

CV in a nutshell

I am working as a consultant surgeon at the Erasmus MC Transplant Institute, department of HPB & Transplant surgery. I was trained in surgery in Rotterdam and attended an ESOT research fellowship at Kim Olthoff's and Avi Shaked's department at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA to study liver regeneration during A2A living donor liver transplantation.

Now, my focus is on donor liver perfusion to increase donor organ utilization and reduce complications after transplantation. I have special interest in functional assessment of the liver during perfusion in the clinics, and novel techniques to expand the donor pool, such as decell-recell strategies to rebuild livers in the lab. We pioneered the Dutch Normothermic Regional Perfusion (NRP) program together with the LUMC to salvage extended-criteria DCD donors, after being trained by Gabriel Oniscu and his crew. Our center participated as lead including center in Robert Porte's DHOPE-DCD study to assess the effect of cold oxygenated perfusion on biliary complications. We can offer the whole spectrum of NRP, DHOPE and (COR)-NMP, depending on the need of the liver graft.

Annually, about 85 transplants are performed at our center, among which 10-15 living donor liver transplantations.

Core expertise/background: Transplant Surgery, Organ retrieval and Organ perfusion, Complex hepato-biliary surgery, Surgical complications

Network: Ministry of Health Department (VWS), Dutch Transplant Society (NTV), Dutch Transplant Society (NTS), Dutch Advisory board on transplant technology & Innovation (LATTI), Dutch advisory board organ retrieval (LORUT), International Liver Transplant Society (ILTS), European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT), Querido Honours College. Collaboration with OrganAssist(X-Vivo) and Organox (liver perfusion device manufactures), ArgosMed (isotope labelled CO2 analysis), Inreda (artificial pancreas), Fresenius (dialysis).

Track record

1 - Academic excellence: MD 1999, PhD 2001 Experimental liver transplantation. 2009 Registration Surgical Oncologist, Gastro-intestinal Surgeon. 13 yrs Senior attending position Hepatobiliary & Transplant surgery

2 - Previous funding: Previous funding: ~1,6 M€ total; TKI-LSH, VWS, ESOT, Erasmus MC

3 - Translating R&D into clinical application/societal impact: Realization of the Organ Preservation Room (OPR) in the Erasmus MC, a clean room harboring 4 organ perfusion / repair docks. Realization of the Dutch Normothermic Regional Perfusion program. Top recruiting center in Dutch cold liver perfusion trial (NEJM 2021). Moving translational research into clinical practice with isotope labelled CO2 analysis, focused on real time liver function analysis during organ perfusion.

4 - Experience engaging & supervising BSc and Msc students: yes, 10 yrs Examination Board Medicine, 1 yr Querido Honours College. 8 PhD students, 10+ Msc students, 1Bsc Clinical Technology every year.