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Toward a virosomal respiratory syncytial virus vaccine with a built-in lipophilic adjuvant

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Stellingen

1. The main challenge for the development of a vaccine against Respiratory Syncytial virus (RSV) infection remains that such a vaccine needs to provide better protection than a natural RSV infection.
2. The addition of an adjuvant is crucial for a vaccine against RSV for the elderly or pregnant women. (this thesis)
3. The synthetic version of monophosphoryl lipid A (MPLA), 3D-PHAD®, is an excellent replacement for natural, LPS-derived, MPLA as a potential adjuvant in a virosomal or proteoliposomal RSV vaccine. (this thesis)
4. Proteoliposomes form an attractive alternative to virosomes for use in a future RSV vaccine. (this thesis)
5. Over the last several years vaccination coverage of newborns, toddlers and schoolchildren has been declining. This is extremely worrying. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to educate parents to get their children vaccinated.
6. The emerging Nipah virus may well be the cause of a major outbreak in near future. It infects a wide range of animals and causes severe disease and death in humans. Currently, there are no vaccines available against this emerging virus. (WHO)
7. The haemagglutinin of Influenza virus is well characterized and currently used as the main antigen in flu vaccines. However, to design a universal vaccine, researchers should also devote attention to Neuraminidase, the other surface glycoprotein, which has been neglected for a long time in vaccine development. (Eichelberger et al., 2018, Aug; 53:38-44, Current Opinion in Immunology)
8. It is through science that we prove, but through intuition that we discover. (Henri Poincare)
9. When all the details fit perfectly, something is probably wrong with the story. (Charles Baxter, Burning down the house: Essays on Fiction)