

# Intervention in hepatic lipid metabolism : implications for atherosclerosis progression and regression

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

LDLlow-density lipoproteinLDLrLDL receptorLDLr <sup>-/-</sup> LDL receptor-deficientLPLlipoprotein lipaseLRPLDLr-related proteinLXRliver X receptorMCPmonocyte chemoattractant protein
MTP microsomal transfer protein

## LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

#### Full papers

**Li Z**, Calpe-Berdiel L, Saleh P, Van der Sluis RJ, Remmerswaal S, McKinnon HJ, Smit MJ, Van Eck M, Van Berkel TJC, Hoekstra M. Bone marrow reconstitution in ApoE<sup>-/-</sup> mice: a novel model to induce atherosclerotic plaque regression. *Manuscript in preparation*.

**Li Z**, Van der Stoep M, Van der Sluis RJ, McKinnon HJ, Smit MJ, Van Eck M, Van Berkel TJC, Hoekstra M. LXR activation is essential to induce atherosclerotic plaque regression in C57BL/6 mice. *Submitted for publication*.

**Li Z**, Blad CC, Van der Sluis RJ, De Vries H, Van Berkel TJC, IJzerman AP, Hoekstra M. Effects of pyrazole partial agonists on HCA<sub>2</sub>-mediated flushing and hepatic VLDL production in mice. *Submitted for publication*.

**Li Z**, Wang Y, Hildebrand RB, Van der Hoorn JWA, Princen HMG, Van Eck M, Van Berkel TJC, Rensen PCN, Hoekstra M. Niacin reduces plasma CETP levels by diminishing liver macrophage content in CETP transgenic mice. *Submitted for publication*.

**Li Z**, Kruijt JK, Van Berkel TJC, Hoekstra M. Gene Expression Profiling of Nuclear Receptors in Mouse Liver Parenchymal, Endothelial, and Kupffer Cells. *Submitted for publication*.

Hoekstra M, Van der Sluis RJ, **Li Z**, Van Berkel TJC. Profiling of the adrenal stress signature reveals candidate steroidogenic nuclear receptor targets. *Submitted for publication*.

Reuwer AQ, Van der Sluis RJ, **Li Z**, Goffin V, Twickler MTB, Kastelein J, Van Berkel TJC, Hoekstra M. Hyperprolactinemia in LDL receptor knockout mice is associated with a pro-atherogenic metabolic phenotype, but not with increased atherosclerosis. *Submitted for publication*.

Hoekstra M, Van der Sluis RJ, **Li Z**, Oosterveer MH, Groen AK, Van Berkel TJC. The farnesoid X receptor (FXR) stimulates adrenal steroidogenesis in mice. *Submitted for publication*.

Hoekstra M, Korporaal SJ, **Li Z**, Zhao Y, Van Eck M, Van Berkel TJ. Plasma lipoproteins are required for both basal and stress-induced adrenal glucocorticoid synthesis and protection against endotoxemia in mice. *Am J Physiol Endocrinol Metab.* 2010;299:E1038-E1043.

Hoekstra M, Li Z, Kruijt JK, Van Eck M, Van Berkel TJ, Kuiper J. The expression level of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease-related gene PNPLA3 in hepatocytes is highly influenced by hepatic lipid status. *J Hepatol*. 2010;52:244-251.

Hoekstra M, Lammers B, Out R, Li Z, Van Eck M, Van Berkel TJ. Activation of the nuclear receptor PXR decreases plasma LDL-cholesterol levels and induces hepatic steatosis in LDL receptor knockout mice. *Mol Pharm.* 2009;6:182-189.

Out R, Hoekstra M, Hildebrand RB, Kruit JK, Meurs I, Li Z, Kuipers F, Van Berkel TJ, Van Eck M. Macrophage ABCG1 deletion disrupts lipid homeostasis in alveolar macrophages and moderately influences atherosclerotic lesion development in LDL receptor-deficient mice. *Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol.* 2006;26:2295-2300.

#### Peer reviewed abstracts

**Li Z**, Wang Y, Hildebrand RB, Van der Hoorn JWA, Princen HMG, Van Eck M, Van Berkel TJC, Rensen PCN, Hoekstra M. Niacin reduces plasma CETP levels by diminishing liver macrophage content in CETP transgenic mice. *Gordon Conference on Atherosclerosis.* 2011.

Hoekstra M, Li Z, Van der Sluis RJ, Van Berkel TJ. The Farnesoid X Receptor (FXR) Stimulates Adrenal Steroidogenesis in Mice. *Endocr Rev.* 2010;31:3.

**Li Z**, Kruijt JK, Van Berkel TJC, Hoekstra M. Gene Expression Profiling of Nuclear Receptors in Mouse Liver Parenchymal, Endothelial, and Kupffer Cells. *Atherosclerosis suppl.* 2009;10:2.

Hoekstra M, Lammers B, Out R, Li Z, Van Eck M, Van Berkel TJ. Activation of the nuclear receptor PXR decreases plasma LDL-cholesterol levels and induces hepatic steatosis in LDL receptor knockout mice. *Atherosclerosis suppl.* 2009;10:2.

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Zhaosha Li was born on May 26<sup>th</sup> 1983 in Changsha, China. In 2001, she started her university education at Capital Normal University, Beijing, China, majoring in Biological Sciences. During her study, she did a 5-month internship at Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) titled 'Application of amplified ribosomal DNA restriction analysis in characterizing biodiversity of endophytic bacteria in rice'.

In 2005, she graduated with honors and came to The Netherlands to start her master study in Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Science, Leiden University, with Leiden University Excellence Scholarship. During this 2-year master program, she did a 9-month internship titled 'Role of macrophage scavenger-receptor BI and CD36 in atherosclerosis', under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Theo J.C. van Berkel and Dr. Ruud Out, at the Division of Biopharmaceutics, Leiden University, and a 6-month internship titled 'Effects of genetic variation in the human organic cation transporter hOCT1 on drug inhibition' with ULLA MSc Grant at Department of Pharmacy, Uppsala University, Sweden, under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Per Artursson and Dr. Gustav Ahlin.

From October 2007 to September 2011, she has been working as a PhD candidate (Assistent in Opleiding) at the Division of Biopharmaceutics, Leiden/Amsterdam Center for Drug Research (LACDR), Leiden University. Her PhD research was financially sponsored by Top Institute Pharma (TI Pharma) project T2-110-1 'Nuclear receptors as targets for anti-atherosclerotic therapies', under the supervision of promotor Prof. Dr. Theo J.C. van Berkel, co- promotor Dr. Menno Hoekstra, and TI Pharma principal investigator Dr. Martin-Jan Smit from MSD, Oss. Her research was mainly focused on the pathology and novel pharmaceutical interventions in hyperlipidemia, hepatic lipid metabolism, and atherosclerotic plaque regression. The results of this program are presented in this thesis.