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## **Profiling of proteins and targeting of myeloid mechanisms in atherosclerosis**

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## Stellingen

### Behorende bij het proefschrift

#### Profiling of proteins and targeting of myeloid mechanisms in atherosclerosis

1. The absence of control samples is inevitable in human atherosclerotic tissue studies (**This thesis**).
2. We should not limit our focus to only the presence of proteins in human plaque samples, but also measure specifically the active proteins (**This thesis**).
3. Targeting the NLRP3<sup>+</sup>IL-1R1<sup>+</sup> myeloid cell is a powerful strategy to reduce atherosclerosis (**This thesis**).
4. Bispecific antibodies are the solution to increase the specificity of therapeutics for atherosclerosis (**This thesis**).
5. Performing systematic reviews reduces the number of animals used in scientific research (Langendam, M.W. *et al.* Developing a database of systematic reviews of animal studies. *Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology* **123**, 104940 (2021)).
6. Combining different omics techniques is necessary to gain a complete insight in the disease processes underlying atherosclerosis and to realize precision therapy.
7. To limit side effects, the development of more specific interventions in inflammatory pathways needs to be the focus of future therapy development for cardiovascular diseases (Ridker, P.M. *et al.* Antiinflammatory Therapy with Canakinumab for Atherosclerotic Disease. *The New England Journal of Medicine* **377**, 1119-1131 (2017)).
8. The immune system resembles dancing cells having a party, it is a moving and interacting network (Shilts, J. *et al.* A physical wiring diagram for the human immune system. *Nature* **608**, 397-404 (2022)).
9. Reflecteren op je eigen onderzoek is waardevol voor de wetenschappelijke vooruitgang.
10. Het opwerpen van tegenargumenten is noodzakelijk in een wetenschappelijke discussie.
11. Tekenen verheldert: het verdiept wetenschappelijk begrip en helpt het hoofd leeg te maken.

Lucie Delfos

Leiden, 30 juni 2026