

Pharos is the national Dutch knowledge and information centre on migrants, refugees and health care issues.

The centre is specialised in:

- the health status and health promotion of migrants and refugees
- matters relating to the availability, suitability and quality of health care for migrants and refugees
- the interculturalisation of health care

Mission

Pharos puts knowledge to work and provides advice in order to promote the health of migrants and refugees and to improve the availability and quality of prevention and health care services and facilities.

Our clients

Local

- Community health services (GGD)
- Health and community workers and care providers
- Schools
- Youth and Family centres (CJGs)

National

- Professional organisations for health care
- Community health services (GGD NL)
- The Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA)
- Other intermediaries working in health or community care for migrants and refugees
- Educational institutes
- Migrant and refugee organisations
- Policy and decision makers in this area

Government bodies

local, provincial and national aid organisations

Pharos's core values

- Health care services and prevention should be equally effective and accessible to all.
- Working towards this goal contributes to the quality of an inclusive society.
- Pharos believes in the strength, self-efficacy and sense of responsibility of migrants and refugees.

Pharos has adopted the WHO definition of health: *"Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."*

Based on this definition, Pharos subscribes to a broad interpretation of the promotion of health and prevention, including the role of cure and care.

Profile

Pharos:

- provides state-of-the-art knowledge about:
 - the health of migrants and refugees and the accessibility, quality and effectiveness of preventive and other health care services
 - the available methods and interventions in prevention, promotion and the provision of health and community care
 - the methods and interventions that work for the target groups, and those that do not
 - criteria for a 'migrant-centred' approach
- encourages and organises knowledge sharing and knowledge networks
- conducts applied research and quick scans
- is involved in research in cooperation with other research institutes
- develops interventions, implements them and improves on them
- assesses the suitability of interventions by others for migrants and refugees and proposes improvements
- offers customised training, advice and local support
- cooperates with organisations and experts in refugee and migrant issues and with local and international organisations and service and care providers
- provides advocacy and advice on socially sensitive issues relating to prevention and the promotion of health and care among migrants and refugees
- provides support to initiatives designed to promote cooperation with migrants and refugees.

Pharos's knowledge is gained from three sources:

- Scientific research and insights
- Expert know-how among migrant and refugee groups, health care workers, community workers and other actors
- Hands-on experience among migrants and refugees, whom we involve when developing interventions

Products and services

- Information and advice
- Research and quick scans
- Interventions and best practices in:
 - promoting the health of migrants and refugees
 - improving the availability and suitability of health care services and facilities for these target groups
 - preventing female genital mutilation
- Guidelines and quality standards in health care for migrants and refugees
- Contributions to educational programmes and curricula
- Supporting the implementation of methods and interventions
- Participation in knowledge networks
- Development of expertise, training and updating
- Publications
- Debates, conferences, expert meetings, seminars etc.
- Policy identification and advice.

Contact information

Pharos Knowledge and information centre on migrants, refugees and health care issues

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www.pharos.nl
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Publications

Pharos publishes her own books, method descriptions, journals, manuals, conference reports and other informational brochures. Our publications are always practice-oriented and instructive.

Information & Advisory service

Our Information & Advisory service can be reached by phone or e-mail on Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m.- 14:00 p.m.

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E-mail: adviespunt@pharos.nl

Information & Documentation Centre

The Information and Documentation Centre (Infodoc) has a unique collection of books, magazines, reports, reference works, videotapes etc. Currently, Infodoc presents an extensive collection in the field of psychological and psychosocial problems and health of refugees and asylum seekers (including reproductive health). For more information: infodoc@pharos.nl

Infodoc is open to visitors by appointment only on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For appointments and inquiries please contact us by telephone: +31 30 234 98 07.