

## Origin versus context

Citation for published version (APA):

Ruder, A. V. (2023). *Origin versus context: defining key determinants of human macrophage function in health and disease*. [Doctoral Thesis, Maastricht University]. Maastricht University.  
<https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20231031ar>

**Document status and date:**

Published: 01/01/2023

**DOI:**

[10.26481/dis.20231031ar](https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20231031ar)

**Document Version:**

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

**Please check the document version of this publication:**

- A submitted manuscript is the version of the article upon submission and before peer-review. There can be important differences between the submitted version and the official published version of record. People interested in the research are advised to contact the author for the final version of the publication, or visit the DOI to the publisher's website.
- The final author version and the galley proof are versions of the publication after peer review.
- The final published version features the final layout of the paper including the volume, issue and page numbers.

[Link to publication](#)

**General rights**

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal.

If the publication is distributed under the terms of Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, indicated by the "Taverne" license above, please follow below link for the End User Agreement:

[www.umlib.nl/taverne-license](http://www.umlib.nl/taverne-license)

**Take down policy**

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us at:

[repository@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:repository@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

providing details and we will investigate your claim.

# Origin versus Context

Defining Key Determinants of Human Macrophage Function  
in Health and Disease

## Propositions

1. The inconsistent use of an inadequate nomenclature has hindered progress in understanding monocyte heterogeneity. | *This thesis*
2. Disregarding the effect of cell density on macrophage function introduces bias to *in vitro* experiments. | *This thesis*
3. The functional phenotype of macrophages in the human plaque arises from M-CSF- rather than GM-CSF-driven differentiation. | *This thesis*
4. The contribution of monocytic origin and growth factors to macrophage function challenge the current notion of local stimuli as sole decisive factors to macrophage phenotype. | *This thesis*
5. Rather than directly targeting macrophages, exploiting their ability to respond to systemic cues offers a novel approach for developing therapeutic strategies.
6. The more cellular markers are included, the more subpopulations will be identified.
7. Using a single pre-defined stimulus to study macrophage phenotype *in vitro* is like seasoning a dish with salt only.
8. The absence of prior research on an apparently straightforward topic is a reliable indicator that the topic is not as simple as it may seem.
9. Growth may not be visible on a daily basis but is revealed when looking back to where things started.
10. Two ships heading for the same port, will sail through different waves.

Adele Ruder  
Maastricht, 31 October 2023