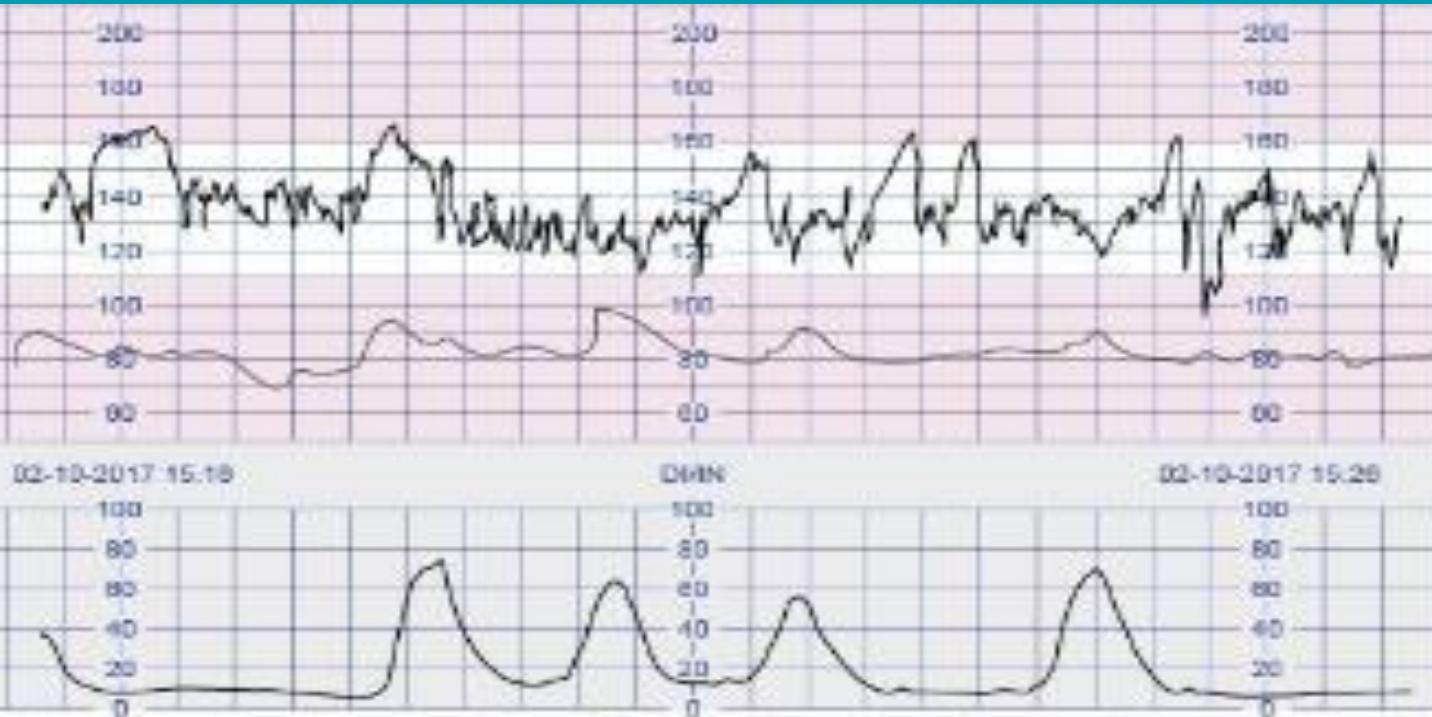


# CTG and Home monitoring in the Netherlands

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**Amsterdam UMC**  
University Medical Centers



**Is Home(Tele)monitoring standard practice  
in your country?**



Is Home(Tele)monitoring standard practice  
in your country?

