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Congenital heart defects: from a prenatal perspective

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1. Lugthart MA, Verbaarschot E, **van Nisselrooij AEL**, van de Kamp K, Kleinrouweler E, Haak MC, Rozendaal L, Linskens IH, Hruda J, Sniijders RJM, van Leeuwen E, Clur SA, Pajkrt E. Early Detection of Isolated Severe Congenital Heart Defects Is Associated with a Lower Threshold to Terminate the Pregnancy. *Fetal Diagn Ther.* 2023;50(4):248-58.
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8. **van Nisselrooij AEL**, Jansen FAR, van Geloven N, Linskens IH, Pajkrt E, Clur SA, Rammeloo L, Rozendaal L, van Lith JMM, Blom NA, Haak MC. Impact of extracardiac pathology on head growth in fetuses with congenital heart defect. *Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol.* 2020;55(2):217-25.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Amber van Nisselrooij werd geboren op 6 april 1994 in het Maxima Medisch Centrum te Veldhoven. Tijdens haar jeugd woonde ze met haar ouders en jongere broer Tijmen in Dommelen (Noord-Brabant).

In 2012 behaalde zij haar gymnasiumdiploma aan Scholengemeenschap Were Di in Valkenswaard, waarna ze startte met de studie Geneeskunde aan de Universiteit Leiden. In 2015 behaalde ze haar bachelorsdiploma Geneeskunde en rondde ze het Honours College-traject af aan de Universiteit Leiden. Dit traject richtte zich in het bijzonder op klinische epidemiologie. Vanuit haar interesse in kindercardiologie deed ze onderzoek onder begeleiding van prof. dr. M.C. Haak (aandachtsgebied: foetale cardiologie) en prof. dr. N.A. Blom (kindercardioloog) in het Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum (LUMC).

In 2016 begon ze - op haar verzoek - de master met een verlengde wetenschapsstage en presenteerde ze haar onderzoek op het congres van de International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology in Montréal. Het enthousiasme voor onderzoek naar aangeboren hartafwijkingen was geboren. In 2017 kreeg ze een beurs vanuit Stichting Hartekind om fulltime onderzoek te doen, waarvoor de master Geneeskunde werd gepauzeerd. In 2018 verkreeg Amber een tweejarige aanstelling als promovendus (MD-PhD) aan de Universiteit Leiden om het promotietraject voort te zetten, waaruit dit proefschrift is voortgekomen.

In 2020 heeft ze de master Geneeskunde hervat, waarna ze in 2022 cum laude het artsexamen heeft behaald. Vanaf maart 2023 was Amber werkzaam als arts-assistent Kindergeneeskunde in het Juliana Kinderziekenhuis in Den Haag. Inmiddels werkt ze met veel plezier op de Intensive Care Kinderen van het LUMC.

Amber heeft een bijzondere interesse ontwikkeld voor zorg in lage-inkomenslanden naar aanleiding van klinische stages in het Provincial General Hospital in Nakuru (Kenia) en het Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre in Moshi (Tanzania). Vanaf juni 2023 is Amber lid van de Young Leadership board van 'Save a Child's Heart Nederland' om de zorg voor kinderen met hartafwijkingen wereldwijd te verbeteren. Daarnaast hoopt ze in de toekomst niet alleen in Nederland werkzaam te zijn, maar tevens de zorg in niet-Westerse landen te ondersteunen.

Amber woont samen met haar vriend Sebastiaan in Den Haag en geniet in haar vrije tijd enorm van reizen, dansen, wielrennen of (zomer-)avonden met vrienden op het strand.