

HIGHLIGHTS AND FACTSHEET

2024

Amsterdam Public Health



More than **1,850** researchers affiliated to research institute



Over **3,200** peer reviewed academic publications each year



More than **100** PhD theses produced per year,
22 new Principal Investigators,
and **6** new professor appointments



Over **€77** million of research funding per year acquired



More than **25** longitudinal cohort studies and health (care) registries united in the Amsterdam Cohort Hub

The Amsterdam Public Health (APH) research institute connects and engages over 1,850 researchers from Amsterdam UMC, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU) and University of Amsterdam (UvA) with a wide variety of disciplinary backgrounds within an interactive public health research network. As such, APH generates and implements knowledge through high-quality and sustainable research to improve public health and well-being, while creating positive societal impact.

Improving health for all

APH is committed to the promotion of transformations needed to address urgent societal and public health challenges. Improving public health and creating societal impact requires collective effort, which is why APH increasingly connects and collaborates with society, as well as strategic and societal stakeholders. In the coming years, the APH research institute will put increased efforts on strengthening and expanding these societal collaborations and focus forward with strategic attention to the innovative developments and grand challenges facing public health in both current and future decades. This is embodied in APH's slogan: *Health for all, now and in the future.*

Nine research programs

Our research efforts in 2024 were concentrated in nine research programs, covering major public health themes along the life course: Health Behaviors and Chronic Diseases; Mental Health; Societal Participation and Health; Global Health; Aging and Later Life; Quality of Care; Personalized Medicine; Methodology and Digital Health.

Highlights and accomplishments in 2024

The following set of results were accomplished across our main strategic themes:

- On January 23rd-25th we organized the site visit for the external self evaluation of the APH research institute. An international external assessment committee, consisting of experts covering APH's research field, visited our research institute and held open conversations with researchers, committees and representatives within APH. A recommendation report was provided which we used as input for recalibrating the [APH Strategic Plan](#) for the period 2024-2027.
- Multiple institute-wide and program-specific or career-level-specific events were organized to reinforce our research network and stimulate collaborations and knowledge exchange. For example the APH Spring Meeting on April 22nd themed 'A Brighter Future', APH Junified on June 25th about 'Boost your Impact' and the APH Annual Meeting on November 19th themed 'Impact in Public Health'.
- An important milestone was the first Annual Cohort Conference on July 3rd organized by the Amsterdam Cohort Hub (ACH). ACH is dedicated to



An APH Quality Handbook with information, structured by the research life cycle, to enhance research quality



Over 20 academic collaborative centers where practice, research, education and policy are connected



Multiple annual conferences for internal researchers and external stakeholders



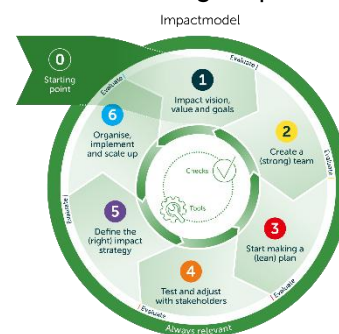
Numerous of prestigious national or international personal or consortium grants awarded, for example 6x NWO Veni, 3x NWO Vidi, 3x NWO Vici, 1x Horizon Europe



Active APH committees for PhD Education, Scientific Quality and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

improving the infrastructure for longitudinal cohort studies in the Amsterdam region and in increasing their impact on the health of its inhabitants and society at large. ACH has originated from the APH cohort network and has been given a boost by the governmental 'Sectorplannen'.

- There were multiple ongoing activities of our Amsterdam Center of Implementation Science (AmsCIS), for instance multiple educational modules and 'Yes we can' meetings to exchange knowledge around various implementation science topics.
- In July, a new group started with 6 enthusiastic APH researchers who participated in the fourth and final edition of the 2-year program of the Public Health and Care Leadership Program (PHCR).
- An open academic and self learning culture was stimulated by the new Research Quality visits organized by the APH Scientific Quality Committee. A RQ visit is a peer-led procedure that can take place at any point during the research life cycle of a research project. The visits can detect barriers for practicing good quality research and provides expert-level recommendations, and collect best practices that can be shared with other APH researchers. This was a pilot study which will be evaluated and further developed.
- The APH Diversity, Equity & Inclusion committee further build on their action points and mission, for instance by organizing monthly online lunch and learn meetings discussing inclusive research.
- The dedicated APH Impact Developer provided various support to APH researchers on societal impact and valorization questions. A central [webpage](#) was created on the APH website collecting important information, tools, education and impact stories. Moreover, building on Amsterdam UMC's Position Paper on Valorization, the APH Impact Developer developed new impact tools, for example the 'Model Creating Impact in Public Health in 6+ steps'. This model gives APH researchers a quick overview of the impact process: the different steps they can take, tools they can use and checks they must make. Creating impact is an iterative process.
- A next step was taken to create Special Interest Groups (SIG) within APH. A SIG is a community within a larger organization with a shared interest in advancing a specific area of knowledge, learning or technology where members cooperate to affect or to produce solutions, and may communicate, meet, and organize meetings. Within APH there is a need for SIGs around research program overarching topics. SIGs will be further developed in the coming period.



Looking forward

APH will continue to build on the robust infrastructure of the affiliated organizations - Amsterdam UMC, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and University of Amsterdam and strengthen the connections among public health researchers from different disciplines, departments, faculties, and stakeholders across our research network. As a facilitator, APH enables researchers in the research network to conduct state-of-the-art research with both scientific and societal impact by offering knowledge, network support and services, as well as by making strategic investments. Among other initiatives, APH will strengthen its nine research programs and enrich them through Special Interest Groups that address cross-cutting public health themes. Moreover, APH will invest in co-creation, implementation, dissemination and valorization skills of its researchers.

www.amsterdamumc.org/aph