



**DOCTORATEN ALUMNI BIOMEDISCHE WETENSCHAPPEN  
VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL**

**1998**

**Moerenhout Martine:**

'Klinische und molekulare Studien der humoralen Immunantwort gegen A-und-B Histo-  
Blutgruppen Antikörper.'

Promotor: Prof. U.E. Nydegger - Universiteit Bern - Duitsland

**1999**

**Braet Filip:**

'Structure and dynamics of the liver sieve.'

Promotor: Prof. E. Wisse - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Beliën Ann:**

'Involvement of membrane bound metalloproteases in the invasive behaviour of diffuse  
astrocytomas.'

Promotor: Prof. H.R. Bosshard - Universität Zürich - Zwitserland

**Comhair Suzy:**

'Extracellular antioxidant response in oxidant mediated lung diseases: redox regulation  
of the glutathione system and superoxide dismutase.'

Promotor: Dr. S.C. Erzurum - Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Lerner Research Institute -  
Ohio - USA / Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen - Nederland

**2000**

**Chavatte Kris:**

'Development and evaluation of new radioactive pseudo-peptides of the neurotensin (8-  
13)-type for scintigraphy of human neurotensin receptor positive carcinomas.'

Promotor: Prof. A. Bossuyt - Academisch Ziekenhuis-VUB

Prof. J. Mertens - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

## **2001**

### **Asosingh Kewal:**

'Migration, adhesion and differentiation of malignant plasma cells in the 5T murine model of myeloma.'

Promotoren: Prof. B. Van Camp, prof. K. Vanderkerken – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Jans Danny:**

'Na<sup>+</sup> Reabsorption and Cl<sup>-</sup> Secretion Across Cultured Renal Epithelia (A6): Effects Of Hypotonicity and External Cations.'

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven - Moleculaire Celbiologie - Labo Fysiologie

### **Julliams Ann:**

'Tau: a cross-road protein in Alzheimer's disease.'

Promotor: Prof. C. Van Broeckhoven – Universiteit Antwerpen

## **2002**

### **Rooman Ilse:**

'Proliferation and differentiation of adult rat pancreatic exocrine cells.'

Promotor: Prof. L. Bouwens – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Moens Karen:**

'Role of glucagon and glucagon-related peptides in the regulation of insulin release.'

Promotoren: Prof. F. Schuit, prof. C. Van Schravendijk - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Rombouts Krista:**

'Modulation of expression of fibrosis-related genes by pharmacologically induced hyperacetylation of histones.'

Promotor: Prof. A. Geerts – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Hens Jurgen:**

'Functional identification of enteric neurons in the small intestine of large mammals.'

Promotor: Prof. J.P. Timmermans – Universiteit Antwerpen

### **Leclere Pascal:**

'Regulation of cholinergic neurotransmission in the porcine and human gastrointestinal tract.'

Promotor: Prof. R.A. Lefebvre – Universiteit Gent

## 2003

### **Heremans Yves:**

'Modulation of transcription factor expression induces adult human pancreatic exocrine-endocrine transdifferentiation and protects rat beta-cells against cytokine-induced apoptosis.'

Promotoren: Prof. H. Heimberg, prof. L. Bouwens – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Donners Helen:**

'Neutraliserende antilichamen in HIV-geïnfecteerde of HIV-gevaccineerde individuen.'

Universiteit Antwerpen – Faculteit Wetenschappen – Biochemie

### **Wilczak Nadine:**

'Insulin-like growth factor system in human central nervous system, multiple sclerosis and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.'

Promotor: Prof. J. De Keyser – Rijksuniversiteit Groningen – Nederland

## 2004

### **Breckpot Karine:**

'Induction of a MAGE-A3 specific cellular immune response by lentivirally transduced dendritic cells.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Thielemans – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Fikkert Valery:**

'Study of HIV-1 resistance against inhibitors of HIV-1 entry or integration.'

Promotor: Prof. M. Witvrouw – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

### **Lavreysen Hilde:**

'The mGlu1 receptor as target for therapeutic agents investigation of the development of supersensitivity.'

Promotor: Prof. Dr. J. Leysen (Scientific Licensing, Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceuticals group Business Development/Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

Prof. Dr. F. Tilders – Academisch Medisch Centrum – Amsterdam – Nederland

### **Papeleu Peggy:**

'Hydroxamate histone deacetylase inhibitors and their effects on cell cycle-related signal transduction in primary rat hepatocytes.'

