The bone marrow niche in the pathogenesis of multiple myeloma: A role for Wnt signaling and adrenomedullin

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Having lived 7 years in the Netherlands, I had never imagined the moment I am writing the last part of my thesis, acknowledgments, but this moment has come so let me start, of course from the top…

My Dear Bosses, Steven and Marcel…

Steven, I would like to thank you very much for giving me opportunity to get the PhD in your group. I highly appreciate all your support and help. Although, my ‘PhD journey’ was sometimes difficult, I see now how much I am getting out of everything I learnt in your lab. Thank you very much Steven for everything…

When I close my eyes and I recall all the different meetings I was giving the talks, I immediately see my second boss, Marcel, sitting in the front row and moving one hand up and the second hand down. Marcel was continuing this original pantomime, which only us both could understand, until the presentation was over ☺. In this way, Marcel was at every single meeting helping me to keep the proper loudness of my voice and the speed of my talking. Marcel, you taught me a lot of things. I am very very grateful for all your help and support during my PhD.

At that point, I would like to thank Richard Groen (for whom I used to work as a student), who first came up with the idea of me doing the PhD. Now, after all these years I can certainly say, Richard had an excellent idea. Richard thank you very much for everything..., I wish you all the best in your life and the research career.

Thinking about my lab-life I can definitely divide it on two parts, the lab-life without Anneke and the lab-life with Anneke. I do not remember exactly when Anneke joined me (probably around 3rd year of my PhD study) but I remember very well that from this moment I was never ever alone in the lab, Anneke shared with me the joy of the good results but even more importantly she supported me
in disappointing moments so I did not have to go through them alone. Anneke, thank you SO much for all your help and support. It was hyper-great to work with you. I am so much grateful for all you did...

In the end of my PhD when I was running out of my energy sources, I was super lucky to meet Harmen, who joined me as a student and immediately it turned out we enjoy working, chatting, spinning, life discussing and beer drinking together. Harmen, it was brilliant to work with you. I am very grateful for all your help. Thank you vvvvvvvv much...

At that point, I would like to mention Zaira who was helping me with ADM project. Zaira, I was very happy to work with you ☺. All the best to you.

The cooperation and ideas exchange are very important during the PhD and I was very lucky to meet great cooperators. I would like to thank Madelon Maurice and Danielle Tauriello from the University of Utrecht. In fact, the idea of CYLD project was born during the Wnt meeting in Washington and with the support and help of Madelon and Danielle I could reveal the role of CYLD in multiple myeloma. I would like to thank Mark van Duin and Annemiek Broyl from Professor Pieter Sonneveld group for their cooperation in CYLD project. In a special way I would like to thank Mark, who has spent a lot of time with me helping to understand and break through the difficult array data.

I would like to thank very much Marie Jose Kersten, who was always very supportive for me and provided a lot of help with the study of patients materials.

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I also would like to mention Chris van der Loos† (2013), a colleague who I remember for his help in difficult immunohistochemistry.

I was not always lucky with my experiments in the lab but I had amazing luck to be always surrounded by the great people in the lab. I would like to thank Annemieke, Leonie and Loes for being always willing to help whenever I asked. Monique and Esther, I thank very much for all the help with PCR related issues. In fact, Monique was the first person in the lab who taught me in practice how PCR works, and from that day, I am a fan of PCR and a fan of Monique ☺.

In general, I would like to thank all people from diagnostic team for being always helpful.

In the lab-life there are always some difficult problems, but in the pathology department, we have the lab-fairy Nike, who has a magic skill to make all problems disappear. Nike, thank you very much for everything, I felt your positive energy and support during my whole PhD.
I also direct my thanks to computer guys team, Patric, Remco and Ronald, who were always willing to solve my computer problems and to Frank, who was able to arrange all administration issues in a funny way.

And now time for my AIOs’ room roommates ☺. I would like to thank the ‘old experienced AIOs’, (this is how I saw Rogier R. and Febe when I started my PhD) for always being willing to share their experience with me. I wish you all the best in your lives and careers. When old AIOs left, the new ones came. I had the great time with Martine, Martin (because of Martin the Epstein-Bar was re-discovered), Linda and Katka. All the best to you.

With Richard B. and Robbert H. I sit in the same part of the room (behind the wall) to the last day of my PhD. They were great colleagues, and I really enjoyed sharing the room with them. All the best guys.

At that point I would like to mention Jeroen G., (who joined the department unfortunately in the end of my PhD) and Carel van Noesel, who gave me a lot of good remarks related to my projects. Thank you very much.

Jurrit and Sander, two brilliant guys in the myeloma group, who were working on colon cancer ☺. Although our research subjects were far away from each other’s, I always felt very strongly the positive and super highly supportive signals from you both.

Chinese say: ‘A good neighbor-a found treasure’, I was also very lucky to have the best neighbor ever at the Anatomy Department, Aho.

So now, time for Tamas, the super original, controversial, mysterious individualist. Tamas, I really enjoyed a lot our controversial life discussions ☺. All the best to you, it was a great experience to meet you during my ‘PhD journey’. In this point, I would also like to thank Monika, who was always very supportive for me. Monika, it was great to have small polish-girls- chat with you.

In general, there were many great people in the pathology department, especially kidney group, who I did not mention personally, but I would like to thank all of them for the great, unique and unforgettable atmosphere of this place.

Foreigners are always attracted to other foreigners and it was always the case with me. Elena, Emanuele, Maria, Anna S., Marco, Gleb, Karene and Anand. It was hyper fantastic to meet you and to spend time with you. Thank you very very much guys for everything.

In research life people often come and go what gives the impression that nothing is stable. But fortunately, I was very lucky to have Anand around, who was in the pathology department when I came and who is still there. Anand, many things we did together, a lot of discussions, and a great time in general. Thank
you very much Anand for being stably around during my PhD time. It was really
great and very important for me.

Here, I would like to direct my thanks also to Pran, who, although left to UK,
was also long time stably around in the pathology department and came with
many interesting ideas, especially in hypoxia project. Thank you very much Pran.

As for Karene, I can certainly say she was my best and the most supportive
friend during the time she was around (and later as well). I remember our lunches;
small and big talks about really everything. I also remember very exactly when (too
often probably 😊) I was asking Karene, ‘Do you think the day of my defense will
ever come?’ and Karene was always answering the same ‘sure, I have no doubts.’
Karene, I am so grateful for your friendship. It was a big luck for me to meet you.

When in spring 2005 I met the Socrates student from Lisbon, Emilio, for the
first time, I did not expect at all than 9 years later, we will be still friends, having
fun and still discovering the new places in the Netherlands. Emilio, although we
see each other not more often than once in 3 years, there is always something to
tell and to discuss, this happens only between the real friends…

Many thanks I direct to Ania B. and Zofia M., it is quite amazing to keep in
touch constantly from years although being thousands of kilometers from each
other. I cannot imagine to survive all these years without our skype conferences,
organized every time if ‘emergency problem solving’ was needed.

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And of course my ‘very old’ and best of the best friends, the one and only
Asia D., Anna S., Aga B., Gosia H. and Agatka T., who were always hyper-sup-
portive and constantly from the 4th year of my PhD has been asking the same
question ‘is the date of the defense maybe already set?’ so finally, it is set and we
can finally celebrate…

I was finishing my PhD thesis in Poland, working in the Chair of Medical Bio-
chemistry at Jagiellonian University Medical College. At that point I would like to
thank professor Piotr Laidler and all the staff from the Chair of Medical Biochem-
istry whose support in the last part of my PhD I could feel very well. Especially,
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Kinga K.