

Cover Page



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Curriculum vitae

Aria Zand was born in 1989 in Tehran, Iran. He moved to the Netherlands in 1996 where he completed his secondary education at Het Stedelijk Lyceum Kottenpark Enschede in 2007. Afterwards he enrolled in medical school at the Academic Medical Center at the University of Amsterdam. During his studies, he was very active in organizing educational and physical education activities for the socially disadvantaged youth in Amsterdam. In 2013-2014 he spent a year as a research associate at the Center for Inflammatory Bowel Diseases at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where his interest for data-driven medicine and health technology was triggered.

After graduating from medical school with distinction (Cum Laude) in 2016, he moved to Los Angeles where he was selected as the Quality Improvement scholar at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He implemented procedural changes and optimized workflows to improve efficiency and cost-effectiveness of diagnosing patients while attending classes on LEAN methodology. In 2017, he was awarded the ECCO-IOIBD fellowship and under the supervision of professor Hommes started with his PhD, a combined effort between the University of Leiden and the University of California, Los Angeles. The research was performed at the Vatche & Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases at UCLA. Additionally, during this time he was part of an academic spin-out company, leveraging academic research for use in eHealth applications for physicians and patients. In the future, he hopes to combine patient care with the creative development of health technology in order to improve the experience of both physicians and patients.