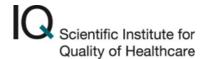
#### **Practice variation in The Netherlands**

Towards a value based improvement cycle involving also doctors and patients.

Current state of affairs and future challenges.

dr. A.S. (Stef) Groenewoud Berlin, June 5th 2015

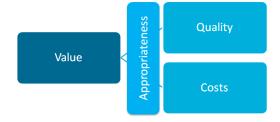




### In The Netherlands in 2014...

- Analyses on regional variation had just become available for 7 diseases:
  - Back hernia
  - CTS
  - Gallbladder
  - Cataract
  - Knee replacements
  - Hip replacements
  - Groin rupture

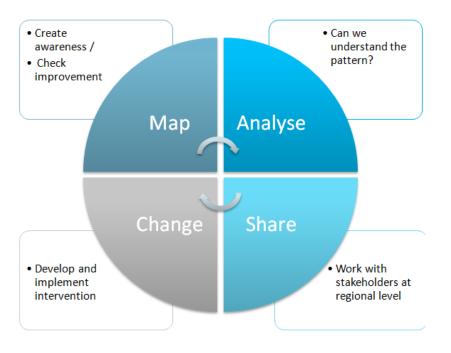




- The problem however appeared to be twofold:
  - Unwarranted variation was isolated from other components of 'value', and, as a result of that, it lost its meaning and its disruptive power
  - We focused too much on the role of the health care insurer to disclose and reduce unwarranted geographical variation, and seem to have lost the doctor and the patients and/or the public

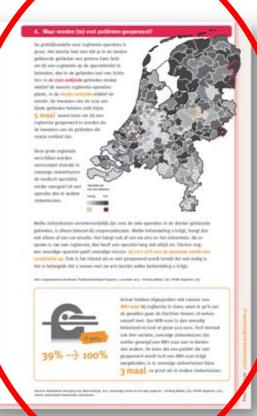
## The agenda then was...

- To develop understandable information about (regional) differences in the 'value' of health care for these 7 diseases:
  - Practice variation
  - Quality
  - Costs
- To introduce a 'value improvement cycle' that involves all relevant Stakeholders (not only purchasers)



## What have we achieved in 2015?



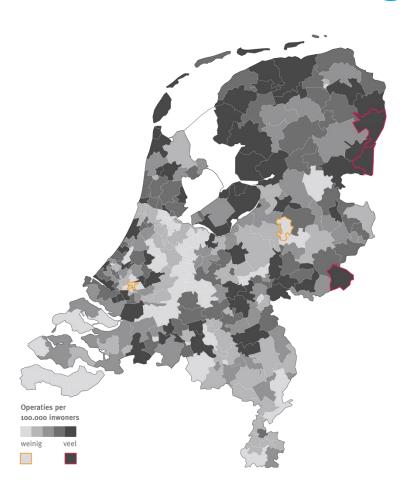


#### slechtst scorend best scoreed ziekenhuls ziekenhuls 96% 58% 39% 10% e ziekenhutzen precies scoren op deze punten, is alleen bekend bij zorgverzekeraans. Bespreek y arts de le verwachten effecten en risico's van een behandeling in uw specifieke geval. kost een behandeling? Jaarlijks worden er in Nederland ongeveer 10.000 mensen aan een Revalldatie rughernia geopereerd. Totaal € 960,-

€ 360,- eigen risico en eerste 20 behandelingen fysiotherapie

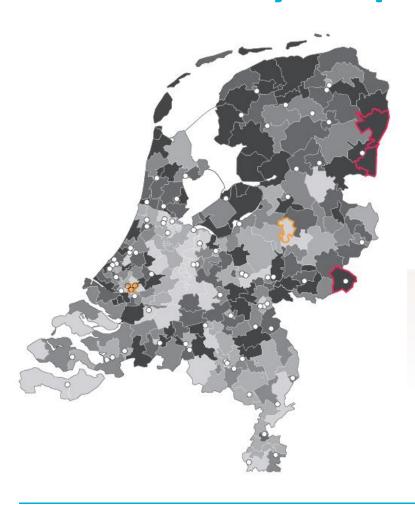
For 7 procedures

# Started at the regional level



Aandoening	Factorscore
Backhernia	5
THA	2,7
TKA	3,0
Galbladder	3,6
CTS	7,1
Cataract	2,2
Groin Rupture	2,3

