Tick-host-pathogen interactions in Lyme borreliosis
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Colofon

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Dissertation, Academic Medical Center, University of Amsterdam
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Cover picture: The character on the cover of this thesis is the fictional character 'The Tick'.
‘The Tick’ is a surreal parody of superheroes and the protagonist of the
homonymous cartoon. The Tick is TM & © 2009 Benjamin Edlund and is used
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Lay-out: Digit@l Xpression, Bennekom; email: info@digitalxpression.nl
Printed by: GVO drukkers | Ponsen & Looijen
ISBN/EAN: 978-90-6464-322-4

The cover of this thesis has been designed in its current form because of several reasons. Firstly,
ticks can be a nuisance to mankind and can transmit a variety of pathogens to humans, including
Borrelia burgdorferi, the causative agent of Lyme borreliosis. The clouds underscore this ever
emerging danger. On the other hand tick saliva contains many physiologically active molecules
that could serve as a template for the development of therapeutical agents to be used in daily
clinical practice, making them, like ‘The Tick’, little superheroes. The sun is to underscore this
side of the tick. Furthermore, the author of this thesis spent some time at Yale University (New
Haven, United States of America) and at the Academic Medical Center (AMC) (Amsterdam, The
Netherlands). This is represented by the red building in the back, a distorted animation of the
AMC, and the colors used in the picture, red, white and blue; colors used in both the Stars &
Stripes and the Dutch national flag. Finally, it is not a coincidence that the thesis describes the
presence and function of a specific tick protein present in both American and European ticks.

Financial support:
Joppe W.R Hovius is a recipient of an AGIKO stipend by the Netherlands organization for health
research and development. Printing of the thesis was financially supported by MRC Holland, Pfizer
BV, MSD BV, Wyeth BV, Astra Zeneca BV, Stichting Amstol, Philips Healthcare, Dr. J.E. Jurriaanse
Stichting, Raadgevend Ingenieursbureau BERGEN, and the University of Amsterdam.
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ACADEMISCH PROEFSCHRIFT

ter verkrijging van de graad van doctor
aan de Universiteit van Amsterdam
op gezag van de Rector Magnificus
prof. dr. D.C. van den Boom
ten overstaan van een door het college voor promoties ingestelde
commissie, in het openbaar te verdedigen in de Agnietenkapel
op vrijdag 13 maart 2009, te 14.00 uur

door

Joppe Willem Robert Hovius

tegenover te Hunsel
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