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Recovery of the paretic upper limb early after stroke

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About the author

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Joost van Kordelaar was born in 1981 in Leiderdorp and grew up in Zoeterwoude, the Netherlands. In 2000 he completed pre-university secondary education (Dutch: Voorbereidend Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs, VWO) at Het Vlietland College in Leiden. He graduated as a human kinetic technologist and received his Bachelor of Engineering degree at the The Hague University of Applied Sciences in 2004. During this study he worked on various projects including the development of mobility aids for children with cerebral palsy in the Philippines and improving the control of a forearm prosthesis at the Delft University of Technology.

In 2007 he graduated as a human movement scientist and received his Master of Science degree at the VU University Amsterdam. For his Master's thesis he investigated the effects of acoustic stimuli on the stability of gait in patients with a stroke.

During his PhD course from 2008 to 2013 he continued working in the field of motor control in patients with stroke. His PhD project, which has led to this thesis, was embedded in the EXPLICIT-stroke programme and was conducted under the supervision of prof. dr. Gert Kwakkel and dr. Erwin van Wegen at the VU University Medical Center in Amsterdam. The main goal was to improve our insight into the changes in motor control of the paretic upper limb early after stroke. This insight is essential in order to understand how true motor recovery and compensation strategies contribute to functional recovery after stroke.

Currently, Joost is employed as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Twente within the EMBalance consortium, which aims to improve diagnosis and treatment planning in patients with balance disorders. In the research group of prof. dr. Herman van der Kooij and dr. Alfred Schouten, Joost will focus on the identification of pathophysiological mechanisms that are responsible for impaired balance control in patients with neurological or vestibular dysfunction.