



RIVM - National Institute for Public Health and the Environment
Director General | Dineke Mulock Houwer



Centre for Infectious Disease Control
Netherlands
Director | Roel Coutinho



Public Health
and Health
Services
Division

Nutrition,
Medicines
and Consumer
Safety
Division

Environment
and Safety
Division

Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit
Head | Marianne van der Sande



Regional Programme Coordination
Head | Heleen van Dijk



Laboratory for Zoonoses and Environmental Microbiology
Head | Yvonne van Duynhoven



Laboratory for Infectious Diseases and Perinatal Screening
Head | Gerard Loeber



Policy, Management and Advice Unit
Head | Annette de Boer



Preparedness and Response Unit
Head | Jim van Steenberghe



More information:

www.rivm.nl/infectieziekten
www.infectieziekten.info

Please direct any questions to:

cib@rivm.nl

Published by:

**National Institute for Public Health
and the Environment**
PO Box 1 | 3720 BA Bilthoven
The Netherlands
www.rivm.com

August 2010



Centre for Infectious Disease Control Netherlands

Centre for Infectious Disease Control Netherlands

Introduction

The National Institute for Public Health and the Environment plays an important role in the prevention and control of infectious diseases. All activities taking place in this area are the responsibility of the Centre for Infectious Disease Control. The Centre forms a bridge between science, policy and daily practice, using existing expertise by collaborating with universities (nationally and internationally), professionals and other relevant organizations. This Centre also coordinates activities with the relevant ministries and with national organizations such as the Municipal Health Services, KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation and STI AIDS Netherlands. The Centre is the liaison body for international organizations such as the EU, WHO and ECDC. It consists of two laboratories, the Laboratory for Infectious Diseases and Perinatal Screening and the Laboratory for Zoonoses and Environmental Microbiology and four units, Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit, Regional Programme Coordination, Policy, Management and Advice Unit and the Preparedness and Response Unit. Roel Coutinho is Director of the Centre.

Mission and Tasks

The Centre for Infectious Disease Control Netherlands (CIb) is part of the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM). The Centre's mission is to detect, control and prevent infectious diseases for the benefit of the public health in the Netherlands.

Hereto, the Centre for Infectious Disease Control Netherlands has the following tasks:

- Gain insight in infectious diseases by carrying out diagnostic microbiology, surveillance and scientific research
- Uniform prevention nationwide, strengthen vigilance and swift response to possible outbreaks through coordinating infectious disease control activities and international cooperation, and direction of the National vaccination programme
- Stimulate effective prevention and control of infectious diseases by advising professionals and ministries, granting subsidies and by providing information to the public.

In addition to tasks directed towards infectious disease control, the CIb is responsible for the daily implementation of screening programmes for pregnant woman and newborn babies and acts as reference laboratory for these programmes.



Laboratory for Zoonoses and Environmental Microbiology

This laboratory concentrates on the detection, surveillance and risk estimation of new and existing microbial threats for humans that come from animals, food, water and the environment. Tasks also include responding to outbreaks and calamities, and transmission and source investigation.

Policy, Management and Advice Unit

This unit is responsible for research and account management, and for ensuring good internal coordination and collaboration. It also has tasks in the area of policy, steering, grant management and international collaboration. In addition, the unit provides support of the operational processes involving line management and project managers in the areas of finance and contracts.

Preparedness and Response Unit

This unit functions as a centre of expertise for local infectious disease control specialists and has as its tasks:

- acting as a helpdesk for professionals for the day-to-day practice of infectious disease control
- applying crisis management during a threatened or actual regional or national outbreak of an infectious disease
- developing and monitoring guidelines, and procedure manuals, by collaborating with external partners
- drawing up and implementing communication and information policy

Laboratory for Infectious Diseases and Perinatal Screening

The tasks carried out by this laboratory comprise:

- patient-oriented and epidemiological diagnostics in bacteriology, virology, parasitology and mycology
- surveillance and typing of antibiotic resistance
- monitoring the national vaccination programme
- research on the immune status of pathogens included in the national vaccination programme
- monitoring pathogen populations
- laboratory tests for existing and new national screening programmes for pregnant women and newborn babies

Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit

This unit is responsible for the surveillance of infectious diseases. Identifying changes and research in response to detected cases and outbreaks of infection is necessary for the evaluation and adjustment of control policy. The unit supports and advises other parties on request with respect to explosions of infectious diseases in the Netherlands, and maintains contact with other European countries on surveillance and control of infectious diseases.

Regional Programme Coordination

This unit is responsible for the regional coordination of three prevention programmes: the national vaccination programme, the newborn heel prick screening and the bloodtyping and screening test during pregnancy. These latter two programs are directed by the Centre for National Screening Programmes (RIVM). The unit operates from five regional offices and registrates the results of the programmes in a national electronic database with medical files.

