



# DSSC

Data Science & Systems Complexity

# SEMINAR

You are cordially invited to the DSSC seminar on  
**14 Mar 2019, 16.00-17.00, Bernoulliborg, room 5161.105.**  
PhD and Master students are welcome!

## **PharmLines Initiative: new opportunities for causal research**

**Speaker: Prof. Dr. Eelko Hak**  
PharmacoTherapy, -Epidemiology and -Economics,  
Groningen Research Institute of Pharmacy



### **Abstract**

In 2017, the Groningen Research Institute of Pharmacy (GRIP) and Lifelines started the “PharmLines Initiative” to link the multidisciplinary data of the Lifelines Cohort Study to the medication data of the widely researched prescription database, IADB.nl. The aim of the PharmLines Initiative is to facilitate causal research with medical drug data in combination with clinical and biomarker data of Lifelines. Since September 1, 2018 the 2017 database covering approximately 730,000 persons has been available for linkage. A further initiative is the linkage of genetic data to enable pharmacogenetic research. In my presentation, I will introduce some innovative ideas about current causal pharmacoepidemiological research as well as opportunities with the PharmLines data.

### **Biography**

Eelko Hak is a full professor of Clinical Pharmacoepidemiology from the Groningen Research Institute of Pharmacy at the University of Groningen. He was trained as a biomedical scientist and epidemiologist, and is a registered Senior Clinical Epidemiologist in the Netherlands. Professor Hak has (co-)authored over 300 peer-reviewed papers, which have appeared in top journals as *New England Journal of Medicine*, *JAMA*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *Lancet Infectious Diseases*, *Archives of Internal Medicine*, and *BMJ*. He is a member of the Dutch Health Council Committee on Vaccination as well as the Foundation BEBO Medical Research Ethics Committee, and directs the University of Groningen’s Master of Medical Pharmaceutical Sciences’ Pharmacoepidemiology track. Professor Hak’s main research interest is in methods to deal with confounding in observational research, however he has also been leading observational and experimental trials of influenza vaccines. He has been successfully supervising more than 20 PhD projects.



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