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Universiteit Leiden



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**Title:** Anti-colorectal cancer immunity: control 'the force'!

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Stellingen

Behorend bij het proefschrift:

# Tumor immunology:



## control 'the force'!

1. The positive correlation between a high expression of HLA class I on tumor cells and better clinical outcome in patients with rectal cancer suggests that the cytotoxic T cell response is one of the driving forces in the anti-tumor immune response. (this thesis)
2. Expression of the chemokine CXCL5 in colorectal cancers is associated with the infiltration of distinct leukocyte subsets and a better survival indicating that tumor intrinsic factors may coordinate immune infiltration and orchestrate the anti-tumor immune response. (this thesis)
3. The expression of a set of frameshift mutated antigens that is similar for many MSI-H tumors forms a unique opportunity for immunotherapy therefore rapid identification of the immunogenic non-self-segment of the frame-shift products in these tumors is required. (this thesis)
4. As the quality of the vaccine induced T-cell response will determine clinical effectiveness, cancer vaccines should be combined with immunomodulatory agents to achieve a better vaccine-specific type 1-polarized T-cell response. (this thesis)
5. Injection of the p53-SLP® safely enhances the number of mainly p53 specific CD4+ T-cells indicating that cancer vaccines should induce responses against multiple tumor antigens to expand both cancer specific CD4+ and CD8+ T-cells. (this thesis)
6. The immunomodulatory effects of the chemotherapeutic compounds that are part of the standard treatment of cancer patients should be studied with respect to their capacity to enhance the efficacy of cancer vaccines. (*Cancers* 2011, 3(3), 3114-3142)
7. A prerequisite for the effective use of immunotherapy is a profound understanding of the mechanisms utilized by tumors to escape from immunity.
8. Future progression in cancer treatment depends on the success of eliminating chemotherapy resistant cancer stem cells; T-cell based immunotherapy seems best suited to do this. (*Journal of Translational Medicine* 2011 Jan 27;9:17)
9. As most tumor antigens are "self" antigens clinical efficacy of cancer vaccination may be associated with autoimmunity therefore one of the future's challenges in cancer vaccination will be to uncouple anti-tumor immunity from autoimmunity (*Current Opinion in Oncology* 2011 Mar;23(2):170-6.)
10. Exposure to environmental tobacco smoke is a known cause of morbidity and premature mortality and therefore calls for a strong support of the expansion and enforcement of comprehensive smoke-free laws. (*Lancet* 2011 Jan 8;377(9760):139-46)
11. Extreme remedies are very appropriate for extreme diseases. (Hippocrates)
12. We borrowed golf from Scotland as we borrowed whisky. Not because it is Scottish, but because it is good. (Horace Hutchinson)