Promotor: Prof. V. Rogiers – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Van Den Bogaert Kris:**

'Genetisch onderzoek naar monogene en complexe vormen van otosclerose.'

Promotor: Prof. G. Van Camp – Universiteit Antwerpen

**Van Herrewege Yven:**

'Een in vitro model voor preventie en post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) van seksuele HIV transmissie.'

Promotor: Prof. G. Vanham – Universiteit Antwerpen

**Verheijen Ilse:**

'Pharmacological and physiological distinction between AT1 antagonists.'

Promotor: Prof. G. Vauquelin – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**2005****Ariën Kevin:**

'Relative replicative fitness of diverse human immunodeficiency viruses - implications for the individual and the pandemic.'

Promotor: Prof. G. Vanham – Universiteit Antwerpen

**Bonehill Aude:**

'Induction of a CD4+ T cell response against MAGE-A3 by mRNA electroporated dendritic cells: introducing T cell help in cancer immunotherapy.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Thielemans – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**De Leenheer Evy:**

'The role of the RANK ligand/osteoprotegerin system in the development of multiple myeloma.'

Promotoren: Prof. P. Croucher – University of Sheffield Medical School – Sheffield – UK  
Prof. K. Vanderkerken – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**De Schepper Stefanie:**

'Study of the function and regulation of histone deacetylase 1.'

Promotor: Departement Biochemie – Univeriteit Antwerpen.

J. Arts, M. Janicot – Johnson & Johnson – Beerse

**Dullaers Melissa:**

'HIV-1 derived Lentiviral Vectors as Vehicles for Cancer Vaccination.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Thielemans – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Franco David:**

'Alternative replication systems for picornaviridae: development and use.'

Promotoren: Prof. B. Rombaut – VUB.

Prof. E. Wimmer-State University of New York-Stony Brook- USA

Prof. A. Paul - State University of New York-Stony Brook- USA

**Huypens Peter:**

'Glucose sensing in beta cells, a component in the regulation by hormones from the pancreas, gut and adipocytes.'

Promotor: Prof. M. Van de Casteele - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Prof. D. Pipeleers - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Martens Nele:**

'Suppressor of Cytokine Signaling 7 : expression pattern, interacting proteins and functional analysis.'

Promotor: Prof. E. Peters – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Rector Annabel:**

'Strategies for detection of novel genetically divergent papillomaviruses and study of the genetic diversity and molecular evolution of the Papillomaviridae.'

Promotor: Prof. M. Van Ranst – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Stouffs Katrien:**

'Genetic aspects of male infertility.'

Promotor: Prof. A. Van Steirteghem – Academisch Ziekenhuis-VUB

Copromotoren: Prof. I. Liebaers, W. Lissens – Academisch Ziekenhuis-VUB

**Van Valckenborgh Els:**

'The role and regulation of matrix metalloproteinases in multiple myeloma.'

Promotoren: Prof. K. Vanderkerken, prof. B. Van Camp – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Vekemans Katrien:**

'On the role of hepatic sinusoidal cells in the early phase of colon carcinoma metastasis.'

Promotoren: Prof. L. Bouwens, F. Braet – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Soubry Adelheid:**

'Analyse van de transcriptionele repressor Kaiso in humane tumoren en tijdens de celcyclus.'

Promotor: Prof. F. Van Roy – Universiteit Gent

**Kersemans Veerle:**

'Synthesis, in vitro/in vivo evaluation of 2 iodo-L-phenylalanine and its d-isomer as tumour tracers in oncology.'

Promotor: Prof. G. Slegers – Universiteit Gent

**Van den Bogaert Ann:**

'Identificatie en karakterisatie van genen voor majeure affectieve aandoeningen en schizofrenie.'

Promotoren: Prof. C. Van Broeckhoven, prof. S. Cichon G. Slegers – Universiteit Gent

**2006****Goossens Ellen:**

'Testicular stem cell transplantation in a mouse model: Reproductive efficiency and safety.'

Promotor: Prof. H. Tournaye – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Prof. A. Van Steirteghem – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Heirman Ingeborg:**

'The tumor cell oxidative study and its interaction with eicosanoid synthesis in the control of tumor growth and malignant progression.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. Johan Grooten – Universiteit Gent

**Menu Eline:**

'Pleiotropic role of chemokines in Multiple Myeloma, study in the 5TMM model.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Vanderkerken - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Prof. B. Van Camp – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Geraerts Martine:**

'Optimalisatie van lentivirale vector technologie voor gentransfer in adulte neurale stamcellen.'

