Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the board of the Dutch Spine Society I would like to welcome you to our 14th Annual Meeting entitled “Spinal Trauma”. Spinal trauma has become epidemic in modern society. Despite advances made in the understanding of the pathogenesis and improvements in early recognition and treatment, it remains a devastating event.

There is a current debate on how spinal trauma care should be organized with a strong call from patient organizations, health policy makers, and insurance companies for further centralization of care in specialized Level I Trauma Centers with specified facilities and personnel. For instance, the presence of high quality Rehab facilities, 24/7 availability of CT-/MRI-scans and of spinal surgeons have been advocated. Additionally, there is a growing demand in society for transparency of quality of care by means of registries with quality Patient Reported Outcome Measures and registration of complications. This year the Dutch Spine Surgery Registry has been launched. An update on the current status and further steps that need to be taken will be provided.

As spine surgeons we should take the lead in how spinal trauma care should be structured and organized and with the abovementioned changes it is time for an update of the 2009 CBO-guidelines on organization, classification, and management of acute spinal trauma. This year’s Annual Meeting will focus on the current status of prehospital care, initial evaluation and management in the emergency department, classification for clinical decision making, and treatment modalities for patients with acute spinal (poly)trauma. By an esteemed international and national faculty, these topics will be addressed in a new and inspiring setting of Burger’s Zoo in Arnhem.

Expecting a very stimulating symposium and looking forward to meet you all in this new setting on November 7th

Sincerely,

Paul Willems, MD, PhD
Chairman Dutch Spine Society
### TIME
| 08.30 uur | **Registration and coffee** |
| 08.55 uur | **Opening 14th annual meeting Dutch Spine Society** |

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<td>16.15</td>
<td>Closing remarks and happy hour</td>
<td>Paul Willems</td>
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FACULTY

Carlo Bellabarba  
Department of orthopedics and trauma  
Harborview Medical Center  
Seattle  
The United States

Allard Hosman  
Department of orthopedic surgery  
Radbout University Medical Center Nijmegen  
The Netherlands

CumhurÖner  
Department of orthopedic surgery  
University Medical Center Utrecht  
The Netherlands

Martin Pouw  
Department of orthopedic surgery  
SintMaartenskliniek Nijmegen  
The Netherlands

Matti Scholz  
Center for Spinal Surgery and Neurotraumatology  
BG Unfallklinik Frankfurt am Main  
Germany

Pieter Schutte  
Department of neurosurgery  
Leiden University Medical center  
The Netherlands

Willem Bart Slooff  
Department of neurosurgery  
University Medical Center Utrecht  
The Netherlands

Jasper Wolfs  
Department of neurosurgery  
Medical Center Haaglanden  
The Netherlands