Molecular Pathology
A Dutch perspective

B. Tops, PhD. Dublin 2015
The Netherlands: molecular pathology

- ~48 pathology laboratories
- ~22 laboratories perform tests on isolated DNA (mutation detection)
Molecular diagnostic testing (DNA)

**Genetics**
- **Request**
- **Execution**
- **Interpretation**
- **Result**

**Pathology**
- **Request**
- **Execution**
- **Interpretation**
- **Result**

**Clinical geneticist**

**Clinical pathologist**

**Technician**

**Clinical scientist**
The Netherlands: molecular pathology

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NVVP (Dutch Society for Pathologists):
• 1994: Taskforce molecular diagnostics
• 2004: working groep molecular diagnostics in pathology (WMDP)
• 2012: approval curriculum clinical scientist in molecular pathology (KMBP)
Curriculum

• 2 years post-doctoral training
Evaluation

• Quarterly progress interviews/reports with supervisor(s)

• Annual review / suitability assessment with supervisor(s)

• Annual interview with external curriculum committee

• Final assessment
The Netherlands: molecular pathology

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- 2012: approval curriculum clinical scientist in molecular pathology (KMBP)
- 2013: registration 24 KMBPs (≥ 1 KMBP in 14 laboratoria)
- 2014: norms established for molecular testing by Dutch Society for Pathologists, 7 KMBPs in training
Current situation

- PALGA (Nation-wide electronic pathology registry) module for protocolized reporting of molecular (DNA) tests (in development)
Nijmegen: laboratory of Tumor Genetics (LTG)

- overlap in techniques (MLPA, NGS, etc)
- overlap in genes (BRCA1/2, BRAF, TP53, etc)
- win-win (expertice, knowledge, fte’s/equipment)