

## Summary of the policy plan 2005 - 2009

The aim of Lareb is to make pharmacotherapy as safe as possible by increasing knowledge about adverse drug reactions. By monitoring the safety of medicines in every day practice, Lareb tries to track down risks with the drugs used and to spread knowledge about them. These risks should be taken into consideration when a medicine is being prescribed, delivered and used.

The Netherlands Pharmacovigilance centre Lareb will, with its own and independent expertise, continue to be a reliable partner for the authorities, in particular the Dutch Medicines Evaluation Board.

Lareb will adhere to the developments within Europe and her reports are being submitted to the European Adverse Drug Reaction databank, Eudravigilance. On a European level, Lareb will pay extra attention to medicines which the Netherlands carries a special responsibility for.

Concerning the reporters, Lareb will focus on secondary health care in the following years. But we will not slacken in our efforts to stimulate the reporters in primary health care. Attention for new groups of reporters, such as patients, became visible in the previous five year period. Patients are now acknowledged as reporters of adverse drug reactions in the Netherlands. Other potential reporting groups, such as specialized nurses, will be given more attention in the following years.

During the next period, Lareb will concentrate more on output. The key word is transparency. This means that Lareb will show her knowledge faster and more frequent to the outside world. This new openness requires an adjusted manner of working and other means of communication. The website [www.lareb.nl](http://www.lareb.nl) should take a central part in this development. Lareb hopes to increase the trust for her work, a careful monitoring of the safety of drugs by going transparent.

The relation with the pharmaceutical industry will continue to be of businesslike character but when it comes to exchange of information it should be open and transparent. The cooperation with a number of national and international organizations in the field of pharmacovigilance (the national centers) will be further intensified.

Lareb will continue to optimize her core task, the collection, management and assessment of adverse drug reaction reports. Lareb tries to accomplish this by intensifying its strong knowledge and quality management. The position of the scientific advisory board will be stressed in this respect and the work shall be further internationalized.

The automation process will also get extra attention.

Lareb is receptive to an expansion of methods that can contribute to her aim. Here we think about intensive monitoring or further research of possible signals in databases with data from doctors and pharmacists.

Finally, education has always been and will continue to be an important issue for Lareb. Lareb will continue to work with education for students as well as professionals to create awareness for the safety of drugs.