



**Program**  
**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> 2026**

**Congrescentrum De Werelt**

Westhofflaan 2, 6741 KH Lunteren



## THURSDAY JUNE 25th 2026

- 9.00            **Registration and Coffee**
- 9.30            **Welcome and Opening Announcements**  
**Victor van Beusechem, President of the NVGCT**
- 9.35 - 11.00    **SESSION I    STEM CELLS & GENE EDITING**  
**Chair: Massimiliano Caiazza**
- 9.35            **FRANÇOISE CARLOTTI, LUMC**  
*Towards the next generation of beta cell replacement therapy for type 1 diabetes*
- 10.05          **SANDER KOOIJMANS, UMC Utrecht**  
*Structural modification of short hairpin RNAs promotes siRNA delivery by biological vectors*
- 10.30          **MAAIKE LENDERINK, UMC Utrecht**  
*Toward Scalable In Vivo Gene Correction for Mevalonate Kinase Deficiency and other Inherited Metabolic Diseases: A Platform-Based Preclinical Approach*
- 10.45          **EVELINE ILCKEN, UMC Utrecht**  
*High throughput pegRNA screen for therapeutic prime editing of monogenic disorders*
- 11.00          Coffee break
- 11.30          **EXHIBITOR PITCHES**  
**Chair: Frédérique de Graaf**  
**Eurofins, Fujifilm Europe, Miltenyi en Sartorius**
- 11.50          **ZonMw Young Investigator SpeedDate Challenge part 1**  
**Chair: Jan Theys**  
  
*Presentation by 2025 winners: **Despoina Trasanidou** (Sanquin)  
**Tessa Prins** (ExoVectory)*
- 12.00          **STORYTELLING**  
**Chair: Niek van Til**  
  
**MARLOES ten KATE, Take the Stage**  
*Pitch Perfect*
- 13.00-14:00    Lunch



- 13.30 - 14.30 ZonMw Young Investigator SpeedDate Challenge part 2**  
**Chair: Jan Theys**  
*Speed-dating (PIs & young investigators)*
- 14.30 - 15.15 KEYNOTE LECTURE**  
**Chair: Niek van Til**  
**ZOLTAN IVICS, University of Leipzig, Germany**  
*Going non-viral: genetic engineering of therapeutic cells with transposon technologies*
- 15.15 Coffee break
- 15.45 - 17.00 SESSION II RARE-NL – A PLATFORM FOR RARE DISEASES**  
**Chair: Karien de Rooij**
- 15.45 SIBREN van den BERG, RARE-NL & MIKE BROEDERS, FAST**  
*RARE-NL and ATMP-NL: building towards sustainable development and access for rare diseases and ATMPs*
- 16.00 GERTY SCHREIBELT & RENÉE RAAIJMAKERS, Radboudumc**  
*Therapy Accelerator for Rare Diseases: Advancing genetically corrected pericyte therapy for Myotonic Dystrophy type*
- 16.15 DIRK van ASSELDONK, Lenticure**  
*Challenges of a Social Enterprise*
- 16.30 JASMIJN KORPERSHOEK, UMC Utrecht**  
*IMPACT: autologous chondrons combined with allogeneic MSCs for treatment of cartilage defects*
- 16.45 DISCUSSION**
- 17.00 NVGCT General Assembly
- 17.30 POSTER SESSION AND DRINKS**  
*See poster list on page 7.*
- 19.00 Dinner
- 20.30 LEGENDARY NVGCT PUBQUIZ**  
**Quizmaster: Jan Theys**



## FRIDAY JUNE 26th 2026

- 9.00**            **Announcement Speed Date Finalists**
- 9.05 - 9.45**    **KEYNOTE LECTURE**  
**Chair: Massimiliano Caiazzo**  
**GABRIELE LIGNANI, University College London, UK**  
*Reprogramming Brain Circuits: Towards On-Demand Gene Therapy for Neurological Disorders*
- 9.45 - 10.45**   **SESSION III    NEURO & METABOLIC**  
**Chair: Annelot van Esbroeck**
- 9.45**            **KIMBERLY PIETERSZ, Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience**  
*Developing AAV-based gene therapy to target the catecholaminergic system in Parkinson's disease*
- 10.05**          **KIM WIJNANT, Radboudumc**  
*Mapping alternative splicing in iPSC-derived brain cells as a resource for therapeutic discovery*
- 10.25**          **ILMA REVERS, Amsterdam UMC**  
*Brain-directed gene therapy rescues a mouse model of neurodegenerative disease vanishing white matter*
- 10.45**          Coffee break
- 11.05 - 11.30**   **Greiner Award for Best Thesis 2025**  
**Chair: Massimiliano Caiazzo**
- 11.30 - 12.00**   **ZonMw Young Investigator SpeedDate Challenge part 3**  
**Chair: Jan Theys**
- Pitches three finalists** (5 minutes pitch, 5 minutes questions each)
- 12.00**          Lunch
- 13.00 - 13.45**   **SESSION IV    REGULATORY**  
**Chair: Vera Kemp**
- 13.00**          **KATIA PAUWELS, Sciensano, Brussels, Belgium**  
*Can new gene therapies result in unintended germline modification?*
- 13.15**          **YUXI ZHAO, LUMC**  
*From guidance to study design: A risk-based regulatory strategy for an innovative in vivo gene editing therapy*
- 13.30**          **CHRISTINE van HATTEM, Utrecht University**  
*Patient access to cell and gene therapies through the European hospital exemption pathway in the Netherlands*



