

About the author

Ellen Uiters was born on October 2, 1969 in Veendam, the Netherlands. After secondary education, she completed the school of nursing (HBO-V) in Groningen in 1991. After two years practical experience as a nurse, she studied Health Education at the University Maastricht (UM) from 1993 to 1997. In addition to Health Education, specific research courses were attended, resulting in a registration as Epidemiologist A in 2001. After receiving a Master degree in Health Education, she worked till 2000 as a research assistant at the Centre for Quality of Care Research (WOK) at the Catholic University of Nijmegen (KUN). Subsequently, from 2000 till 2002 she was employed at the Department of Health Promotion and Health Education, University of Maastricht (UM), where she participated as a researcher in a European project aimed at the prevention of smoking among schoolchildren. In 2002 she became a PhD-candidate at the Netherlands institute for health service research (NIVEL) in Utrecht. Since 2005 she is a researcher at the Asylum, Migration and Integration Division from the Research and Documentation Centre (WODC), Ministry of Justice in The Hague.