Colon cancer heterogeneity: Stem cells, signals and subtypes
De Sousa E Melo, F.

Citation for published version (APA):

General rights
It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: http://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.
Acknowledgements
I know what you just did. You’ve quickly flicked through all these Chapters that took me five years to shape altogether and went straight to the acknowledgements to check how extensive yours was. Well, you have the right to do so as this work couldn’t have been achieved without the invaluable support you have provided me during the past years, scientifically and/or personally. This might sound like an equal thank to all of you, but equal contribution will only be found in Chapter 3 and 6 of this thesis and I would like to acknowledge most of you individually.

First and foremost I will start with my family. Leaving my Swiss little nest was no easy task for my family and me. Perhaps this is best illustrated by what I have by now dubbed the 6 o’clock pm ritual, time at which my phone will ring everyday frantically until I would dare answer to a distressed mother that would desperately ask when her unique son would finally return home. This would invariably be followed within minutes by a call from my granny to whom I would need to sadly reiterate that my thesis is almost finished and soon I will be back. Maman, Papa et Grand-ma ce livre vous est dédié. Votre amour et soutien inconditionels durant toutes ces années m’apporte la force de franchir toutes les étapes qui se dressent devant moi. Je souhaite que mes enfants puissent m’aider autant que je vous aime et j’aurai dès lors accompli ce qu’il y a de plus beau dans la vie. Mimita et Lalou, vous êtes mes rayons de soleil et la joie de vivre incarnée, ce livre aussi vous appartient. Jean-Louis, Lolo, Sasha et Kalia alias les Tsim, merci pour votre douceur et les merveilleux week end qu’on a passé ensemble, je les voudrai plus fréquents. Ja, obrigado pelos maravilhosos momentos passados juntos. Gosto muito de ti e tenho saudades tuas. Stefan, tu m’as suivi dès mes premiers pas scientifiques, je dis toujours qu’au moins la moitié de ce que j’ai accompli s’est fait grâce à ton soutien, en réalité c’est certainement bien plus.

Somehow my transition to the Netherlands was much easier than I could have imagined and I owe this to several people. Dear Jan Paul, you have welcomed me in your lab with arms wide-open more than five years ago. I first started as a student but you quickly convinced me to stay for playing a bigger game. Right from the start you gave me all the trust and freedom I needed and looking back I don’t think it could have worked out better than this. But the good times in the lab are only part of the whole story; Thanks for all these great bike sessions and our somewhat different interpretation on whom would have actually win these races, thank you for all the nice trip we made, thank you for sending me to Palermo to smuggle back cells and virus (I though I would never make it back). But the most important lesson you taught me is that a supervisor can also become a great friend.

All people that have revolved around the LEXOR, you have been fabulous colleagues and friends and I will be missing you. Thank you for all the help and support you have given me; on a more personal note (and without any chronological order): Dear Louis, thanks for your input. Thanks to Kate for the endless mini preps and for showing me that one can swear even more elegantly in English than in French. Thank you Catarina for believing that “bonnerizing” is actually a real word. Thanks Joan for being such a schaatje, all these massages and nice discussions kept me going during these years. Spricky, thanks for helping me with the most crappy southern in peer reviewed literature. Selcuk, thanks for the basketball under 35°C and for allowing me to arrange your bachelor party and getting rid of the evidence afterwards... Maarten, déjà, prrrlease, thanks for your lesson on ethidium bromide and for permitting me to hold your child.
Ditouna, thank you berry berry much for dealing with my moods and for your extra-terrestrial emails ^_^, thanks as well for your hard-core Indonesian paracetamol (or whatever it is). Thanks Helene for all the sugar waffles and for embarrassing me with all your lab journals. Lisette thanks for the “light” chocolate cakes. Bregetje, Hallo met Eva and Veronique thanks for still playing high five with me. Eva, please do not laugh during my defence! Thanks Klaas for loving Cancellara and everything that comes from Switzerland. Maestro Hans, you have injected virtually all the mice I have been working with and helped me with all these experiments, thanks for your all your precious time. Verhoeff, thanks for being my personal drug dealer (was only antibiotics and painkillers mammy I swear) anytime of the day. De Botsie, thanks for bringing up the good mood during the bad times. Evelyn, I wish I could payback at least half of what you did for me, just believe in yourself as good things happen to good people. Cheryl, you simply ROCK, just don’t change! Raju, Elise, Arlene, Tessa and Tom, not so much time to hang out but I know you will do great. Ronnie, thanks for renting a house with a Jacuzzi. Saskia, thanks for making earplugs available in the lab :) Melania, Melania, “basically” thank you for the nice dinners at houtmankade or so. Monika thanks for that qPCR Excel spreadsheet that still no one has figured out how to use. Kristel kempertje, you brought quite some atmosphere in the lab, never a dull moment. Thanks also for choosing me as your paranimf. Simone Simone, you showed me what is hospitality back in Palermo, I hope you felt the same when you arrived in Amsterdam, or what? Maartje oh no, oh, thanks for craving so much for new gossips, it kept me going for more.

Jo, you made Amsterdam the sunniest place on earth for half a year. Thanks for being fabulous and I can’t wait to see you again. Dick, Lukas, Hanneke and Joost thanks for bringing a bit of clinical relevance in our PION sessions.

