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Dyslipidemia at the crossroad of the skin barrier and the arterial wall

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Propositions

1. Although hypercholesterolemia may go unnoticed for decades, the skin silently compiles evidence of its lipid disturbances (*This thesis*).
2. Unraveling the impact of dyslipidemia on the skin lipid profile increases our understanding of the crossroads between dermatological disorders and cardiovascular disease (*This thesis*).
3. Different skin sites yield differential barrier lipid profile in response to hypercholesterolemia (*This thesis*).
4. Lyp-1 is a valuable tool to target lipid-laden macrophages in atherosclerotic lesions (*This thesis*).
5. Acknowledging key (skin) differences between mice and humans should not invalidate the use murine models but help scientists improve experimental design and translate their findings (*Zomer H.D. & Trentin A.G. Journal of Dermatological Science. 2018; 90(1), 3-112*).
6. The critical role of cholesterol in psoriasis is a crucial piece in the intricate puzzle connecting dermatological disorders and dyslipidemias (*Varshney P. et. al. Nature Scientific Reports. 2016; 6, 19295*).
7. In lipid model membranes small changes in short chain fatty acids significantly impact membrane permeability by increased conformational mobility (*Uchiyama M. et. al. BBA Biomembranes. 2016. 1858(9):2050-2059*).
8. The central role of macrophages in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis makes them attractive targets for modulation of plaque development, regression and stability (*Barret T.J. Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology. 2020;40(1), 20-33*).
9. The Ph.D. path is a combination of professional, intellectual, and personal development processes, and its success cannot be solely measured by the doctorate thesis.
10. The tricky part of publishing research studies is to accept that there will always be more questions to be answered and then convince others to accept that too.
11. The biggest challenges require the strongest wills.

Renata Martins Cardoso
Leiden, 5 October 2021

