

VNVA-MWIA program

Regional Conference June 4 - 6, 2026

VNVA

The Dutch Association of Women Doctors



The Dutch Association of Women Doctors (VNVA) warmly invites you to the Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) Regional Conference, taking place on June 4–6, 2026, in the inspiring and innovative Netherlands.

This special gathering brings together medical women from across the region to connect, learn, and lead under the timely and powerful theme:

“Transgenerational Resilience.”

Thursday, June 4, 2026

17.00 - 18.00 Registration

18.00 - 19.00 Get-together drinks

19.00 - 20.30 Dinner buffet

Friday, June 5, 2026

9.15 - 10.00 Registration

10.00 - 10.20 Opening

Opening of the congress by **drs. G.D. (Geneviève) Koolhaas** (chair VNVA) and **dr. K.P.M. (Karin) van Galen** (Chair Organizing Committee)

10.20 - 12.15 / coffee-tea break at 11.05

Plenary Session I: Resilience

Chairpersons: **drs. G.D. (Geneviève) Koolhaas** and **dr. K.P.M. (Karin) van Galen**

Speaker: **dr. M.I. (Mariëtte) Hamer**, Government Commissioner for sexually transgressive behavior and sexual violence

Title lecture: **Guarding respectful barriers in health care**

Speaker: **A. (Astrid) Elburg**, organizational expert in leadership and ethics, honors lecturer at the Vrije Universiteit and Nyenrode Business University and executive coach

Title lecture: **From Survival to Flourish**

12.15 - 13.00 workshop Session I / Lunch 13.00 - 14.00 / 14.00 - 14.45 Workshop Session II

Parallel Workshop Session I and II Workshops: Two choices out of four options

Chairpersons: **drs. L.G.M. (Lydia) Ketting-Stroet** and **drs. G.S. (Geneviève) Nivillac-Hernández**

Title workshop 1: **Experienced powerful voices**

prof. dr. J.M. (Annemiek) Richters, anthropologist, emeritus professor of culture, health and illness at the Leiden University Medical Center

drs. L.G.M. (Lydia) Ketting-Stroet, general practitioner with special interest in palliative care and anthropologist



Title workshop 2: The power of networking

prof. dr. J.J.M. (Hanneke) Takkenberg, *professor of Management Education focusing on Women in Business at the Rotterdam School of Management*

Title workshop 3: Thinking about stories, thinking with stories

dr. H.P. (Heleen) Eising, *obstetrician and gynecologist Gelre Hospitals in Apeldoorn and Zutphen, founder and chairwomen of the non-profit organization Junction Care*

Title workshop 4: Design Thinking for Women's Health Innovation

G.L. (Georgina) Booth, LL.M, FRSA, *award-winning journalist, founder, writer, jurist, UN Women delegate, and women's rights advocate*

14.45 - 15.15

Free presentations

Chairperson: dr. F.M.M. (Cisca) Griffioen

Abstracts should preferably be submitted on these topics but abstracts on other issues can be submitted as well.

15.15 - 17.00 / coffee-tea break at 15.45

Plenary Session II: Generation differences

Chairpersons: dr. M. (Mala) Misra-Isrie and dr. V. (Vivien) Marasigan

Speakers: drs. L. (Laura) van Loendersloot, *gynecologist at Amsterdam UMC and subspecialized in reproductive medicine and endometriosis*

dr. K. Dreyer, *gynecologist at Amsterdam UMC and subspecialized in reproductive medicine, endocrinology and endometriosis*

Title lecture: Female Fertility and Fertility Preservation: What do you need to know

Speaker: E. (Emma) Agricola, *one of the leading (generational) diversity and inclusion experts in The Netherlands*

Title lecture: Finding cross-generational translation within the (women's) health care setting

17.00 - 17.15 **End of the day closing by dr. K.P.M. (Karin) van Galen**
(Chair Organizing Committee)

18.00 - 22.00 **Dinner cruise on luxury salon boat on the Vecht**

Saturday, June 6, 2026

8.30 - 9.00 Registration MWIA Meeting

9.00 - 10.00 *MWIA Northern Europe Regional Meeting*

9.30 - 10.15 Registration MWIA Congress

10.15- 10.30 Opening

Opening **dr. K.P.M. (Karin) van Galen** (*Chair Organizing Committee*)

10.30 - 12.00 / coffee-tea break at 12.00

Plenary Session III: Resilience

Chairpersons: **dr. K.P.M. (Karin) van Galen** and **dr. M. (Mala) Misra-Isrie**

Speaker: **Dr. N.M. (Norah) van Mello**, *gynaecologist and researcher at Amsterdam UMC, specializing in gender-affirming and reproductive care*

Title lecture: **What defines female identity?**

Speaker: **Dr. R. (Richta) IJntema**, *assistant professor at the Department of Social, Health and Organizational Psychology, Utrecht University and working as an independent work and organizational psychologist*

