Gene therapy in kidney transplantation
Sandovici, Maria

IMPORTANT NOTE: You are advised to consult the publisher's version (publisher's PDF) if you wish to cite from it. Please check the document version below.

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Publication date:
2006

Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database

Citation for published version (APA):
Acknowledgements

A law of Physics says that the mechanical work between two points depends on the chosen path. Writing a thesis involves certainly some mechanical work and thus it obeys this law; it does matter the path you opt for, the story behind it, the people you meet, you work with, their support and commitment. Many people have walked along with me and have helped me to choose the right direction during the last four years. The final words of my thesis are dedicated to them.

I would like to begin with my promoters, Rob Henning and Dick de Zeeuw. Dear Rob, I have been privileged to have you as scientific mentor during these four years. You have been the person most involved in my research project and you have contributed essentially to the existence of this thesis. Thank you for helping me whenever I needed it, for believing in me, for nourishing my interest for research with your dedication, enthusiasm, optimism and creativity. I have really appreciated your support in developing the IDOL without an L project (it will work out for certain!). And not least, thank you for supporting me towards the accomplishment of my professional dream.

Dear Dick, you have been actually for long time the leader of the team involved in my research project. You always had a critical look at the design of the experiments and at the results. You helped me realize that in research, as in life, it is important to take timely decisions and to focus on important things. I have really enjoyed our discussions during the refereeravond and the nierklas. Thank you!

I would also like to thank my co-promoters, Harry van Goor and Leo Deelman. Dear Harry, for me the concept of a bridge between AZG and the faculty building had a shape before a real bridge has existed. You have been the bridge for me. You helped me enormously in creating my own network in the hospital. Thank you also for your support in solving practical problems and for being on the other side of the microscope whenever I needed it. Dear Leo, I guess you do not remember it anymore but you were the first who had the vision of a thesis with my name on it…And it was not only your vision that helped me to complete the path towards today, but also your continuous assistance during the last four years. Your help in solving practical problems has always come promptly, really speeding up the things. For this (and for your jocks as well...), I thank you!

My word of thank goes also to the members of the reading committee, Dr. Ariela Benigni, Prof. Dr. Hidde Haisma and Prof. Dr. Rutger Ploeg, for critically evaluating my thesis.

A great part of my PhD story has been written in the AIO kamers, the place where I could always find someone to share with the successes and frustrations of the lab work. These rooms have also been a nest for friendships. That is why a big word of thank is dedicated to my colleagues, AIO’s and PhD students: Simone G., Annemarieke, Els, Bart, Peter O., Erik, Peter van der Meer, Menno, Bas, Jacoba, Heidrun, Willeke, Lisa, Larissa, Cheng, Ying, Bernadet, Mirjam, Willemijn, Rik, Liana, Sascha, Jacoline, Pim, Daan, Hiddo, Hisko, Irma, Nadir, Irina. Dear Els, our gene therapy projects have developed together, and our friendship has evolved along with them. I have really appreciated your support and enjoyed our conversations. I whish you good luck in the future! Dear Peter, your presence in Groningen has made me feel one step closer to my homeland. Your joy of life and
spontaneity reminded me the ancient daci, as they are described in novels. You are a great friend! I hope you will accomplish soon the dream of doing research in a famous lab in the USA. Dear Willemijn, two things we have in common for certain: the first is that we are both willing to combine research with clinical work, the second is that we have both worked late in the evening during the last year (meeting you was always a good excuse for a break). Good luck with choosing your specialty (don’t go for the last switch)!

Dear Erik, from bench to bedside has not only been a kind of motto of your EPO project, but also the way you smoothly combined the research with the clinical work. I guess your determination and success in combining them has influenced my own vision of the future. Thank you for being my paranimf!

My second paranimf, Mihaela, I would like to thank you for being my friend throughout the highs and the lows of these four years. I found in you a great person, more than the words can say it. Good luck with defending your own thesis and with the fulfillment of your dreams!

Anton, it is difficult to place your name in a list...Thank you for your support whenever I needed it, for your humor and friendship.

I would also like to thank the other people who have contributed to the nice atmosphere at the Clinical Pharmacology during the last four years: Wieke, Floor, Richard, Hendrik, Regin, Pieter, Pietro Mol, Cees, Adriaan, Amani, Haang, Simone. I thank Ardy, Alexandra, Ellen and Jan for daily help. Ardy, I really appreciated your support at the beginning of my time in Groningen. Wessel, thank you!

The biotechnicians and the laboratory assistants have not only made my lab work easier, but also nicer. Thank you Alex, Egbert, Marry (I have always enjoyed our conversations about the Dutch and Romanian societies), Antoinet (a big thank you for the virus production), Cecile, Linda, Maaike, Kristien, Alexandra, Aziwerus, Jacko, Janneke, Bianca, Peter, Martin, Marjolein! Marian (Pathology), I thank you for all your help with immunohistochemistry. The people from CDL, Annemieke, Hans, Hesther, Antony, thank you for your help with the animal experiments. I also thank my students (Erik, Paul, Arjan, Emilio) for our fruitful collaboration.

The people from the other side of the Bridge, Ester, Andrea, Mirjan, Eelke, Titia, Auke, thank you for lively discussions at the Kidney Center and for the great time at the ASN Conference! I would also like to thank Riekje Banus and all the people from GUIDE who supported my research during the last four years.

A special “Thank you!” is addressed to Prof. Dr. Paul de Jong and to the team at the Nephrology-UMCG who have offered me the opportunity to look at the kidney transplantation from the bedside during the last months.

Being far away from your homeland is not always easy. I thank my old friends from Romania for being there for me with news, jocks and their hart: Lidia, Melania, Roxana, Alina N., Ioana, Relu, Bogdan S., Mihai, Sandu, Sergiu, Sorin, Marius, Alina I., Bogdan I.,
Irina and Irinel. My Romanian friends in Groningen, Geanina and Daniela, good luck with defending your own thesis soon!

This thesis is dedicated to my beloved parents, Elena and Valeriu, for all the moments, days and years they have invested in me, for their love and patience. My dear sister Ana, thank you so much for your support! Good luck together with Costi! Dear Ionel, it would be difficult to compete with you in research, luckily we have different areas of interest. Thank you for your encouragements! Dear Adrian, we have spent together a wonderful time in Groningen, thank you for being here! I also thank Laura for her help and friendship and to Ruxandra and Smaranda for bringing so much life and joy into our house when they came to Groningen.

I would also like to thank my parents-in-law, Felicia and Dumitru, for their support.

My precious Orest, we have walked together through fields of ideas, sounds and words...Thank you!