Promotor: Prof. Z. Debyser - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Copromotor: Prof. V. Baekelandt – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Keyaerts Els:**

'Evaluation of antiviral strategies against the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus.'

Promotor: Prof. M. Van Ranst - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Verheyden Bart:**

'Anticoronaviral compounds: Modes of action, use as research tools and as vaccine stabilisers.'

Promotor: Prof. B. Rombaut – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Behets Jonas:**

'Study on the occurrence of pathogenic free-living amoebae in cooling water of Belgian power plants.'

Promotor: Prof. F. Ollevier – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Devos Sabrina:**

'Expression of IL-9 and allergy. Effects of some organic pollutants on the immune response with special concern for allergy.'

Promotor: Prof. E.L. Hooghe-Peters - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Dr. R. Hooghe – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Derycke Lara:**

'The N-cadherin ectodomain: fate and function outside the cancer cell.'

Promotor: Prof. M. Bracke – Universiteit Gent

**Verheyde Joris:**

'Ionizing radiation induced transcriptional changes in the developing mouse brain.'

Promotor: Prof. L. Leyns – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotoren: Dr. M.A. Benotmane, Dr. L. de Saint Georges – Studiecentrum voor Kernenergie – Mol

**Reynaert Niki:**

'Redox redulation of inhibitory Kappa B Kinase; oxidants in the pathogenesis of inflammatory lung disease.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. E.F.M. Wouters – Universiteit Maastricht – Nederland

Copromotor: Dr. Y.M.W. Janssen-Heininger - University of Vermont – USA

**Michiels Annelies:**

'Induction of a MART-1/Melan-A specific cellular immune response by mRNA electroporated dendritic cells.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Thielemans – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Janssens Nico:**

'Characterization of the Wnt signaling pathway, expression analysis and cross-talk.'

Promotor: Dr. T. Perera (Johnson & Johnson) – Universiteit Antwerpen

**2007**

**Gerits Nancy:**

'Transcriptional regulation and functions of the mitogen-activated protein kinase MK5.'

Promotor: Prof. U. Moens - Universitetet i Tromsø – Noorwegen

**Loens Katherine:**

'Development and evaluation of an in vitro Nucleic Acid Sequence-Based Amplification (NASBA)® system for diagnosis of respiratory tract infections.'

Promotor: Prof. H. Goossens – Universiteit Antwerpen

Copromotor: Prof. M. Ieven – Universiteit Antwerpen

**Maes Piet:**

'Hantaviruses: classification, diagnosis and prevention.'

Promotor: Prof. M. Van Ranst – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Meulemans Ann:**

'Mitochondrial disorders: A search for novel mutations and their pathogenic nature.'

Promotor: Prof. L. De Meirleir – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: S. Seneca, W. Lissens, R. Van Coster – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Muyllaert David:**

'Generation and validation of double transgenic mice as in vivo model for the synergism between amyloid and tau pathology in Alzheimer's Disease.'

Promotor: Prof. F. Van Leuven – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Pintelon Isabel:**

'Neurochemical characterisation of sensory lung receptors and in situ functional imaging in lung models.'

Promotoren: Prof. D. Adriaensen, prof. F. Van Meir – Universiteit Antwerpen

**Terryn Sara:**

'A primary culture of proximal tubule cells of the mouse kidney on collagen-coated membranes: characterization, electrophysiological properties and response to stress factors.'

Promotor: Onderzoeksgroep Fysiologie – Universiteit Hasselt

**Tielens Severine:**

'Cell culture and differentiation of embryonic stem cells for bone tissue engineering.'

Promotor: Prof. M. Cornelissen – Universiteit Gent



**Tuyaerts Sandra:**

'Development of a dendritic cell vaccine for cancer immunotherapy.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Thielemans – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Vanschoonbeek Kristof:**

'Haemostatic variation in subjects with atherothrombotic risk: modulation by dietary fish oil.'

Promotoren: Prof. W.H.M. Saris, prof. C. Kluft, Dr. J.W.M. Heemskerk – Universiteit Maastricht – Nederland

**Van Crombruggen Koen:**

'Colonic motility under normal and inflammatory conditions: nitrenergic-purinergic control and the role of soluble guanylate cyclase.'

Promotor: Prof. R. Lefebvre – Universiteit Gent

**Verheyden Sonja:**

'Relevance of Killer Cell Immunoglobulin-like receptor and HLA class I gene polymorphisms in leukemia and allogenic stem cell transplantation outcome.'

