

## **Promotoren**

---

### **Prof. Tony Mets**

#### **Prof. Ellen Gorus**

Department of Gerontology & Geriatrics  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

## **Leden van de examencommissie**

---

### **Prof. Marcel Olde-Rikkert**

Department of Geriatrics  
UMC Nijmegen  
The Netherlands

### **Prof. Thierry Pepersack**

Department of Geriatrics  
Hôpital Académique Erasme  
Université Libre de Bruxelles

### **Prof. Jean Petermans**

Department of Geriatrics  
Université de Liège

### **Prof. Eric Kerckhofs**

Department of Physiotherapy  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Prof. Eva Dierckx**

Department of Clinical & Lifespan Psychology  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Prof. Christel Geerts (voorzitter)**

Department of Gerontology  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel



Vrije Universiteit Brussel

FACULTEIT GENEESKUNDE EN FARMACIE

## **Doctoraat in de Gerontologie**

Academiejaar 2011-2012

## **UITNODIGING**

Voor de openbare verdediging van het  
doctoraatsproefschrift van

**Patricia DE VRIENDT**

woensdag 2 mei 2012

## **Situering van het proefschrift**

---

Assessment is of major importance in geriatrics. It leads to early detection of health problems, contributes to the prevention of functional loss and dependency, to the improvement of quality of life and it reduces length of stay and hospital (re)admission. Although the crucial role of assessment is widely recognised, there is no unanimity on the way it has to be performed. The current reference in assessment of human functioning is the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF), developed by the World Health Organization in 2001.

This present work focuses on the implementation of the ICF in geriatric assessment. First, the Geriatric Minimal Dataset-25 (GMDS-25) was linked to the ICF, thus providing a more universal language for research and clinical work. Next, the Mini Mental State Examination was converted to the ICF, by content comparison and by subsequent translation of the scoring system. In Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), the importance of the criterion concerning Activities of Daily Living (ADL) is widely recognised, but there neither a consensus on the expected ADL-limitation nor a uniformity in language and structure in the domain of ADL assessment (e.g. scale content, items and definitions, scoring systems). Therefore, an ICF based assessment tool to evaluate functional status in MCI has been developed with good psychometric properties.

## **Curriculum Vitae**

---

Patricia De Vriendt was born in Merksem on the 10th of December 1962. She studied Occupational Therapy (OT) and graduated in 1983 with distinction. She worked for several years as an OT with older people and has been teaching students in OT for more than 12 years. In 2003, she graduated as a Gerontologist at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) with great distinction. She received the 'Prijs van de Decaan'. Her master thesis dealt with 'The Use of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) in the Description of Functioning in a Geriatric Population'.

In 2006, she continued research at the VUB concerning the usefulness of the ICF in geriatric assessment and focused particularly on the diagnosis of Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI). At this moment, Patricia is working at the Gerontology Department at the VUB (as researcher and in education), at the Geriatric Department of UZ Ghent (as OT and gerontologist) and at the University College Artevelde Ghent (education). In 2010, she received the 'Lundbeck Medicine Grant' for the study 'Development and Validation of a Measurement Tool for Detection of Functional Decline in an Older Population with Mild Cognitive Impairment'. She is author of several (inter)national papers and of numerous oral and poster presentations at national and international conferences concerning geriatrics, MCI particularly, Occupational Therapy and evaluation of functionality.

U wordt vriendelijk uitgenodigd op de openbare verdediging van het proefschrift van

**Patricia DE VRIENDT**

**'The Usefulness of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health in Geriatric Assessment'**

Op **woensdag 2 mei** om **17 uur** in auditorium **P. Brouwer** van de Faculteit Geneeskunde & Farmacie Laarbeeklaan 103, 1090 Brussel