



- IFIC is a not-for-profit organization with a mission to advance the science, knowledge and adoption of integrated care policy and practice
- IFIC has fifteen years of experience with organizing study visits, workshops and other educational activities. We always start with formulating our teaching aims
- IFIC can provide a broad range of learning: about the innovative process, the results of the projects, the implementation strategy, and the finance aspects of these innovations
- IFIC has a catalogue of interesting sites and an index of expert lecturers to give background information about the innovations

For each innovation they will highlight both its strong and its weak points. Sometimes team building is also an aim of the study visit. If that

is the case, we design the programme towards this goal, with the help of facilitated group discussions and with emphasis on opinions and goal setting, rather than focusing on facts alone.

### Target audience

Groups usually consist of 15 to 30 members but arrangements can be made for much smaller or much larger groups and even for one single person.

The groups can be monodisciplinary, for instance only general practitioners. Groups can also be multidisciplinary, but perhaps share a similar professional background or work in a regional or municipal team. We also have experience with groups of policy makers from the same country.

### Accreditation

We can facilitate visitors in acquiring accreditation points in their home country for taking part in our study visits.

### Practical Information

Are you interested in an informative and instructive study visit to Dutch health care innovations? Please, send an email to Guus Schrijvers, chairman of IFIC on [mail@guusschrijvers.nl](mailto:mail@guusschrijvers.nl) or call +31 630 074 477. [www.integratedcarefoundation.org](http://www.integratedcarefoundation.org)  
<http://guusschrijvers.nl/>



## Tailor-made study visits to Dutch health care innovations



### Why study the Netherlands?

The Netherlands is proud of its many health care innovations. Each acute hospital can manage up to ten innovative projects, often employing the Triple Aim: better health, higher quality of care or more efficiency in health care delivery.

Recently, the Health Consumer Powerhouse published the results of the last benchmark of different European countries ([www.healthpowerhouse.com/files/ehci-2014](http://www.healthpowerhouse.com/files/ehci-2014)).

“The Netherlands are unique as the only country which consistently appears among the top 3 or 4, regardless of which aspects of healthcare are studied”.

Some of the options for site visits might include:

- Integrated primary health care and care for the elderly
- Integrated youth health
- Integration of health and social services
- Integrated stroke services
- Support of informal carers
- IT communication between primary health care and hospitals
- IT communication for people with a chronic condition
- The Integrated Patient Record and its portals for patients
- Electronic Multidisciplinary Team meetings
- Integrated mental health services in Utrecht and other bigger cities
- Integrated cardiac care
- Completely digitalized hospitals
- Integrated chronic care groups of General Practitioners
- Integrated care in multicultural neighbourhoods
- Integrated palliative care groups and hospices
- Nursing homes without walls in the bigger cities
- Integrated cancer care
- Integrated emergency services by both GP's and medical specialists
- Experimental gardens with health behaviour experiments
- Integrated care for people with Alzheimer's disease



Since 1999, many Dutch project managers and health services researchers have been presenting their studies and innovations at the International Conference for Integrated Care. Numerous papers have also been published during the same period in the International Journal of Integrated Care (IJIC). But short presentations do not impact the full experience. Our study visits provide a more in-depth and detailed approach to learning, allowing visitors to meet with the innovators in person and learn about their passion and perseverance in delivering integrated care. Our tailor-made study visits allow the visitors to design a programme that will best suit the needs of their own regions. We work with the visitors to create a bespoke package of activities, bearing the following in mind:

- Study tours are usually 2-3 days
- It is best to focus on one theme e.g. integrated primary health care

- Site visits will include lectures by policy makers and researchers and discussion groups to reflect on learning
- Your group will receive a literature portfolio with papers on the Dutch innovations you visit
- You may organise your own travel and hotel accommodation or we can do this for you (we can work with your budget)
- You should combine the study visit with taking part in a major health congress such as ICIC

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*” I want to thank you for organising such a great study tour for me in the Netherlands. I really value the amount of your personal time you have given up for me over the past few days, and the time given up by your colleagues, sharing some of the great work you are doing in the Netherlands. “*

Kathryn Wynne-Jones

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### **Advantages working with IFIC**

The academic and educational preparation of the study visits is in the hands of two well-known Dutch experts: Bert Groot Roessink and Guus Schrijvers. Bert is a retired general practitioner and former CEO of Zorggroep Almere, an organisation that integrates Primary Health Care in a neighbourhood oriented infrastructure and organizes strong cooperation with elderly care and hospital care. Guus Schrijvers is Founder and Chair of the International Foundation for Integrated Care (IFIC) and a former professor of public health in Utrecht.