Promotor: Prof. C. Demanet – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Willems Erik:**

'Embryonic stem cells as an in vitro model of the gastrulating mouse embryo.'

Promotor: Prof. L. Leyns – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Woischwill Christiane:**

'Analysis of the expression regulation of the human atrial myosin light chain 1 upon hypertrophic stimulation.'

Promotor: Prof. Dr. I. Morano - Freie Universität Berlin – Duitsland

**2008****Baeyens Luc:**

'Transdifferentiation of rat pancreatic acinar cells to functional beta cells.'

Promotor: Prof. L. Bouwens – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**De Breuck Saskia:**

'Extracellular factors involved in migration, proliferation and differentiation in the regenerating pancreas.'

Promotor: Prof. L. Bouwens – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Decock Julie:**

'Clinical relevance of (circulating) proteases in breast cancer: matrix metalloproteinases and cathepsins.'

Promotor: Prof. R. Paridaens - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Copromotor : PhD C. Stefan - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Dierickx Karen:**

'Contribution to the study of the efficacy and the mechanism of action of the alkylating peptide prolyl-m-sarcosyl-p-fluorophenylalanine (PSF).'

Promotoren: Prof. E. Ghanem, prof. J.M. Kauffmann – Université Libre de Bruxelles

**Driesen Ronald:**

'Adaptive remodeling of cardiomyocytes under stress .'

Promotoren: Prof.dr. F.C. Ramaekers, prof.dr. M. Borgers – Universiteit Maastricht – Nederland

Copromotor : dr. F.K. Verheyen – Universiteit Maastricht – Nederland

**Geuns Elke:**

'Methylation analysis of imprinted genes in human gametes and preimplantation embryos.'

Promotor: Prof. I. Liebaers – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: M. De Rycke – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Hallaert Delfine:**

'From the cradle to the grave' Novel therapeutic approaches to attack the microenvironment in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia.'

Promotor: Prof.dr. M.H.J. van Oers – Academisch Medisch Centrum/Universiteit van Amsterdam – Nederland

Copromotor: dr. E.F. Eldering – Academisch Medisch Centrum/Universiteit van Amsterdam – Nederland

**Matmati Mourad:**

'The EGF-TM7 receptors : a diverse and still evolving family of receptors on the leukocyte surface.'

Promotoren: Prof.dr. R.A.W. van Lier – AMC Universiteit Amsterdam / Prof.dr. G. Leclercq – Universiteit Gent

Copromotor: dr. J. Hamann – AMC Universiteit Amsterdam – Nederland

**Rasschaert Kristien:**

'Identification of a novel f4 receptor involved in endocytosis and transcytosis.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. E. Cox – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Copromotor : Prof. dr. B. Goddeeris – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Roggeman Chantal:**

'Processing of quantitative information, investigated with fMRI.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. W. Fias – Universiteit Gent

Copromotor: Prof. dr. T. Verguts – Universiteit Gent

**Van Meirvenne Sonja:**

'Optimization of a dendritic cell-based cancer vaccine evaluated in mice.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Thielemans – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Vanneste Gwen:**

'Role of soluble guanylate cyclase in the effect of NO on gastrointestinal motility in physiological conditions and in postoperative inflammation.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. R. Lefebvre – Universiteit Gent

**Werbrouck Hadewig:**

'Differentiatie van Listeria Monocytogenes stammen op basis van virulentie en zuurstressresistentie.'

Promotoren: Prof. dr. ir. M. Uyttendaele, Dr. ir. E. Van Coillie – Universiteit Gent

**2009****Cauffman Greet:**

'Gene expression and cell commitment in the human preimplantation embryo.'

Promotor: Prof. I. Liebaers – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Dr. H. Van de Velde - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Claes An:**

'Anti-angiogenic therapy in orthotopic hu glioma models in nude mice. Vessel normalization impairs radiological detection and chemotherapy delivery in high-grade, diffuse gliomas.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. P. Wesseling – UMC St Radboud – Nederland

Copromotoren: Dr. J.W. Jeuken, dr. W.P. Leenders – UMC St Radboud – Nederland

**Crabbé Aurélie:**

'Novel insights in Pseudomonas aeruginosa metabolism and pathogenesis by low fluid-shear culturing.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. P. Cornelis - Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Dr. ir. R. Van Houdt - Expert Group for Molecular and Cellular Biology - Belgian Nuclear Research Center (SCK.CEN)

**Marjaux Els:**

'Looking for proteins modulating  $\beta$ -secretase activity.'

