



in services from the welfare and health care that focus on innovation, quality, development and implementation of clinical pathways and guidelines and / or research.

Furthermore, the employment opportunities can also be found in various centres of excellence (for example, centre of excellence in dementia care), policy support centres, umbrella organizations and private research centres. These less traditional sectors require tasks such as data analysis, advisers, consultants, etc. to function. Besides the universities and scientific institutions, industries are also an increasingly important market for doctors. It is considered, therefore, that doctors in Gerontology would find themselves in R&D departments of large companies.

Students will have the opportunity to get embedded in ongoing interdisciplinary research projects of our associated research groups such as the Frailty in Ageing (FRIA) research group ([www.vub.ac.be/FRIA](http://www.vub.ac.be/FRIA)).

Examples of ongoing research projects:

- The BrUssels sTudy on The Early pRedictors of FraiLTY (BUTTERFLY): longitudinal study identifying bio-psycho-social determinants for active and healthy aging and for early stages of frailty in the oldest old.
- The Senior PRoject INTensive Training (SPRINT): intervention trial investigating the mechanisms by which different exercise programs improve immunity and bio-psycho-social functioning in older adults.
- Exercise therapy for osteoarthritis pain: intervention study to examine (anti-)

inflammation and endogenous analgesia as mediators for the effect exercise on pain in patients with osteoarthritis

- E-Health in nursing homes: qualitative research project exploring needs and preferences of formal caregivers on e-health applications in nursing homes
- Meaningful Activities in the Nursing Home: mixed methods research project guiding nursing homes in innovative attitudes towards residents' meaningful ADL
- The age-friendliness of cities: mixed methods research project investigating constraints and opportunities for older people living in urban environments
- The Belgian ageing studies: survey-based research programme investigating the social needs of older persons; several specific focusses possible including loneliness and suicide.
- Scale-Up an integrated care package for diaBetes and hYpertension (SCUBY): mixed methods project investigating care packages impact outcomes and efficiency in Cambodia, Slovenia and Belgium.