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Dr. W.A Dik Is trained as a laboratory specialist in Medical Immunology and is currently working in the Laboratory Medical Immunology (the LMI; that is part of the department of Immunology) at Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Here he is involved in immunodiagnostics related to auto-immune and inflammatory diseases, allergy, immunodeficiency and hematologic malignancies. Besides this he heads a research group that studies cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying (chronic) inflammatory processes and related tissue and organ dysfunction, with the more specific aim to use this information to guide the development of (novel) protective measures to be used in the clinic. Experimental approaches generally used comprise extensive use of in vitro/ex vivo cell and tissue culture systems, different types of cellular, serologic and molecular analyses. The research is performed in a multi-disciplinary setting together with medical specialists and scientists from different (medical) fields, both national and international.