

Short CV

NAME: Zwakhalen. Sandra

POSITION TITLE: Associate Professor, Maastricht University.

FIELD OF EXPERTISE: Elderly nursing care

My field of expertise is nursing care for geriatric patients living at home or in a nursing home. Currently, I am involved in a variety of studies that aim to improve the care of dementia patients and their caregivers. My extensive research has resulted in over 65 peer-reviewed high ranked publications and contributed to many (inter)national research reports, book chapters and editorials. In the last couple of years, I have successfully raised research grants and managed and completed major projects (including those for the EU European 7th Framework). I am heavily involved in the European Academy of Nursing Science (EANS) as a board member and serve as a treasurer for EANS. I am frequently invited as a keynote speaker at international meetings and scientific conferences and review for scientific journals, international research funding agencies, and universities. I have also been involved part-time as coordinator of the Academic Collaborative Centre on Care for Older People (Netherlands), a successful formal collaboration between Maastricht University, University of Applied Science, and a diversity of (nursing home) care organisations. Since September 2013-until September 2016, I have been a visiting professor at the University of Greenwich in Health Services Research.

Selection of Publications

Zwakhaleh, S.M., Hamers, J.P., Huijjer-Abu Saad, H., Berger, M.P. Pain in elderly people with severe dementia: a systematic review of behavioural pain assessment tools. *BMC Geriatrics*, 2006; 6, 3. Most read article in *BMC Geriatrics*.

Zwakhaleh, S.M., Hamers, J.P., Berger, M.P. Improving the clinical usefulness of a behavioural pain scale for older people with dementia. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 2007;58 (5), 493-502.

Verbeek, H., Zwakhaleh, S.M.G., Schols, J.M.G.A., Hamers, J.P.H. Keys to successful embedding scientific research in nursing homes: a win-win perspective. 2013 Dec;14(12):855-7.

Beerens HC, Zwakhaleh SM, Verbeek H, Ruwaard D, Ambergen AW, Leino-Kilpi H, Stephan A, Zabalegui A, Soto M, Saks K, Bökberg C, Sutcliffe CL, Hamers JP; RightTimePlaceCare Consortium. Change in quality of life of people with dementia recently admitted to long-term care facilities. *J Adv Nurs*. 2015 Jun;71(6):1435-47.

Bremer P, Cabrera E, Leino-Kilpi H, Lethin C, Saks K, Sutcliffe C, Soto M, Zwakhaleh SM, Wübker A; RightTimePlaceCare Consortium. Informal dementia care: Consequences for caregivers' health and health care use in 8 European countries. *Health Policy*. 2015 Nov;119(11):1459-71.