Promotor: Prof. B. De Strooper – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Leo Sandra:**

'Behavioral assessment in genetically altered mice: A multidimensional test battery for the evaluation of pain targets.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. R. D'Hooge, Theo Meert – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Marchand Sophie:**

'Identification and characterization of milk spoiling Pseudomonas spp. and their heat resistant proteases.'

Promotor: Prof. Dr. K. Dewettinck – Universiteit Gent

**Stragier Pieter:**

'Heterogeneity and molecular characteristics of Mycobacterium ulcerans and related species.'

Promotoren: Prof. L. Kestens, prof. F. Portaels – Universiteit Antwerpen

**Vervaeke Hylke:**

'Initiation and continuation: social context and behavioural aspects of ecstasy use.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. D.J. Korf – Universiteit van Amsterdam



## 2010

### **Blancquaert Sara:**

'AMP-dependent signal transduction leading to mitogenesis in thyroid. Implication of the mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR).'

Promotor: Prof. P. Roger – Université Libre de Bruxelles

### **De Bruyne Elke:**

'Role of endothelial cells in bone marrow microenvironment-induced modulation of the gene expression of multiple myeloma cells.'

Promotoren: Prof. K. Vanderkerken, prof. I. Van Riet – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Deleu Sarah:**

'The potential role of histone deacetylase inhibitors in the treatment of multiple myeloma.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Vanderkerken – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Dieltjens Tessa:**

'Characterization of the antibody landscape and viral envelope escape in HIV-1 infected patients with broad cross neutralizing antibodies using peptide phage display libraries.'

Promotor: Prof. G. Vanham – Universiteit Antwerpen

### **Geens Mieke:**

'Strategies for fertility preservation and restoration in the male.'

Promotor: Prof. H. Tournaye – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Co-promotor: Prof. H. Van de Velde – UZ Brussel

### **Laeremans Hilde:**

'Discovery of ligands for Frizzled and their promises for the diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease.'

Promotoren: prof. dr. J.F.M. Smits, prof. dr. H.C. Ottenheijm – Universiteit Maastricht

Co-promotor: dr. W.M. Blankesteyn - Universiteit Maastricht – Nederland

### **Lievens Dirk:**

'Cell-type specific CD40-CD40L interactions in atherosclerosis.'

Promotoren: Prof.dr. E.A. Biessen, prof.dr. M.J. Daemen – Universiteit Maastricht – Nederland

Copromotor: dr. E. Lutgens – Universiteit Maastricht – Nederland

## **2011**

### **De Meester Julie**

'Role of the Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome protein in human CD8+ T cell activation and effector function'

Promotor: Dr Loïc Dupré – Université Paul Sabatier – Toulouse – Frankrijk

### **El-Abellati Abdelkarim:**

'Ivermectin resistance in the bovine nematode Cooperia oncophora.'

Promotoren: Prof. Dr. P. Geldhof, prof. Dr. Edwin Claerebout – Universiteit Gent

### **Gali Youssef:**

'Development of in vitro models to study HIV-1 fitness, transmission and microbicides.'

Promotor: Prof. G. Vanham – Universiteit Antwerpen / Instituut voor Tropische Geneeskunde

### **Houbracken Isabelle:**

'Lineage tracing of pancreatic exocrine cell plasticity.'

Promotor: Prof.dr. L. Bouwens – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Prof. dr. H. Heimberg – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Lenie Sandy:**

'Characterization of an in vitro mouse follicle bioassay to study the effects of endocrine disrupters on ovarian homeostasis and gametogenesis.'

Promotor: Prof. Dr. J. Smits – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Mannaerts Inge:**

'The role of histone deacetylases during hepatic stellate cell activation and fibrogenesis.'

Promotoren: Prof. L. van Grunsven, prof. V. Rogiers – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Ponsaerts Raf:**

'The contractile system, a novel player in the regulation of Cx43-hemichannels.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. G. Bultynck – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Copromotoren: Prof. dr. J. Vereecke , prof. dr. B. Himpens – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

### **Rinaldi Manuela:**

'A smoke-induced emphysema mouse model: moving towards a clinical model for COPD.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. W. Janssens – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Copromotoren: Prof. dr. G. Gayan-Ramirez, prof. dr. M. Decramer – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven



**Samyn Dieter:**

'Structure/function relationships of inorganic phosphate transporters.'