## What has 'my hospital' to do with this?



#### Box 1. "Wise choices" and evidence-based indication for lumbar herniated disc surgery

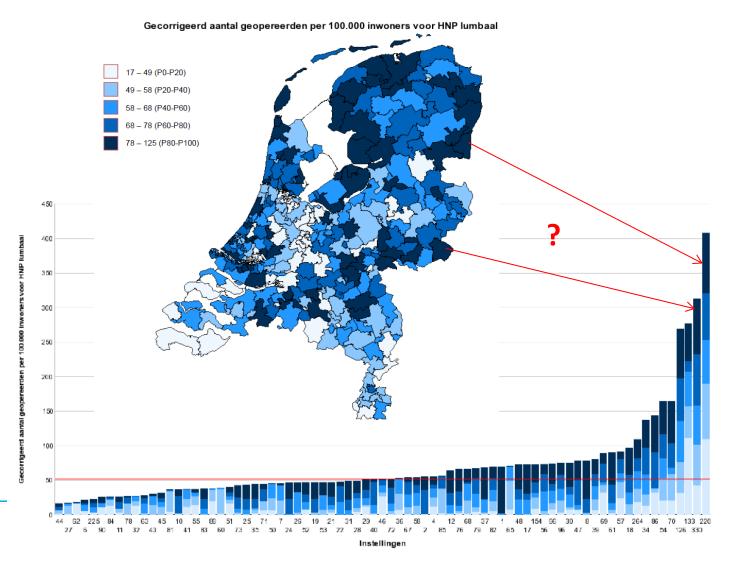
- 1) Withhold herniated disc surgery, when lower back pain is the main complaint
- Do not perform surgery too soon during the natural course of recovery (<6
  weeks) but do not wait too long either (> 6 months)
- Do not perform MRI scanning of the spine during the natural course of recovery period or just as a check after surgery
- 4) Do not perform surgery when the leg pain distribution shows neurologically no association with the MRI proven lumbosacral nerve root compression
- 5) Innovative, new surgical techniques for herniated discs should only be performed in the setting of a clinical trial

## 9. Waar moet ik op letten bij het kiezen van mijn behandeling? Wanneer een rughernia bij u geconstateerd is, houd dan de volgende zaken in gedachten:

- Bespreek met uw arts de volgende vuistregels:
- Niet opereren als er alleen sprake is van rugpijn.
- Niet opereren als de beenpijn korter dan zes weken of langer dan zes maanden duurt.
- 2 Laat niet zomaar een MRI verrichten. In de eerste 18 weken van de beenpijn of na een rughernia-operatie heeft een MRI vaak geen nut. Een MRI is dan onnodig belastend en duur.
- Er bestaan verschillen in kwaliteit tussen ziekenhuizen. Bespreek met uw arts de te verwachten effecten en risico's van een behandeling in uw specifieke geval.
- Bekijk goed of het nuttig is om u aanvullend te verzekeren.

Bron: Nederlandse Vereniging voor Neurochirurgie, 2013. Verstandige keuzes bij een lage rughernia.

## From region towards hospital



## From region towards hospital

Scores above 85th percentile for the adjusted number of procedures per 100.000 persons'

Weighed, average regional variation score also above the 85th percentile

Low percentage of 'horizontal referrals' (no supra-regional function)

Scored above 65th percentile in 2009 AND 2010

Scores between 75th and 85th percentile for the adjusted number of procedures per 100.000 persons'

Weighed, average regional variation score also btw 75th and 85th percentile

Low percentage of 'horizontal referrals' (no supra-regional function)

Scored above 60th percentile in 2009 AND 2010

Practice variaton

Scores between 65th and 75th percentile for the adjusted number of procedures per 100.000 persons'

Weighed, average regional variation score also btw 65th and 75th percentile

Low percentage of 'horizontal referrals' (no supra-regional function)

