The role of OTX2 in medulloblastoma
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Acknowledgements

I have always had mixed feeling about the acknowledgements in theses. It is scientifically the least important part of my work and I could have done with a simple “thank you”. However, I am sure that it will be the best-read part of my thesis. Likely it will be the first thing most people will read of my thesis, even though it is all the way at the back. And to be honest, I am not to judge, as I have done the same before. But somehow it does feel a bit awkward...

And even though this chapter has no direct scientific value, it does illustrate two important aspects of science, which can be easily overlooked: Science is a social construct and scientists are human. Thus, we cannot practice science on our own and you cannot be a good scientist without being a fulfilled social human being. Therefore I would like to thank those who guided, helped, supported or amused me while being a PhD student. However, I will try to do it my way: short and general, but also personal.

Therefore, I will start by mentioning those most closely involved with my PhD project in a concise way. First of all, special thanks goes to Nancy Hasselt, who has been the most reliable, consistent and, most importantly, joyful research assistant any scientist can wish for. I have never seen her grumpy nor did I ever seen her do dodgy experiments. Her contribution to my project has been of great value. I am also thankful to prof. Rogier Versteeg for giving me the opportunity to pursue my PhD in his laboratory and for helping me become a better scientist by challenging my ideas. I would like to gratefully and sincerely thank dr. Marcel Kool for his guidance, understanding and most importantly, patience. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to develop myself as a scientist and making my journey a pleasant one! Furthermore, I would like to thank all other people who work(ed) at Oncogenomics for their support, friendship and humour. I also thank my parents and brother for being there for me all these years. And Antony, my dear, thank you for keeping me happy and sane.

Jens