

TOWARDS FEAR-FREE HOSPITAL VISITS

An application empowering children with Congenital Heart Defects and their parents

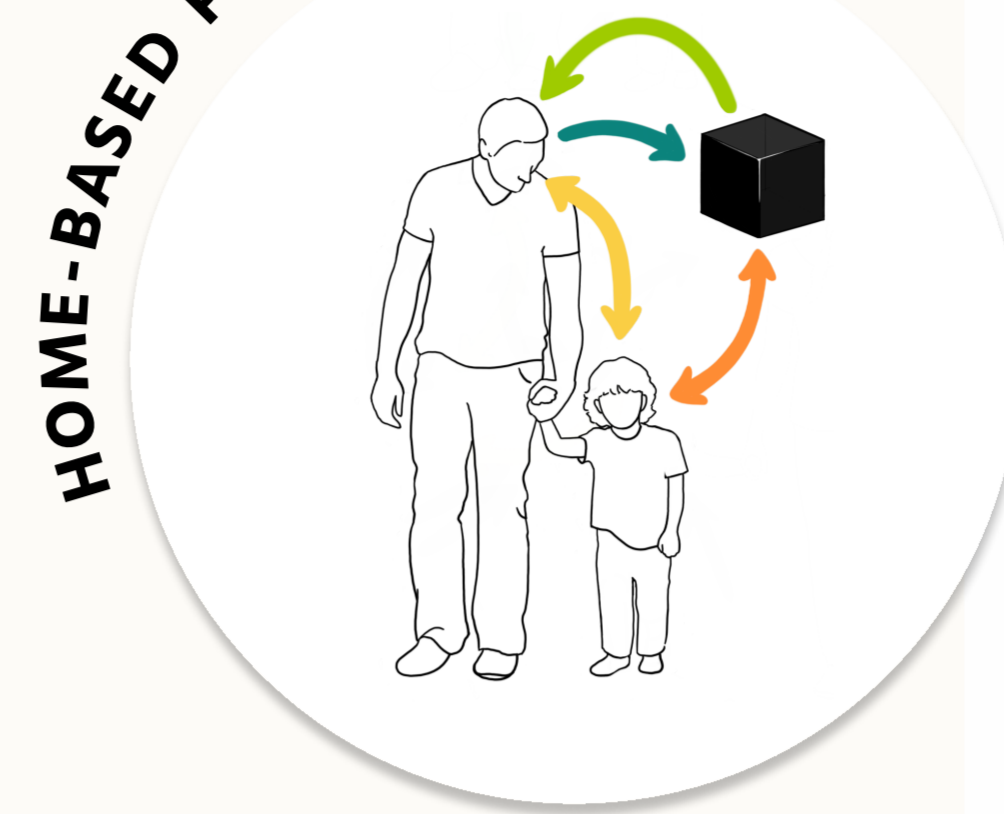
Children with a Congenital Heart Defect need to visit the outpatient clinic regularly their whole lives, often starting from birth. These hospital visits are frequently accompanied by feelings of anxiety and fear, which can have a detrimental impact on a child's life.

This project focused on diminishing anxiety and fear by means of home-based preparation. The target group includes children between the ages of four and seven. Due to this young age, parents play a crucial role in the preparation process but currently do not receive adequate support or guidance. This project created a preparation tool that supports both parents and children in the home-based preparation process.

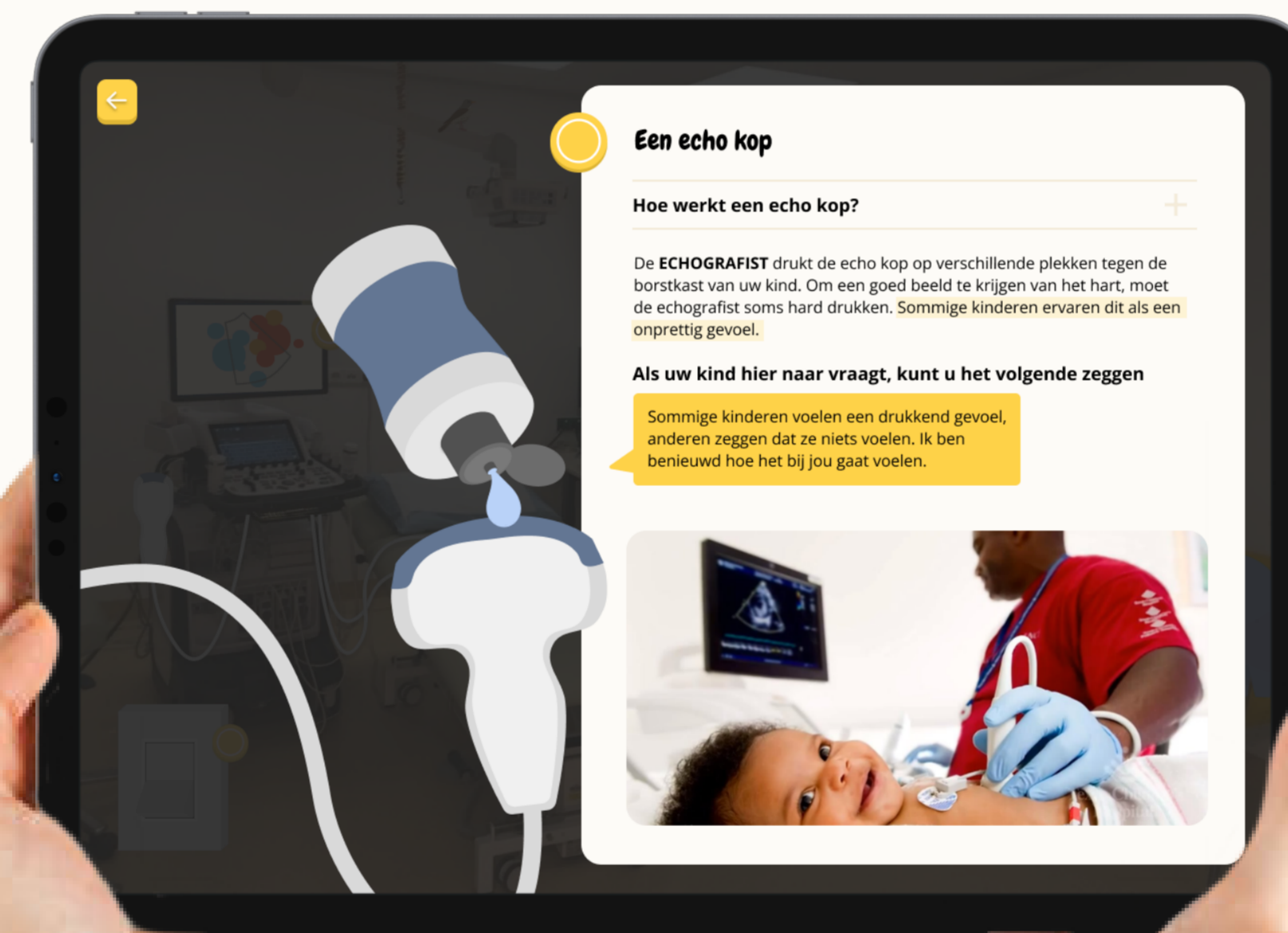
Discovering together!



