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Health care evaluation in the Netherlands

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Brussel, November 28, 2019

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Health care in the Netherlands: facts and figures

> 17.000 million in habitants

Health insurance mandatory
- 4 dominant insurance companies
- 1420 euro nominal annual premium



10.000 general practioners
- 80% self-employed

22.000 medical specialists
- 50% self-employed

79 hospital organizations
- 8 Academic + 71 general
- 120 hospital locations, 137 outpatient clinics

220 independent treatment centers

70 other clinics (rehabilitation etc.)

Gross expenses on health care (2017)
- 88 bln euro health care total
- 27 bln euro Hospital and Medical specialist care

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Dutch Association of Medical Specialists

- Federation of the 33 scientific societies of medical specialists
- Representative organization of all 22.000 medical specialists.
  - *Main pillars of interest*
    - Quality
    - Education
    - Research and innovation
    - Organization and costs of care



Knowledge Institute Medical Specialists

- The institute is part of the Dutch Association of Medical Specialists (founded 2013; 50 fte)
- Main fields of expertise:
  - Guideline development and implementation.
  - Shared decision making/patient involvement
  - Clinical indicators/Audit methods
  - Health care evaluation: research agenda's/priority setting



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Vision Medical Specialists 2025: Ambition, Trust, Collaboration

In 2025, Dutch specialised medical care will have proven itself to be among the most innovative, efficient and high-quality in the world



The unique patient and the modern medical specialist

Towards network medicine

Involved in health and behaviour

At the forefront of innovation

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To achieve our ambition, health care evaluation is essential

"… For a medical specialist society it is crucial to have a solid scientific foundation of their daily medical practice ……."

