

Sustainable Solidarity



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Health Services Research
Focusing on Chronic Care and Ageing

Advice to the ministry of Health

The Council of Public Health and Care (Raad voor de Volksgezondheid en Zorg, RVZ) is an independent advisory board for the Minister of Health



The RVZ provides strategic policy advice

Preparation of a policy advice to the Minister

- Background studies
- Panel of experts
- Individual meetings/interviews/site visits
- Decision making in the Council

Advice will become public early next year

Solidarity

- Income solidarity
- Risk solidarity
 - Risks you can not influence
 - Risk you can influence: lifestyle solidarity
- Generational solidarity





Brief outline health care financing in the Netherlands

- Health insurance (Zvw): covers medical care (GP, hospital care, pharmaceuticals, etc.)
- General Act for Exceptional Medical Expenses (AWBZ): covers long term care (handicapped, elderly care, etc.)
- Act on Social Support (WMO): covers household help, etc.

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Table 1

arrangement	Percentage	Income limit	Maximum contribution
AWBZ	12,15%	€33.863	€ 4.243
Zvw-procentueel	7,1%	€50.064	€ 3.554
Zvw-saldo nominal premium and fiscal care supplement	Care supplement: maximaal € 900; nominal standard premium incl deductible € 1.402	For care supplement: € 51.000	€ 1.402
Maximum contribution in total:			€ 8.997

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Tabel 2 Average taks and premiums in percentage of gross income 2009; household deciles (730.000 hh per decile)

1. Income decile	Totaal	1+2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2. Gross-hh-income * €1.000		14,5	25,3	32,3	40,6	50	60,7	73,9	92,6	153,1
3. Premium AWBZ (%)	3,5	2,0	2,7	3,5	4,2	4,1	4,2	4,2	3,9	2,7
4. Premium Zvw (%)	6,9	10,2	9,1	9,1	8,7	8,3	7,9	7,4	6,5	4,2
5. Share of taks contributions (%)	1,0	1,2	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,3
6. Total Zvw en AWBZ	11,5	13,4	12,7	13,5	13,8	13,3	13,0	12,5	11,4	8,2
7. Ibid in € * 1.000		1,9	3,2	4,3	5,5	6,6	7,9	9,2	10,6	12,7
8. Total taks/premium burden (%)	41,5	42,1	36,5	38,8	41,5	41,5	42,9	42,7	42,1	41,2

Risk solidarity

- For entire population (18+) health care use (AWBZ, Zvw) in 2009 varied from – on average - € 47 among 5%-group with lowest health care use to € 41.500 among 5% most expensive group.
Largest differences are in use of long-term care (AWBZ, esp. institutional) and in hospital care.
- The risk equalizing Zvw-premium per income decile in the third decile is € 1.700 per year higher than in the ninth and tenth decile. Other deciles are in between.

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Tabel 3 Expenditures on home care and institutionalized N&C per 30% income group, actual and equivalent

* Groei zorguitgaven: Tabel 4

	Home care (2007)		Institutional N&C V&V (2008)	
	Actual benefit	Equivalent benefit	Actual benefit	Equivalent benefit
Low income	€ 2.200	€ 1.700	€ 4.400	€ 3.650
Middle income	€ 800	€ 1.000	€ 1950	€ 2.150
High income	€ 250	€ 500	€ 400	€ 900

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Tabel 4 Expenditures (share in % of total expenditures 2007) and growth (% per year) of health care expenditures by gender and age, separated by total, demographic growth and other volume, 1999-2010

age	men				women			
	Total growth	Demo-growth	other volume growth	Share in exp. 2007	Total growth	Demo – growth	Other volume growth	Share in exp. 2007
0	6,4	-0,9	4,2	1,1	6,3	-0,8	4,1	1,0
1-14	7,3	0,0	4,5	6,1	7,3	0,0	4,4	5,2
15-24	8,6	0,7	5,1	3,3	7,9	0,7	4,4	3,5
25-44	5,0	-1,1	3,5	7,9	4,7	-1,1	3,1	9,8
45-64	9,0	2,0	4,3	12,1	8,7	2,0	4,0	12,3
65-74	8,0	2,1	3,3	5,9	6,6	1,0	3,0	6,2
75-84	7,8	2,7	2,6	5,4	6,0	1,0	2,6	9,2
85+	8,9	3,8	2,7	2,5	8,1	2,5	3,4	8,5
totaal	7,7	1,3	3,7	44,3	6,9	1,0	3,4	55,7
Totaal M/V	7,2	1,1	3,5					