JP always warned us about students coming for internship, I have been lucky: Joycie and Laurita, you are the best and probably taught me as much as I did, I am favored I had the chance to work together with you. Thanks to the oncogenomics crew: Jan Koster for making the best tool ever for biologist and thanks to Richard Volckmann for helping me using it. Pieter van Sluis, your help and kindness have been much appreciated. Marnix, thanks for trying to turn me into a pathologist ;). Przemek, thanks for trusting me with your place. Toni and Berend, thanks for the entire FACS sort during LEXOR and additional hours. Xin thanks for being a bioinformatics Wizard. And special thanks to the CEMMers: Tijmen, de schwanzzzz, thanks for these pics you occasionally send me, please don’t send them anymore. Daan, it was great organizing the best lab day ever together. Miranda, thanks for kicking my butt occasionally in the lab. Brendon, my man, great to share these nice coffees, you made bioinformatics a fun topic. Thanks also to Kaushal, Tim, Sylvia, Luigi, Arjan, Jan Willem and Achmed. Thanks Tom van der Poll for always having yet another embarrassing picture of me to show at each symposium.

To my little Dutch community: Thanks to Thomas for making everyone around you feeling so special. Thanks Rogier for breaking my back playing squash, Chiel for smelling fertility, Edo Harries for being mon Choufchouf and Peter for asking Jolanda to prepare some soup after our cycling events. Christian and Oskar, you are my favourite dubbelDutch! Erik, Andreij (I consider you Dutch by now) and Viola, you give an extra plus to everything. Olivier ter Brake, you were acutally the first dutch to welcome me in Holland, thanks for this.
Acknowledgements

To my little Swiss crew: Daniel et Seb merci d’être venu me voir (plus d’une fois) quand je n’avais encore personne a qui parler, vous me manquez. Merci Cédric d’être venu me voir et pour ton hospitalité aux Diablerets. Merci Zizou et Waleed pour votre passage si apprécié et pour votre amitié. Rocio, merci pour tous ces interminables session skype, moi jouant a la guitar et toi chantant en décalé, tu as été ma première amie à Amsterdam depuis la Suisse ;). Davina, merci d’être venue si souvent et surtout d’avoir rendue notre appartement si agréable à vivre. Alexandre, merci pour tes passages et pour ces expériences uniques que je ne ferai plus jamais. Stéphanie, merci de cogner gentillement à ma porte tous les matins pendant trois semaines pour me forcer a aller travailler et merci à Charles pour tous les conseils. Nicolas et Mireille alias Nunuche, merci pour faire partie de la French connection (et pour jurer autant, Mireille).

I could only take two but the following people are all “paranimfs” in my heart: Tijana, thanks for lifting up my musical knowledge above the Backstreet boys and Michael Jackson and thank you for always being present even when I should be the one listening. Valeria or should I say Baleria? You have been such a great friend, thanks for laughing so easily at my, most of the time, not funny jokes. Thanks for not killing yourself on that bike and for not giving up on your friend and especially thanks for having an even more fucked up nose than mine ;). Evan, I don’t know how to put this… but Foxo3a doesn’t exist, it’s an artifact. Thanks for being yourself man; you are one of a kind, thank you so much as well for always suggesting taking care of Nadine when I would be away for a weekend. Dr. Zurolo, are you insatiable? Don’t forget to look at it and thanks for teaching me the small amount of guitar I know. I’m sure you will have a great time in Physiotherapy. Marco, I missed you so much when you left for that company. Thanks for sitting at my side during the good and bad times. Dani, Ja Hallo? You are much more than my friend’s girlfriend, thanks for the Ijsjes and the great dinners/evenings/party. I think you should thank me for saving last NYE. Olivia, patate, merci pour tes messages, merci pour les choco Ovo, merci de ne pas avoir trop pousser a ce que je vienne danser la salsa et merci de nous avoir fait attendre chaque Mardi jusqu’à 21h pour manger. Cristina, quel bonheur de partager tous ces repas à l’AMC et de ragoter ensemble sur la nouvelle culture dont on fait maintenant pleinement parti. Simon, je pense pas qu’il puisse y avoir eu une meilleur colloc. Toujours surencherir pour faire encore plus rire l’autre, merci aussi de m’avoir fait gouter le poisson pourri. On a vécu de grands moments et bien d’autres sont a venir. Merci à Milena d’avoir repri notre appartement sans faire d’inspection auparavant ;). Benny et Nicolas, il y a peu de personnes avec lesquels on puisse se sentir aussi bien, vous êtes mes deux frères. Alexis, merci de me laisser gagner au squash, pour les diners beaucoup trop chers et les rivieres de champagnes et surtout merci pour ton amitié. Marc, tu es le plus ancien de mes amis et on peut litéralement dire que je t’ai vu naître, merci de venir si souvent me voir. J’espère que ça ne s’arrêtera jamais.

Got you Louis, didn’t I? Where should I start? I owe you much. Thanks for letting me believe that Jaap Haveman was Klaas’ father, thanks for letting me say (for more than two years) datas instead of data, thanks for generating GTG7, thanks for chasing each other in the office and finishing my diclofenac, thanks for bringing me to that Victoria park. Thanks for the big macs, the movies and for trying to get me drunk at your place (for I don’t know what). Also thanks for always being there when I needed you, I’m favored to know you.
Nadintje, I have never believed love at first sight could happen but you’ve proved me wrong. We only met for two minutes in front of an elevator but that was more than enough. A couple of months later you would leave Portugal and your family to come and start the best thing that happened to me, I love you.