Centre for Public Health in Economics and Business (CPHEB) Newsletter

December 2025

In this monthly newsletter, the CPHEB keeps you informed about recent and upcoming events. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please let us know at cpheb@rug.nl. You can also find us on LinkedIn.

In this newsletter:

- CPHEB Monthly Brown Bag Seminar: Sjoerd van Alten
- CPHEB Job Market Preparation Seminar: Claudio Annibali
- CPHEB Seminar: PhD Edition - Gerjan Zwiers
- CPHEB Members in the news.
- Upcoming events.

The CPHEB Board wishes you happy holidays and a healthy 2026!

CPHEB Project Page

We would like to update the overview of ongoing research projects on the CPHEB website. If you would like to add your project, please send an email with a title, short description and the researchers/organizations involved to Anne-Floor Lanting (a.f.lanting@rug.nl).

Sign-up for Aletta's Themes

The Aletta Jacobs School of Public Health has 5 themes that revolve around collaboration and impact. The themes include: Future-proof Health Systems, Technology for Public Health, Planetary Health, A Healthy Living Environment, and Health as a Lived Experience. Signing up is a great way to get in touch with other researchers working on health-related topics and to stay up-to-date on events organised by Aletta's themes. If you signed up for one of these themes in the past, please make sure you sign up again since some early sign-ups were lost due to technical issues. More information and registration can be found here.

Announcement: CPHEB group picture on January 15!

After our brown bag seminar on January 15, we will take a CPHEB group picture. Please join us in 5412.0035 from 11.00 - 12.00!

Recent events

CPHEB Monthly Brownbag Seminar: Sjoerd van Alten (VU Amsterdam)

On November 20, Sjoerd van Alten (VU Amsterdam) presented his study "*A Chip Off the Old Block? Genetics and the Intergenerational Transmission of Socioeconomic Status"*. Combining Lifelines data with administrative data from CBS, Sjoerd and his co-authors examine how genetics of one generation influence the socioeconomic status of the next. Their findings include that the genetics of one generation impact education, income, and wealth of the next generation through both genetic transmission and genetic nurture. If you would like to read more about this study, you can find the paper here.



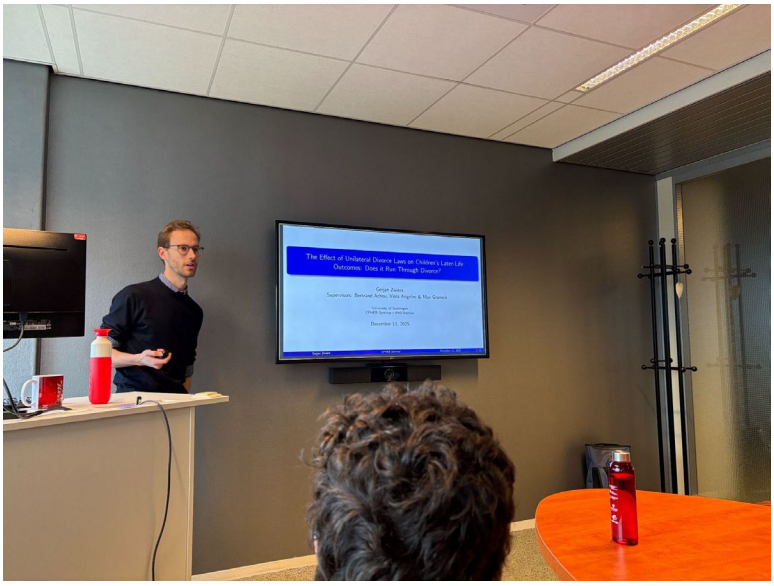
EEF-CPHEB Job Market Preparation Seminar

Claudio Annibali (EEF) is on the economics job market this year. On November 27, Claudio presented their job market paper titled *"The Labour Market and Health Effects of a Diabetes Warning: Evidence of Gender and Age Differences from the Lifelines Cohort Study"* during a joint EEF-CPHEB job market preparation seminar. In this paper, Claudio and co-authors find that receiving a diabetes warning leads to increases in labour market activities for younger individuals, particularly for women, but mixed responses for older individuals. Furthermore, they find an effect on health outcomes. You can find the most recent version of the paper here.



