

# Comprehensive analysis of spitzoid melanocytic neoplasms

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## ***Comprehensive Analysis of Spitzoid Melanocytic Neoplasms New Insights on their mRNA Expression Profile and their Immunogenic Properties***

1. Spitzoid melanocytic neoplasms are a distinct group of melanocytic tumors with a unique underlying molecular biology (*this thesis*).
2. The individual cell that defines a Spitz nevus is atypical and there is no single feature that can distinguish a Spitz nevus from a malignant melanoma (*this thesis*).
3. The genomic signature of Spitzoid melanocytic neoplasms identified by digital mRNA expression analysis is a promising adjunctive tool for future diagnostics and therapy decisions (*this thesis*).
4. Uniform nomenclature in the diagnosis of Spitzoid melanocytic neoplasms is essential, as otherwise, discrepancies in the interpretation between pathologists and clinicians will occur (*this thesis*).
5. Spitzoid melanocytic neoplasms regularly show a high inflammatory tumor microenvironment (*this thesis*).
6. To develop a complete mind: Study the science of art, study the art of science. Learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else (*Leonardo DaVinci, 1452-1519*).
7. Even expert dermatopathologists disagree on Spitz tumors.
8. Pathology is devoted to unravelling the changes in cells, tissues, and organs that underlie disease. This discipline forms the bridge between basic science and clinical medicine, and therefore represents the scientific foundation for all of medicine.
9. Wenn die Neugier sich auf ernsthafte Dinge richtet, dann nennt man sie Wissensdrang (*Marie Freifrau von Ebner-Eschenbach, 1830 - 1916*).
10. The revolution of molecular diagnostic techniques is changing the face of pathology and will supersede the histologic diagnosis of many diseases. Accurate molecular diagnostic pathology, however, ultimately depends on strong histologic criteria for diagnosis.
11. Only the knowledge and skills you have acquired open your eyes to a new world – because you only see what you know (*unknown author*).



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Maastricht, 20 mei 2022

