

Curriculum Vitae

Personal information Ger van Zandbergen

Work experience

- 1. Employer: Paul_Ehrlich_Institut
 - Start date: 052011
 - End date:
 - Position 1: Head of the Immunology Division and acting Head of the Infectiology Division
 - Activities: The divisions are is responsible for the marketing authorization and official batch release testing of therapeutic antibodies, antisera and vaccines and manages a cross_divisional OMCL service laboratory for the (physico_)chemical and immunological safety testing of biomedicines. Biosimilar antibodies have now been marketed for the first time. One important question is whether the safety and efficacy of these follow_on versions is equivalent to already authorized innovator biomedicines. Establishing and developing a unique set of sensitive analytical methods for the comparison of biosimilars with the innovator product enables us to understand the clinical relevance of potential molecular differences. We also exploit our expertise in the field of human immune cells to experimentally evaluate regulatory problems working with models close to the molecular pattern of human disease. In this regard, we currently focus on prototypic adjuvants and chemical constituents with the aim to identify their specific immunological effects and characterize their safety profile.
- Country: Germany
 Employer: University Clinic Mainz
 Start date: 082014
 - End date: 31.12.2024
 - Position: University Professor for Experimental Infection Immunology
 - Activities: Pathogens hiding in immune cells have evolved multiple strategies to circumvent detection and prevent elimination. To understand the underlying pathogen_host interactions, we study pathogen_containing compartments and their development in primary human immune cells. To this end, we apply state of the art live cell imaging of compartment development and investigate host cell proteins involved in the dynamics of cellular defence. Combining this approach with electron microscopy analysis of the primary human host cell ultrastructure will enable us to understand how intracellular pathogens restrain an effective immune response. Genetic modification of primary human host cells finally allows us to investigate and manipulate susceptibility and resistance factors on a molecular level. Our ultimate goal is to identify cellular factors that actually are able to eliminate intracellular pathogens.
- Country: Germany
 Employer: University Clinic Lübeck and Ulm
 - Start date: 012000

 - End date: 042011 Position: Postdoc and principal investigor
 - Activities: Basic research in infection immunology focusing on the human immune system
- Country: Germany 4. Employer: University of Leiden
 - Start date: 081995 End date: 012000
 - Position: PhD Student
 - Activities: Basic research on antibody Fc_receptor interactions Country: Netherlands

Education and training

- 1. Subject: University of Groningen
 Start date: 081991

 - End date: 081995 Qualification: Biology degree
 - Organisation: Focus on Molecular Genetics and Tumor Immunology
- Country: Netherlands
 2. Subject: University of Leiden, department of Nephrology
 - Start date: 081995 End date: 111999
 - Qualification: PhD

 - Organisation: Basic research on IgA with the IgA Fc receptor CD89 in IgA Nephropathy Country: Netherlands
- 3. Subject: Dutch Foundation for Scientific Research (SMBWO)
 Start date: 081995

 - End date: 032007 Qualification: Certified as Medical_Biology Immunologist Organisation: Skills in medical Immunology

 - Country: Netherlands
- 4. Subject: University Clinic Ulm
 - Start date: 082007 End date: 032009
 - Qualification: Habilitation in the field of Infection Immunology
 - Organisation: Basic research in Apoptosis driven infections
 - Country: Germany

5. Subject: ZWM, Zentrum für Wissenschaftsmanagment

Start date: 032011End date: 032012

- Qualification: Professional Management Program (PMP) für Führungskräfte
- Organisation: Professional management skills in science
- Country: Germany

Additional information

Publications

Publication Record H_Index: 40 (Mai 2025) 76 peer_reviewed original publications, 7 reviews, 2 book chapters 10 selected Publications 1. Roßmann L, Bagola K, Stephen T, Gerards AL, Walber B, Ullrich A, Schülke S, Kamp C, Spreitzer I, Hasan M, David_Watine B, Shorte SL, Bastian M, van Zandbergen G. (2021) Distinct single_component adjuvants steer human DC_mediated T_cell polarization via Toll_like receptor signaling toward a potent antiviral immune response. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2021 Sep 28;118(39):e2103651118. 2. Turoñová B, Sikora M, Schürmann C, Hagen WJH, Welsch S, Blanc FEC, von Bülow S, Gecht M, Bagola K, Hörner C, van Zandbergen G, Landry J, de Azevedo NTD, Mosalaganti S, Schwarz A, Covino R, Mühlebach MD, Hummer G, Krijnse Locker J, Beck M. (2020) In situ structural analysis of SARS_CoV_2 spike reveals flexibility mediated by three hinges. Science. 2020 Oct 9;370(6513):203_208. 3. Crauwels P, Bank E, Walber B, Wenzel UA, Agerberth B, Chanyalew M, Abebe M, König R, Ritter U, Reiling N, van Zandbergen G (2019). Cathelicidin Contributes to the Restriction of Leishmania in Human Host Macrophages. Front Immunol. 2019 Nov 22;10:2697. 4. Arens K, Filippis C, Kleinfelder H, Goetzee A, Reichmann G, Crauwels P, Waibler Z, Bagola K, van Zandbergen G (2018). Anti_Tumor Necrosis Factor a Therapeutics Differentially Affect Leishmania Infection of Human Macrophages. Front Immunol. 2018 Jul 31;9:1772. 5. Filippis C, Arens K, Noubissi Nzeteu GA, Reichmann G, Waibler Z, Crauwels P, van Zandbergen G (2017). Nivolumab Enhances In Vitro Effector Functions of PD_1+ T_Lymphocytes and Leishmania_Infected Human Myeloid Cells in a Host Cell_Dependent Manner. Front Immunol. 2017 Dec 22;8:1880. 6. Crauwels P, Bohn R, Thomas M, Gottwalt S, Jäckel F, Krämer S, Bank E, Tenzer S, Walther P, Bastian M, van Zandbergen G (2015) Apoptotic_like Leishmania exploit the host's autophagy machinery to reduce T_cel_mediated parasite elimination. Autophagy. 2015;11(2):285_97. 7. van Zandbergen G, Klinger M, Mueller A, Dannenberg S, Gebert A,

Projects

Since 2016 Member of the Steering committee LOEWE Center "DRUID – Novel Drug Targets against Poverty_Related and Neglected Tropical Infectious Diseases" 2014_2015 Organizer of the ceremony in the Paulskirche and a Scientific Symposium entitled "From Salvarsan to personalized medicine" on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Paul Ehrlich. Since 2011 Member of the Steering committee of the Research Center for Immunotherapy (FZI) Johannes _ Gutenberg _ University Mainz. 2010_2015 Coordinator of the research program, Infection Biology of Macrophages, University of Ulm, funded by the Carl Zeiss Foundation

Memberships

Dutch society of Immunology (until 2000) German society of Immunology German society of microbiology

Other Relevant Information

2008_2017 Speaker of the Infection Immunology Working Group of the German Society for Immunology and Microbiology (DGfI and DGHM) 2008_2012 Member of the Steering committee of the European COST Action on: Life or death of protozoan parasites. 2005_2007 Consultant/Head of Laboratory: Antibody based detection systems, Atto_Lab GmbH, Lübeck