

Besluit

Toetsingsrapport met een positieve beoordeling van de aanvraag 'Toets nieuwe opleiding' van de opleiding Master of Science in Deglutology (master na master) van de Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

datum 16 december 2015
onderwerp toetsingsrapport (004098)
bijlage 3

Samenvattend advies visitatiecommissie
Samenvatting bevindingen en overwegingen van de visitatiecommissie (commissie) van de opleiding Master of Science in Deglutology (master na master) van de Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.

Dysphagia, a swallowing disorder, is an emerging health issue. A unified field of deglutology, the science of deglutition, is developing. However, at the moment, there is a lack of transdisciplinary specialists integrating the care of the dysphagia patient. The panel is convinced of the emerging need for a new profession named 'a deglutologist'. The panel finds the KU Leuven well suited to develop a new programme in deglutology because of its years of experience in this expanding field. As the field is very young, even internationally, no formal agreement on international standards is available yet. The Master of Science in Deglutology has, as a unique programme in Flanders, formulated discipline-specific and programme-specific learning outcomes. They were developed taking into account policy statements of international dysphagia and speech language associations but adapted according to the clinical and academic objectives of this programme. The panel established that the programme management used the VLUHR¹-manual and consulted the CanMEDS² framework. The panel finds that the intended learning outcomes are in tune with international requirements and expectations.

Speech pathologists and physicians are admitted to the programme. Only these profiles have enough basic competences to become a specialist in deglutology. Specific for students with a speech language pathology background, the programme management should carefully monitor the legal issues of carrying out their future job as a deglutologist. The panel expects the programme management to strive for an approved description of the legally accepted actions of this profession in the revision of KB78³.

According to the panel the structure of the programme is thoughtfully elaborated and logical.

¹ VLUHR: Vlaamse Universiteiten en Hogescholen Raad (Flemish Universities and University Colleges Board)
² CanMEDS: Canadian Medical Education Directives for Specialists
³ KB78: Koninklijk Besluit nr. 78 (Royal Decree No. 78 of 10 November 1967 on the practice of health care professions)

Pagina 2 van 8 The educational programme is set up to streamline the divergent students' knowledge by introductory and advanced lectures on the swallow specific topics. Besides that, the panel is pleased that supplementary self-study material will be provided for each course to deal with the different level of enrolled students. The panel is also confident that study problems, due to incoming level, will quickly be detected because of the setting of teaching in a highly motivated group of 15 to 30 students. The programme management confirmed that each lecturer will evaluate their course in this context, and evaluation results will be a recurring topic of the educational committees.

The panel is convinced the programme offers an extensive training in diagnostic, communicative, clinical and managerial skills, both theoretical and practical. The master's thesis measures the scientific competences of the students. The panel is confident that already a lot of data have been collected and stored, allowing students to conduct academic research. Students will also work in an authentic work environment within the course of the internship. The panel established that a sufficient number of mentors will be trained and appointed to coach the students during the developing of their practical skills in the university hospital setting.

The teaching staff is truly dedicated and enthusiastic to start the new programme. The panel states they are world-renowned experts in the field of deglutology, and they are actively involved in research or/and clinical practice in their respective areas of teaching. A point of attention is the workload of the staff (especially when more than 15 students enroll). Students whom the panel met appreciate the given feedback during their internship and the training of practical skills. This is only possible when sufficient time is given to the staff to fulfill these tasks. The panel advises the university board to set clear assignments for teaching and mentoring activities of staff involved, and to carefully monitor their workload.

The facilities of the KU Leuven are up to standards but the availability of programme specific facilities needs further attention before the actual start of the programme. The university is developing a plan for a new building on the campus and assured there will be designated and customized facilities for this new programme. The programme is self-sufficient with the tuition fees of the enrolled students. Even so the university could invest more in the new programme, especially in the starting phase but also in the years to come. The programme management should consider contacting relevant societies for a financial contribution. It can provide a more solid financial basis to further develop this programme.

