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## **New Developments in Palliative Care:**

Claessen, S.J.J.

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*About the author*

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Susanne Jaquelin Johannes Claessen was born on October 2, 1979 in Heerlen, the Netherlands. After graduating in 1998 from pre-university education (Gymnasium) in Sittard, Susanne started studying Medicine at the Maastricht University and graduated in 2004. Subsequently, she started working as a medical doctor. In 2007, Susanne started working as a researcher on a project at the department of Rheumatology of the Erasmus Medical Center about treatment on base of a prediction model of patients in the Rotterdam Early Arthritis Cohort. In 2008, she started working at the Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research (NIVEL). She was involved in the development of quality indicators for palliative care in the Netherlands and she has developed the Consumer Quality Index (CQ-index) Palliative Care. This is a structured questionnaire for measuring care users experiences and consists of a patient and relative version. The research regarding quality indicators and the CQ-index Palliative Care resulted in the first part of this thesis. In September 2009, Susanne started working on the second part of her thesis at the Department of Public and Occupational Health of the EMGO Institute for Health and Care Research of the VU University Medical Center. The research which resulted in the second part of this thesis involved a study on the palliative care continuum from the GPs' perspective. During her PhD she officially became epidemiologist (A). After obtaining her PhD Susanne will work as a general practitioner trainee.

Susanne Claessen is married with Jeroen de Leeuw.