

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/29660> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation

Author: Amoah, Abena Serwaa

Title: Helminth infections and allergies in Ghana

Issue Date: 2014-11-11

Helminth Infections and Allergies in Ghana

Abena S. Amoah

ISBN: 978-94-6182-504-9

© 2014 Abena S. Amoah

Cover image: The co-existence of traditional living and western lifestyle in Ghana. The picture was taken at the Ada estuary where the Volta river meets the Atlantic ocean.

Printing of this thesis was financially supported by Thermo Fisher

Cover design: Nando Nkrumah

Cover design and layout financially supported by HAL Allergy

Layout and printing: Off Page, Amsterdam

The investigations described in this thesis were financially supported by the Netherlands Foundation for the Advancement of Tropical Research (WOTRO, grant no. WB 93-443), European Commission (grant no. FOOD-CT-2005-517812 and grant no. FOOD-CT-2005-514000) and the Wellcome Trust (grant no. 075791/Z/04/Z).

Helminth Infections and Allergies in Ghana

Proefschrift

ter verkrijging van
de graad van Doctor aan de Universiteit Leiden,
op gezag van Rector Magnificus prof.mr. C.J.J.M. Stolker,
volgens besluit van het College voor Promoties
te verdedigen op dinsdag 11 november 2014
klokke 15:00 uur

door

Abena Serwaa Amoah
geboren te Roma, Lesotho
in 1977

Promotiecommissie

Promotores:

Prof. dr. M. Yazdanbakhsh

Prof. dr. D.A. Boakye,

Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana

Overige leden:

Prof. dr. M.E. Numans

Prof. dr. C. Taube

Prof. dr. M.P. Grobusch,

Academisch Medisch Centrum, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Amsterdam

Prof. dr. K.A. Koram,

Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana

Prof. dr. L.C. Rodrigues,

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, United Kingdom

Prof. dr. R. van Ree,

Academisch Medisch Centrum, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Amsterdam

Dedicated to my father Philip Kofi Adjapong Amoah
who continues to inspire me everyday

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1	General Introduction	9
Chapter 2	Schistosome infection is negatively associated with mite atopy, but not wheeze and asthma in Ghanaian schoolchildren	21
Chapter 3	Food allergy in Ghanaian schoolchildren: data on sensitization and reported food allergy	47
Chapter 4	Peanut-specific IgE antibodies in asymptomatic Ghanaian children possibly caused by carbohydrate determinant cross-reactivity	67
Chapter 5	Cellular immune responses and skin prick test reactivity to house dust mite allergen in Ghanaian schoolchildren	97
Chapter 6	Urban-rural differences in the gene expression profiles of Ghanaian children	115
Chapter 7	Parasitic worms and allergies in childhood: insights from population studies 2008-2013	143
Chapter 8	Summarizing Discussion	165
Appendix	Study Questionnaire	181
	Summary	197
	Nederlandse Samenvatting	201
	Curriculum Vitae	205
	List of Publications	207
	Acknowledgments – Dankwoord	209