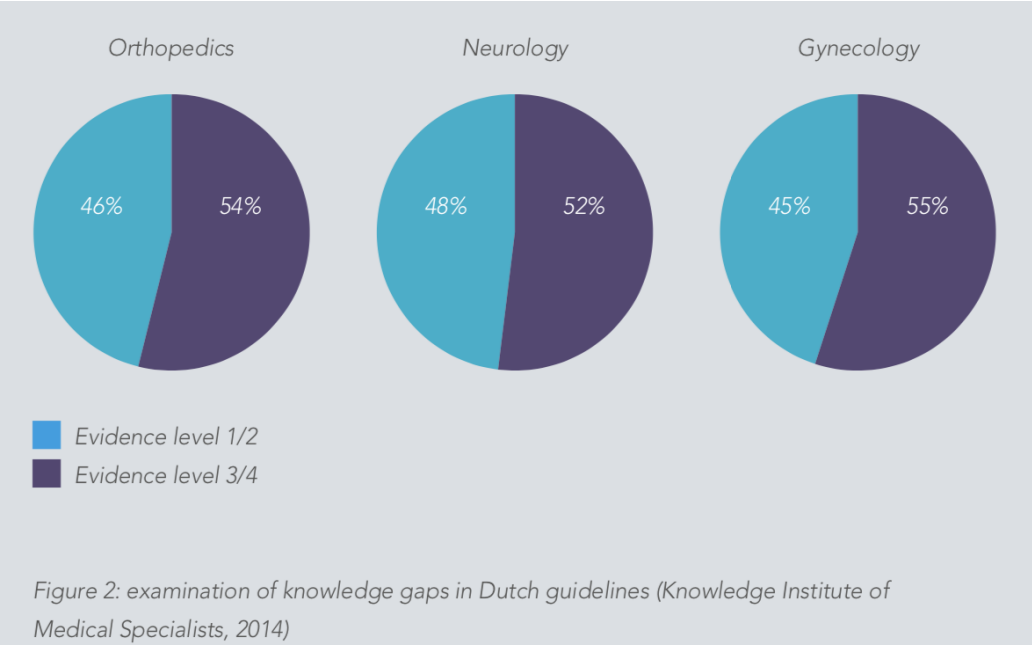
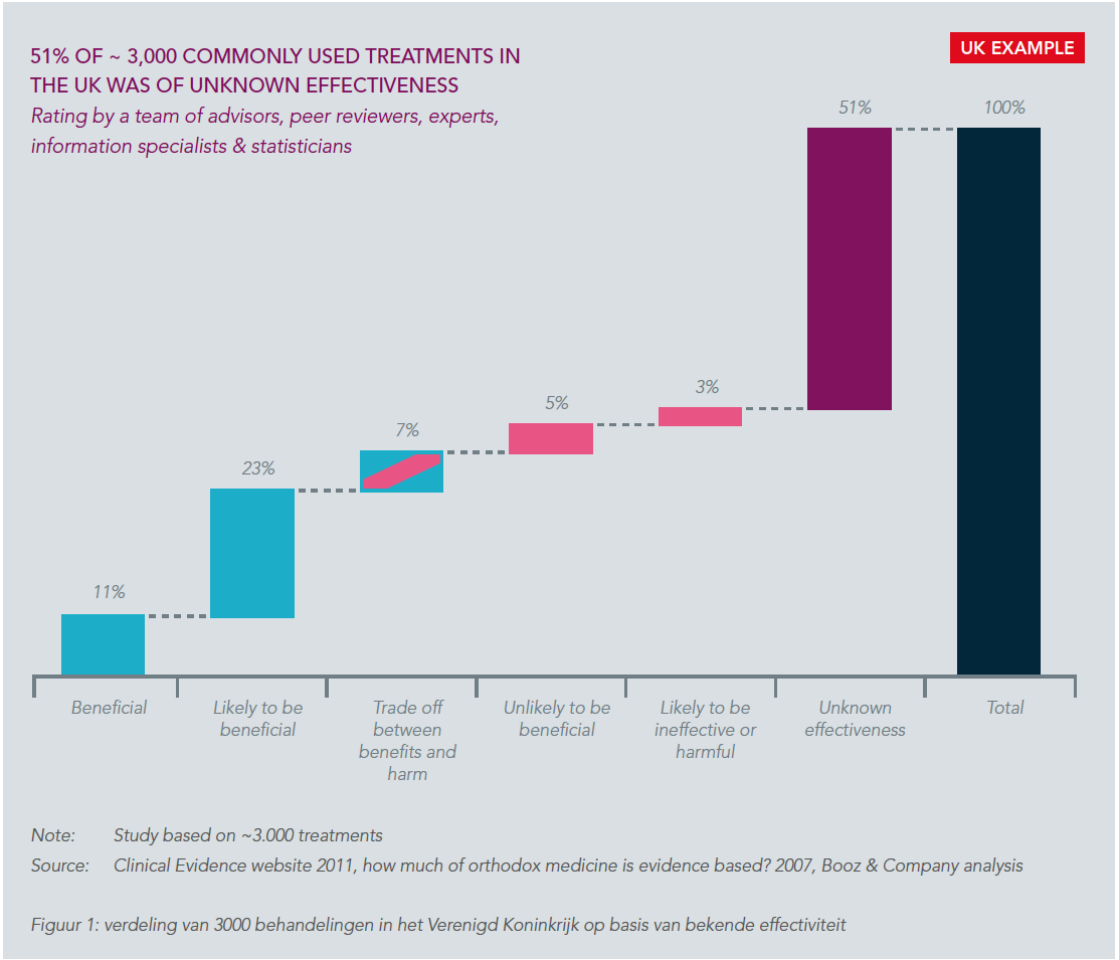


Figure 2: examination of knowledge gaps in Dutch guidelines (Knowledge Institute of Medical Specialists, 2014)

Evidence based medicine?



