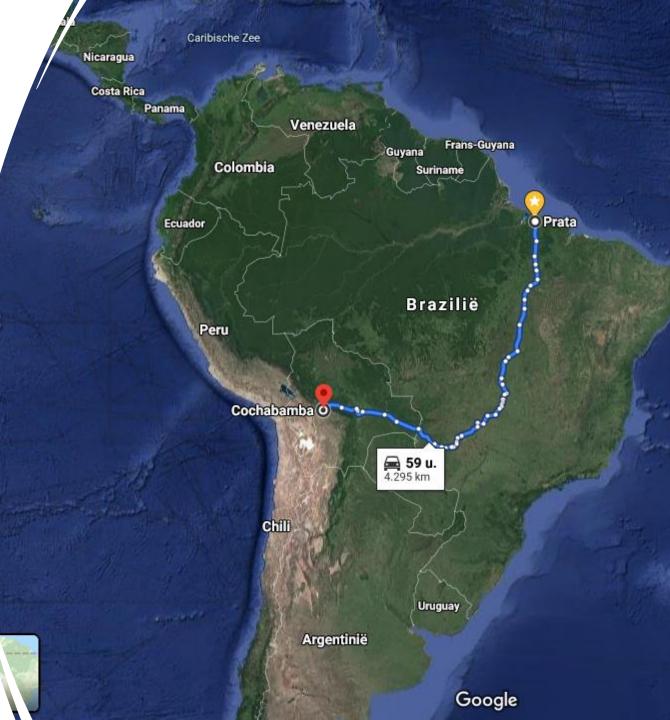
Point-of-care immunodiagnostic tests for detection of leprosy and detection of *Mycobacterium leprae* infection in high and low endemic areas in the South American Amazon

LRI Spring Meeting 7th of April 2022 Louise Pierneef







UCP-LFA for POC testing

High tech @ low complexity Basic research for field application

- UCP: upconverting reporter particles
- LFA: lateral flow assay
- Field friendly alternative for ELISA
- Quantitative assay: correlation signal & amount of biomarker
- Highly sensitive: no background
- Stable: transport without cold chain
- Do not bleach: permanent record



