Multiple TTP’s in the Netherlands: ideal conditions for record linkage or new Tower of Babel?

**Perspective from the Mondriaan-project**

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**Background to Mondriaan**

Advisory Council on Health Research (RGO): ‘Securing the data supply’ (2008):

‘Promote the efficient use of data collections’

- Optimise access to data:
  - Promote data sharing

- Maximise the scope for data sharing: Citizen Service Number

- Facilitate data sharing and linkage: data broker
Ultimate goal of Mondriaan:

The Dutch health care landscape as a ‘population laboratory’

More specific:
- *National infrastructure and access point*
- *Existing and new health care and research data*

Mondriaan at a glance:

- Partnership with major Dutch data suppliers
- High quality ICT infrastructure
- Privacy
- Record linkage
Multiple TTP’s in The Netherlands

- String of Peals Initiative: DigiNotar
- Dutch Hospital Data: ZorgTTP
- Palga: ZorgTTP
- SFK: Custodix (through Mondriaan)
- GP networks: Custodix (through Mondriaan) or ZorgTTP
- Etc…

Barriers

- Lot to ask from TTP’s
  - TTP = Trusted Third Party
    - It is not prohibited, but exchange of information between TTP’s maybe not obvious
    - Data still anonymous?
  
- Practical issues

Should everybody switch to the same TTP?
How does Mondriaan use its TTP?

• Anonymisation: pseudonimisation

• Record Linkage through TTP:
  – probabilistic
  – Social security not is not per se necessary

• Coincidental Findings

Mondriaan is co-designer of:
  – linkage algorythm
  – Pseudonimisation process

Paradox:

• Use of TTP’s improves privacy and conditions for record linkage, but…
• Use of TTP’s creates new, isolated data islands

Solution?