

The impact of smoking-associated aldehyde exposure on the molecular regulation of mitochondrial function in epithelial cells of the airways and lungs

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Stellingen

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The impact of smoking-associated aldehyde exposure on the molecular regulation of mitochondrial function in epithelial cells of the airways and lungs

Implications for COPD

Christy B.M. Tulen Maastricht, April 20th 2023

- 1. The role of the cellular micro-environment on the molecular regulation of mitochondrial turnover is understated in research models investigating COPD pathogenesis. (*This thesis*)
- 2. The use of advanced and complex *in vitro* pulmonary models over more simple conventional models is not per definition better to study the impact of inhalation toxicants. *(This thesis)*
- 3. Acute and prolonged acrolein inhalation *in vivo* elicit an opposite response on the molecular regulation of mitochondrial metabolism, indicating a potential role for adaptation. *(This thesis)*
- 4. Compounds other than aldehydes are likely to contribute to cigarette smokeinduced dysregulation of mitochondrial quality control processes. *(This thesis)*
- 5. Knowledge about the complex interplay between aldehydes, mitochondrial dysfunction and COPD pathogenesis can contribute to the development of novel therapies for COPD. (*Impact*)
- 6. Mitochondria are not only the 'powerhouse of the cell', but are key organelles involved in health and disease.
- 7. The Netherlands should follow the example of New Zealand by introducing a smoking ban for the next generation which is the first step to achieve the goal of a 'smoke-free population'.
- 8. Publishing negative data is necessary for transparency, to avoid unnecessary repetition of experiments and prevent bias, however journals still appear to have a preference for reporting spectacular positive findings, partly due to the emphasis on having to score on impact statistics.
- 9. The soloistic structure of a PhD project should be reconsidered in academia, since shared and collaborative PhD projects could be more efficient, successful and gratifying.
- 10. Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new (Einstein)