**What comes to mind when you think of  
Telemonitoring (TM) and Homemonitoring  
(HM) in obstetrics?**



# Dutch situation in a nutshell

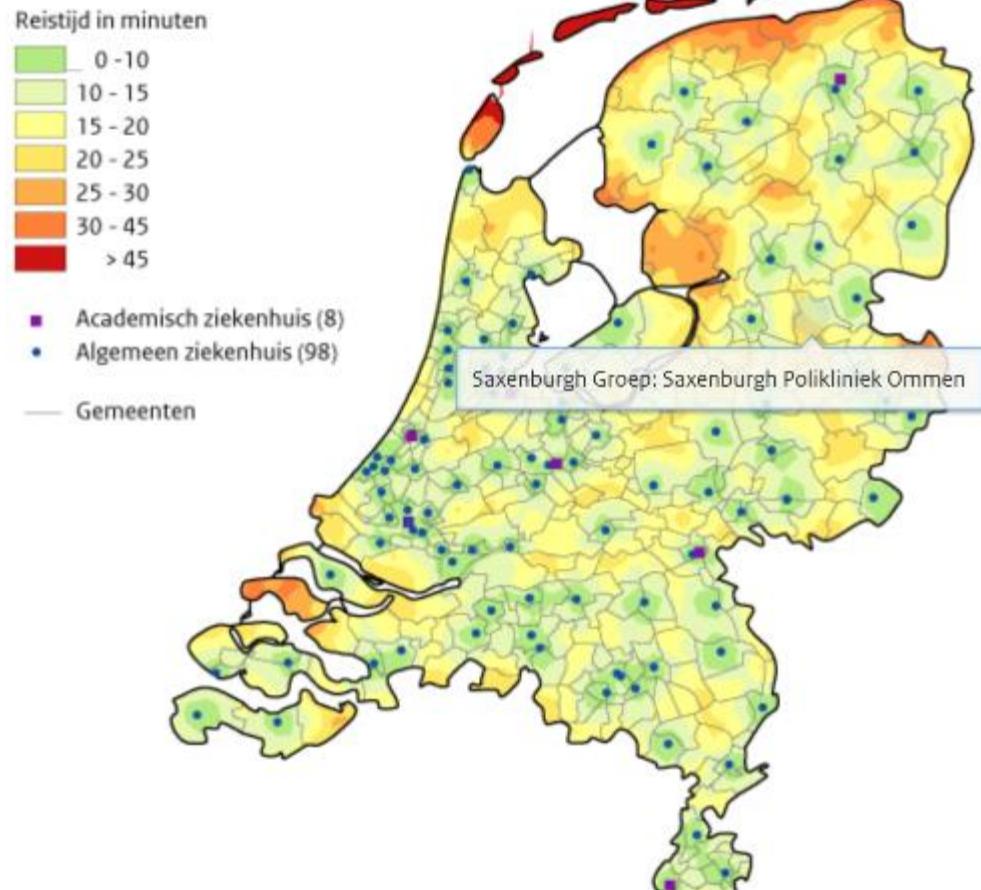
180.000 births annually

17,3 miljoen inhabitants

507 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>

73 hospitals

8 tertiary centers



Bron: Bereikbaarheidsanalyse door RIVM, [Drive Time Matrix, 2022](#)



# Definition HM and TM

	A. Home-based monitoring	B. Telemonitoring
Definition	daily pregnancy monitoring with the help of hospital personnel traveling to the pregnant women's homes	daily pregnancy monitoring with the help of devices used by the pregnant women at home in absence of hospital personnel
Illustration		



## Examples of HM and TM

- CTG monitoring
- Digital Health platforms e.g. Angels
- Multidisciplinary consultations
- Patient portals
- Prenatal teleconsultation
- Monitoring of diabetic patients in pregnancy<sup>1</sup>