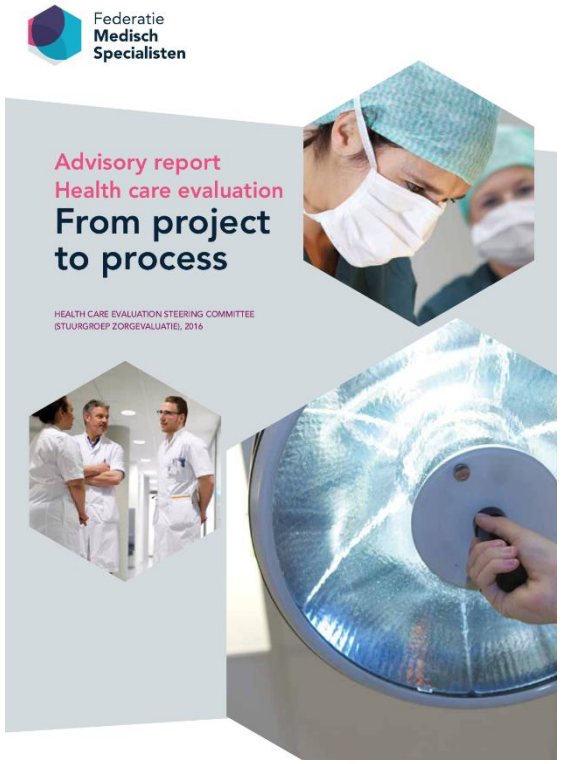
Figuur 1: verdeling van 3000 behandelingen in het Verenigd Koninkrijk op basis van bekende effectiviteit

Health care evaluation: definition

Health care evaluation is clinical evaluation research into the (cost) effectiveness of existing health care. It is aimed at correct determination of interventions (indication for treatment or diagnostics).

It is not merely a comparative analysis. It is a process from agenda setting to starting clinical research to implementing the results

In short: for whom is what effective and put the results into practice



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Example: Achilles tendon rupture







Answers to clinical questions of physicians and patients in daily practice

Primary goal is: Quality improvement and not cost reduction.
However cost reduction is an (important) by-product

Health care evaluation



Proven inappropriate care → De-implementation

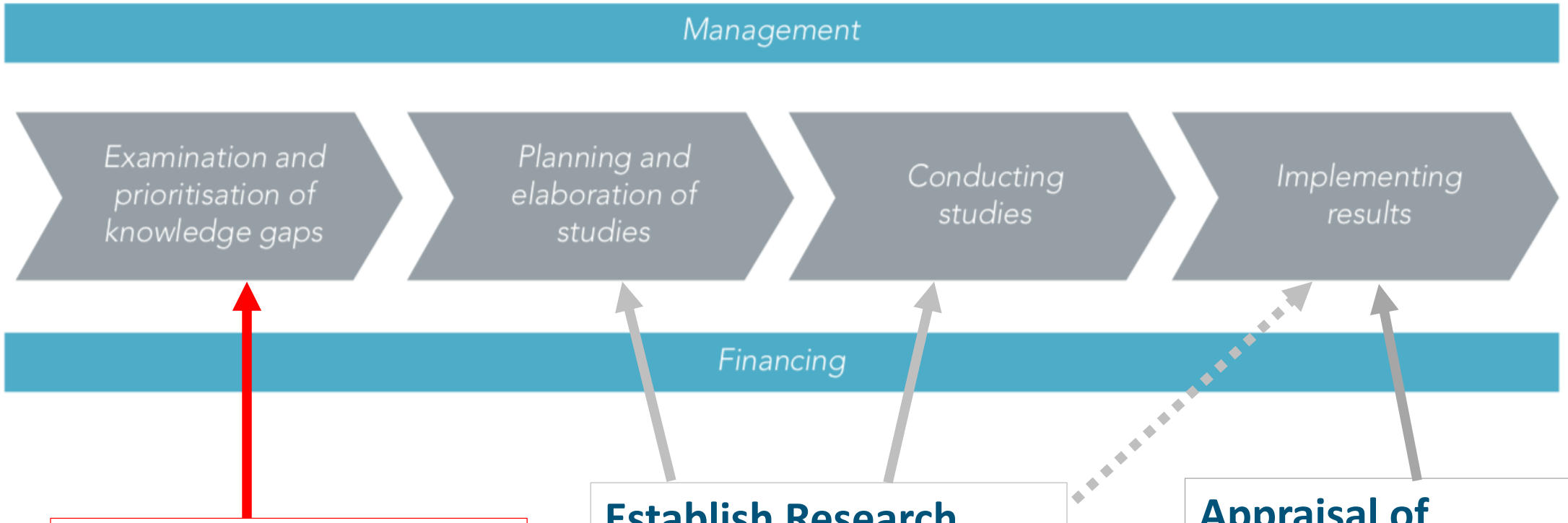
Unknown/ Knowledge gap → Clinical research → Critical appraisal Guideline development



