

Update – October 2020

MASSC



Material Supply Strategy in a Crisis

ZonMw grant

We were awarded a grant from the Dutch Organization of Health Research and Development (ZonMw) to research the supply strategies during the Covid crisis, comparing the Dutch response to the response in 23 other countries. The project is titled MASSC: Materials Supply Strategy in a Crisis.

A total of 519 research proposal were submitted for this subsidy call. We were among the 31 proposals that were awarded a grant.

Summary | MASSC

The provision of critical materials such as mouth masks, ventilators and testing equipment was (and remains) crucial during the pandemic. The availability of these critical materials (timeliness, quality and quantity) turned out to be a bottleneck for the medical capacity. Countries worldwide have applied different strategies to deal with these problems. While one country could focus on heavy stockpiling, the other might focus on national production of medical supplies. The aim of this research is to learn from an international comparison of the different supply strategies in the crisis. Therefore, the Dutch approach of material supply is compared with that of 23 other countries. Within the Netherlands, the study focuses on national level responses and on the activities undertaken by various institutions in the cure (hospitals) and care (including nursing homes) sector.

Research | Phases

The research consists of three phases. The first phase encompasses a detailed description of the Dutch approach in supplying materials. The second phase involves the international comparison, where senior practitioners from 23 countries will be interviewed. This network is available through our partner IRSP. The final step is to analyze the data obtained so that lessons can be learned for adequate preparation for a future healthcare crisis.

Research team

Prof. Jan Telgen	Main applicant	PPRC / IRSP
Niels Uenk	Project manager	PPRC / IRSP
Prof. Louise Knight	Co-project lead	UT / IRSP
Prof. Kees Ahaus	Team lead NL	ESHM
Prof. Erik van Raaij	Team lead NL	ESHM
Esmee Peters	Principal researcher	PPRC / IRSP
Laura Bosman	researcher	PPRC
Annelie Oortwijn	researcher	ESHM

Planning

- Part 1: 01-09 / 31-01 (5 months)
- Part 2: 01-02 / 31-08 (5 months)
- Part 3: 01-09 / 31-12 (4 months)

Current state of affairs

- Legal consortium agreements drafted
- Research team completed
- Interview protocols being developed
- Timeline concept developed
- Data Management Plan requirements studied in workshops and the development of the DMP have started

Next up

- Signing the consortium agreements
- Finalizing interview protocol
- Draft version of the Data Management Plan
- Interview planning
- Start of interviews

Websites

- <https://pprc.eu>
- <https://www.eur.nl/eshm/>
- <https://www.utwente.nl/en/bms/iebis/>
- <https://irspp.wordpress.com/>