

Curriculum vitae

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Catharina (Kitty) Linssen was born on May 19th 1974 in Roermond, the Netherlands. She graduated from the Atheneum of the Sint Ursula College (Horn) in 1994. Thereafter she studied Medicine at the University of Maastricht where she obtained her medical degree in August 2000. In the same year she started work as a “AGNIO” at the department of Medical Microbiology of the University hospital Maastricht. A year later she began her training as a Medical Microbiologist at the same department. On December 1st 2006 she was registered as a Medical Microbiologist. She now works as a staff member at the department of Medical Microbiology of the University hospital Maastricht. The experimental chapters described in this thesis were conducted during the traineeship. She is planning to continue her research towards improving bronchoalveolar lavage fluid as a diagnostic tool in pulmonary infectious diseases.