Proven appropriate care → Implementation

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Health care evaluation is a process



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Roadmap in creating a research agenda

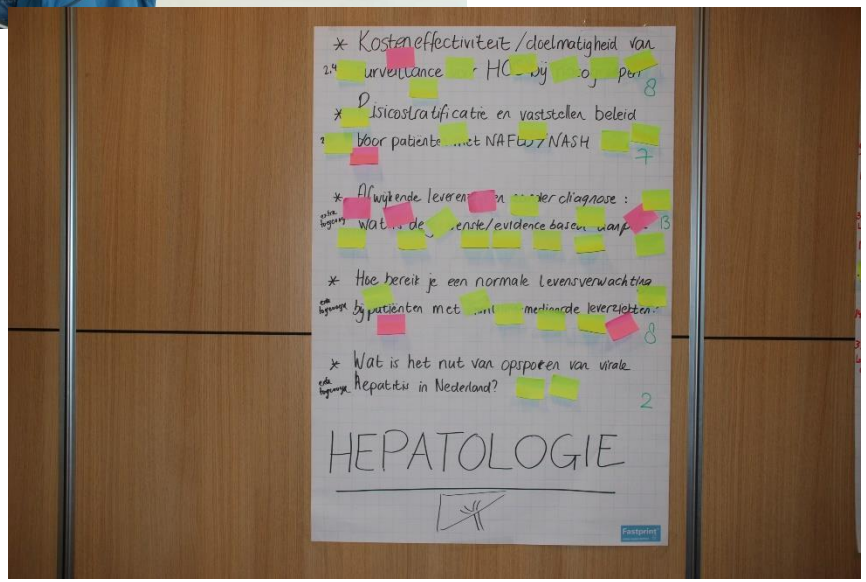
Fase	Activiteit
Step 1	Put together a balanced working group of physicians and patients
Step 2	Assessment of knowledge gaps in clinical guidelines of the relevant medical specialty
Step 3	Survey to identify knowledge gaps sent to all members of the concerning medical specialty and all concerning patient organizations
Step 4	Survey to identify Knowledge gaps sent to other stakeholders (eg. health care insurance companies)
Stap 5	Scoping, merging, deduplicate and classify knowledge gaps (specific fields of interest; subspecialties)
Step 6	Invitational conference to prioritize knowledge gaps
Step 7	Establish a Top-10 of prioritized knowledge gaps (verification of the knowledge gaps, literature searches + trial register)
Step 8	Endorsement by the board of the medical specialty society
Step 9	Publication of the Research agenda

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Invitational conference









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Examples

- Are nose septum corrections cost effective (for which patients) ? ENT society
- Do we need to prescribe cholesterol lowering drugs to elderly people (80+) who previously did not take these drugs? Geriatrics society
- What is the optimal diagnosis and treatment (injection or surgery) in carpal tunnel syndrome? Neurology society
- What is the added value of physiotherapy (duration, number of treatments) after total hip or total knee replacement? Orthopedics society

Agenda's: some challenges…….. (1)

- Scoping
  - What is your product: research agenda, knowledge agenda, innovation agenda, health care evaluation agenda etc.
  - Scoping the agenda: multidisciplinary; medical specialty, focus on specific disorders
  - Scoping the topics: Pico's, research questions, themes
- Patient involvement
- Prioritization process
  - Preventing hobbyism/
  - Formal procedures (Delphi, semi Delphi etc.)
- Acceptance of the agenda
  - Funding organizations
  - Researchers/research groups/academia
  - Policy on endorsement letters by the board



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Agenda's: some challenges…….. (2)

- Updating process of the agenda
  - Timing
  - Continuously?
- From agenda to starting the study: research networks
- ……..
- International collaboration ?!



