Focus point for the near future

Collaboration in regional networks: BRMO control and Antibiotic Stewardship

Although the Dutch situation with regard to the spread of antimicrobial resistance is one of the best in Europe, resistance is still a serious threat. Together with and funded by the Dutch Ministry of Health, the Dutch Society for Medical Microbiology and the societies of ID-physicians, public health departments, GPs, infection control professionals, elderly care physicians, and the National Institute of Public Health and Environment, is putting together a plan to change the organisation of medical microbiological care.

Key points in this program are:
- Formation of regional networks – based on flow of patients between care institutions.
- Obtaining insight in epidemiology of BRMO in each region and coordinate optimal control

Realized in 2016:
- Ten regional networks with on average 1.7 million people per region are being formed and receive a budget from the Ministry of Health to form a regional structure
- Per region a list is made of all health care institutions, including nursing homes
- Agreement between regions to set up an audit on basic hygiene in nursing homes, along with a schooling program
- Plan to integrate existing systems for surveillance of BRMO, healthcare associated infections and use of antibiotics
- Prevalence surveys on BRMO prevalence in nursing homes