Title lecture: **Mental resilience in challenging clinical practice**

12.30 - 13.15

Plenary Session IV: VNVA Els Borst Lifetime Achievement Award

12.30 - 12.45 Opening

Opening **prof. dr. J.E. (Jeanine) Roeters van Lennep**, *internist vascular medicine, Erasmus MC*

Speaker: **Drs. F.J. (Frank) Borm**, *pulmonologist Netherlands Cancer institute Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Hospital, co-founder of Vapen #jouwkeuze; initiative to protect youngsters against the vaping epidemic*

Title lecture: **Lung cancer in young women: diagnosis, experiences, and emerging risk factors**

13.15 - 14.15 lunch



14.15 – 16.45 / coffee-tea break at 15.15

Second Part Plenary Session IV: VNVA Els Borst Oeuvreprijs Symposium

Speaker: Dr. R. (Rebecca) Gomperts, Dutch physician, well-known activist for women's rights, particularly abortion rights, through her organizations Women on Waves and Women on Web

Title lecture: Politics of (un) pregnancy

Speaker: Dr. K. (Karin) Pool, pulmonologist and palliative care specialist Rode Kruis Hospital Beverwijk, co-founder and board member of Roze in Wit

Title lecture: The courage and wins of self-disclosure

Keynote speaker: Drs. W. (Wanda) de Kanter, pulmonologist np, activist against the tobacco industry and chairman of youth smoking prevention

Title lecture: The tobacco lobby: lobbyocracy versus democracy. Parasite of the vulnerable



16.15 - 16.45 VNVA Els Borst Lifetime Achievement Award

16.45 - 17.10 Closure of the congress by **drs G.D. Genevieve Koolhaas** (Chair VNVA)

17.10 - 18.00 Reception with the prize winner **drs. W. (Wanda) de Kanter**

Planned social events - optional

Thursday, Juni 4, 2026 – 18.00 – 20.30 Get-together event
Get-together drink and dinner buffet in Breukelen

Friday, Juni 5, 2026 – 18.00 – 22.00 Cruise event
Dinner cruise on luxury salon boat on the Vecht

For more details and updated information please visit our website: www.vnva.nl - MWIA Congress Region Northern Europe or contact us: vnvemail@vnva.nl

Included in your registration fee (members, non-members, students):

- Participation in the congress
- VNVA-MWIA Magazine
- Coffee and tea during the day
- Live cooking lunchbuffet in the restaurant

Useful Information

Date: 2026, June 5 and 6. Get-together event at June 4, 2026

Venue: Congresshotel Breukelen - Stationsweg 91 – 3621 LK BREUKELEN – The Netherlands

Transportation: Car - A2 motorway to Breukelen, parking at the Congresshotel

Train: From the trainstation Breukelen it is only a few minutes walk to the Congresshotel

Airplane: From Schiphol International Airport it is only half an hour by train to the Congresshotel

Registration: www.vnva.nl – click button: ‘MWIA Congress Region Northern Europe’

Hotelaccomodation: Congresshotel Breukelen. Until April 1, 2026 mail to vnvemail@vnva.nl.
After April 1, 2026 mail to sales@breukelen.valk.nl

Accreditation: Accreditation will be requested at: ABAN

Registration costs, before and after April 1, 2026

	Until April 1, 2026	After April 1, 2026
VNVA/MWIA members- Social program Thursday - optional	€ 75.00	€ 75.00
VNVA/MWIA members- Friday and Saturday	€ 400.00	€ 450.00
VNVA/MWIA members- 1 day Friday	€ 225.00	€ 250.00
VNVA/MWIA members- Social program Friday - optional	€ 175.00	€ 175.00
VNVA/MWIA members- 1 day Saturday	€ 225.00	€ 250.00
Interested parties - Friday and Saturday	€ 500.00	€ 575.00
Interested parties - 1 day Friday	€ 275.00	€ 315.00
Interested parties - 1 day Saturday	€ 275.00	€ 315.00
Student rate VNVA/MWIA member - Friday and Saturday	€ 115.00	€ 130.00
Student rate VNVA/MWIA member - 1 day Friday	€ 60.00	€ 70.00
Student rate VNVA/MWIA member - 1 day Saturday	€ 60.00	€ 70.00
Student rate non-VNVA member - Friday and Saturday	€ 175.00	€ 195.00
Student rate non-VNVA member -1 day Friday	€ 90.00	€ 100.00
Student rate non-VNVA member - 1 day Saturday	€ 90.00	€ 100.00



Local Organizing Committee

Karin van Galen (Chair)
Lydia Ketting-Stroet
Mala Misra-Isrie
Joke Selhorst-Heije

Cisca Griffioen
Geneviève Nivillac-Hernández
Vivien Marasigan

Contact us email: vnvemail@vnva.nl