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Time line health care evaluation

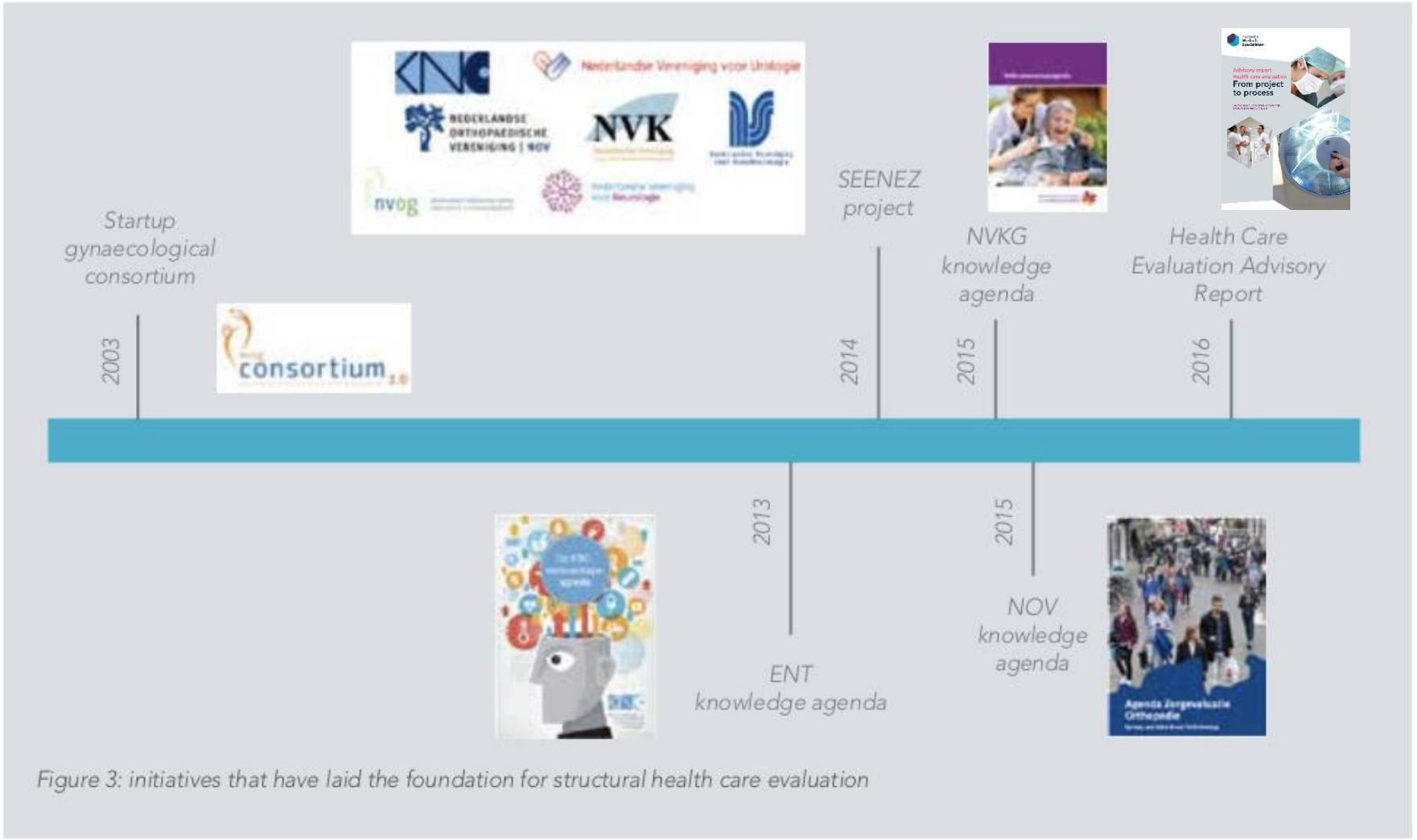


Figure 3: initiatives that have laid the foundation for structural health care evaluation

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Research agenda's: Status

25 medical specialist societies published agenda:

NVKNO (update) en NOV (update),
NVR, NVA, NVZA, NVvH, NVvR (en NVNG),
NVKG, NVOG (update), NVU, NVMDL, NVRO,
NIV, VRA, VSG, NVN, NVKC, NVvC, NVDV, NVALT,
NVvP, NVMM, NVPC, NVVN

