Targets for personalized treatment of conjunctival melanoma

Cao, J.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

1. **Cao J**, Jager MJ.
   Animal eye models for uveal melanoma.
   Ocul Oncol Pathol. 2015; 1 (3):141–150.

2. Yang H, **Cao J**, Grossniklaus HE.
   Uveal melanoma metastasis models.
   Ocul Oncol Pathol. 2015; 1 (3):151–160.

3. De Waard NE, Kolovou PE, McGuire SP, **Cao J**, Frank NY, Frank MH, Jager MJ, Ksander BR.
   Expression of multidrug resistance transporter ABCB5 in a murine model of human conjunctival melanoma.
   Ocul Oncol Pathol. 2015; 1 (3):182–189.

4. De Waard NE*, **Cao J***, McGuire SP, Kolovou PE, Jordanova ES, Ksander BR, Jager MJ.
   A murine model of metastatic conjunctival melanoma.
   Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 2015; 56 (4):2325–2333.

5. Versluis M, de Lange MJ, van Pelt SI, Ruivenkamp CA, Kroes WG, **Cao J**, Jager MJ, Luyten GP, van der Velden PA.
   Digital PCR validates 8q dosage as prognostic tool in uveal melanoma.
   PLoS One. 2015; 10 (3): e0116371.

6. **Cao J**, Heijkants RC, Jochemsen AG, Dogrusöz M, de Lange MJ, van der Velden PA, van der Burg SH, Jager MJ, Verdijk RM.
   Targeting of the MAPK and AKT pathways in conjunctival melanoma shows potential synergy.
   Oncotarget. 2016; 8 (35):58021-58036.

7. **Cao J***, Brouwer NJ*, Richards KE, Marinkovic M, van Duinen S, Hurkmans D, Verdegaal EME, Jordanova ES, Jager MJ.
   PD-L1/PD-1 expression and tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes in conjunctival melanoma.
   Oncotarget. 2017; 8 (33):54722-54734.

8. Gezgin G, Luk SJ, **Cao J**, Dogrusöz M, van der Steen DM, Hagedoorn RS, Krijgsman D, van der Velden PA, Field MG, Luyten GPM, et al.
   PRAME as a potential target for immunotherapy in metastatic uveal melanoma.
   JAMA Ophthalmol. 2017; 135 (6):541-549.

9. Pontes KC, Groenewoud A, **Cao J,** Ataide LM, Snaar-Jagalska E, Jager MJ. Evaluation of (fli:GFP) Casper zebrafish embryos as a model for human conjunctival melanoma. (*In press, Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci*. 2017).

10. **Cao J**, Pontes KC, Heijkants RC, Brouwer NJ, Groenewoud A, Jordanova ES, Marinkovic M, van Duinen SG, Teunisse AFAS, Robert M Verdijk, Snaar-Jagalska E, Jochemsen AG, Jager MJ.
    Overexpression of EZH2 in conjunctival melanoma offers a new therapeutic target. (*Submitted for publication*).

11. **Cao J**, Brouwer NJ, Jordanova ES, Marinkovic M, van Duinen SG, de Waard NE, Ksander BR, Mulder A, Claas FHJ, Heemskerk MHM, Jager MJ.
    HLA class I antigen expression in conjunctival melanoma is not associated with PD-L1/PD-1 status. (*Submitted for publication*).

12. Dogrusöz M, Trasel AR, **Cao J**, Olak S, van Pelt SI, Pfeffer U, van Duinen SG, Luyten GPM, van der Velden PA, Jochemsen AG, Jager MJ.
    Differential expression of DNA repair genes in prognostically-favorable versus prognostically-unfavorable uveal melanoma. (*Submitted for publication*).

* These authors contributed equally to the work.

