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Diabetes and the Heart

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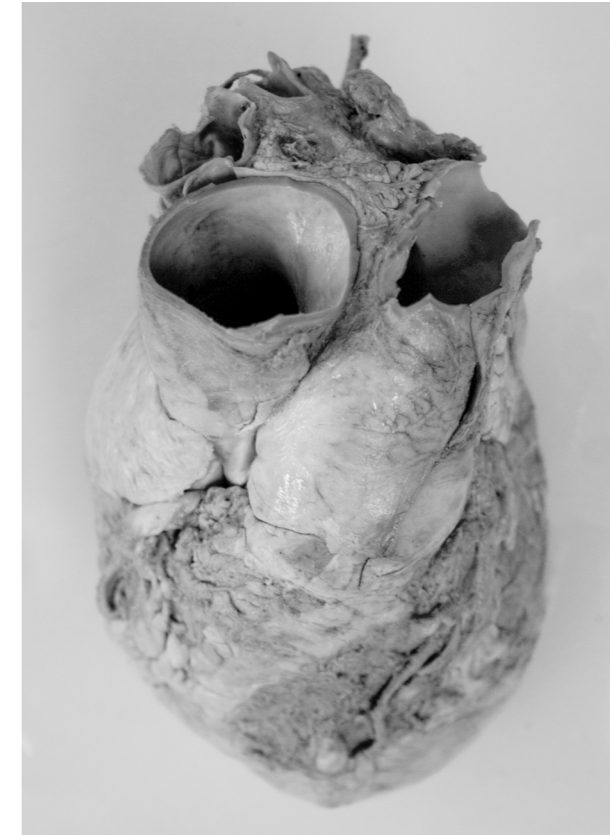


Katja van den Hurk was born on the 2nd of April 1982 in Doetinchem, the Netherlands. After graduating from secondary school in 2000 (VWO, 't Hooghe Landt College, Amersfoort) she started to study Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences at Leiden University. After a successful first year she switched to study Health Sciences at the VU University in Amsterdam in January 2002. She graduated in 2005 by finishing a research project on the prevalence of overweight and obesity in children in the Netherlands, supervised by Prof. Remy A HiraSing (TNO Quality of Life, Leiden).

In 2005-2006 she worked on several research projects on overweight and obesity at the Knowledge Centre for Obesity (EMGO Institute, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam). In December 2006 she started the PhD project that resulted in this thesis, under supervision of Prof. dr. ir. Jacqueline M Dekker, Prof. dr. Giel Nijpels, Dr. Otto Kamp and Dr. Marjan Alsema (EMGO Institute for Health and Care Research (EMGO+), VU University Medical Center (VUmc), Amsterdam). In 2009 she spent two months at the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute in Melbourne, Australia, supervised by Prof. dr. Jonathan S Shaw and Dr Dianna J Magliano. She completed the Postgraduate Master's program in Epidemiology in 2010 (EMGO+, VUmc, Amsterdam). Currently she is working as a post-doctoral research fellow, developing a 'morbidity and mortality registration system' at EMGO+, VUmc. Her main focus remains on the epidemiology of cardiovascular complications of type 2 diabetes. She and her partner Jeroen Lakerveld live in Amsterdam.

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