



Frans van Knapen started his career as a veterinary surgeon in 1973. After two years he obtained a position in the National Institute of Public Health Bilthoven, the Netherlands. He joined various laboratories in this Institute during more than 15 years (pathology, zoonoses, food hygiene). Eventually he got in charge of the laboratory of parasitology and mycology. His major field of research was in parasitic infections: trichinellosis and toxoplasmosis. In 1993 he was invited to a part-time professorship at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Utrecht in the field of epidemiology of parasitic infections. From 1995 onwards he obtained a full professorship and became head of the department of Food Science and Public Health.

His special fields of interest are today: food safety and exposure assessment of zoonoses. He is director of the IRAS - division VPH, Utrecht University. He advises/advised in numerous commissions on parasitology, veterinary public health, food safety, water hygiene, responsible pet-ownership, and risk assessment of mans direct environment related to pets, vermin and wildlife.

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