- Bleutooth spirometry in pregnant patients with Asthma<sup>2</sup>

1. Perez-Ferre N. *Int J Endocrinol.* 2010;2010:1-6

2. Zairina E. *Respirology.* 2016;21:867-74.



## Homemonitoring in the AUMC



# Homemonitoring in the AUMC

- Started in 1992
- RCT; 70 patients in each arm
- Indications: hypertensive disorder, FGR, Diabetes, post term pregnancy
- Why?





# Homemonitoring in the AUMC

## Outcome

- Neonatal mortality and morbidity  
no significant differences<sup>1</sup>
- GA, BW, neonatal and maternal admission rate, obstetric complications:  
no significant differences between<sup>1</sup>
- Reduction antenatal costs:  
\$3558 to \$1521 per patient ( $p <0.01$ )<sup>2</sup>

HM continued in the AUMC and the Netherlands, but without reinsurance reimbursement

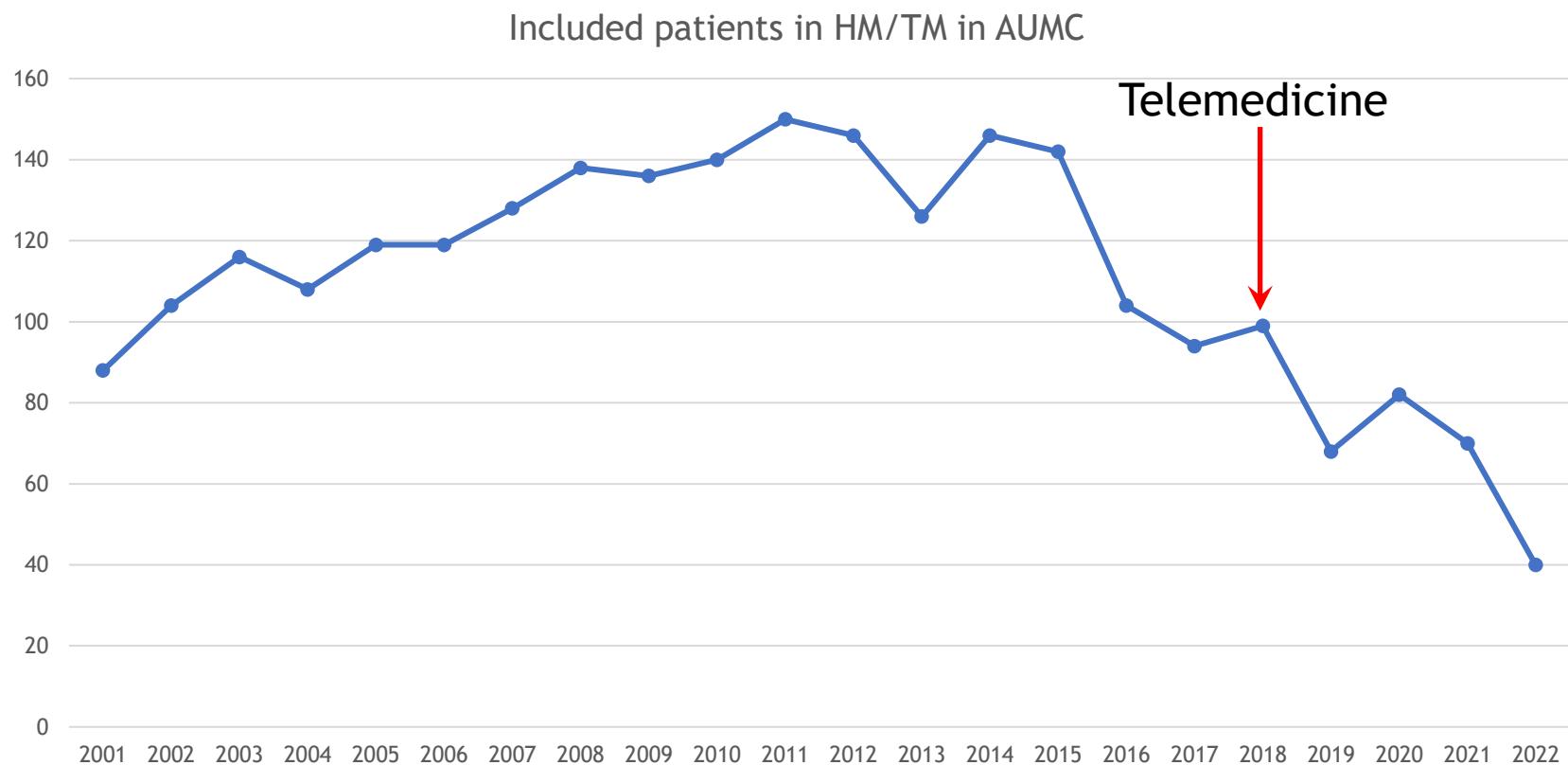
<sup>1</sup>High risk pregnancy monitored antenatally at home. W M Monincx et al. Eur J Obstet Gynecol Reprod Biol. 1997 Dec;75(2):147-53.

