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Universiteit Leiden



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Title: Macrophage activation and cholesterol accumulation in atherosclerosis development

Issue Date: 2015-01-08

Erik van Kampen was born on the 11th of August 1982 in Rotterdam. He completed his HAVO education at Comenius College in Capelle aan den IJssel in the year 2000 and continued his studies that same year at the Hogeschool van Utrecht. There he studied Higher Laboratory Sciences with a major in zoology. He successfully completed his internship at the University of Bristol in 2005 and was subsequently awarded a Bachelors in Science (BSc). In February 2005, Erik started his first position as a Research Technician at the Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience (NIN). In 2007 he quit his position at the NIN and took up work as a Research Assistant at the department of Drug Delivery Technology at the University of Leiden in May. However, after several months he left there to start work at the University of Oxford in September 2007. There, working again as a Research Assistant, Erik worked on murine models of endothelial repopulation after deployment of a stent. In May 2010, Erik moved back to The Netherlands to pursue a PhD tract at the department of Biopharmaceutics of the University of Leiden. During this time he performed the research described in this thesis, under the skilled supervision of Prof. dr. M. van Eck and Prof. dr. Th.J.C. van Berkel and funded by the Dutch Heart Foundation. During this time, in 2013, he received an award for the best poster presentation at the ULLA Summer School in London.