CURRICULUM VITAE

The author of this thesis was born on February 17th, 1982 in Changchun, Jilin Province, P.R. China. In 2001, after finishing his high school education at Jilin Provincial Experimental School in Changchun, he decided to study clinical medicine at the Norman Bethune Health Science Center of Jilin University. The author obtained his M.D. degree in 2006, and he was admitted as a master student of Ophthalmology by Jilin University Second Hospital in 2007. After completion of his master education in 2010, the author continued his clinical doctor career at the Ophthalmology Department of Jilin University Second Hospital for two years.

In 2012, he was supported by the China Scholarship Council Scholarship Program and came to the Netherlands to start his PhD career under supervision of Professor Martine J. Jager, at the Ophthalmology Department of Leiden University Medical Center. During his PhD training, the author had the chance to present his work in Europe, Asia and the United States and established international collaborations with other institutes. The author will go back to China where he will continue his clinical and scientific research.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

When I wrote this thesis, all the memories of past five years emerged in my mind. I still remember on the day that I first arrived at Leiden Central station, my dear landlady Christine drove me home and I started to realize that my adventure in Netherlands had begun.

Expressing my gratitude with only words is not enough. Many kind and lovely people have helped me overcome the hard times, and make my life better. I am so lucky to have met you all.

My dear promotor, Prof. Dr. Martine J. Jager, thank you for providing me the great opportunity to perform my PhD program under your supervision in the LUMC. Your scientific views, attitudes and enthusiasm have encouraged me all the time. You always inspired and supported me, and gave me enough freedom to think, to practice, and to finish. I really appreciate your supervision style. Special thanks to my co-promotor Dr. Aart G. Jochemsen. You are so patient, and have taught me many useful techniques and created a lot of excellent ideas. I am also lucky to have Dr. Rob Verdijk as my co-promotor: we had a nice collaboration and you showed me how to become a rigorous researcher. Dear Prof. Dr. Ludwig Heindl, Dr. Mei Wang and Dr. Renbing Jia, I am very grateful for your kind help and suggestions regarding my thesis.

I would like to express my appreciation to my colleagues in Ophthalmology: Gre, Pieter, Mehmet, Mieke, Herbert, Niels, Annemijn, Gulcin, Kelly, Rogier, Marina, Mark, Judith, Annelies and Nadine. It was very nice to share so much good time with you.

I would also thank my friends and collaborators from other departments: Sjoerd, Els, Thorbald and Marjolein (Clinical Oncology, LUMC); Renier, Amina and Aat (MCB, LUMC); Katja and Sjoerd (Pathology, LUMC); Mirjam and Dirk (HEM, LUMC); Arend and Pieter (IHB, LUMC); Marco (Pediatrics, LUMC); Arwin and Ewa (IBL,

Leiden). Without you, the studies could not be finished. It was great to work with you.

I am very grateful to my ex-landlords Jan and Willem, and ex-landlady Christina, for sharing your wonderful experiences of Netherlands and for your kind help.

My dear friends Mengmeng, Min, Zhenyu, Yaojin, Hao, Feng, Peng, Zhuang and Jiaxin, thank you very much for taking care of me during my long-term injury. I appreciate the kind help from Junling, Wenbo and Jianxin for my scientific research. Dear Frank, Yuchuan, Jian, Feng, Lin, Jinxian, Dejian, Jianxin, Ruslan, Rind, Florence, Zoraida, Joep, Teresa, Tom, Anran, Alexander, Maartje, Claire, Pjotr, Junzeng and Jieya, I am very happy to get to know you brilliant people. The kind help and wonderful time that we spent together are always in my mind.

I am very grateful to my teachers and friends in China. Despite the long distance, your encouragements inspire me all the time.

Last but not least, I would like to thank my family members. My dear parents Guihe and Chunshun, thank you for showing me how to be a kind, brave, confident and independent person. Although I went so far away, my heart is always with you. My dear wife Yan, thank you for your company during my injury. And thank you for your understanding, supporting and letting me pursue my dream thousands of kilometers away. The end is just another beginning. Now it is time to go home and start a new journey!

Sincerely,
Jinfeng