<sup>2</sup>Cost-minimization analysis of domiciliary antenatal fetal monitoring in high-risk pregnancies

E Birnie et al. Obstet Gynecol 1997 Jun;89(6):925-9



# Included patients over the years





## Indications over the years

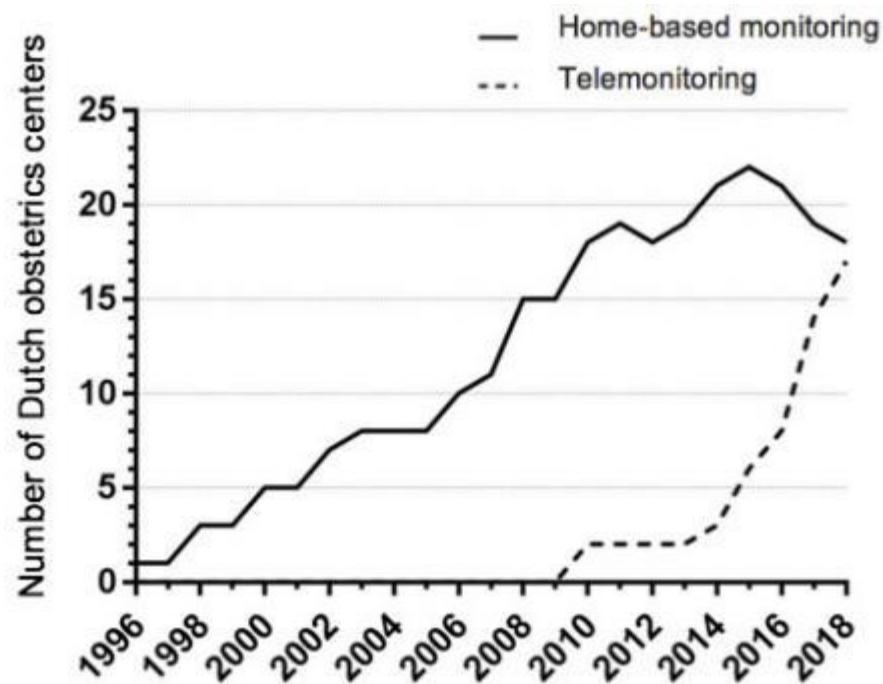
	2001	2021
Hypertensive disorders	48%	37%
PPROM	5%	26%
Fetal growth restriction	24%	13%
Fetal abnormalities	0%	10%
Diabetes	10%	0%
Other	13%	14%

