

Amsterdam Public Health (APH) research institute and Athena Institute, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam present:

Friday 4th of June 2021

Interactive symposium

13:00 - 15:15 CET

Maternal health: promoting human rights in the labour room

Please [register](#) in advance for the webinar.

After registration, you will receive a confirmation email with information to access the webinar.

Inaugural Lecture ('Oratie') by prof. dr. Thomas van den Akker

15:30 - 17.00 CET

Maternal Matters: from 3 Ps to 5Cs

The lecture can be followed via [this page](#).



This event is organized as part of the inauguration of Thomas van den Akker as professor of Global Maternal Health at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, by special appointment as instigated by the Netherlands Society of Tropical Medicine and International Health.

Thomas has expressed a wish not to receive any personal gifts, but if you would like to make a donation to a new foundation called 'Maternal Matters', which he chairs, he would be very pleased. This foundation aims to assist researchers in maternal and reproductive health in low- and middle- income countries to develop locally relevant studies to reduce death and disease among women and babies.

Maternal matters foundation – account no.: IBAN NL12BUNQ2060167426 (ANBI-status has been requested)

Programme

- 13:00 **Welcome and opening**
Jacqueline Broerse - Director of Athena Institute, VU Amsterdam
Chair: Thomas van den Akker - Athena Institute, VU Amsterdam
- 13:10 **Including the woman's perspective and that of local staff into maternity care**
Natasha Housseine - Partoma project, Aga Khan University, East Africa, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- 13:30 **Panel discussion: participatory approaches and context-specificity in maternal health**
Moderator: Nanna Maaløe - University of Copenhagen & Hvidovre University Hospital, Denmark

Panelists

Farzana Maruf - PhD candidate VU Amsterdam, Afghanistan
Ephrem Daniel - Clinton Health Access initiative Rwanda, PhD candidate Groningen/Ethiopia
Rebecca Gomperts - Founder Women on Waves and Women on Web, Amsterdam
Tarek Meguid - Human rights advocate Consultant Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Kivunge & Makunduchi Hospital, Zanzibar, Tanzania
Mariëlle Bemelmans - Director of Wemos, PhD VU Amsterdam

- 14:00 **Break**
- 14:10 **Perspective of a clinician–researcher between North and South**
Wouter Bakker - PhD candidate VU Amsterdam
- 14:25 **Panel discussion: ethical considerations in (research) collaborations between North and South**
Moderator: Jelle Stekelenburg - Professor International Aspects of Reproductive Health (Safe Motherhood), University of Groningen & Consultant Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Leeuwarden

Panelists

Beatrice Matanje - Lighthouse Trust, Lilongwe, Malawi
Lenka Benova - Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium
Marian Knight - National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit, MBRRACE/UKOSS, Oxford, UK
Anke Heitkamp - Consultant Obstetrics and Gynaecology and PhD candidate, Amsterdam UMC and Stellenbosch University, Cape Town, South Africa
Abera Tura - Haramaya University, EthOSS, Ethiopia

- 14:55 **Summary**
Kitty Bloemenkamp - UMC Utrecht
- 15:00 **Closing remarks**
Jos van Roosmalen and Jacqueline Broerse - both VU Amsterdam
- 15:10 **Break**
- 15:30 **Inaugural lecture Thomas van den Akker**