

## **Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum (LUMC)**

The partner has broad experience in: genetic epidemiology, use of clinical cohorts to study aetiology of pathogenesis of musculoskeletal conditions, development of targeted therapies by means of clinical trials, as well as immunology and genetics; epidemiology of the consequences of MSC, including the impact on daily functioning, societal participation (work status) and overall quality of life; development and validation of measurements instruments to evaluate the impact of musculoskeletal conditions; implementation of models of care for patients with MSC; development and evaluation of various national and international monodisciplinary and multidisciplinary guidelines for the management of MSC. The department works closely with the department of statistics which is focused on the development of statistical models concerning extensions of established statistical tools. It co-operates with the department of medical decision making, medical psychology, and orthopaedics.

### **Key Staff**

Prof **Tom Huizinga** is chairman of Rheumatology at LUMC, the oldest university of the Netherlands. From the period of 1994-1999 he received a fellowship of the Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences to study: "Regulation of TNF $\alpha$ -production in rheumatoid arthritis". Since 2000 he was appointed as full professor. In 2006 he became chairman of rheumatology in Leiden. Professor Huizinga received a number of prizes for his work among the "Boerhaave prize for outstanding contributions to Immunology" and the "Howard and Martha Holley Award: ACR-Southeast Regional Meeting "Cytokine polymorphisms in disease". He has served on a number of committee's among which both the planning committee of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee of the American College of Rheumatology (2000-2003) and the planning committee of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee of the Eular (2004-2007). He serves on a number of editorial boards. He has (co)authored over 260 peer-reviewed articles and has written over 10 book chapters.

**Thea Vliet Vlieland** studied physical therapy at the Academy for Physical Therapy, Academic Hospital Leiden (certificate 1983) and medicine at the Leiden University (med. degree 1990). She got her qualification as epidemiologist in 1997 and MBA Health in 2009. From 1998 she was appointed at the Dept. of Rheumatology and from 2008 at the Department of Orthopaedics of the LUMC. Current research area: the development, evaluation and implementation of non-pharmacological interventions and integrated models of arthritis and osteoarthritis care. She is involved in the development of various guidelines regarding the management of musculoskeletal conditions. She is instigator of CARE, an international collaborative network of researchers in the field of non-pharmacological arthritis care. CARE aims to promote and improve, in collaboration with patient/consumers, arthritis care research among established and young investigators, and to enhance the international collaboration in this field.

### **Contacts**

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