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Current Fields of Research

The research in the Department of Rheumatology of the Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre is organized in a clinical- and basic-research team which are closely interacting with each other. Focus of the department is on:

- animal and in vitro models to understand the pathogenesis of Rheumatoid Arthritis(RA) and OsteoArthritis (OA),
- identifying and validating novel therapeutic targets,
- dendritic celbiology,
- development and validation of outcome measures in a.o. Rheumatoid Arthritis and Systemic Sclerosis,
- randomized clinical trials in RA, OA, SSc, Ankylosing Spondylitis and Psoriatic Arthritis etc,
- costs effectiveness studies in observational studies/registries.

Selected Publications

1. Abdollahi-Roodsaz S, Joosten LAB, Koenders MI, Devesa I, Roelofs MF, Radstake TRDJ, Heuvelmans-Jacobs M, Akira S, Nicklin MJH, Ribeiro-Dias F, van den Berg WB: Stimulation of TLR2 and TLR4 differentially skews the balance of T cells in a mouse model of arthritis. *J Clin Invest*, 118: 205-216, 2008
2. Heinhuis B, Koenders MI, van de Loo FA, van Lent PL, Kim SH, Dinarello CA, Joosten LA, van den Berg WB. IL-32gamma and *Streptococcus pyogenes* cell wall fragments synergise for IL-1-dependent destructive arthritis via upregulation of TLR-2 and NOD2. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2010 Oct;69(10):1866-72. Epub 2010 May 14.
3. Janssens HJ, Janssen M, van de Lisdonk EH, van Riel PL, van Weel C. Use of oral prednisolone or naproxen for the treatment of gout arthritis: a double-blind, randomised equivalence trial. *Lancet*. 2008;371(9627):1854-60
4. Janssens HJ, Fransen J, van de Lisdonk EH, van Riel PL, van Weel C, Janssen M. A diagnostic rule for acute gouty arthritis in primary care without joint fluid analysis. *Arch Intern Med* 2010; 170(13): 1120-6.
5. Kievit W, Fransen J, Adang EM, Kuper HH, Jansen TL, De Gendt CM, De Rooij DR, Brus HL, Van de Laar MA, van Riel PC. Evaluating guidelines of continuation of anti-TNF treatment after three months: clinical effectiveness and costs of observed care and different alternative strategies. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2009; 68: 844-849
6. Radovits BJ, Popa-Diaconu DA, Popa C, Eijsbouts A, Laan, RF, van Riel PL, Fransen J. Disease activity as a risk factor for myocardial infarction in rheumatoid arthritis. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2009; 68: 1271-6
7. Radstake TR, Fransen J, van Riel PL, Toonen E, Coenen M, Donn R. Functional variants of the macrophage migration inhibitory factor do not infer risk of cardiovascular disease in rheumatoid arthritis. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2008 Jan;67(1):134-5
8. Radstake TR, Gorlova O, Rueda B, Martin JE, Alizadeh BZ, Palomino-Morales R, Coenen MJ, Vonk MC, Voskuyl AE, Schuerwegh AJ, Broen JC, van Riel PL, van 't Slot R, Italiaander A, Ophoff RA, Riemekasten G, Hunzelmann N, Simeon CP, Ortego-Centeno N, González-Gay MA, González-Escribano MF; Spanish Scleroderma Group, Airo P, van Laar J, Herrick A, Worthington J, Hesselstrand R, Smith V, de Keyser F, Houssiau F, Chee MM, Madhok R, Shiels P, Westhovens R, Kreuter A, Kiener H, de Baere E, Witte T, Padykov L, Klareskog L, Beretta L, Scorza R, Lie BA, Hoffmann-Vold AM, Carreira P, Varga J, Hinchcliff M, Gregersen PK, Lee AT, Ying J, Han Y, Weng SF, Amos CI, Wigley FM, Hummers L, Nelson JL, Agarwal SK, Assassi S, Gourh P, Tan FK, Koeleman BP, Arnett FC, Martin J, Mayes MD. Genome-wide association study of systemic sclerosis identifies CD247 as a new susceptibility locus. *Nat Genet*. 2010;42(5):426-9.
9. Van Lent PLEM, Grevers LC, Blom AB, Arntz OJ, van de Loo FAJ, van der Kraan P, Abdollahi-Roodsaz S, Srikrishna G, Freeze H, Sloetjes A, Nacken W, Vogl T, Roth J, van den Berg WB: Stimulation of chondrocyte-mediated cartilage destruction by S100A8 in experimental murine arthritis. *Arthritis Rheum*, 58: 3776-3787, 2008
10. van Lent PL, Grevers LC, Schelbergen R, Blom A, Geurts J, Sloetjes A, Vogl T, Roth J, van den Berg WB. S100A8 causes a shift toward expression of activatory Fcγ receptors on macrophages via toll-like receptor 4 and regulates Fcγ receptor expression in synovium during chronic experimental arthritis. *Arthritis Rheum*. 2010 Nov;62(11):3353-64. doi: 10.1002/art.27654.

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Dutch Arthritis Foundation
Dutch Government
EULAR
NWO and ZON-MW research foundations
RUN foundation
Pharmaceutical Industry

Training of Fellows in Research

Fellowships dedicated to training in joint examination, clinical epidemiology and molecular biology have been established.

WebPages

www.umcn.nl
www.das-score.nl