T cell immunity to islets of Langerhans : relevance for immunotherapy and transplantation to cure type 1 diabetes

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CURRICULUM VITAE

The author was born on September 16, 1979, in the very same hospital in Leiden at which the research leading to this thesis was conducted. He spent most of his youth in the south of the Netherlands and graduated from secondary school (gymnasium β) at the Jeanne d'Arc College in Maastricht in 1997. In the same year he started Medical School at Leiden University.

In 2001 and 2002 the author conducted his scientific graduation project at the Transplant Research Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School in Boston, USA (prof.dr. M.H. Sayegh and dr. A. Chandraker). This research project considered the role of costimulatory molecules in transplant rejection and part of its results are included in this thesis.

Subsequently, the author followed clinical rotations at the Leiden University Medical Center and affiliated hospitals. Otolaryngology and Dermatology rotations were followed at the St. Elisabeth Hospital in Willemstad, Curaçao. In 2004 the author obtained his MD degree *cum laude* after following a senior rotation at the transplantation division of the department of Surgery at the Leiden University Medical Center.

In December 2004 he started his research on the relevance of T cell immunity in type 1 diabetes, islet and pancreas transplantation, again in Leiden at the department of Surgery in close collaboration with the department of Immunohaematology and Blood Transfusion (prof.dr. O.T. Terpstra and dr. B.O. Roep). He presented his work at several national and international meetings, during which his work was considered an 'outstanding abstract' at the Dutch Diabetes Research Association meetings in 2005, 2006 and 2007. In October 2007, the author started his surgical residency at the Leiden University Medical Center (prof.dr. J.F. Hamming).

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