# Transdisciplinairy Research Master Sustainable Health



The idea is spreading that we are not living in a time of change, but rather experiencing a change of time, with the key underlying question being: how can we live together in a way that promotes human health and the health of our environment while reducing health inequalities?

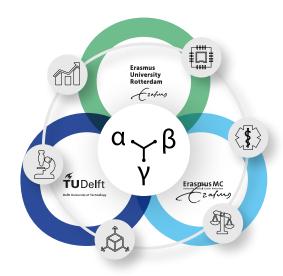
#### WHY?

Western healthcare needs significant innovation. The population is aging, the number of people with multiple (lifestyle-related) diseases is increasing, and the direct health consequences of climate and environmental changes are becoming more visible. These include more deaths and hospitalizations due to extreme heat and air pollution, virus outbreaks, and floods. At the same time, there are staff shortages, and the quality of healthcare is under pressure. Our way of living, where prosperity has often taken precedence over well-being, seems no longer sustainable.

#### WHAT?

Universities are called upon to take up the challenge, address relevant questions, and shape a society that is livable for everyone. Some of the issues include how to reduce the impact of healthcare on the climate, how to develop and spread effective prevention methods, and how to maintain healthcare with fewer healthcare workers while keeping it humane, accessible, affordable, sustainable, and of good quality.

Besides thinking of prevention-oriented care, creating circular healthcare institutions and utilize technological innovations in sustainability, economic, ethical, social, and humanities-related considirations play crucial roles.



Such multidimensional and dynamic challenges require a thorough reevaluation of the care we currently provide and the care we want to provide in the future. It demands a way of thinking and acting that calls for intensive collaboration among disciplines within and outside the healthcare sector, as well as engagement with citizens, in a rapidly changing environment.

#### HOW?

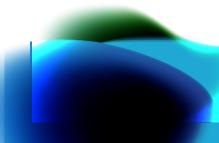
To tackle these challenges, Health & Technology, part of the convergence between TU Delft, EUR, and Erasmus MC, is introducing the transdisciplinary Research Master Sustainable Health. This research master aims to educate a diverse group of innovative thinking doers who can bring new insights to topics related to achieving circular healthcare institutions (sustainable care), shaping a prevention-driven public health approach (sustainable public health), and realizing patient and caregiver-centered care aligned with the needs and desires of healthcare workers and decision-makers (sustainable workforce and resources). Planetary Health serves as the overarching framework: a new transdisciplinary collaborative platform for research, education, and practical experience focusing on the relationship between climate and environmental changes and human health.

Within all pillars of the convergence, necessary knowledge and expertise are available to contribute to this program. Only together can we realize innovation in healthcare day after day and that is why we hope that everyone who feels involved will come and contribute.

Do you want to participate?

Send an e-mail to <a href="mailto:rmsustainablehealth@erasmusmc.nl">rmsustainablehealth@erasmusmc.nl</a>

Maarten Frens | Chairman Health & Technology Wilma Oosthoek | Coordinator Research Master Sustainable Health



# Intended Program

## Theoretical part

Mainly discipline-educated students learn the key paradigms, approaches, and transdisciplinary research skills relevant to the theme of sustainable health.

## Practical part

Students work in transdisciplinairy teams with external stakeholders and citizens/patients to apply their academic knowledge, leading to contributions to both science (in the form of a publishable scientific article) and society (in the form of, for example, policy advice, public campaign or product design with valorization plan).

Intended start: September 2026

Duration: 2 years

Cohort size: 50 students

Language of instruction: English or Dutch

(with English-taught educational activities)



