

CURRICULUM VITAE OF PROFESSOR KLAAS POSTEMA

Klaas was born as youngest of six boys in Ouderkerk a/d Amstel. He started his medical study in 1971, enjoyed being a student very much and took 14 years for it. One and a half year before he graduated he passed his PhD at the VU University in Amsterdam after a study into the effects of Dantrolene Sodium (spasmolyticum) in children with spastic cerebral palsy. At the department of Rehabilitation Medicine, together with Jaap Harlaar and Arie Prevo, he was one of the founding fathers of the Movement Laboratory. In 1985 he started as resident in Rehabilitation Medicine in the Roessingh in Enschede. Shortly after his graduation he published the book (in Dutch): "Orthopedic footwear in medical practice".

The Dutch Government decided in the 80s that the field of Rehabilitation Medicine should be strengthened by training some of the medical specialists as a researcher. Klaas was allowed to participate in this 4-yr training. Some years after this, in 1996 he moved to Nijmegen, where he worked in the St Maartenskliniek and the University Radboud Hospital. In 2000 he was asked to become the head of department of Rehabilitation Medicine at the Academic Hospital in Groningen. One year before the merge of the Academic Hospital and Beatrixoord Center for Rehabilitation he became interim medical director of Beatrixoord. The merge formed one department for Rehabilitation of both within the Academic Hospital Groningen, later the University Medical Center Groningen.

Klaas enjoyed in Groningen especially the cooperation with other disciplines, in which Movement Sciences was and still is a natural partner. After eight years he stepped down as head of department to be able to go back much more to research and patient care. SPRINT, as one of the IMDI research centers, came along and together with Bart Verkerke he managed this for five years. His interest in research focusses mainly on clinical gait analysis, in combination with lower limb orthotics and prosthetics. Obviously, part of the orthoses is orthopaedic/pedorthic footwear. In this field he can rightfully claim to be expert. In 2018 he published as editor-in-chief the textbook: "Pedorthic footwear; Assessment and treatment". 54 Authors from 7 countries contributed to this book. Three other editors supported him. In the meantime the book has been sold in 20 countries; a beautiful success. All revenues go to the Foundation BERJALAN ('walking' in Indonesian language), with the goal to raise knowledge about foot-, gait- and motion disorders and treatment with pedorthics/orthopaedic footwear and orthoses in Asia (mainly Indonesia). The Foundation can, among others, stimulate the work of Klaas in Indonesia (as visiting professor at the Airlangga University in Surabaya).

In one sentence, Klaas is retired since June 2016, but his wife Gerdie does not always notice this.