

Interested in the immunology of tropical and (re-)emerging infections?



INSTITUTE
OF TROPICAL
MEDICINE
ANTWERP

Apply for an enlightening course, or adventurous master thesis internship at the Clinical Immunology unit!

WHO ARE WE?

The Clinical Immunology Unit (CIU)

In close collaboration with partners in the Global South (Ethiopia, DRC, ...), we study vaccines, immunotherapies, and immunodiagnostics with a focus on cellular immunity and patient immunomonitoring.

Focus areas:

- Patient-based research
- Immunomonitoring assays
- Clinical trials
- Building shared capacity

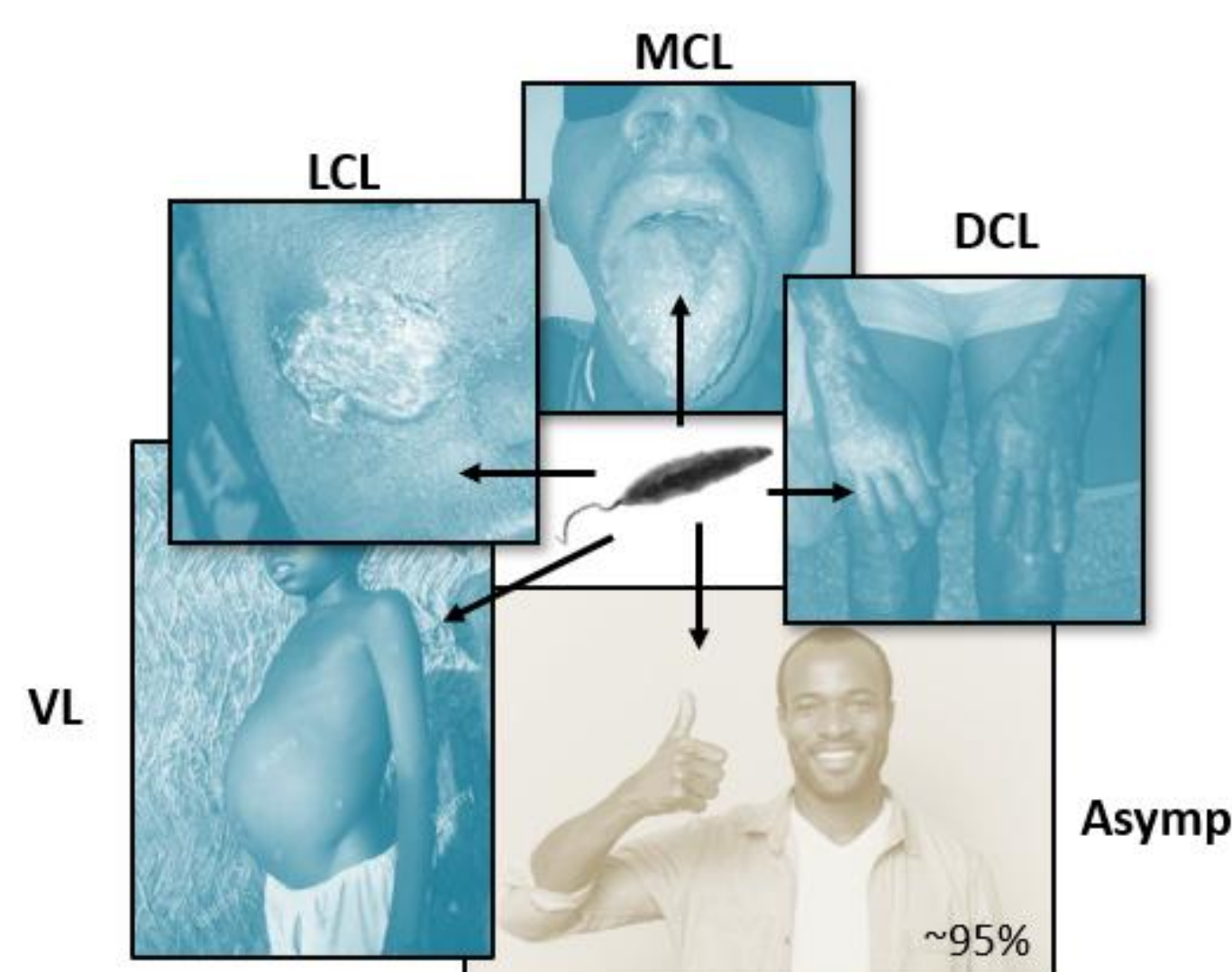
NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

Host-Focused Research on Leishmaniasis & vaccination

Cutaneous and visceral leishmaniasis arise when *Leishmania* parasites infect and multiply inside human macrophages. Our research looks beyond the parasite, centering on the host's immune response and its role in disease & treatment.

Research highlights:

- Antigen discovery
- Vaccine innovation
- Immunodiagnostics
- Treatment responses
- Immunotherapy
- Host-parasite interactions
- International cohorts



(RE-)EMERGING DISEASES

Efficacy of vaccination strategies (Ebola)

We aim to address the ongoing threat of the Ebola Virus Disease. We investigate optimal timing and safety of booster vaccinations for rapid deployment during outbreaks.

