Name of the Centre: VU University Research Group LASA
Key Investigator / Head of Department: Prof. dr. Dorly J.H. Deeg
Phone: +31-20-4446767
E-mail: djh.deeg@vumc.nl

Description of the Centre:

a) Type of investigations:
- Basic Science / Fundamental
- Clinical Research
- Health Services Research
- Epidemiologic/Public Health Research
- Other

b) Themes investigated (please specify):
- Dementia
- Frailty
- Sarcopenia
- Other Neurodegenerative Disorders
- Geriatric Disorders
- Cardiovascular Risk Factors
- Metabolism
- Ageing research
- Genetics
- Gerontechnology
- Other

c) Number of investigators in ongoing positions:
- Less than 5
- to 10
- More than 10

d) Number of investigators funded by specific projects:
- 1 to 3
- 4 to 5
- More than 5

e) Does your Centre have a:
- Clinical affiliation
- Academic affiliation

f) Does your Centre have a basic sciences program? (Please specify topic)
- Yes
- No

If your Centre is affiliated to a Geriatric Department, please provide the following information:

a) Types of units:
- Acute Ward - Number of beds: 0
- Outpatient Ward - Number of patients/year: 0
- Community Care Unit - Number of visits/year: 0
Day Hospital - **Number of places/day:** 0
Geriatric Rehabilitation Unit - **Number of beds:** 0
Long-Term Care - **Number of beds:** 0
Special Units (stroke, memory, ortho-geriatric, psycho-geriatric) - **Number of beds:** 0

**b) Number of staff in the Department:**
Geriatric: 4
Gerontology: 0
Other: 8

c) **Does the Day Hospital have specialist services?**
- Dementia / Memory
- Cardiovascular clinic
- Rehabilitation
- Falls assessment clinic
- Parkinson's disease clinic
- Other

d) **Does your Geriatric Department already cooperate with supervising clinical trials?**
- Yes
- No

**Management of the Centre:**
a) **Is your Centre an existing national or government recognized medical research Centre?**
- Yes
- No

b) **Does the Centre receive funded grants? (Please specify source)**
- Yes  Netherlands Ministry of Health & Welfare, Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development,
- No

c) **Does the Centre collaborate with trials funded by pharmaceutical companies?**
- Yes
- No

d) **Will the Centre shortly begin investigation projects?**
- Yes
- No

**Indicate the three main publications over the last 2 years:**

1/ **Name of Journal:** BMC Health Serv Res. 2009 Aug 5;9:139.
   **Title of article:** Utilization of acute and long-term care in the last year of life: comparison with survivors in a population-based study.

2/ **Name of Journal:** BMC Geriatr 2010;3:20
   **Title of article:** Distinguishing underlying components of physical activity: towards improving our understanding of the relation between activity and health in old age.

3/ **Name of Journal:** Neurobiol Aging. 2010 Jun 29. [Epub ahead of print]
   **Title of article:** The role of lipoproteins and inflammation in cognitive decline: Do they interact?

**Please add short biographies (maximum 1 page) of the Key Investigators and Head of Department**

DORLY J.H. DEEG, Ph.D., is professor of Epidemiology of Ageing at the VU University Medical Centre, EMGO Institute for Health and Care Research, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and scientific director of the ongoing Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam. By education a methodologist, prof. Deeg has worked mainly in the areas of public health and gerontology. Her over 300 publications focus on public health and
Institute for Health and Care Research since 2009. He has worked at EMGO Medical Centre for his thesis entitled "Socioeconomic inequalities in health in Europe: studies of Health Psychology (1999) and an MSc in Epidemiology (2003). He received his PhD in 2004 from Erasmus University and has held various positions in the field of health research, including as a scientific researcher in the Longitudinal Ageing Study Amsterdam (LASA) Research Group. His main focus is the role of socioeconomic adversity on health in old age.

MARTIJN HUISMAN, Ph.D., is a scientific researcher in the Longitudinal Ageing Study Amsterdam and the Health, Aging and Body Composition study. He has authored over 140 scientific publications and serves on the editorial boards of several international scientific journals. THEO VAN TILBURG, Ph.D., is professor of Sociology and Social Gerontology at the VU University Amsterdam.

HANNIE COMIJS, Ph.D., is psychologist and works as an associate professor with the mental health care institute GGZinGeest partner of the VU University Medical Centre.

MARJOLEIN I. BROESE VAN GROENOU, Ph.D., is by education a developmental psychologist, and has worked mainly in the areas of sociology and gerontology. She is an assistant professor at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She participates in the Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam (LASA), where she is responsible for the studies on widowhood and family caregiving. In addition, she is involved in the Divorce in the Netherlands (DIN), a nationwide study on causes and consequences of divorce. Marjolein Broese van Groenou has published on issues concerning the social network of older adults in relation to health, (in)formal care, widowhood, divorce and socio-economic status indicators.

FLEUR THOMÉSE, Ph.D., is a geriatric psychiatric disorders or cognitive decline in older persons. She is the editor of the Dutch Journal of Neuropsychology (Tijdschrift voor Neuropsychologie). MARJOLEIN VISSER, Ph.D., is trained as a nutritionist and currently professor of Healthy Aging at the Department of Health Sciences of the VU University Amsterdam as well as the EMGO Institute for Health and Care Research of the VU University medical center in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She is head of the section Nutrition and Health at the Department of Health Sciences. Her research interests are (lifestyle) determinants and consequences of age-related changes in body composition. Important research areas are sarcopenia, obesity, and malnutrition in old age. She is involved in (inter)national aging studies, including the Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam and the Health, Aging and Body Composition study. She has authored over 140 scientific publications and serves on the editorial boards of several international scientific journals. THEO VAN TILBURG, Ph.D., is professor of Sociology and Social Gerontology at the VU University Amsterdam. He was trained in sociology and research methods. He is director of the research program 'Social context of aging' and board member of the 'Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam', an ongoing interdisciplinary study into aspects of aging since 1991. He is editor/associate editor of Personal Relationships; and board member of International Journal of Ageing and Later Life; Journal of Social and Personal Relationships; Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences. His research interests include the effects of personal network characteristics and social support on well-being and health; life-course developments in personal networks, related to deteriorating health and role loss; societal developments in composition and function of families and personal networks; cross-national studies in loneliness, including the evaluation of interventions. PAUL LIPS, M.D., Ph.D., is trained in Internal Medicine and is Professor of Endocrinology at the VU University medical center in Amsterdam. Since over 20 years he conducts research in the EMGO Institute for Health and Care Research with a main focus on prevention of osteoporosis, falls and fractures, and interventions. He obtained an MSc in Clinical and Health Psychology (1999) and an MSc in Epidemiology (2003). He received his PhD in 2004 from Erasmus Medical Centre for his thesis entitled "Socioeconomic inequalities in health in Europe; studies of middle-aged and older populations with a special focus on the role of smoking". He has worked at EMGO Institute for Health and Care Research since 2009.