 2007.
3. Gerritsen AA, van der Ploeg HM, Deville W, Lamkaddem M. "Gevlucht - gezond?": een onderzoek naar de gezondheid van, en het zorggebruik door asielzoekers en vluchtelingen in Nederland. Utrecht: NIVEL, 2005.
4. Nederlandse vereniging voor Neurologie. Richtlijn ‘Diagnostiek en behandeling van het carpale-tunnelsyndroom’. Alphen aan den Rijn: Van Zuiden Communications B.V., 2005.
5. Gerritsen AA, de Vet HC, Scholten RJ, Bertelsmann FW, de Krom MC, Bouter LM. Eindverslag CVZ (OG 97-013): Een vergelijking van de effecten en kosten van vroeg operatieve behandeling en een afwachtend, conservatief beleid bij het carpale

tunnelsyndroom – een gerandomiseerd klinisch experiment. Amsterdam: EMGO-Instituut (VUmc), 2002.

*Abstracts:*

Gerritsen AA, Uitdehaag BM, van Geldere D, Scholten RJ, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Open carpal tunnel release is the preferred method of surgical treatment for carpal tunnel syndrome. *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* 2002; 84-A: 1489.

**(Inter)national presentations**

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1. Lutje V, Gerritsen A, Siegfried N, Grobler L, Garner P. Trends in randomized controlled trials of malaria treatment and prophylaxis in Africa. Book of abstracts. 16th Cochrane Colloquium. Freiburg, Germany, 3-7 October 2008.
2. Gerritsen AA, Kruger P. Malaria incidence in Limpopo Province, South Africa, 1998-2007. Book of abstracts. 4<sup>th</sup> Public Health Association of South Africa Conference 2008. Cape Town, South Africa, 2 – 4 June 2008.
3. Gerritsen AA, Bramsen I, Deville W, van Willigen LH, Hovens JE, van der Ploeg HM. Health and health care utilisation of asylum seekers and refugees in the Netherlands. Book of abstracts. VIII European Conference on Traumatic Stress. Berlin, Germany, 21 – 25 May 2003.
4. Invited speaker at a symposium on ‘Current options in the management of carpal tunnel syndrome’. Tampa (Florida), 21 February 2003.
5. Gerritsen AA, Uitdehaag BM, van Geldere D, Scholten RJ, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Surgical treatments for carpal tunnel syndrome: a systematic review of randomised controlled trials. XVII World Congress of Neurology. London, 17-22 June 2001. *Journal of the Neurological Sciences* 2001;187:S331.
6. Gerritsen AA, de Krom MC, Struijs MA, Scholten RJ, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Conservative treatment options for carpal tunnel syndrome: a systematic review of randomised controlled trials. XVII World Congress of Neurology. London, 17-22 June 2001. *Journal of the Neurological Sciences* 2001;187:S374.
7. Gerritsen AA, de Krom MC, Struijs MA, Scholten RJ, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Conservative treatment options for carpal tunnel syndrome: a systematic review of randomised controlled trials. Book of abstracts. 1st International meeting on evidence-based medicine in musculo skeletal disorders. Ferrara, Italy, 5-7 April 2001:19.
8. Gerritsen AA, Uitdehaag BM, van Geldere D, Scholten RJ, de Vet HC, Bouter LM. Surgical treatment options for carpal tunnel syndrome: a systematic review of randomised controlled trials. Book of abstracts. 1st International meeting on evidence-based medicine in musculo skeletal disorders. Ferrara, Italy, 5-7 April 2001:20.

9. Gerritsen AA, Scholten RJ, de Vet HC. Similarities in the use and presentation of outcome measures: A prerequisite for combining study results. Book of abstracts. 8th International Cochrane Colloquium. Cape Town, South Africa, 25-29 October 2000:97.

### **Fundraising**

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- 14,000 euros for organising a conference meeting in which the results of the project on asylum seekers and refugees were presented (Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development, The Hague)
- 300,000 euros for the funding of the project on asylum seekers and refugees (Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development, The Hague).
- 11,000 euros for conducting additional analyses on the data of the PhD project (St. Anna Fonds, Leiden).
- several smaller amounts for financing visits to conference meetings and the publication of the PhD thesis

### **Awards**

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- EMGO Science Award 2003
- Award for the best student in epidemiology of the year 1997 (KUN)

### **Travelling**

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Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi (June 2007); South Africa (October 2000 and November 2004); cycling in Namibia (August 2003); cycling in Malawi (July 2002); Kenya and Tanzania (September 2001)