

Citizen science for accessible and affordable health screening



Short Name

CS-HEART

Formal Name

Citizen science for accessible and affordable health screening

Contact Person

[Nicholas Cauwenberghs](#)

Institution/Organisation

KU Leuven

Website

<https://vanharte.eu/>

Social Media

 [@Cardio_KULeuven](#)

 [@vanharte.studie](#)

 [@De VanHarte studie](#)



Making health checks easy and affordable for and by the people.



Summary

At KU Leuven, we are running a citizen science initiative to make health screenings cheaper and more accessible. Traditional health exams require a medical centre, expensive equipment and medical staff, making it too costly and time-consuming to screen for risk factors systematically. In result, we detect risk factors most of the time by accident and often too late. But what if we could engage citizens to conduct health screenings? With their help, we could organize large-scale, low-cost and nearby screenings in the community. To find out, we train citizens to perform health checks using a user-friendly screening kit. They learn for instance how to measure blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol levels. We determine the feasibility and accuracy of their measurements and gather their experiences to improve the training and screening procedure. With this project, we could make health checks accessible and affordable for the people by the people.