

What can we learn from both worlds (debate on education in the USA and The Netherlands)

Thanks to Philip A de Vries



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 - Immediate Past President IAHCMM
 - Regional Manager Sterile Processing in Northern Colorado
 - US Rep to ISO WG12
 - AAMI voting member for Sterilization Standards
 - ✦ ST-79 Hospital steam sterilization
 - ✦ ST-91 Endoscopes
 - ✦ Co-Chair: Rigid Containers, Quality Management, Instructions for Use

- **Tom Pereboom, MBA**
 - Financial controller by education
 - Former controller in Hospitals
 - Former OR manager
 - Former CSSD Manager
 - President Association of Sterilization of The Netherlands
 - Independant Consultant since 2019

Facts and figures the Netherlands



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- # inhabitants: 17 million
- # hospitals 71
 - UMC: 8
 - General: 63
- Independent treatment centres: 227 and expanding
- # sterilization departments +/- 65
- Dutch legislation on medical devices
 - European law: Medical Device Regulation 2017
 - Dutch law on hospital sterilization (1983)
 - ✦ Responsibility lies with Hospital Director → Expert Sterile Medical Devices

Facts and figures the United States

- # inhabitants = 327.2 million
- # hospitals = 6210
- Number of U.S. Community 1 Hospitals =5,262
- Number of Nongovernment Not-for-Profit Community Hospitals = 2,968
- Number of Investor-Owned (For-Profit) Community Hospitals = 1,322
- Number of State and Local Government Community Hospitals =972
- Number of Federal Government Hospitals = 208
- Number of Nonfederal Psychiatric Hospitals =620
- Other Hospitals = 120
- USA legislation on medical devices
 - FDA (Food and Drug Administration)
 - CDC (Centre for Disease Control)
 - AAMI (Association for the Advancement of Medical Instruments)

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Dutch sterilization societies

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- SVN

- Founded in 1969

- 800 members

- ✦ personnel of Central Sterilization Departments (managers, teamleaders, technicians)
- ✦ Experts Sterile Medical Devices
- ✦ Other interested persons (OR, Logistics, Infection Control,..)
- ✦ Corporate members



- VDSMH

- Founded in 1999

- 100 members

- ✦ Experts Sterile Medical Devices



IAHCSMM

(International Association of Central Service Materials Management)

- Founded in 1958
- 33,867 members and certified members
 - ✦ CRCST (Certified Registered Central Service Technician)
 - ✦ CIS (Certified Instrument Specialist)
 - ✦ CHL (Certified Healthcare Leader)
 - ✦ CER (Certified Endoscope Reprocessor)

* 400 hours of hands on experience required to become certified.



Sterilization Departments in Dutch hospitals

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- Numbers:
 - 71 Hospitals
 - +-65 Sterilization departments
 - 2,000 Sterilization technicians
- Personnel
 - Manager
 - Teamleader
 - Technician
 - Technician in training
 - ...
- Organization
 - The sterilization department can be part of
 - ✦ Operating Theatre
 - ✦ Pharmacy
 - ✦ Infection Control
 - ✦ Services
 - ✦ Independent

Sterilization Departments in United States Hospitals

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- Personnel
 - Director
 - Manager
 - Teamleader
 - Educator
 - Technician
- Organization
 - The sterilization department can be part of
 - ✦ Perioperative Services
 - ✦ Materials Management
 - ✦ Infection Control
 - ✦ Independent

Quality systems on CSD in The Netherlands

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- More demands for quality systems on CSDs
 - ISO 13485
 - NIAZ Qmentum
 - JCI accreditation
- Emphasis on competency of personnel
 - Education and training (lifelong learning)
 - Documentation of training records
- Accreditation by professional societies of
 - Education and training courses
 - Internships
 - Sterilization technicians

Quality systems in United States SPD's

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- More demands for quality systems
 - AAMI ST90
 - ISO 13485
 - Joint Commission
- Emphasis on competency of personnel
 - Education and training (lifelong learning)
 - Documentation of training records
- Accreditation by professional societies of
 - Education and training courses
 - Sterilization technicians



