Amsterdam Public Health (APH) research institute and Athena Institute, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam present:

**Friday 4th of June 2021**

Interactive symposium 13:00 - 15:15 CET

**Maternal health: promoting human rights in the labour room**

Please [register](#) in advance for the webinar.

After registration, you will receive a confirmation email with information to access the webinar.

Inaugural Lecture (‘Oratie’) by prof. dr. Thomas van den Akker 15:30 - 17.00 CET

**Maternal Matters: from 3 Ps to 5Cs**

The lecture can be followed via [this page](#).

This event is organized as part of the inauguration of Thomas van den Akker as professor of Global Maternal Health at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, by special appointment as instigated by the Netherlands Society of Tropical Medicine and International Health.

*Thomas has expressed a wish not to receive any personal gifts, but if you would like to make a donation to a new foundation called ‘Maternal Matters’, which he chairs, he would be very pleased. This foundation aims to assist researchers in maternal and reproductive health in low- and middle- income countries to develop locally relevant studies to reduce death and disease among women and babies.*

Maternal matters foundation – account no.: IBAN NL12BUNQ2060167426 (ANBI-status has been requested)
Programme

13:00  Welcome and opening
Jacqueline Broerse - Director of Athena Institute, VU Amsterdam
Chair: Thomas van den Akker - Athena Institute, VU Amsterdam

13:10  Including the woman’s perspective and that of local staff into maternity care
Natasha Housseine - Partoma project, Aga Khan University, East Africa, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

13:30  Panel discussion: participatory approaches and context-specificity in maternal health
Moderator: Nanna Maaløe - University of Copenhagen & Hvidovre University Hospital, Denmark

Panelists
Farzana Maruf - PhD candidate VU Amsterdam, Afghanistan
Ephrem Daniel - Clinton Health Access initiative Rwanda, PhD candidate Groningen/Ethiopia
Rebecca Gomperts - Founder Women on Waves and Women on Web, Amsterdam
Tarek Meguid - Human rights advocate Consultant Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Kivunge & Makunduchi Hospital, Zanzibar, Tanzania
Mariëlle Bemelmans - Director of Wemos, PhD VU Amsterdam

14:00  Break

14:10  Perspective of a clinician–researcher between North and South
Wouter Bakker - PhD candidate VU Amsterdam

14:25  Panel discussion: ethical considerations in (research) collaborations between North and South
Moderator: Jelle Stekelenburg - Professor International Aspects of Reproductive Health (Safe Motherhood), University of Groningen & Consultant Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Leeuwarden

Panelists
Beatrice Matanje - Lighthouse Trust, Lilongwe, Malawi
Lenka Benova - Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium
Marian Knight - National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit, MBRRACE/UKOSS, Oxford, UK
Anke Heitkamp - Consultant Obstetrics and Gynaecology and PhD candidate, Amsterdam UMC and Stellenbosch University, Cape Town, South Africa
Abera Tura - Haramaya University, EthOSS, Ethiopia

14:55  Summary
Kitty Bloemenkamp - UMC Utrecht

15:00  Closing remarks
Jos van Roosmalen and Jacqueline Broerse - both VU Amsterdam

15:10  Break

15:30  Inaugural lecture Thomas van den Akker