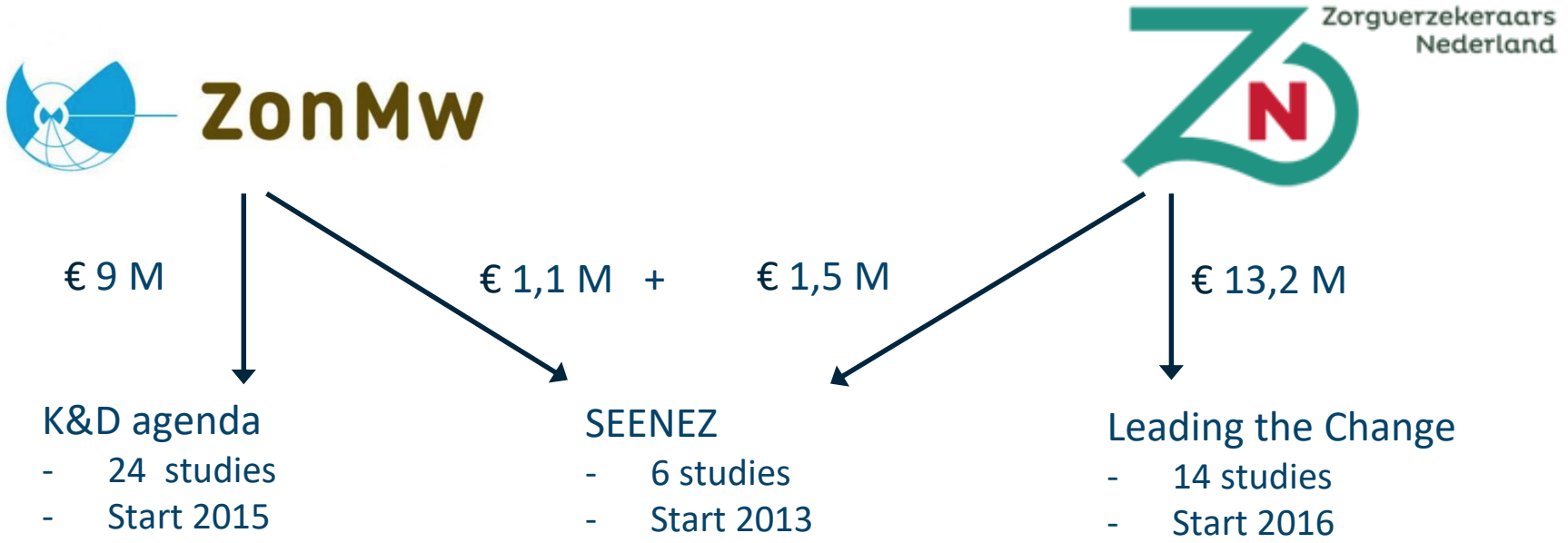
6 medical specialist societies: development agenda

NOG, NVK, NVKF, NVT, NVVP, VKGN



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Programmes funding health care evaluation studies



2019 new National programme “Zorgevaluatie en gepast gebruik” € 10 M per Year (2019-2023) based on Framework Agreement Medical Specialist Care

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Framework agreement



Medical specialist care 2019 t/m 2022

- Secure accessibility and affordability of care
- Towards 0% growth of budgets in 2022
- Insure evidence based, cost-effective and appropriate care
- Nationwide 5 year program “Care evaluation and appropriate care” (“Zorgevaluatie en Gepast Gebruik”)
- Collective responsibility framework partners
- Structural funding € 10 million each year
- Focus of program Care evaluation is on reimbursed care



