

University of Groningen

## Treatment outcomes in ANCA-associated vasculitis

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Arno Christiaan Hessels was born at 28 July 1992 in Zwolle, the Netherlands. He attended the Gymnasium Ceeleum in Zwolle, from which he graduated cum laude in 2010. Later that year, he started studying Medicine at the University of Groningen. During his Bachelor he attended research-related courses and worked on research projects as part of the Junior Scientific Masterclass (JSM). In 2013, he worked on a JSM Pilot Project on thiopurine methyltransferase genotype and activity in relation to efficacy and toxicity of azathioprine maintenance therapy in ANCA-associated vasculitis. This project was supervised by dr. Bram Rutgers, dr. Jan Stephan F. Sanders and prof. dr. Coen A. Stegeman. After attaining his Bachelor degree in 2013 cum laude and with honours for science, he continued working on this research project under the same supervisors during his Scientific Internship. In 2014, he successfully applied for a position in the MD/PhD programme. During the remainder of his Master, he alternated Internships in the University Medical Center Groningen and the Isala Clinics in Zwolle with PhD research.

His research focuses on identifying genetic predictors of treatment efficacy and toxicity in ANCA associated vasculitis, as well as characterising treatment outcomes. During his PhD research, he streamlined a database for a large observational cohort of ANCA-associated vasculitis patients, coordinated two prospective observational studies, supervised multiple students for JSM Pilot Projects and Master Projects and presented data for ANCA-associated vasculitis patients and at international scientific conferences including Vasculitis Workshop 2015 and the EULAR 2018.

From September 2018 through March 2019, he worked as a Junior Doctor at the department of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology of the University Medical Center Groningen. In April 2019, he will start his residency programme of Internal Medicine at the MST in Enschede.

