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Innate and adaptive host responses and their genetic control in tuberculosis : studies in Indonesia, a highly TB endemic setting

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STELLINGEN

1. *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* targets and manipulates critical steps in the human innate and adaptive response to infection (*this thesis*).
2. The strong suppression of interferon gamma production in active tuberculosis patients is not caused by lower production of IL-12 or other pro-inflammatory cytokines (*this thesis*).
3. In host defense against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, plasma granulysin levels and cellular IFN- γ production correlate with curative host responses in pulmonary tuberculosis, pointing to a potentially important role of granulysin next to IFN- γ (*this thesis*).
4. The absence of a BCG scar cannot rule out past BCG vaccination (*this thesis*).
5. Diabetes and tuberculosis are close allies (*this thesis*).
6. In TB endemic areas where many other infections are common, one should bear in mind that anemia can result not only from malnutrition or iron deficiency but also from TB.
7. The Ramadhan periods need to be taken into consideration in the design of longitudinal studies, given the difficulties in taking medication and donating blood during the Ramadhan.
8. Although TB treatment in PUSKESMAS (Pusat Kesehatan Masyarakat) is free, direct observation therapy (DOT) needs strong and continued commitment from both the medical officer and the patient as the TB treatment is lengthy (6 months).
9. In a large study where multiple institutes are involved, databases accessible from all sites are essential (*Sakto Wibisono, consultant PT Oracle Indonesia*).
10. Indonesia is a hypermarket for many infectious diseases.
11. The weekend in Leiden is the time when you can work optimally in the lab in a peaceful environment.

Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift: "Innate and Adaptive Host Responses and Their Genetic Control in Tuberculosis: Studies in Indonesia, a Highly TB Endemic Setting" te verdedigen door Edhyana Sahiratmadja, 27-11-2007 te Leiden.

