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RAD51 as biomarker for the identification of homologous recombination deficient gynaecological carcinomas

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**RAD51 as biomarker for the identification
of homologous recombination deficient
gynaecological carcinomas**

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RAD51 as biomarker for the identification of homologous recombination deficient gynaecological carcinomas

RAD51 als biomarker voor de selectie
van homologe recombinitie deficiënte
gynaecologische tumoren

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Prologue

This thesis contains the results of six years of carefully designed and conducted scientific research. It describes the journey that we have undertaken to explore the use of RAD51, an important protein involved in the repair of DNA-double strand breaks, as a biomarker for homologous recombination deficiency in gynaecological carcinomas. This endeavor led to surprising discoveries, but also brought negative results and the need to change direction. By recording this process, I hope that every piece of information we obtained, both positive and negative, can be of value for future research, and most importantly, for the patients who could benefit from it.

Voor mijn lieve papa,

*'Ring the bells that still can ring
Forget your perfect offering
There is a crack, a crack in everything
That's how the light gets in'
- Anthem, Leonard Cohen*