



CASE STUDY

INTRODUCTION TO RISK ASSESSMENT

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Problem Based Learning (PBL)

WP5 – Risk assessment, policy and risk communication

Topic: CASE1 Introduction to risk assessment

Feeling safe? – risk management model

Part 1 Risk exposure

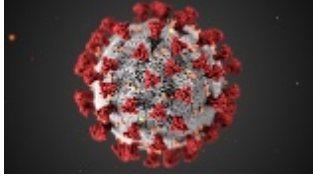
People are exposed to all kinds of dangers every day. Sometimes we are not even aware of the threats surrounding us. If we do notice a potential danger, some people will try to avoid those dangers, while others recognize the dangers, but still feel relatively safe. Of course, there are also people who see dangers everywhere or who feel personally susceptible to all kinds of threats relatively quickly. For example, the use of mobile phones by, among others, young people while cycling. One in five bicycle accidents involving a young person is caused by smartphone use. These are the facts. Yet every day we see young people (and also elderly) on their bicycles with their mobile in their hand. What do you do yourself?

Legislation in this area varies in Europe. In the Netherlands holding a phone while driving is prohibited. As of July 1, 2019 also if you are riding a bike, just like in Denmark, Germany and Austria. The Dutch government first focused on education, information and technology to influence behavior. This turned out not to be enough, so fines are now also being handed out.

Part 2 Risk awareness/perception

The following pictures show several situations that we regularly encounter in daily life. Study the photos. What health hazard is present in the pictures?





What risks do you encounter/ experience in your own daily life? You can use the matrix below for this. First complete the table individually and then the list can be discussed with a number of fellow students in 5 minutes. Discuss with each other why you think something is a risk or a danger?

Your personal matrix of the hazards and risks.

Your personal Top-5 of dangers and risks	
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Part 3 Risk management

As discussed in part 1 of this case, nowadays you get a fine for calling while cycling, for example. This implies that people are busy directing our behavior in the "right" direction so that our health is endangered as least as possible.

Myrthe works at the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM). She was involved in drawing up a protocol that describes the working method for preventing and dealing with incidents and



calamities in the new cervical cancer population screening. By chance she meets Jeroen in the train, whom she still knows from high school. Jeroen talks about his new job at the Water Supply Company (WML). He enthusiastically talks about his first experiences and impressions. "I never knew that so many people are concerned with our drinking water. That we in the Netherlands can just drink water from the tap, so it doesn't make us sick. Every step is systematically checked!" Myrthe suddenly sees a lot of parallels with the way she has just completed her project. Who would have thought about that.