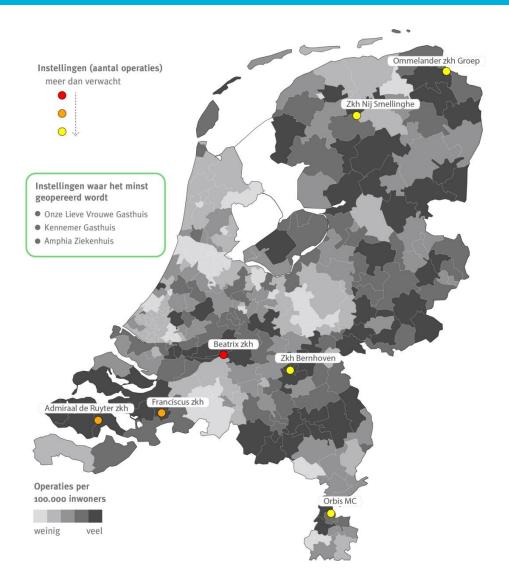
Scored above 60th percentile in 2009 AND 2010

All other hospitals

Select lowest three

That were also 'green' in 2009 AND 2010

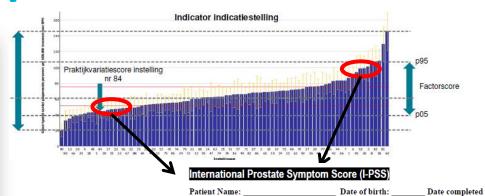
## **CTS**



## Successfully applied before

Duiden van praktijkvariatie rond indicatiestelling BPH

Nadere analyse van variatie, oorzaken ervan en aanpak



Total I-PSS Score

In the past month:	Not at All	Less than 1 in 5	Less than Half the	About Half the	More than Half	Almost Always	Your
month		Times	Time	Time	the Time	121	score
Incomplete Emptying     How often have you had the     sensation of not emptying     your bladder?	0	1	2	3	4	5	
2. Frequency How often have you had to urinate less than every two hours?	0	1	2	3	4	5	
3. Intermittency How often have you found you stopped and started again several times when you urinated?	0	1	2	3	4	5	
4. Urgency How often have you found it difficult to postpone urnation?	0	1	2	3	4	5	
5. Weak Stream How often have you had a weak urinary stream?	0	1	2	3	4	5	
6. Straining How often have you had to strain to start urnation?	0	1	2	3	4	5	
	None	1 Time	2 Times	3 Times	4 Times	5 Times	
7. Nocturia How many times did you typically get up at night to urnate?	0	1	2	3	4	5	

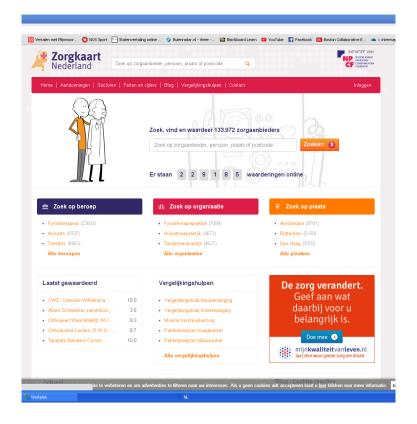
Score: 1-7: Mild 8-19: Moderate 20-35: Severe

## **Strategy is twofold:**

Discussion and learning

- Involve scientific colleges
- Start interviewing
  - Highest scoring hospitals
  - Lowest scoring hospitals
- Understand, explain, find best practices.
- Develop wise choices, decision aids, etc.

Public disclosure



## **Future challenges**

- Stakeholders all develop their 'own' inititatives regarding practice variation:
  - Insurers (ZN): periodical reports and bilateral discussions with stakeholders
  - Health Care Institute (ZINL): program 'sensible care', identifying low value care
  - Dutch Federation of Medical Specialists (FMS): "Choosing Wisely" program
  - Dutch Federation of University Hospitals (NFU): "Better not do" program
  - Dutch Patient and Consumer Federation (NPCF): Zorgkaart Nederland
- Challenge: coordination in both presentation and improvement
- Availability of required data