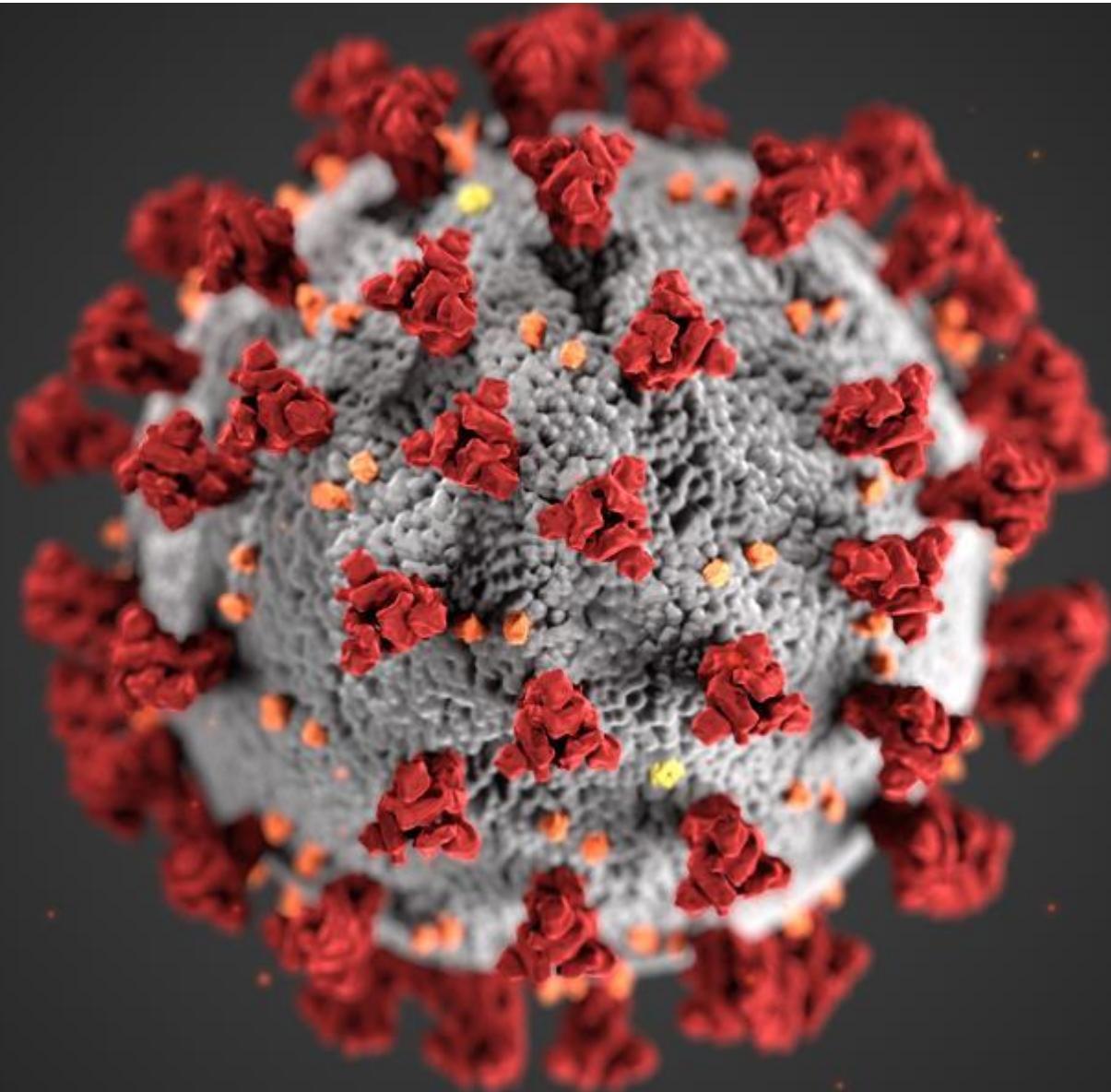
Duration of monitoring varied from 1-80 days.



# Trends in hospitals HM/TM in the Netherlands

- Homemonitoring: 26%
- Telemonitoring: 23%
- HM and TM: 11%







- Reliable internet
- Access to technology
- Digital Literacy

- Information and counseling on risks
- Disease awareness

Technology

Patient

Environment

Hospital



- Caregiver
- Home accessibility
- Distance from the hospital < 30

- Facilities for admission or consultation 24h
- Awareness of healthcares responsibilities



# Technology

Many different devices on the market

- Doppler Ultrasound and external tocodynamometer
- Non-invasive fECG (less signal loss, needs no repositioning after placement)

Blood pressure device

Temperature

Internet

Mobile phone

- Transfer data
- Report symptoms, fetal movements





- Reliable internet
- Access to technology
- Digital Literacy

- Information and counseling on risks
- Disease awareness

Technology

Patient

Environment

Hospital

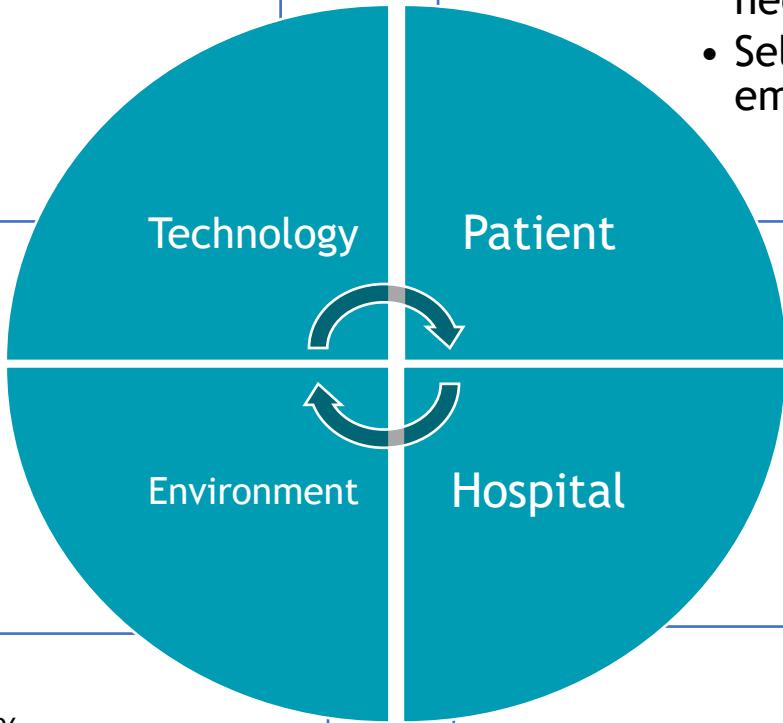


- Caregiver
- Home accessibility
- Distance from the hospital < 30

- Facilities for admission or consultation 24h
- Awareness of healthcares responsibilities



- Feasible



- Satisfaction 80-100%
- Good maternal and neonatal outcome
- Self- evaluation → empowerment

- Cost effective; 32-45%
  - 145k over 5 years<sup>1</sup>
  - 2774 euro per participant<sup>2</sup>
- Climate

