



National Institute for Public Health
and the Environment
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

PIENTER study

Your health, also important for others!



How well are we protected against infectious diseases in the Netherlands? And what is the impact of our environment and lifestyle on our health? RIVM is researching this with the PIENTER 4 study. We ask your child to participate in this study. By participating, your child makes an important contribution to public health.

What is the PIENTER study?

The PIENTER study looks at how well the Netherlands is protected against infectious diseases. These may be infectious diseases for which vaccines have existed for a long time, such as measles or influenza. But the research also looks at infectious diseases that are new in the Netherlands, such as Coronavirus or West Nile fever.

The PIENTER study has existed since 1996 and has been conducted three times. The results have been used to better protect people from infectious diseases and improve vaccination programmes. This time, we are also investigating the influence of living environment and lifestyle on health.

You can read more about PIENTER and the previous results at www.rivm.nl/en/pienter.

Who can participate in the PIENTER study?

Anyone who receives an invitation can participate. We invite people of all ages from all over the country, and regardless of the health of your child or whether your child is vaccinated.

What can you expect when your child participates?

There are two groups of participants: a self-collection group and a home-visit group. The invitation letter indicates the group to which your child has been invited.

If your child was invited to the self-collection group:

- Then at home you take a finger-prick blood sample and use a strip to collect some nasal fluid from your child.
- You will do this again after 12 months.
- For children under the age of 1 year, a study assistant will visit your home to collect the samples.
- You will complete a questionnaire about your child three times.

If your child was invited to the home-visit group:

- A study assistant will visit to collect samples of blood, saliva, nasal fluid (2 times) and nasal mucus from your child.
- Before the home visit, you collect samples of your child's stool, as well as samples of urine if the child is 6 years or older.
- After 12 months, at home you take a finger-prick blood sample and use a strip to collect some nasal fluid (2 times) from your child. You also collect a sample of your child's stool.
- You will complete a questionnaire about your child three times.

As a thank you for their participation, your child will receive a €25 gift voucher (VVV-bon) twice.

Does your child want to participate?

You can register your child for the PIENTER 4 study via the QR code in the invitation letter or via www.rivm.nl/en/pienter4. The registration details are also provided in the invitation letter.

If you cannot register, please contact us via the details at the bottom of this flyer.

After registration, you will receive detailed information about the PIENTER 4 study.

Any questions?

If you have any questions, please contact the study team:

- send an email to pienteronderzoek@rivm.nl
- or call 088 689 7304 (on weekdays between 09:00 and 15:00)

You can also visit the website for more information www.rivm.nl/en/pienter4.

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