Biosketch

NAME	POSITION TITLE
Tuna Mutis, MD, PhD	Associate Professor, Dept. of Hematology, VU University Medical Center Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Education: INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	YEAR	FIELD OF STUDY
Hacettepe University, Ankara-Turkey	MD	1983	Medicine
University of Leiden, The Netherlands	MSc	1989	Biomed. Sciences
University of Leiden, The Netherlands	PhD	1994	Immunology

Positions and Honors.

Positions:

1983-1985	Head and principal physician at Medical Health Centers, Pervari and Batman,Turkey
1989-1994	PhD training, Dept. of Immunohematology and Blood Bank (IHB), Leiden Univ. Medical Center (LUMC), The Netherlands (NL)
1994-1998	Post Doc, Dept. of IHB, LUMC, NL
1988-2000	Research Associate, Dept. of IHB, LUMC, NL
2000-2003	Assistant Professor, Dept of IHB, LUMC, NL
2003-2009	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Clinical Chemistry and Hematology, UMC Utrecht (UMCU), NL
2009-9.2014	Associate Professor, Dept. of Clinical Chemistry and Hematology, UMC
9.2014- now	Associate Professor, Dept. of Hematology, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, NL

Honors and awards:

1994	Leiden University Medical Center award for best Scientific Publication.
1999	Translational Research Award, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, USA
2001	Van Bekkum Award, European Group of Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT)
2004	The Bekales Prize for Leukemia Research.
2006	International Myeloma Foundation Brian D. Novis Senior Grant Award
2011	Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation Senior Research Fellowship

Im a medical doctor and a senior immunologist with specific expertise in the immunobiology of allogeneic stem cell transplantation, minor H antigens, immune regulation, cellular and antibody based immunotherapy. Since the mid-nineties I have identified several minor H antigens for cellular immune therapy after allo-sct. I developed and executed dendritic cell based vaccination trials with minor H antigens, performed preclinical testing of important antibodies (daratumumab) and shown the

capability of bone marrow microenvironment to induce resistance toward cellular and antibody based therapies. Currently several projects running in my lab are (a) identification of tumor associated minor H antigens using genome-wide association analyses (GWAS) (b) improving DC based vaccination strategies with minor H antigen loaded DCs (c) evaluating the immunomodulatory capacities of CD38 antibody daratumumab (d) development of CART cell based therapies for MM, and e) understanding and effective modulation of immune resistance and suppression mechanisms in the MM microenvironment.

Synopsis of the talk.

The bone marrow is the natural niche of normal and malignant plasma cells and it is essential for the survival, proliferation and differentiation of malignant Multiple Myeloma (MM) cells. We and others have also shown that MM cell-stroma interactions can lead to secretion of strong immune suppressive factors. We and others have recently discovered that the stromal cells of bone marrow microenvironment can induce a cell-cell adhesion mediated **immune resistance mechanism in MM cells against cytotoxic machinery of T cells, NK cells and NK cell mediated ADDC**. The possible mechanisms and the potential therapeutic modulation of this specific immune resistance mechanism will be highlighted and discussed.