- Improved access to care (rural and urban)
- Reduced antenatal visits
- Better triage and adequate referral



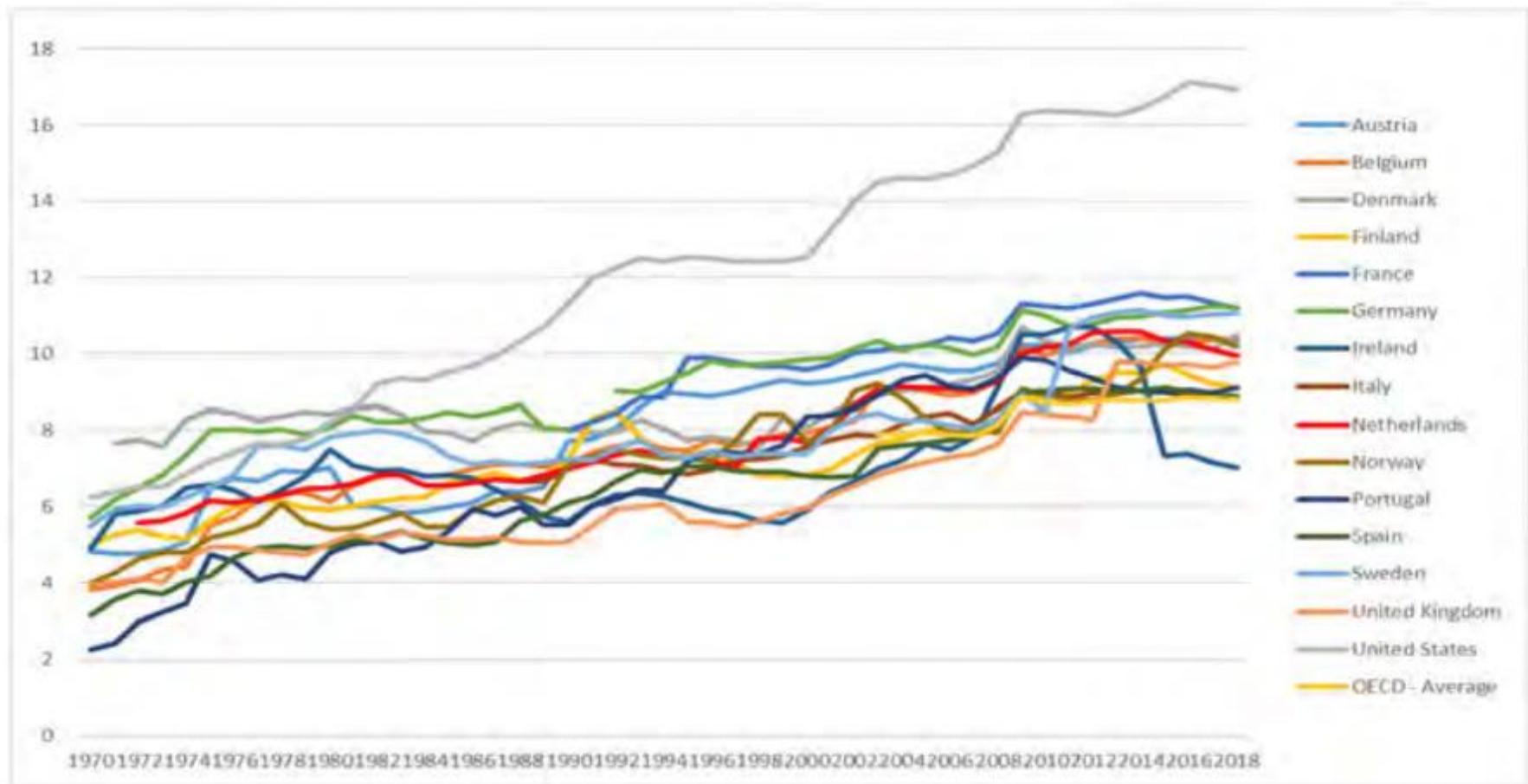
# Barriers

- Privacy violations
- Feelings of insecurity
- Mistrust
- Exclusion



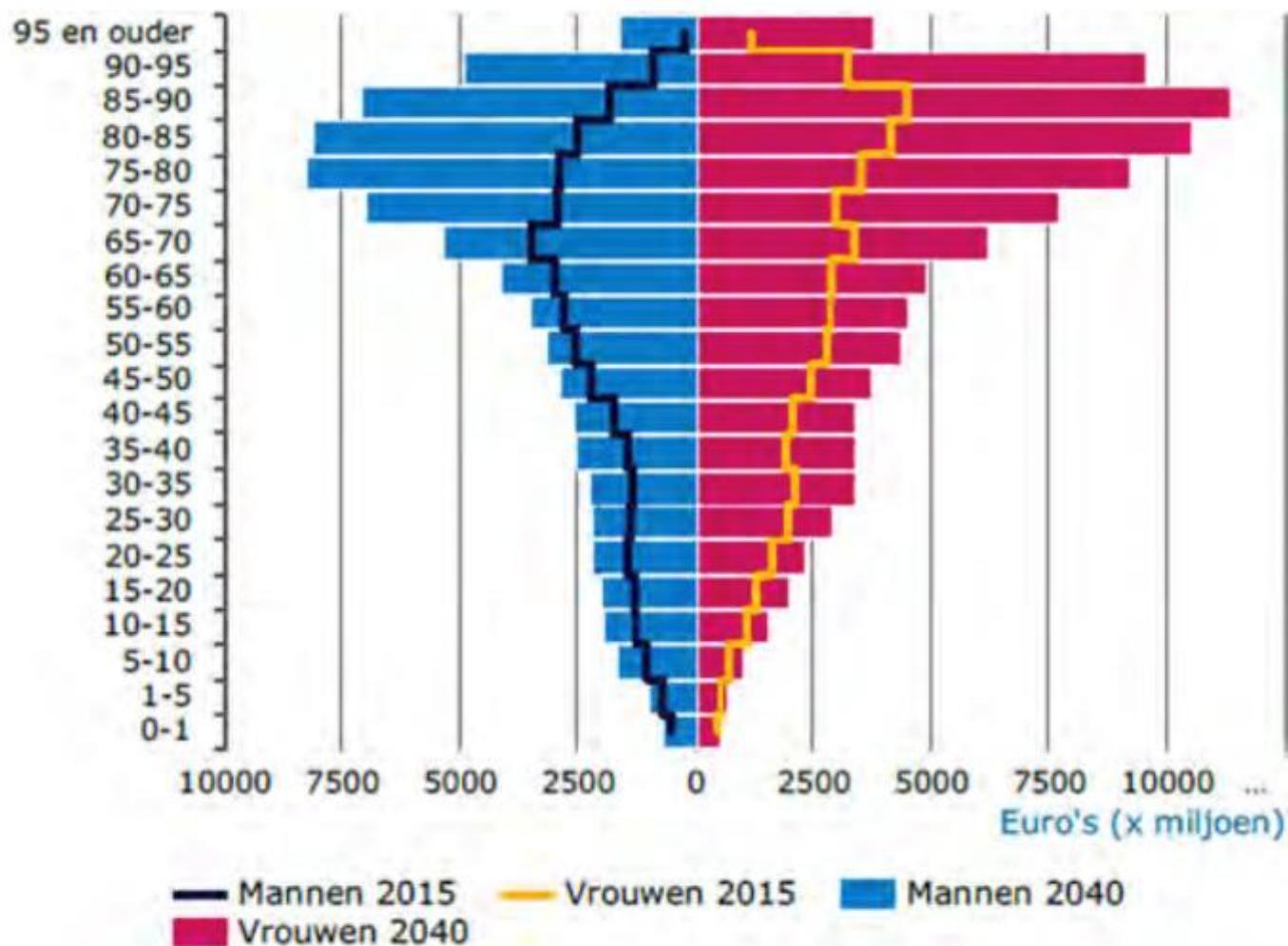
# Future developments





Bron: OESO.