Lifestyle solidarity

- No limits to lifestyle solidarity in Zvw
- Support among the public for lifestyle solidarity is not limitless



Opinions about premiums for Zvw by groups in the population

Opinion of	About Zvw-premium for:	higher	No change	lower
18+ population	Elderly	8%	60	32
	Low income		42	58
	High income	55	41	4
	Patients	4	82	14
	Frequent visitors GP	19	74	7
Non smokers	Smokers	65	32	3
Moderate drinkers	Heavy drinkers	62	33	5
Regular	People who do not exercise	32	64	4

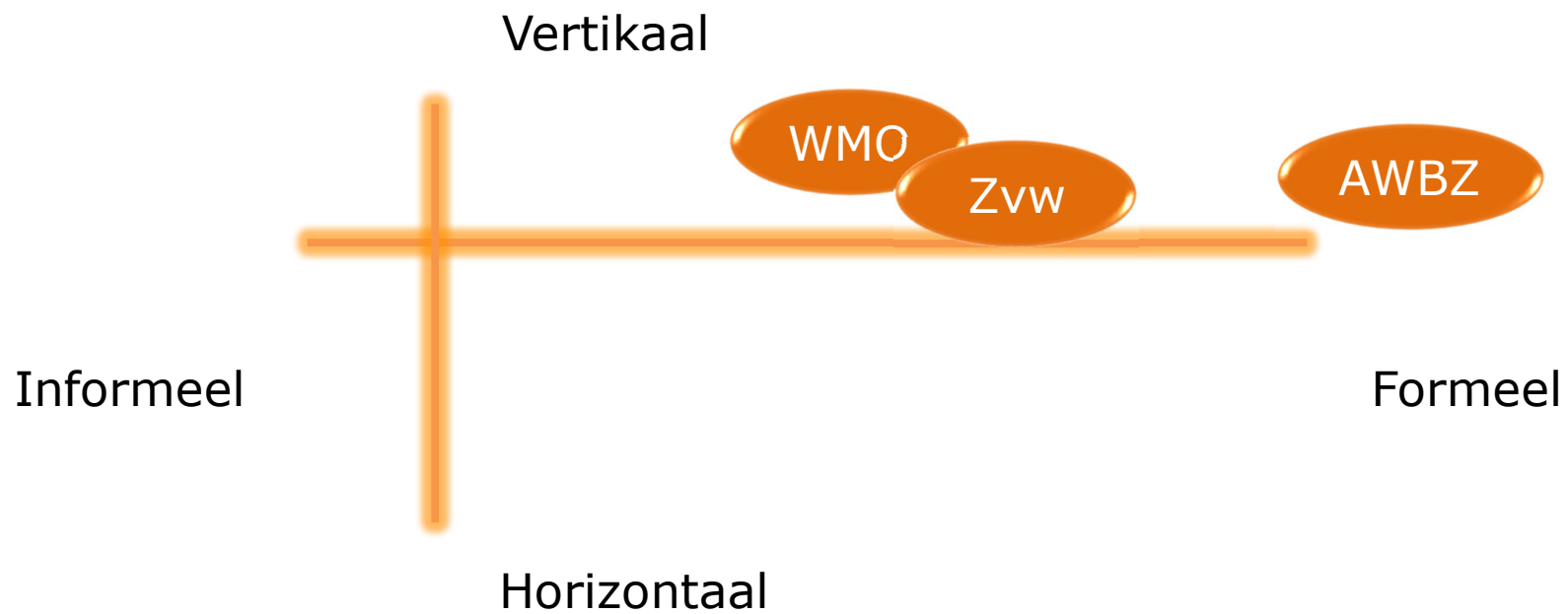
Conclusion

- Increased solidarity because of increasing costs of healthy care
- There are limits to solidarity, esp. at a time of low economic growth
- Too much demand on solidarity in some areas

Solidarity

- Horizontal v. vertical
 - Horizontal solidarity: division of labor, loyalty and trust based on equality and reciprocity
 - Vertical solidarity: no reciprocity, giver-taker, income- and risk solidarity
- Formal v. informal

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Possible solutions for sustainable solidarity

- More efficiency
 - More strictness on entitlements, co-payments, more emphases on health outcomes
- Increase reciprocity
 - Not only rights and entitlements, but also obligations and demands
- Increase informal solidarity

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