

Programme and Speakers information



18th NRS Young Investigator Symposium – From childhood to adulthood: “A life-lung challenge”

Hotel Casa 400, Eerste Ringdijkstraat 4

1097 BC Amsterdam, Amsterdam (near train station Amsterdam, Amstel).



The YIS is made possible by:





NRS 18th Young Investigator Symposium
27 November 2026
Hotel CASA Amsterdam. Eerste Rijndijkstraat 4

Programme

- 09:15-09:45 Arrival and registration
- 09:45-10:00 Welcome *Room: UVA 1-2*
- 10:00-10:30 **The Nicotine Playbook: How the Tobacco Industry Targets Youth — and How We Can Fight Back**
Dr. Frank Borm- NKI Antoni van Leeuwenhoek
- 10:30-11:00 **Prematurity-Related Lung Disease: Mechanistic Insights and Stem Cell Therapy in an Ovine Model**
Dr. Niki Reynaert-Maastricht University
- 11:00-11:15 Short break
- 11:15-11:45 **T-cell priming in lymph nodes; a life-long struggle between tolerance and (tumor-)immunity**
Dr. Floris Dammeijer-Erasmus MC
- 11:45-12:15 Network activity
- 12:15-12:45 Career Session- **Moving from academia to industry**
Dr. Eyleen De Poel and Dr. Lisette Krabbendam/Chiesi
- 12:45-13:45 Lunch
- 13:45-15:45 Young Investigator Masterclass
- 13:45-15:45 Workshop: Patient Participation by *Involv*
- 15:45-17:00 Group photo, Award and Borrel, Closing
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NRS Young Investigator Board,
Dr. Willianne Hoepel (chair), LUMC
Dr. Mieke Metzemaekers, Erasmus MC
Dr. Bahar Arik, UMC Utrecht
Dr. Rosanne Beijers, Maastricht University
Laure Nicolai, MD, Amsterdam UMC
Merel van Oorschot, UMCG





Get to know our speakers



Dr. Frank Borm

Pulmonologist, NKI Antoni van Leeuwenhoek

Pulmonologist specializing in thoracic oncology and endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS). I studied Medicine at Radboud University in Nijmegen and subsequently trained as a pulmonologist at Rijnstate Hospital in Arnhem, completing my training in October 2018. After working as a pulmonologist at Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC) for six years, I joined the Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Hospital in December 2024.

Alongside my clinical work at LUMC, I have been conducting PhD research focusing, among other topics, on immunotherapy in lung cancer. In October 2023, together with Danielle Cohen, I founded Vapen #jouwkeuze ("Vaping #yourchoice"), an initiative aimed at reducing vaping and smoking among young people.



Dr. Niki Reynaert

Assistant Professor, Maastricht UMC+/Maastricht University

Dr. Niki Reynaert is an Assistant Professor within the Department of Respiratory Medicine at Maastricht UMC+/Maastricht University. Her research focuses on gaining a better understanding of the molecular and cellular mechanisms involved in chronic lung diseases, such as COPD and asthma. Her research focuses on elucidating the molecular and cellular pathways involved in the pathogenesis of lung injury and identifying mechanisms that compromise normal tissue repair and regenerative

responses. In collaboration with the Department of Pediatrics, she investigates the developmental origins of respiratory disease, with a particular focus on how premature birth and other early-life insults affect lung development and long-term respiratory health. Her research examines the roles of inflammation, oxidative stress, and dysregulated repair and remodeling processes in the pathogenesis of chronic lung disease.

The aim of her research is to translate knowledge gained from fundamental laboratory studies into applications that benefit patients. Through this work, she seeks to contribute to new approaches for limiting lung damage, promoting lung repair, and maintaining or improving lung function as effectively as possible.

Dr. Reynaert obtained her PhD from Maastricht University in 2006 with research on the role of redox regulation in inflammation associated with lung diseases, carried out in close collaboration with the





University of Vermont in the United States. Since then, she has combined scientific research with the coordination and delivery of education across several programs at Maastricht University.

In addition to her research and teaching activities, Dr. Reynaert is active within the European Respiratory Society as Head of the Basic and Translational Research Assembly and has held various positions within the Netherlands Respiratory Society. In these roles, she has been involved in organizing international scientific meetings, webinars, and courses, as well as contributing to the development of policies within both organizations.



Dr. Floris Dammeijer

Pulmonologist and translational immunologist, Erasmus MC

I work as a pulmonologist and translational immunologist at the Erasmus MC Rotterdam with a focus on cancer immunology and immunotherapy for lung- and other cancers. My group previously identified tumor-draining lymph nodes to be crucial for immunotherapy efficacy. Recently, we found PLA2G2D – a protein previously linked to control of inflammation – to be a key lymph node centered checkpoint regulating anti-tumor T-cell immunity. In this lecture I will discuss the multilayered levels of immune control in lymph nodes

and how these can be targeted to benefit patients.



Dr. Lisette Krabbendam

Medical Advisor, Chiesi

My career started with a passion for immunology. After studying Biomedical Sciences, I completed a PhD at Amsterdam UMC focusing on the role of innate lymphoid cells (ILCs) in Crohn's disease, followed by a postdoctoral position in Pulmonology at Erasmus MC.

Although I enjoyed academic research, I increasingly wanted to work in an environment where the impact of my work on patients and healthcare would be more immediate and tangible. That led me to join Chiesi as an MSL, and later as a Medical Advisor.

Today, I enjoy bridging science and business strategy: translating complex evidence into practical initiatives that improve patient care while supporting broader healthcare and business goals. I thrive in cross-functional collaborations and value the opportunity to work with experts from different specialties, such as marketing, business analytics and communication teams, to turn scientific insights into practical solutions.