Promotor: Prof. B. Persson - Linnaeus University - Zweden

**Van Vaerenbergh Inge:**

'Gene expression in endometrial biopsies as predictive marker for clinical pregnancy after IVF.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. C. Bourgain - UZ Brussel/Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotoren: Prof. dr. P. In't Veld, prof. dr. P. Devroey - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Vaneycken Ilse**

'Molecular imaging with radiolabeled anti-HER2 nanobodies for improved diagnosis and follow-up of breast cancer - the road to clinical translation.'

Promotor: dr. Apr. V. Caveliers - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotoren: Prof.dr. T. Lahoutte, dr. N. Devoogdt - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Willems Ariane**

'Analysis of the Molecular Mechanisms by which Androgens Control Spermatogenesis.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. G. Verhoeven - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Copromotor: Prof. dr. J. Swinnen - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**2012**

**Buvens Glenn**

'Incidence and virulence factors of verocytotoxin-producing Escherichia coli in Brussels-Capital Region and characterization of isolates from humans and other sources in Belgium.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. D. Piérard - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Crunelle L. Cleo**

'Development of new neurobiological strategies to treat patients with cocaine dependence.'

Promotoren: Prof. dr. W. van den Brink (Departement Psychiatrie) en prof. dr. J. Boij (Departement Nucleaire Geneeskunde) - Universiteit van Amsterdam - Nederland

**Goossens Pieter**

'A fatal attraction: Macrophage recruitment to the atherosclerotic plaque.'

Promotor: Prof.dr. J.F.C. Glatz - Universiteit Maastricht - Nederland

Copromotor: dr. M.P.J. De Winther - Universiteit Maastricht - Nederland

**Hendrickx Wouter**

'Selenium and prostate cancer.'

University of East Anglia – Norwich – United Kingdom

**Pletinckx Katrien**

'Dendritic cell maturation and instruction of CD4+ T cell tolerance in vitro'

Promotor: Prof. Dr. Manfred Lutz – Würzburg University – Würzburg - Duitsland

**Segers Ingrid**

'The antral growth phase of the in vitro cultured mouse follicle: Effects of gonadotropin exposure, cumulus gene expression and oocyte's development competence.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. J. Smits – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Suykerbuyk Patrick**

'Holistic study of the disease ecology of Mycobacterium ulcerans infections in Africa'

Promotoren: Prof. Dr. L. Kestens / prof. Dr. F. Portaels – ITG – Antwerpen

Copromotor: Prof. Dr. P. De Maeyer – Universiteit Gent

**Van Beneden Katrien**

'Experimental FSGS: Pathology and therapeutic approach.'

Promotoren: Prof. dr. C. Van den Branden, prof. Dr. L.A. van Grunsven – Vrije

Universiteit Brussel

**Van Nuffel An**

'Immune monitoring of mRNA loaded DC-therapy. Evaluation of a promising new cancer treatment.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. K. Thielemans – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: dr. A. Bonehill – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Van Saen Dorien**

'In search of the most efficient fertility preservation strategy for prepubertal boys.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. H. Tournaye – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Prof. dr. E. Goossens – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Verbinnen Thierry**

'In vitro study of the HCV quasispecies dynamics during antiviral drug pressure.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. Johan Neyts – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Copromotor: Dr. Oliver Lenz – Tibotec

Copromotor: Dr. Gregory Fanning – Tibotec



## **2013**

### **Bartholomeus Kim**

'Omentum as implant site for beta cell therapy.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Hellemans, prof. P. In 't Veld – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Bos Inge**

'Impact of exposure to particulate matter and physical activity on cognition'

Promotor: Prof. R. Meeusen – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **De Graef Jessie**

'Detection and mechanisms of macrocyclic lactone resistance in the bovine nematode *Cooperia oncophora*.'

Promotoren: Prof. Dr. P. Geldhof, prof. Dr. E. Claerebout – Universiteit Gent

### **Kuipers Ine**

'The glutaredoxin 1/protein S-glutathionylation axis in inflammatory lung disease; in vitro to clinical characterization.'

Promotor: Prof.dr. E.F.M. Wouters – Universiteit Maastricht

Copromotor: Dr. N. Reynaert – Universiteit Maastricht

### **Lemaire Miguel**

'The potential role of the insulin-like growth factor-I pathway in the development of new therapeutic strategies in multiple myeloma.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. K. Vanderkerken – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Wathlet Sandra**

'Cumulus cell gene expression as a marker of oocyte quality in the IVF laboratory.'

