

# Role of dendritic cell subsets in hyperlipidemia and atherosclerosis

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## Propositions

belonging to the thesis

### **Role of dendritic cell subsets in hyperlipidemia and atherosclerosis**

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1. Dendritic cell heterogeneity, broad distribution, and complexity of their functions as well as their similarities to macrophages make it challenging to unravel their role in atherosclerosis. (research field)
2. DC subset specific interventions in atherosclerosis are required to fully understand their impact on disease pathogenesis as ablation of the complete DC lineage will mask the complexity of subset specific activities/interactions. (research field).
3. Priming of CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells through CD8<sup>+</sup> DC dependent cross-presentation does not profoundly impact atherosclerosis. (this dissertation)
4. Quaking isoforms regulate cell proliferation, differentiation and cell function and the quaking targets, responsible for these effects, may represent new therapeutic opportunities for the treatment of atherosclerosis and auto-immune diseases. (this dissertation)
5. Hyperlipidemia impairs dendritic cell responsiveness and functionality and may have implications for host defense against pathogens. (this dissertation)
6. The LMP/CD40 model is not suitable for dissecting the role for DC CD40 signaling in atherosclerosis as it is compromised by intestinal inflammation. (this dissertation)
7. DC vaccination holds great potential in the treatment of atherosclerosis as it combines target specificity with long-term efficacy. (research field + valorisation)
8. Key to a successful PhD is perseverance, both physically and psychologically.
9. Biomedical research should be inspired or driven by the researcher's genuine curiosity in biology and inner passion to develop an added value for patients rather than his affinity with citation score and impact factors.
10. Belgian politics is like atherosclerosis, they are both enormously complicated and have significant socio-economic impact.

*Bart Legein*

*Maastricht, 23 June 2016*