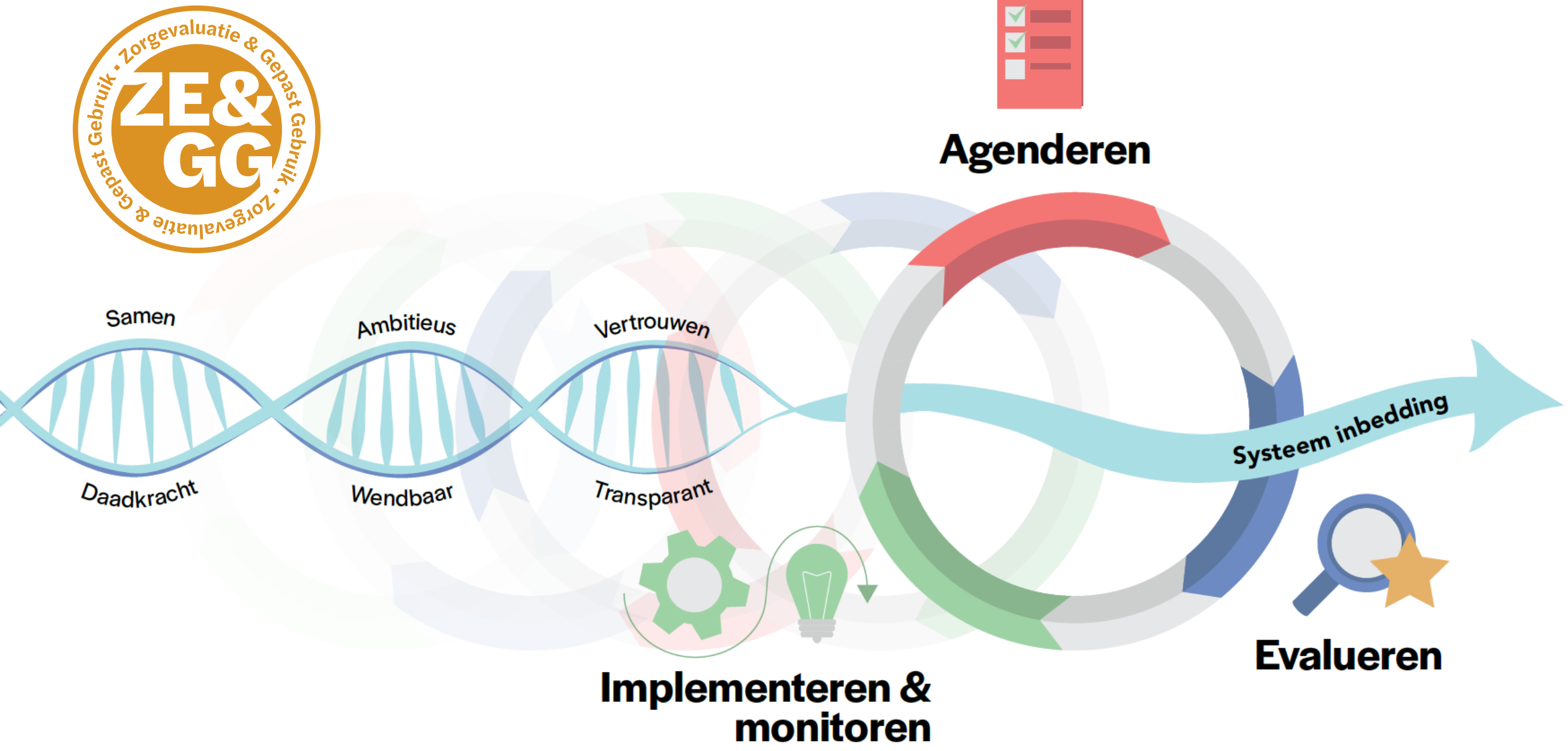
Framework agreement Medical Specialist Care 2019-2022

- Healthcare professionals
- Patient organizations
- Hospitals
- Healthcare insurers
- Government

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Vision of the program

"In 5 years, health care evaluation will be an integral part of routine care, where the unknown is evaluated and proven effective care is implemented, thus resulting in patients receiving the proven most appropriate care."


ZE&GG
Zorgevaluatie & Gepast Gebruik
Agenderen
Samen
Ambitieus
Vertrouwen
Daadkracht
Wendbaar
Transparant
Systeem inbedding
Implementeren & monitoren
Evalueren


ZE&GG
Zorgevaluatie & Gepast Gebruik
Zorgevaluatie & Gepast Gebruik

Teamwork!

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Taking our professional responsibility!

Noblesse oblige

Health care evaluation; The next steps:

- Embed new knowledge in your guidelines (appraisal process)
- Inform your patients/decision aids
- Focus on (De)implementation
- Monitor, share and discuss your results
- Address differences, help laggards and audit practices if necessary



Impossible?

No!

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Success has many fathers



Ben Willem Mol
Gynecologist,
Adelaide, Australia



Peter Paul van Benthem
ENT specialist
Incoming Chair Dutch Association of Medical Specialists



Sjaak Wijma
Gynecologist np,
Chair National Health Care Institute

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