Promotor: Prof. dr. J. Smits – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Zgavc Tine**

'Neuroprotection by short mild hypothermia in experimental transient focal cerebral ischemia'

Promotor: Prof. Y. Michotte – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Prof. S. Sarre, prof. S. Hachimi-Idrissi, prof. R. Kooijman

## **2014**

### **Benteyn Daphné**

'Autologous Dendritic Cells and mRNA in Cancer Immunotherapy'

Promotor: Prof. K. Thielemans – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Dr. A. Bonehill – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Coppens Violette**

'Role of primary endothelial cells from blood in beta cell transplantation and analytical methods for cell number and tissue volume'

Promotor: Prof. H. Heimberg – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Dr. N. De Leu – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

## **2015**

### **Braeckman Tessa**

'Rotavirus vaccination : assessment of the implementation in Belgium'

Promotoren: Prof. P. Van Damme, prof. K. Van Herck – Universiteit Antwerpen

### **Goossens Veerle**

'Preimplantation genetic diagnosis: from bench to data collection'

Promotoren: Prof. Dr. K. Sermon - UZ Brussel - Vrije Universiteit Brussel / Emerit. Prof. Dr. J. Geraedts - Maastricht University Medical Center / Prof. Dr. S. Repping - Academic Medical Center Amsterdam

### **Jacobs Kurt**

'Genomic integrity of human embryonic stem cells. Low-grade mosaicism and the effect of culture density'

Promotor: Prof. K. Sermon, prof. C. Spits – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### **Maenhout Sarah**

'Enhancing therapeutic vaccination in melanoma by alleviating STAT3-mediated immune suppression.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Thielemans

Copromotor: Prof. J. Aerts

### **Maes Ken**

'The therapeutic and prognostic potential of epigenetic modulating agents in multiple myeloma'

Promotor: Prof. K. Vanderkerken, prof. E. De Bruyne – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Thoen Lien**

'The role of stress pathways during hepatic stellate cell activation'

Promotor: Prof. L. van Grunsven – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**2016****Baert Yoni**

'In vitro systems to restore male fertility following testicular tissue banking.'

Promotor: Prof. E. Goossens - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**De Brakeleer Sylvia**

'Towards a better understanding of genetic predisposition in breast cancer'

Promotoren: Prof. J. De Grève, Prof. E. Teugels - Vrije Universiteit Brussel, UZ Brussel

**De Veirman Kim**

'The role of bone marrow derived bystander cells in the development of multiple myeloma.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Vanderkerken, prof. E. Van Valckenborgh - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Prof. I. Van Riet, prof. E. Menu – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**El Taghdouini Adil**

'Characterization of human quiescent, activated and inactivated hepatic stellate cells'

Promotor: Prof. L. van Grunsven – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Faes Katrien**

'Translation of fertility preservation techniques to the clinic'

Promotor: Prof. E. Goossens – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Halewyck Hadewich**

'Analysis of poliovirus with capillary electrophoresis'

Promotor: Prof. Y. Vander Heyden, Prof. B. Rombaut – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Legein Bart**

'Role of dendritic cell subsets in hyperlipidemia and atherosclerosis'

Promotoren: prof.dr. E.A. Biessen – Maastricht University, prof.dr. E. Lutgens – Universiteit van Amsterdam

Co-promotor: dr. L. Temmerman – Maastricht University

**Lub Susanne**

'The role of E3 ubiquitin ligases with a focus on the inhibitor of apoptosis proteins (IAPs) and the anaphase-promoting complex/cyclosome (APC/C) in multiple myeloma'

Promotoren: Prof. K. Vanderkerken, E. Van Valckenborgh - Vrije Universiteit Brussel



**Van Der Jeught Kevin**

'ASPIRE: Adjuvant-driven induction of cancer SPecific immune Response'

Promotor: Prof. K. Breckpot – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotor: Prof. K. Thielemans – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Van Landuyt Lisbet**

'Vitrification of cleavage stage embryos and blastocysts in ART practice'

Promotor: Prof. Hilde Van de Velde, Dr. Greta Verheyen – Vrije Universiteit Brussel, UZ Brussel

**Vancutsem Ellen**

'Development and evaluation of different laboratory tools for the study of the pathogenic potential of Ureaplasma species in pregnancy'

Promotor: Prof. Dr. Anne Naessens – Vrije Universiteit Brussel, UZ Brussel

**2017**

**Barbé Lise**

'Identification of the molecular key drivers in disease development in myotonic dystrophy type I.'