<https://www.ser.nl/nl/Publicaties/zorg-voor-de-toekomst>

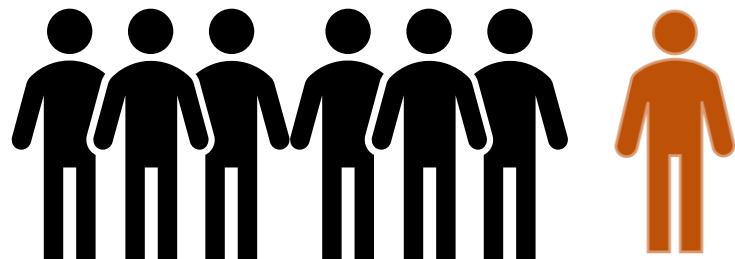


Bron: RIVM

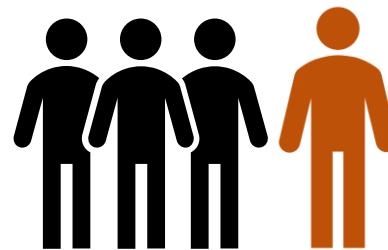


# Labor market shortage

2023

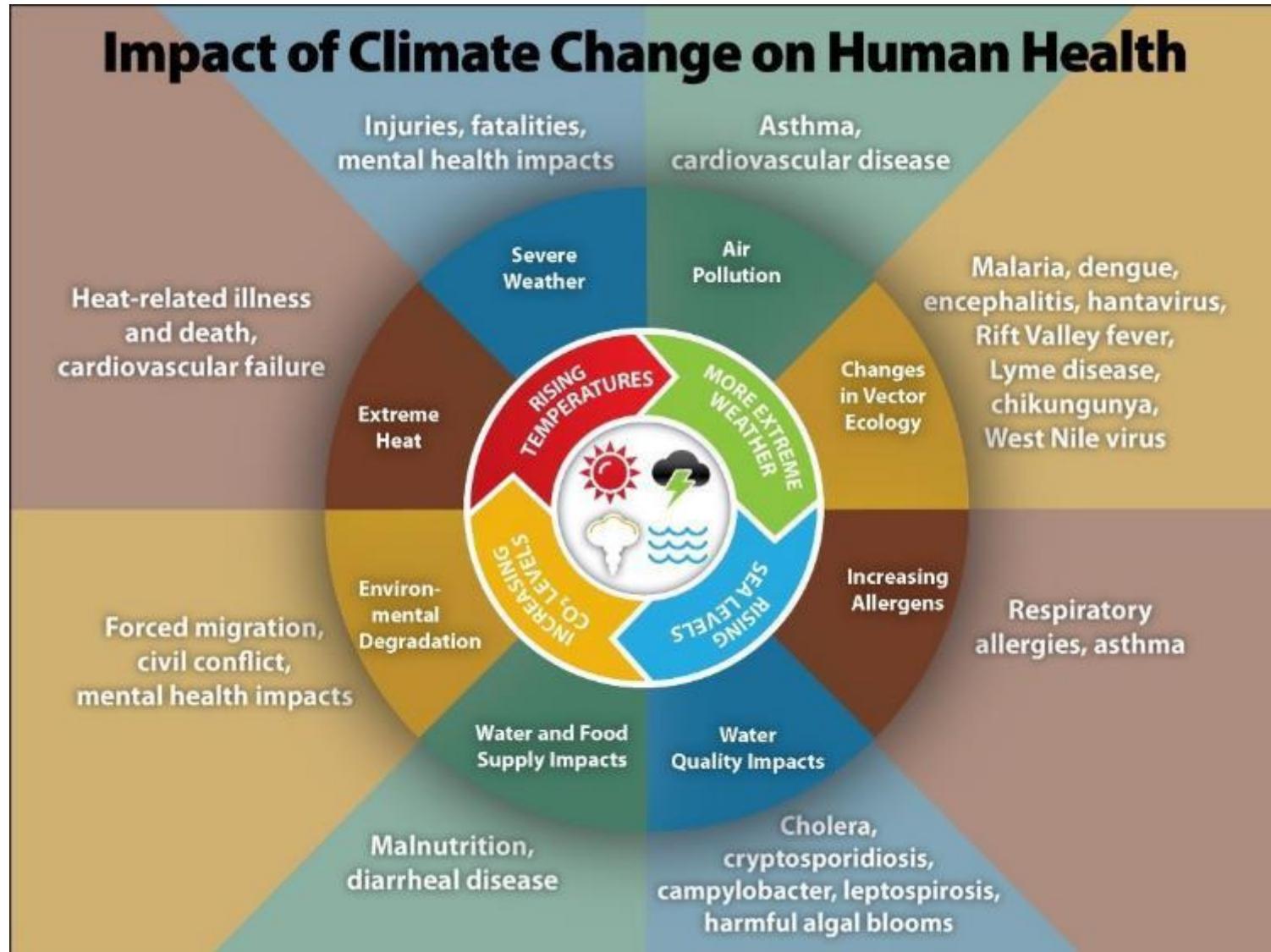


2031





# Impact of Climate Change on Human Health





# Challenges

- Privacy
- Technical development and support
- Connected to electronic patient file
- Offering inappropriate care



# Conclusion

- Avoids hospitalisation and dissatisfaction of hospital admission
- Reduces maternal stress and disrupted family life
- Proved safe and feasible
- Reduces stress on hospital ward
- Reduces costs
- Demands self-responsibility.





1. Cost-effectiveness of telemonitoring for high-risk pregnant women. Buysse H et al. *Int J Med Inform* 2008 Jul;77(7):470-6. doi: 10.1016/j.ijmedinf.2007.08.009. Epub 2007 Oct 17.
2. Home telemonitoring versus hospital care in complicated pregnancies in the Netherlands: a randomised, controlled non-inferiority trial (HoTeL). Bekker MN et al. *Lancet Digit Health.* 2023 Mar;5(3):e116-e124.
3. The use and role of telemedicine in maternal fetal medicine around the world: an up-to-date review. Bruna Achtschin Fernandes et al. *Health and Technology* 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12553-023-00742-6>
4. Telemedicine for antenatal surveillance of high-risk pregnancies with ambulatory and home fetal heart rate monitoring- an update. Hod M, Kerner R. *J. Perinat. Med.* 31(2003) 195-200.
5. <https://www.ser.nl/nl/Publicaties/zorg-voor-de-toekomst>
6. Home management by remote self-monitoring in intermediate- and high-risk pregnancies: A retrospective study of 400 consecutive women. Anne Rahbek Zizzo et al. *Acta Obstet Gynaecol Scand.* 2021.
7. Perez-Ferre N. *Int J Endocrinol.* 2010;2010:1-6
8. Zairina E. *Respirology.* 2016;21:867-74.
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- Feasible

- Satisfaction 80-100%
- Good maternal and neonatal outcome
- Self- evaluation → empowerment

**But..... Telemedicine is not a panacea for resolving health disparities**

Technology

Patient

Surroundings

Hospital

- Cost effective; 32-45%
- Climate

- Improved access to care (rural and urban)
- Reduced antenatal visits
- Better triage and adequate referral



# Indications

- Preterm premature rupture of membranes (PPROM)
- Fetal growth restriction
- (high risk) Preeclampsia
- (Gestational) diabetes mellitus
- Reduced fetal movements
- Fetal anomaly
- History of previous fetal or neonatal loss



## Maternal and neonatal outcome

- 400 patient  
No neonatal death related to HM
  - No serious maternal complications
  - 18% readmittance. Median 1 episode.
  - Duration 12-30 days. Longest 192 days.
  - Satisfaction is high
  - Costreduction of 18 million DKK in 5 years. Reduction of 40-50%
- 
- *Home management by remote self-monitoring in intermediate- and high-risk pregnancies: A retrospective study of 400 consecutive women. Anne Rahbek Zizzo et al. Acta Obstet Gynaecol Scand. 2021.*

