

## **Aims and tasks of the regional networks**

Many different organisations are involved in the care and support of the elderly. Examples are general practitioners, pharmacies, nursing homes, hospitals, welfare organisations and municipalities. Good synchronisation and cooperation are prerequisites for quality care. The National Care for the Elderly Programme's objective is to improve this cooperation. This shall be realised by means of regional networks. They must expand into a structure that provides as much national coverage as possible.

### **Aims and tasks**

The regional networks face a considerable challenge. Each network has set its own goals for improving the care for the elderly. The tasks of the networks:

- Give the organisations involved a place in their regional network.
- Involve the elderly in the network.
- Make administrative agreements with the organisations involved in their network.
- Set up a number of large joint projects that help to improve the care for the elderly.
- Take the wishes of the elderly as the starting point for improvements.
- Develop new knowledge in areas such as improved possibilities for prevention, diagnostics and treatment, and investigate the organisation of care.
- Implement the knowledge acquired and disseminate this at a national level in cooperation with, for example, educational institutes, knowledge institutes, professional organisations and client organisations.

### **Who can participate?**

All organisations in the Netherlands involved in the care and support of the elderly in the region are welcome to join a regional network and contribute to improving the care and well being of the elderly. Possible participants are general practitioners, paramedics, regional senior's organisations and client organisations, municipal services, home care services, pharmacists, health insurers, nursing homes, hospitals, housing corporations, and educational institutes.