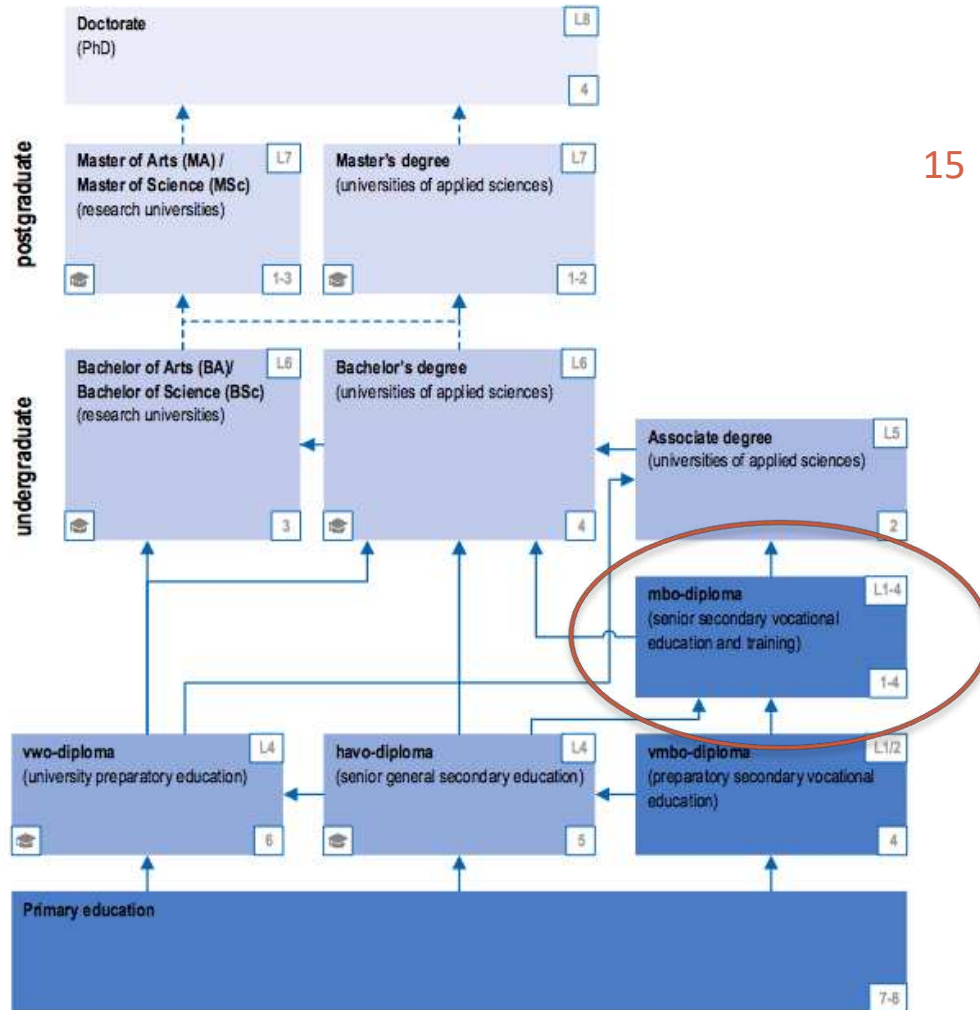
Education and training in sterilization in The Netherlands

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- First technician courses in 1977
 - Distance learning
 - ✦ No previous education required
 - ✦ Low contact moments
 - ✦ 1 year
- Three different courses aimed at sterilization technicians and managers
- No recognised certificate but it became the standard
 - In 2009 83% of technicians were certified
- Vocational profile of the sterilization technician (2008)
 - Name change to sterile medical devices employee (SMDE)
 - Change from distance learning to vocational training (in school and on the job)
 - Higher level

Educational system in the Netherlands

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European Qualification Framework (EQF) level 3

Dutch education in sterilization from 2010

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- Senior secondary vocational education (level 3)
 - recognized degree
 - 3 schools spread over the country (Regional Education Centre)
- New classes start twice a year
- Requirement of basic secondary education to get in
- Combination of work and learning
 - Per week
 - ✦ 3 day minimum at work
 - ✦ 1 day school:
- Duration: 2 years
 - each year 40 days of school
- Student is responsible for completion of his qualification file

Education and training in sterilization in the United States

- No formal Education in the US for Sterile Processing Professionals
 - Can attend courses taught in the hospital , private training for certification.
 - Several resources to help sterile processing professionals prepare for certification
 - Legislation ongoing in many states (4 currently require certification)

Qualification file in The Netherlands

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- Basics
 - Profession-specific
 - Generic
 - ✦ Dutch language
 - ✦ Mathematics
 - ✦ Citizenship
- Personal growth
 - Choices

Profession specific education, both

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- Cleaning, disinfection and sterilizing reusable medical devices
- Transport and management of reusable and disposable (sterile) medical devices
- Carry out profession specific tasks
 - Provide information on sterile medical devices
 - Working on expertise promotion and professionalism
 - Working on quality assurance
 - Handling complaints on (sterile) medical devices

Personal growth, both

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- Self reflection
- Presentation skills
- Competency

- Challenges

Conclusions, both

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- Education leads to better understanding →
- Understanding leads to more motivation →
- Motivation leads to better quality

“There is still more”:

- Education of staff leads to higher level →
 - personal growth
 - more questions
 - proposal of changes → No change means loss of motivation and loss of quality!



Thank you

Questions?

Damien and Tom