

Dear All,

The Corona crisis is in full swing, everyone is looking for a way to deal with this and economically you will also be affected. Behind the scenes, the anvag is also looking for which other initiatives can be taken. Because for now, complementary care is not yet eligible for reimbursement.

In consultation with the RBCZ, as an umbrella organization for professional organizations in complementary care, we have discussed what we can do. We have considered writing a letter to the government. The RBCZ and KAB advised us to be extremely cautious and reserved with this and they urgently appeal to all professional organizations to follow up on this. We still have to deal with imaging in our country, whether we find it justified or not. Finding a large platform for expressing outrage in a (crisis) time like this can easily backfire on a "vulnerable" sector like ours. This is not the time to hit the table with an aggrieved fist and "demand" recognition. We have a lot to offer and we can win, but we can also lose a lot because of a thoughtless act.

The good news is that about 10 days ago, the RBCZ together with the KAB wrote a letter to the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport containing mainly three points:

1. We are looking for (and need) frameworks and further clarification for our professional group (s). In communication from the ministry and other authoritative bodies such as RIVM and the NZa, the word "care providers" is frequently mentioned. The same applies to the terms "paramedics" and "vital professions". Where and when is it about our sector, and where not?
2. We are also a sector that is seriously affected economically, so don't forget us in the measures to be taken for example reimbursements.
3. We (also) have something to offer in this time of overloading regular care, and we adopt a constructive and willing attitude.

No answer has yet been received to this letter. Frustrating for everyone, but also understandable. The Ministry is faced with a unique situation, in which all attention and efforts are initially focused on curbing the further spread of the virus and the care for the growing flow of patients: All hands on deck. And honestly, that's what they should do first.

Time will tell. Until then, the RBZC and ANVAG will do what is possible. And we will do that with policy, tact and diplomacy. Even if it takes time, and we feel it can't go fast enough.

This means that we continue to follow the following path:

- RBCZ reports to the ministry that we are there and that we can help. Yesterday another letter about this was sent by KAB and RBCZ, with a copy to various organizations and individuals involved.
- RBCZ ensures that any actions by professional organizations take place as organized as possible within a common framework (ie in consultation and by consensus).
- All therapists adhere to the rules of RIVM and other authoritative bodies.

Finally a last update; an answer from the national government to the question: **Can alternative care providers, such as chiropractors, still provide care?**

The following applies for care providers: these are prohibited until 28 April, insofar as these professions cannot be properly exercised with a distance of 1.5 meters from the client. This prohibition also applies to alternative health care providers (such as chiropractors, acupuncturists, haptotherapists, etc.). In contrast to (para) medical professions, there is no exception to this prohibition for these professional groups. The criterion used here, is whether entitlement is possible in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations (Health Insurance Act (Zvw) or Long-Term Care Act (Wlz)). In the case of alternative care providers, this entitlement does not exist: they do not provide care from the Zvw or Wlz. Alternative care providers must therefore stop working until April 28, unless they can provide care remotely or at least 1.5 meters away from the client.

Also look at this website:

<https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/coronavirus-covid-19/veel-asked-vragen-per-onderwerp/zorg/paramedische-zorg>

Sincerely,

Board ANVAG