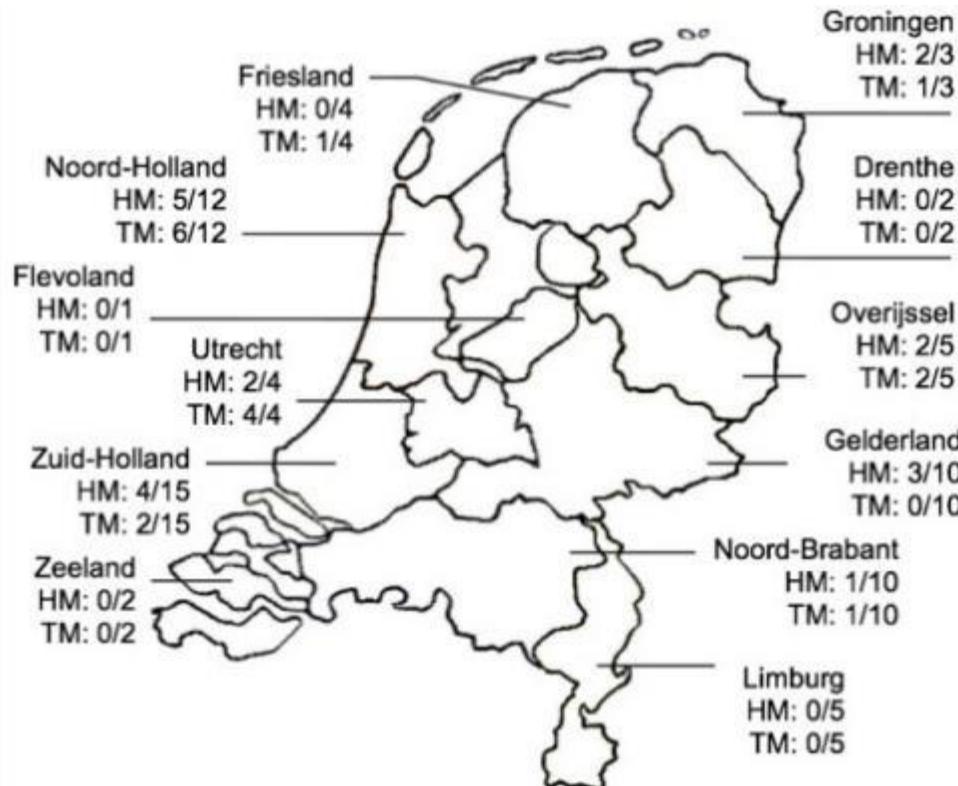


## Maternal and neonatal outcome

- 200 patients (100 each arm)
- Composit outcome: 10% reductie
- 5 SAE
  - Control group: 1 neonatal death in control group
  - Control group: 1 IUFD, 2 neonatal deaths, 1 eclampsia
  - Not study related
- >50% of study period admited to the labour ward: 10%
- Higher score on satisfaction and participation



# Geographic distribution HM and TM in the Netherlands





# Benefits

- Patient tevredenheid
- Betere verwijzingsindicaties
- Beter bereik van patienten in rural areas
- Klimaat
- Cost effectiveness
  - 145k over 5 years<sup>1</sup>
  - 2774 euro per participant<sup>2</sup>

1. *Cost-effectiveness of telemonitoring for high-risk pregnant women.* Buysse H et al. *Int J Med Inform* 2008 Jul;77(7):470-6. doi: 10.1016/j.ijmedinf.2007.08.009. Epub 2007 Oct 17.

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# Kansen

- Verdere digitalisering door telemonitoring:
  - Zorg op afstand. Vooral rural area. Klimaat.
  - Zelfmanagement in de thuissituatie
- Blended care
  - Conventioneel met digitale technologie. Draagvlak bij patienten en zorgverleners.



# Review 2022

- Telemonitoring is ook EPIC patienten contact via mijn dossier. Laagdrempelig contact met zorgverlener. Betere informatievoorziening. Empowerment van paciente door zelf- evaluatie.
- Effectief in rural areas. But also in urban areas.
- Zorgt voor betere verwijzings indicatie van hoog risicozwangerschappen
- Kosten effectief
- Patienten zijn tevreden
- Cave: Telemedicine is not a panacea for resolving health disparities

*The use and role of telemedicine in maternal fetal medicine around the world: an up-to-date review. Bruna Achtschin Fernandes et al. Health and Technology 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12553-023-00742-6>*



## Review 2003

- Feasible. Able to obtain Good quality tracings, able to upload the data.
- Access to care: improve, reduce visits to clinics, waiting times, unnecessary hospitalization
- Maternal en Neonatal outcome: No large RCT. Evidence suspectes that TM is safe for high risk pregnancies. No association with an excess rate of neonatal and maternal adverse effects
- Satisfaction with care: between 80-100% for patients.
- Cost effectiveness: 32-45% reduction in gebruik techniek van cTG monitoring, less hospitalization days
- *Telemedicine for antenatal surveillance of high-risk pregnancies with ambulatory and home fetal heart rate monitoring- an update. Hod M, Kerner R. J. Perinat. Med. 31(2003) 195-200.*



# Conditions

- Reliable internet
- Access to technology, cellphone messages, WhatsApp access
- Digital literacy
- Caregiver
- Goede voorlichting en counseling aan patienten, ook over de risisoc'.  
Vernatwoordelijkheden en verwachtingen,
- Laag drempelig in huis komen



Tanks for your attention



## Sense4baby van Telematik

- Digitaal, middels bluetooth / tablet
- Veilig verzenden
- Makkelijk te bedienen
- Meerder apparaten
- Geen lange wachtlijst
- Hotelstudie AUG 2016

Veiligheid

Effectiviteit

Tevredenheid

Randomisatie

Power (aantal) 400





## Hotelstudie.

Randomisatie:

Telemonitoring thuis, met alleen  
gebruik van S4B of opname  
ziekenhuis.

Inclusie criteria vanaf am 26 wk:

1. PE / hypertensie
2. IUGR
3. PPROM

