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Tubular discectomy for the treatment of lumbar disc herniation : new standard or transient fashion? : Results of a double-blind randomised controlled trial

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About the author

Mark Paul Arts was born on April 28th, 1970 in Woerden, The Netherlands. He obtained his Atheneum diploma at the Jeroen Bosch College in s'-Hertogenbosch in 1990. During his secondary school period, he went abroad for one year and graduated from Central High School in Tuscaloosa, Alabama (United States) in 1988. In 1990, he started medical school at the Erasmus University Rotterdam and received his medical doctor degree (cum laude) in 1999. During his medical school period, he stayed 6 months at the Whenchi Methodist Hospital in Whenchi (Ghana) in 1994 and participated in an eye team from Stichting Horizon Den Haag. In 1996, he performed basic research on the vestibulocerebellar system in rabbits at the Department of Neuroscience, New York University, New York (Prof. Dr. J.I. Simpson).

In June 1999, he started his training as a resident in Neurosurgery at the Medical Centre Haaglanden in The Hague (J.A.L. Wurzer). In 2001, he was trained in Neurology for one year at the Medical Centre Haaglanden (Dr. J.Th.J. Tans) and in Paediatric Neurosurgery and Neuro Critical Care at the Erasmus Medical Centre Rotterdam in 2002 (Prof. Dr. C.J.J. Avezaat). From 2003 until 2004, he worked as resident at the Neurosurgical Department of the Leiden University Medical Centre (Prof. Dr. R.T.W.M. Thomeer) where his interest in spine surgery and the basis of the present study was initiated. After finishing his residency program in June 2005, he started working as Neurosurgeon at the Medical Centre Haaglanden and followed a 2-year fellowship program in spine surgery (Prof. Dr. W.C. Peul). Since 2007, the author works as consulting Neurosurgeon at the Medical Centre Haaglanden, The Hague, with special interest in complex spine surgery.