The panel is convinced that the developed evaluation policy will lead to a valid, reliable and transparent evaluation. Students were positive about the use of a portfolio. The panel advises to broaden the utility of the portfolio as an assessment tool and to consider including all assignments. The panel is also pleased about using the OSCE's (Objective Structured Clinical Examination) in the assessment process. The panel is in strong favour of the writing of a scientific research paper as an assessment for the master's thesis, but the evaluation criteria can be more specific. Hence, a firm and transparent alignment between the learning outcomes, the teaching methods and the assessment tools has to remain as a focus point in order to make sure that all learning outcomes can be learned and will be assessed.

Given these considerations, the panel advises the NVAO to take a positive decision regarding the quality of the proposed programme.

Generieke kwaliteitswaarborg	Oordeel
1 Beoogd eindniveau	Voldoende
2 Onderwijsproces	Voldoende
3 Evaluatie	Voldoende
Eindoordeel	Voldoende

Aanbevelingen commissie

De NVAO onderschrijft de aanbevelingen van de commissie.

Bevindingen NVAO

De NVAO stelt op basis van het adviesrapport van de commissie van 17 november 2015 vast dat de externe beoordeling overeenkomstig het toepasselijke Toetsingskader nieuwe opleidingen hoger onderwijs Vlaanderen 2de ronde (25 januari 2013) tot stand is gekomen. De gevolgde werkwijze en procedure, alsook de geraadpleegde informatiebronnen zijn helder weergegeven.

De oordelen op de generieke kwaliteitswaarborgen zijn in het adviesrapport voldoende onderbouwd en overwogen, en op zorgvuldige wijze neergelegd in een eindoordeel. De NVAO kan zich dan ook aansluiten bij de bevindingen en overwegingen voor alle generieke kwaliteitswaarborgen, zoals verwoord in het adviesrapport. De eindconclusie uit het adviesrapport wordt gevolgd.

Pagina 4 van 8 **Besluit**⁴

Betreffende de aanvraag Toets nieuwe opleiding Master of Science in Deglutology (master na master) van de Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.

De NVAO,
Na beraadslaging
Besluit:

Met toepassing van de Codex Hoger Onderwijs, in het bijzonder Art. II.153, besluit de NVAO tot een positieve beoordeling van de aanvraag Toets nieuwe opleiding Master of Science in Deglutology (master na master) van de Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. De opleiding wordt aangeboden te Leuven zonder afstudeerrichtingen.

Tevens valideert de NVAO de domeinspecifieke leerresultaten van de opleiding Master of Science in Deglutology.

Den Haag, 16 december 2015

De NVAO
Voor deze:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

R.P. Zevenbergen
(bestuurder)

⁴ Het ontwerp toetsingsrapport werd aan de instelling bezorgd voor eventuele opmerkingen en bezwaren. Bij e-mail van 10 december 2015 heeft de instelling ingestemd met het ontwerp toetsingsrapport.

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Status instelling	ambtshalve geregistreerd
Naam associatie	Associatie KU Leuven
Naam, functie, telefoon, e-mail contactpersoon	prof. dr. Nathalie Rommel, Programmadirecteur Master of science in Deglutology T +32 16 33 04 83 E nathalie.rommel@med.kuleuven.be A. Broos, Dienst Onderwijsbeleid T +32 16 32 84 88 E agnetha.broos@kuleuven.be
Naam opleiding (graad, kwalificatie, specificatie)	Master of Science in Deglutology
Niveau en oriëntatie	master na master
Bijkomende titel	-
Delen van studiegebieden	Geneeskunde; Sociale gezondheidswetenschappen
ISCED benaming van het studiegebied	-
Opleidingsvarianten: – Afstudeerrichtingen – Studietraject voor werkstudenten	-
Onderwijstaal	Engels
Vestiging opleiding	Leuven
Studieomvang (in studiepunten)	60
Nieuwe opleiding voor Vlaanderen	Ja
Vereiste vooropleidingen en toelatingsvoorwaarden	Master in de logopedische en audiologische wetenschappen Master in de geneeskunde

CLINICIAN

DLR1 The deglutologist understands the (patho) physiology of oral, pharyngeal and esophageal swallow related organs.

