Board of examiners

Prof. dr. Alexander Van Akkooi  
Department of Oncological Surgery  
AVL/NKI Amsterdam  

Prof. dr. Karlijn Suijkerbuijk  
Department of Medical Oncology  
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Department of Urology  
Translational Radiation Oncology, supportive care and Physics (TROP)  
University Hospital Brussels, Vrije Universiteit Brussel  

Prof. dr. Daniel Jacobs-Tulleneers-Thevissen  
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Diabetes Pathology and Therapy (DIAB)  
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Dr. Lore Decoster  
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Promoter:  

Prof. dr. Bart Neyns  
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Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium  

PhD in Medical Sciences  
2020-2021  

INVITATION to the Public defence of  

Yanina J. L. JANSEN  

To obtain the academic degree of 'DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCES'  

Optimizing immunotherapy in patients with advanced melanoma.  

The defence will take place on Wednesday, 23 June 2021 at 4 p.m.  

and will be organised online via Zoom meeting  
accessible through the following link:  

https://gf.vub.ac.be/redirects/PhD_defense_Yanina_Jansen.php  

and in Auditorium Vanden Driessche  

ADMITTANCE to the auditorium will only be granted upon presentation of the personal invitation from the PhD candidate.
Melanoma treatment has changed drastically in the past ten years. The introduction of immunotherapy has led to improvements in progression-free and overall survival. Immunotherapy offers melanoma patients a possible cure for their illness. For this doctoral thesis, we investigated different modalities in melanoma treatment, from using a dendritic vaccine in an adjuvant setting to defining the optimal treatment duration with immunotherapy and ideal follow-up after treatment discontinuation. The main goal being, optimizing immunotherapy in melanoma patients.

Yanina J.L. Jansen obtained her degree in medicine in 2012 with the highest distinction at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. She completed her surgical training in 2021 at the University Hospital of Brussels. Currently, she is specializing in thoracic surgery and surgical oncology at the University Hospital of Brussels and is a lung transplant trainee at the University Hospital of Leuven. Between 2013-2017 she dedicated her time to science with a keen interest in immunotherapy for melanoma patients. Yanina J.L. Jansen is and was the (co-)promotor for different master theses. She is a reviewer for multiple high-impact journals and has given numerous lectures at national and international congresses.

During her trainee years, she was a board member (and president) of BAST and BASO and organized multiple successful workshops and lectures, including workshops and lectures at the Belgian Surgical week.