HOME-BASED PREPARATION



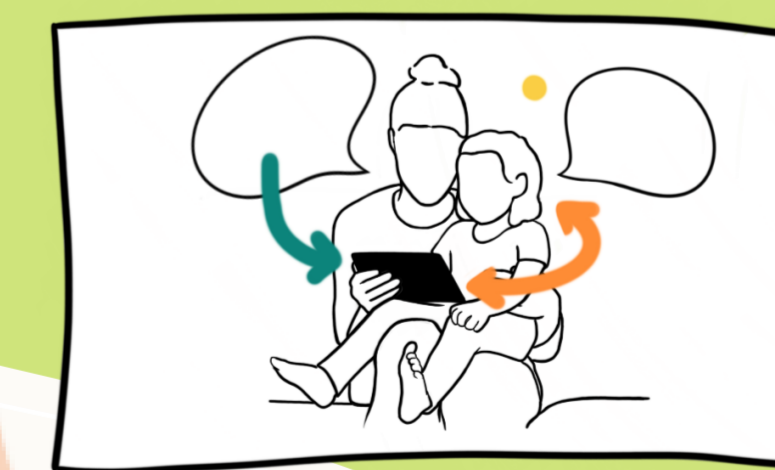
How can I prepare my child?



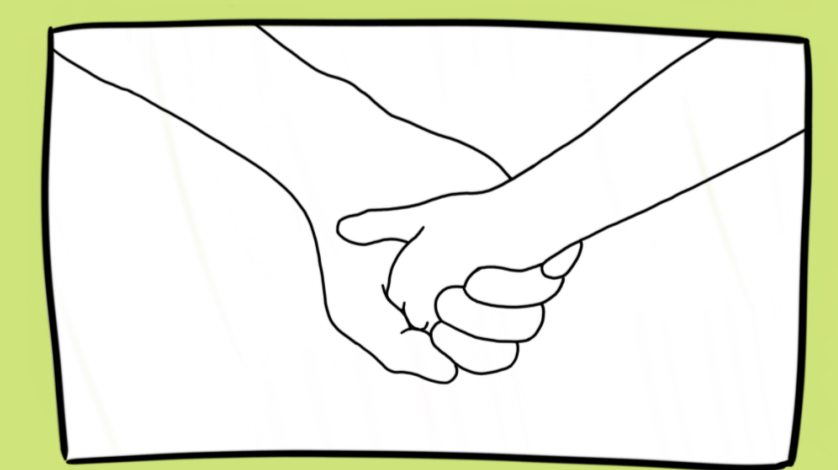
INFORMATION & SUPPORT FOR PARENTS



CUSTOMISED PREPARATION FOR CHILDREN



EMPOWERED DURING OUTPATIENT VISITS



Samen Sterk • HospitalHero

Samen Sterk is an application that empowers children and parents with home-based preparation for the child's outpatient visit to the paediatric cardiology department of a hospital.

The application utilises an integrated home-based preparation approach that was designed based on research outcomes and the barriers found in the current situation. The designed approach enables parents to provide customised preparation to their children.

The application consists of a **parent layer** and a **child layer**. The parent layer, informs parents about the outpatient visit and provides context-specific preparation tools and communication guidelines. In the child layer, parents and children can explore the treatment rooms together with animal friends that explain the procedure steps. Inside the treatment room, children can explore sensory stimuli. The application encourages child-parent interactions to customise the preparation to the specific situation and characteristics of the child.

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Towards Fear-Free Hospital Visits
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Design for Interaction (Medisign)

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