DLR2 The deglutologist identifies primary and secondary physiological systems and complications associated with swallowing.

DLR3 In terms of diagnosis, the deglutologist is able to independently perform a patient consult based on in depth knowledge of non-instrumental and instrumental diagnostic techniques used for the evaluation of swallowing and its disorders.

DLR4 In term in treatment, the deglutologist demonstrates the ability to describe the theoretical framework of dysphagia therapy and management. She/he has the appropriate treatment skills to select, apply and adapt the research supported therapy plans for specific swallow impairments considering the disease process and specific patient needs.

DLR5 The deglutologist has understanding and insight in the structure and functioning of healthcare systems related to the domain of deglutology.

COMMUNICATOR

DLR6 The deglutologist can interact adequately with patients, medical staff, health care professionals in the domain of deglutology using a blend of appropriate intrapersonal, relational and communicative skills. The deglutologist is able to efficiently communicate with the patient with dysphagia and his/her family as part of an empathic, confidential and ethically appropriate relation.

DLR 7 The deglutologist is able to report verbally and in writing in an efficient and effective fashion on patient diagnosis, treatment, disease progress and disease prognosis towards medical staff, (allied) health professionals and the community.

DLR 8 The deglutologist can report effectively and efficiently in writing and verbally on scientific research, taking into account the target audience.

COLLABORATOR

DLR 9 The deglutologist can give and take responsibility within a team, can delegate and organize and can correctly assess his/her own role in a group and act professionally in accordance with this judgment.

MANAGER

DLR10 Within his/her professional performance, the deglutologist takes the current health care system and the financial and economic implications of care for the society and the patient into account. The deglutologist pays attention to opportunities for improvement and optimization.

HEALTH CARE IMPROVER

DLR 11 The deglutologist pays attention to the promotion of health in the domain of deglutology, based on the main psycho-social, economic, ecological and biological aspects that affect the health of the patient and the community.

DLR 12 The deglutologist pays attention to the accessibility of health care in the domain of deglutology as part of the current social security system and recognizes the importance of well-being and safety of the patient, caregiver and environment.

DLR 13 The deglutologist has insight in the methodology of relevant scientific research in the domain of deglutology and is able to critically evaluate the design and quality of the medical literature before applying into clinical practice or further scientific research.

DLR14 The deglutologist is able to actively contribute to and participate in deglutology research under supervision.

DLR 15 Based on his/her scientific research project, the deglutologist is able to report a scientific sound result.

PROFESSIONAL

DLR 16 The deglutologist knows the professional, ethical and legal standards and regulations in the domain of deglutology and puts them into practice.

DLR17 The deglutologist is able to evaluate his/her own functioning and personal and educational needs as well as able to direct and adjust his/her own personal professional development, based on critical self-reflection.

- Em. prof. dr. Joke Denekens, former vice rector and professor in family medicine, Universiteit Antwerpen / University Antwerp, Belgium (*chair*);
- Prof. dr. Marc Benninga, professor of paediatrics and gastroenterology, University Hospital Amsterdam, Netherlands;
- Prof. dr. Rainer Dziewas, professor of neurology, University Hospital Münster, Germany;
- Laura Bruneel, MSc in Logopedics and Audiological Sciences, Universiteit Gent / University Ghent, Belgium (*student-member; graduation July 2015*).

Ondersteunende staf:

- Ruth DeVreese MA, extern secretaris;
- Michèle Wera MA, beleidsmedewerker NVAO en procescoördinator.

Alle commissieleden, de procescoördinator en de secretaris hebben een onafhankelijkheids- en geheimhoudingsverklaring ondertekend waarmee zij tevens instemmen met de NVAO-gedragscode.