

brief CV

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Maarten Boers is Professor of Clinical Epidemiology. Until 2007 he was Chair of the Department (of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, now renamed 'Epidemiology and Biostatistics') he founded at VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam in '97. From '90 to '97 he worked as Associate Professor of Rheumatology at the University of Maastricht, Netherlands.

Training: MD ('80), Internal Medicine ('86), Rheumatology ('88); PhD ('89; renal disorders in rheumatoid arthritis): University of Leiden, Netherlands; MSc in Clinical Epidemiology: McMaster University, Ontario, Canada ('90).

Research interests include early intervention and combination therapy in rheumatoid arthritis (principal investigator of the COBRA trial and its recently published followup study), outcome measures in rheumatology (with Peter Tugwell, co-initiator of the OMERACT (Outcome Measures in Rheumatology) consensus initiative active since 1992; www.omeract.org), impact of diagnostic studies on patient outcome, generic health status measurement, health economics and health technology assessment. He has (co)authored over 400 papers on topics both in- and outside of rheumatology.

He is initiator and principal investigator of the GLORIA project (funded by EU-Horizon 2020) that started recruiting in 2016: it comprises an international pragmatic trial of low-dose prednisolone in 800 elderly RA patients.

He regularly participates in governmental, charity, and industry (inter)national advisory boards mostly focusing on trial design and analysis, efficacy, safety and economic issues. He was also member of the board of a company managing clinical trials.

In 2010 he started a small company (Epiconsult BV) to host his consulting activities and to allow the development of specialized training courses, including one on data visualization. In addition, he still sees patients as a staff rheumatologist in the Reade Institute in Amsterdam.

In education he has had several teaching roles at the medical faculty in Maastricht. In Amsterdam he advised the faculty on improving science education for medical students. He coordinated the design of the science education program in the new medical curriculum of VUmc, and in 2000 founded the Honours Programme that gives extensive science training to talented students. He regularly organizes and participates in postgraduate training courses on topics covering Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Rheumatology, and data visualization.

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics ([see vumc.com/branch/epidemiology-biostatistics/](http://vumc.com/branch/epidemiology-biostatistics/)) focuses on initiating research with a strong methodological component, including cohort studies, modelling of large datasets (eg. genomics), and methods development. In addition, it offers methodologic support of research design and analysis, and education in medical school and beyond. In the last few years members of the Department (co)authored over 150 papers yearly. The Department organizes the MSc Epidemiology Programme of VUmc, 'EpidM'.

The Amsterdam Rheumatology and immunology Center comprises the scientific and educational collaboration between the joint Departments of Rheumatology of the two Amsterdam University Medical Centers (VUmc and AMC), who are also merging in 2018; and Reade, the Amsterdam Institute for Rehabilitation and Rheumatology ([see ams-rc.com](http://see.ams-rc.com)).