

Paediatric health related quality of life: a European perspective: instrument development, validation, and use in clinical practice

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Curriculum vitae

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Rolanda Maia Baars was born on the 24th of September 1970 in Puttershoek, the Netherlands. Her child and teenage years were spent in different countries, including South Africa, Japan, Middle East, Malaysia and New Zealand. She passed her New Zealand high school certificate at Pompallier College, Whangarei in 1986 after which she returned to the Netherlands. There she continued her education within the Dutch school system and completed her VWO at the Andreas College in Drachten in 1990.

Her medical study started in 1990 at the University of Groningen. In 1994 she took up psychology at the same university to expand her area of interest and her knowledge of developmental psychology of the child and adolescent. Her final psychology research project was on 'Quality of life and cystic fibrosis'. She received her medical degree on the 27th of May 1999 and her psychology degree a day later on the 28th of May 1999.

Her first clinical work experience was on the children's ward in 'De Weezenlanden' in Zwolle. In May 2001 she started her research work with the European DISABKIDS project at the University Medical Centre in Leiden. During the following four years she participated in this European consortium of which the main aim was to develop and test a European health related quality of life questionnaire for use with children and adolescents with a chronic condition. As DISABKIDS asthma consultant she concentrated most of her work around the collection and analyses of the asthma data.

Rolanda has now started her paediatric specialisation at the Juliana Children's Hospital in The Hague and the Leiden University Medical Centre.