CPHEB Monthly Brown Bag seminar: PhD Edition

On December 11, we had the bi-annual PhD Edition of the CPHEB brown bag seminar series. Gerjan Zwiers (EEF) presented *“The Effect of Unilateral Divorce Laws on Children's Later-Life Outcomes: Does it Run Through Divorce?”*. Using data from the United States, Gerjan’s research shows that childhood exposure to unilateral divorce laws reduces educational attainment and worsens health in adulthood, but that this likely does not occur through parental divorce. The next PhD edition of the CPHEB brown bag seminar series will be held in June.



CPHEB members in the news

Jana Holthöwer: Are Robots the solution?

Jana Holthöwer (Marketing) was interviewed about her research on the use of service robots in health and elderly care. You can read the article here.

Amal Fakha: nominated for FEB Best Practice Awards 2024 - 2025

Amal Fakha (IM&S) was nominated as one of three finalists for the FEB Best Practice Awards 2024 -2025 for the course “Multi-disciplinary approach on working towards a healthy society”, which is part of the new MSc BA course Challenges for a Healthy Society. Read more about the FEB Best Practice Awards here.

Caitlin Kiernan: Decentralisation of youth care

Caitlin Kiernan (EEF) was interviewed about her PhD research on decentralisation of youth (mental health) care in the Netherlands and outcomes of children and adolescents, which is funded by the Ubbo Emmius Foundation M20 PhD Programme. You can read the article here.

Upcoming events

January 15, 2026 11.00 - 12.00 5412.0035	**CPHEB Monthly Brown Bag seminar: Jarib Keaseberry** + **CPHEB Group Picture**
January 16, 2026 14.00 - 15.00 5411.0341	**E-Health Group Meeting**

Calls

Call for abstracts: Support the Social and healthcare transition with technology research with impact

On 14.04.26 the Aletta Jacobs School of Public Health, the Jantina Tammes School of Digital Society, Technology and AI, and the Data Science Center in Health (DASH) jointly organize an event on the **Healthcare Transition and the Use of Healthcare Technology**. During this event we invite young researchers (PhD students, master students and postdocs) to present their research. If you know some talented young researchers who might be interested to join please ask them to send in an abstract via the following website before January 14.

Call for abstracts

Support the social and health care transition with technology research with impact

Societal changes require adjustments in the Dutch health care landscape. A lot of hope lies in the development of new technologies. However, many of the recently developed solutions do not find their way into daily practice.

On 14 April 2026, the Aletta Jacobs School of Public Health, the Jantina Tammes School of Digital Society, Technology and AI, and the Data Science Center in Health jointly organise a an event in Groningen. Together with professionals from hospitals, elderly care and home care, we explore how technological innovations can truly support the care transition and make a difference for health care professionals and patients.

We invite contributions that address this central question:
How does your research help to make technology meaningful, usable and impactful in real-life care settings?

Will your research be one of these solutions?

Are you a researcher working on a master, PhD, or postdoc project?

You may submit if you:
- Already have first experiences in bringing your research into practice, or
- Are looking for concrete ways to move your findings closer to the work floor.

To present your research at this event send a short abstract of max 300 words via the online form.

Submission deadline: Wednesday 14 January 2026, 11:59 CET (Central European Time)
Author notification: Monday 16 February 2026

Abstracts are only collected for the purpose of selecting presenters. They will not be published.
The copyright remains with the authors.

rijksuniversiteit groningen / DASH Data Science Center in Health / Aletta Jacobs SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Data available through CPHEB

The CPHEB has data available that you can use for your research. Short descriptions of available data and contact persons can be found below.

Menzis SamenGezond data

Data from the Menzis SamenGezond App and Program. More information about the program can be found here and here. Contact: Koert van Ittersum.
