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Curriculum Vitae

Ying Poi Liu was born on July 28, 1981 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She graduated in Biomedical Science at the VU University in Amsterdam in 2002. During her first internship at the department of Molecular Cell Biology in the Glycoimmunology Group at the VU University Medical Center (VUMC) in Amsterdam, she worked on the expression and production of functional, active human DC-SIGN protein in *E. coli* cells. The purified DC-SIGN protein was subsequently used to study the carbohydrate specificity of DC-SIGN. In 2002, she started the master's programme in Oncology at the VU University in Amsterdam. Her first master's internship was performed at the department of Pathology of the VUMC in Amsterdam, where she generated antigen specific cytotoxic T lymphocytes (CTL) by stimulating CD8⁺ CTL precursors with peptide-loaded MUTZ-3 cell line derived dendritic cells. Her second master's internship was performed at the division of Tumor Biology at the Netherlands Cancer Institute in Amsterdam. There, she worked on the construction of a miRNA library, which was used to study the role of miRNAs in tumorigenesis. In 2005, Ying Poi commenced her PhD project at the Laboratory of Experimental Virology at the Academic Medical Center of the University of Amsterdam. Her research focus was to develop a combinatorial RNA interference-based gene therapy against HIV-1. The results of this research are described in this thesis. In March 2009, she continued working in this group as a post-doc on the development of an RNA interference-based anti-HIV-1 gene therapy using SV40-derived vectors.