Immunology support for outbreak research (MPOX)

Recent outbreaks and uncertain long-term immunity highlight the need for global surveillance. We support outbreak research with a focus on human cellular immunity to grasp all aspects of immune protection.

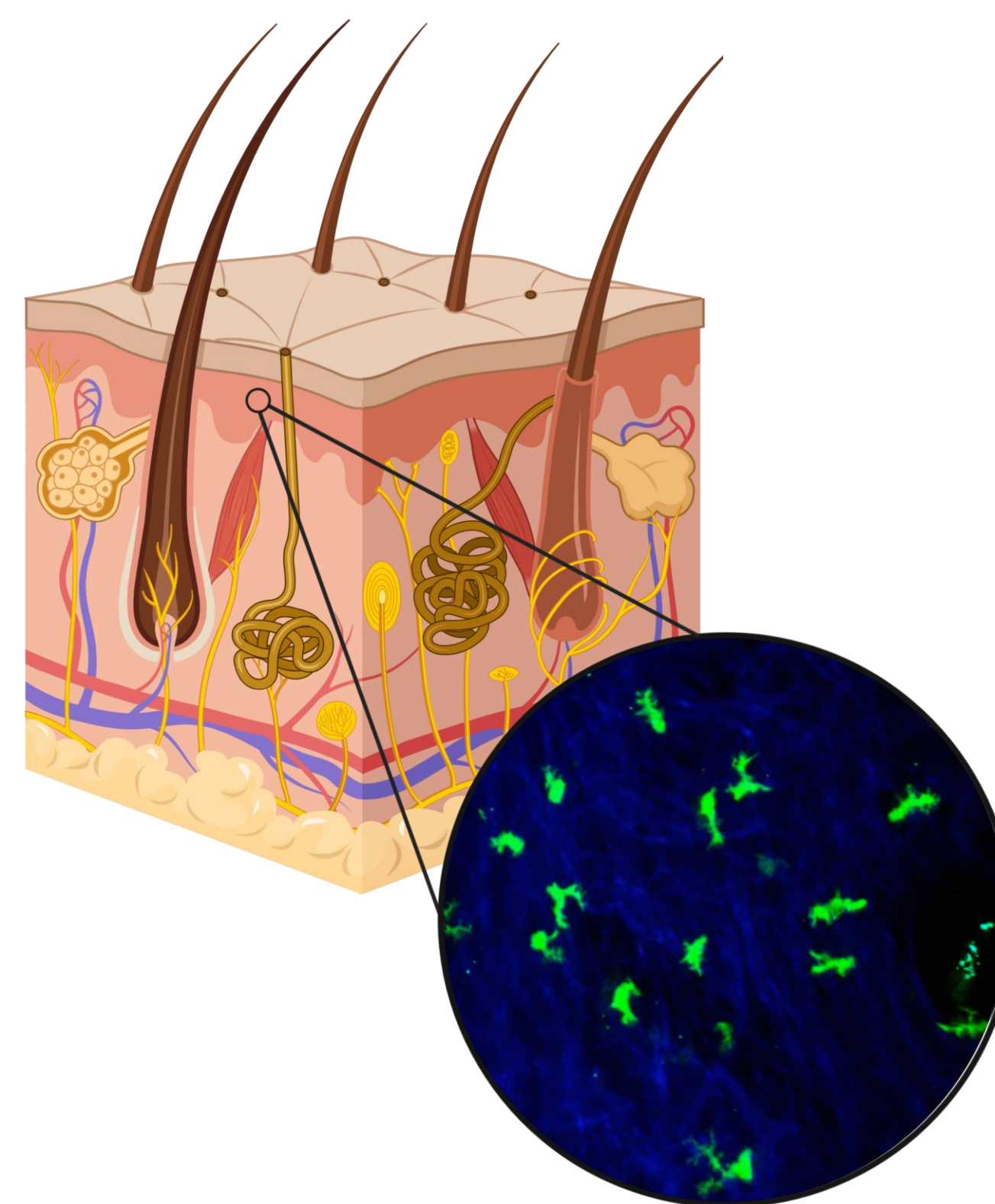


Research highlights:

- Booster combinations
- Long-term cellular immunity
- Immune protection correlates
- Capacity strengthening
- Immune support for outbreak studies
- Local Immunomonitoring Hubs

SKIN IMMUNITY

Many diseases cross the skin-barrier, or present with skin lesions. Little to no research is done on the skin-specific immune response after vaccination either.



We focus on skin immunity as an important patient outcome.

The goal?

To guide diagnosis, vaccine policies, and create a greater understanding for therapeutic interventions.

EDUCATION

Patient Immunomonitoring

– *Navigating the Maze of Techniques*

Why? The vast array of immunomonitoring techniques can be overwhelming.

What? Get a clear, practical overview of techniques, their strengths and pitfalls.

For Whom? Aspiring clinical immunologists with a Master's in biomedical or clinical sciences.

How?

- Course 1: Fully online with expert seminars and assessments to turn knowledge into action.
- Course 2: A 3-week, face-2-face, lab-oriented dive into immunomonitoring.



ASK US



Every project is focused on a different set of skills e.g. various lab techniques, bioinformatics, etc.

Let us know what you would be most interested in, and we can find your match! 😊

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