**13.45 IMPORTANCE OF NEGATIVE DATA**

**Chair: Karien de Rooij**

**STEFAN GAILLARD, Journal of Trial and Error**

*Failure as Fuel for Scientific Progress*

14.15 Coffee break

**14.45 - 15.45 SESSION V GENE THERAPY FOR ONCOLOGY**

**Chair: Enrico Mastrobattista**

**14.45 DANIEL MATA, Princess Máxima Center**

*Targeted Lipid Nanoparticles for the In Vivo Silencing of RUNX1::ETO in AML*

**15.00 JELLA van de LAAK, Maastricht University**

*Genetically modified bacteria as anti-cancer Trojan horse; in vivo anticancer effects of intratumoral immunotherapy producing Clostridium sporogenes*

**15.15 JAIME FERNÁNDEZ BIMBO, Utrecht University**

*Specificity and biodistribution of a T cell-targeted lipid nanoparticle for in vivo CAR-T generation*

**15.30 TEREZA BRACHTLOVA, Amsterdam UMC/ORCA Therapeutics**

*ORCA-010 Oncolytic Adenovirus Converts Immunologically Cold Tumors to Hot and Drives Durable Anti-Tumor Immune Responses: Phase I/IIa Results in Prostate Cancer*

**15.45 NVGCT OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD CEREMONY**

**Chair: Victor van Beusechem**

**ROB HOEBEN, LUMC**

*Genetic modification and spontaneous mutation as complementary approaches for generating genetic diversity in oncolytic viruses*

**16.30 Announcement Award Winners**

**Jan Theys**

**16.45 Closing remarks**

**Victor van Beusechem, President of the NVGCT**



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## POSTER SESSION

### Submitted abstracts and MSc students

- P1 AXELLE LORIAUX, CELL SIGNALING TECHNOLOGY, USA  
*A Novel Monoclonal Antibody for the Detection, Enrichment, and Activation of Cells Expressing scFv-based Chimeric Antigen Receptors*
- P2 Madelon van Hoek, Leiden University  
*Progenitor-derived cDC platform to detect tumor antigen-specific T cells*
- P3 Manuela Lestón Cambeiro, University of Barcelona  
*Establishing a Reporter Cell Line to Detect SmD1–SmD2 Protein–Protein Interaction in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer*
- P4 CLARA ALEMANY, ERASMUS MC  
*Ex vivo platform for personalized oncolytic virotherapy in glioblastoma*
- P5 Mariña Monteagudo Lago, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam  
*Targeting of the Spliceosomal Protein SmD2 Suppresses Tumor Growth in Human Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer using Chicken Embryo Chorioallantoic Membrane (CAM) Tumor Model*
- P6 Angélique Versteegen, Leiden University / Leiden University Medical Center  
*The impact of oncolytic virotherapy on the Type-I Interferon response in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC)*
- P7 PEIYU LI, AMSTERDAM UMC  
*Evaluation of SmD2 Gene Silencing to Treat Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer on Patient-Derived Tumor and Normal Airway Organoids in vitro and Xenograft Tumors in vivo*
- P8 Giulia Bovenga, Utrecht University  
*Brain targeting via lipid nanoparticles functionalized with an anti-HB-EGF nanobody*
- P9 MARTIJN KOPPENS, UMC UTRECHT  
*Mitochondrial genome editing to edit your favourite mutation in your cell model of choice*
- P10 JOSE CASTRO-ALPÍZAR, UMC UTRECHT  
*When Prime editing meets a difficult mutation: Lessons from MMUT*
- P11 THIJS RIETVELD, LUMC  
*Streamlining the transition of Advanced Therapies: an introduction to CORE-AMTP*
- P12 PIERRE SPRINGUEL, SARTORIUS  
*Evaluation of a novel all-in-one automated bioreactor for intensified autologous CAR-T cell manufacturing*
- P13 SIMON STAUBACH, SARTORIUS  
*Innovative Lipid-Based Delivery Solution: Unlocking New Opportunities in Manufacturing Genetically Modified Immune Cell Therapies*
- P14 GANESH RAMESH, UMC UTRECHT  
*Current Capacity and Gaps in Viral Vector Manufacturing: A Survey of Centers Associated with CTIWP of EBMT, NXTGEN-Hightech, DARE-NL, T2EVOLVE, and GoCART Coalition*
- P15 JORT ALTENBURG, UMC UTRECHT  
*ICAT, viral vector unit: accelerating clinical translation of advanced therapeutic medicinal products in an academic setting*
- P16 ALEXEY PINDYURIN, ANNOGEN BV  
*Safer and more effective gene therapies through high-throughput screening for precise, inducible, and cell-specific promoters*
- P17 Federica Tili, Utrecht University  
*Generation of human motor neurons via mRNA lipid nanoparticles*
- P18 GIORGIO GILIOLI, LUMC  
*Artificial thymic organoids can be used to study T-cell development from iPSC-derived hematopoietic stem cells*
- P19 Dewi Sprenkeler, Radboud University  
*Developing a Gene Therapy for Parkinson's Disease in a Mouse Model*
- P20 YUE CHEN, AMSTERDAM UMC  
*Developing a New Treatment for  $\alpha$ -amanitin Poisoning*

Submitted abstracts can be found below (page 31-44).