Promotor: Prof. K. Sermon - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Petrussa Laetitia**

'DNA methylation reprogramming in human preimplantation development.'

Promotor: Prof. M. De Rycke – prof. H. Van de Velde – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Favreau Mérédis**

'Immune therapy in multiple myeloma: Can iNKT cells be targeted?'

Promotoren: Prof. E. Menu en prof. K. Vanderkerken – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Promotoren: Prof. D. Elewaut en dr.K. Venken – Universiteit Gent

**Stradiot Leslie**

'Modulation of liver fibrosis by targeting hepatic stellate cells'

Promotor: Prof. L. van Grunsven en Prof. I. Mannaerts - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**2018**

**Aberkane Asma:**

'Early steps of human embryo implantation mimicked in a dish.'

Promotor: Prof. H. Van de Velde - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Co-promotor: Prof. J. Brosens – University of Warwick - UK

**De Paepe Caroline**

'Totipotency versus differentiation in human embryonic cells'

Promotor : Prof. H. Van de Velde – Vrije Universiteit Brussel  
Copromotor: Prof. M. Geens - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Dufait Inès**

'Myeloid-derived suppressor cells as a novel therapeutic target in colorectal cancer.'  
Promotoren: Prof. K. Breckpot – Prof. M. De Ridder – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Verhulst Stefaan**

'Liver progenitor cell biology in chronic liver disease'  
Promotor: Prof. L. van Grunsven - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**2019**

**Krasniqi Ahmet:**

Targeted radionuclide therapy of non-Hodgkin lymphoma with anti-CD20 single domain antibody fragments.  
Promotor: Prof. N. Devoogdt – prof. M. D'Huyvetter - Vrije Universiteit Brussel  
Copromotor: Prof. J. Tavernier – Universiteit Gent

**Légat Laura:**

The role of brain AT1 and AT2 receptors in the central regulation of blood pressure: interaction with glutamate, GABA and NO.  
Promotor: Prof. A. Dupont – Vrije Universiteit Brussel  
Copromotor: Prof. I. Smolders - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Liberman Keliane:**

Nutritional and exercise interventions to counter chronic low-grade inflammation in older adults.  
Promotor: Prof. I. Bautmans - prof. I. Beyer – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Maes Anke:**

Exploring the therapeutic potential of targeting mitotic exit in combination with standard of care agents in high grade B cell malignancies.  
Promotor: Prof. E. De Bruyne – prof. K. Vanderkerken – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Tjok Joe Patrick:**

From mRNA to vaccines against infectious diseases and back again.  
Promotor: Prof. J. Aerts – prof. K. Thielemans – Vrije Universiteit Brussel



**2020**

**Adriaenssens Tom:**

Molecular evaluation of oocyte competence.

Promotor: Prof. E. Anckaert – prof. J. Smitz – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Eliaerts Joy:**

Qualitative and quantitative determination of cocaine using mid-infrared spectroscopy and chemometrics.

Promotoren: Prof. K. De Wael, K. Janssens, Prof. N. Meert - Universiteit Antwerpen

**Gelders Géraldine:**

Unraveling the role of alpha-synuclein strains in synucleinopathies.

Promotor: Prof. dr. V. Baekelandt - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Co-promotor: A. Van der Perren - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Lambrecht Joeri:**

The discovery of novel biomarkers for early stage liver fibrosis.

Promotoren: Prof. L. van Grunsven – prof. H. Reynaert – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**Martens Katleen**

The effect of the microbiome on nasal epithelial barrier function in chronic rhinosinuitis.

Promotor: Prof. dr. Peter Hellings – Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Co-promotoren: Sven Seys, Brecht Steelant - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

**Pierre Anouk:**

A scavenger hunt towards a better understanding of the involvement of ghrelin receptor signaling in emotion regulation.

Promotor: Prof. D. De Bundel – Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Co-promotoren: Prof. I. Smolders – Vrije Universiteit Brussel; prof. T. Beckers – KULeuven

**Van Audenaerde Jonas:**

Paving the way for immunotherapy in pancreatic cancer by unravelling its tumour microenvironment and exploring a novel combination immunotherapy consisting of a CD40 agonist and interleukin-15.

Promotoren: Prof. E. Smits, M. Peeters, G. Roeyen – Universiteit Antwerpen