

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in the Netherlands National Report - 2011

**Peter Deschamps
Robert Vermeiren**

Status of CAP

In the Netherlands CAP until now has not been recognized as a separate medical specialty, although since 1956 there are professorial chairs at the universities and special training centers. CAP is considered as super-specialization after basic training in general psychiatry.

Specialist training

Since 2011 psychiatrists are trained in general psychiatry during 2,5 years followed by 2 years of training in CAP. Half a year of the general training can be devoted to CAP. After training one is registered as psychiatrist with additional annotation of CAP. These CAP's are noted in a special interest register kept by the Dutch Psychiatric Association. A similar register exists for psychiatrists with special interest in general and geriatric psychiatry.

The specialist training follows the model of the Canadian Medical Education Directions for Specialists (CANMEDS). Training requirements are formulated in 7 areas of competency. At the end of each year a national knowledge test takes place and trainees have to keep up their training activities and appraisals in a so-called portfolio or logbook. Psychotherapy is since many years considered a fundamental part of the training curriculum.

Training centers

There are 11 official training centers for CAP spread over 6 academic and 5 non-academic hospitals that work together in good cooperation. All trainees meet 4 days each year in national training sessions. Additional training is being organized in the training centers. A national rotation policy of trainees between centers does not exist but is available on request.

Training centre visitation

Every other 5 years a training centre is inspected by an official supervisory committee. This committee consists of 2 CAP's and 1 trainee in CAP.

Continuing medical education

Formal requirements for CME have been developed on the base of quantity and not of quality, though CME-activities are valued through a point system. For license re-registration of medical specialists after 5 years the psychiatrist has to give an overview of his professional and continuing educational activities (special courses, attending national and international congress, research activities as well as the amount of time spent on actual face to face contact with patients).

Man-power planning

At this moment there are approximately 400 psychiatrists working in the field of CAP. Of these 450 professionals, 30% are also active in general psychiatry. Converted to full- time equivalents on a general population of 16,3 million inhabitants this means approximately 1:15.000 under 20 yrs. These figures show an increase of 50 % since 1996.

**The sex ratio of CAP's have since 1996 changed from 40 to 47 % females in 2005.
In spite of the growth in training capacity there still is a considerable shortage in the field of
CAP.**