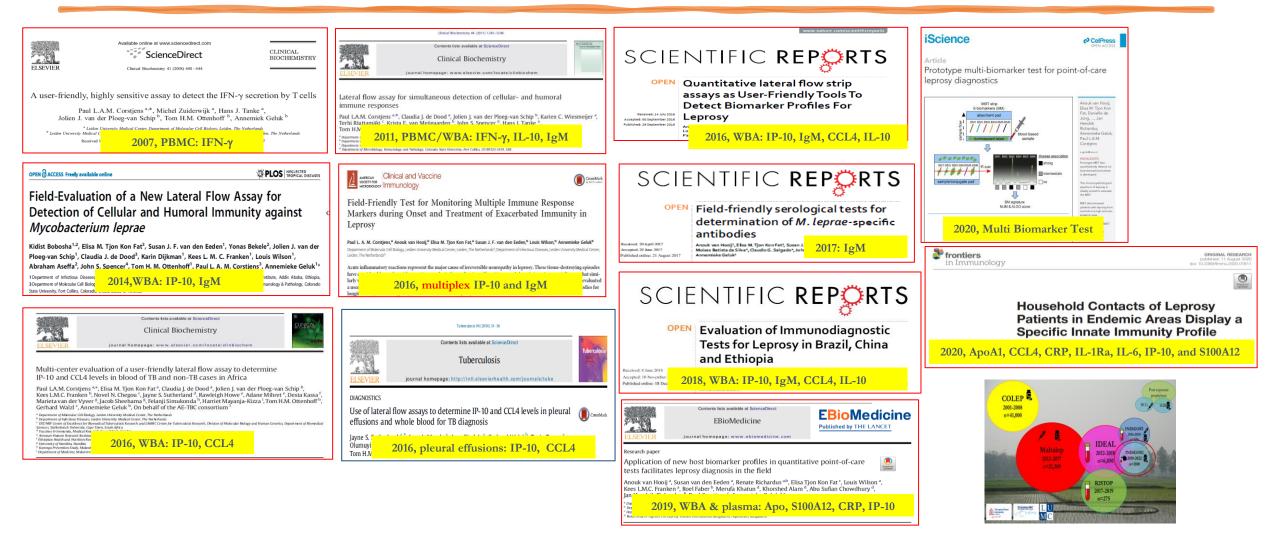








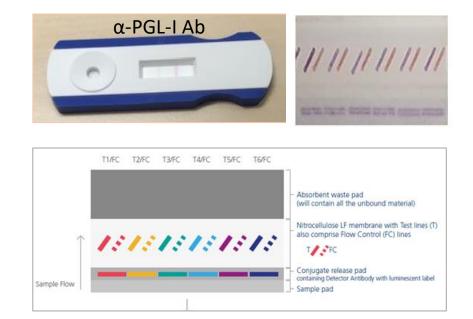
UCP-LFA from 2007 - 2020

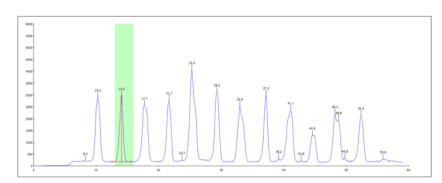




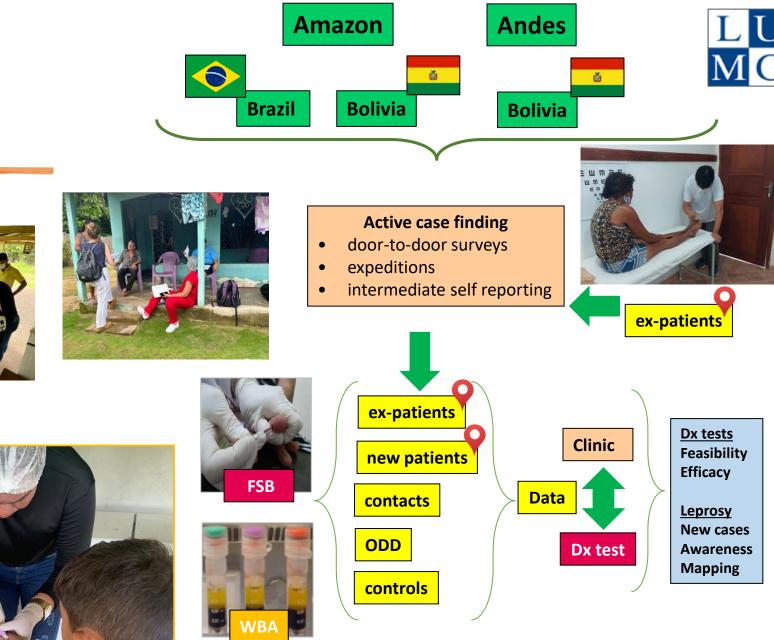
Study Main Aims

- Evaluate a quantitative point-of-care test for (longitudinal) detection of *M. leprae* infection both at an individual- and population level including adults and children within both populations (*Transmission monitoring*)
- Evaluate quantitative multibiomarker test (MBT) for detection of leprosy and *M. leprae* infection based on host immune markers previously identified in an Asian population in both South American populations (*Immunomonitoring*)





Recruitment & Sampling









Diagnostic tests

POC analysis





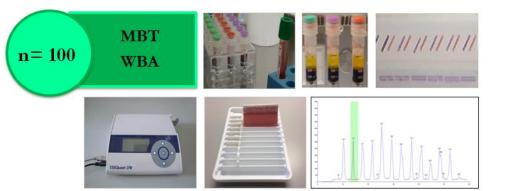




Brazilian cohort t_o	Bolivian cohort t_o
1,500	1,500
Brazilian cohort FU	Bolivian cohort FU
1,500	1,500

Analysis at LUMC





Brazilian cohort t ₀	Bolivian cohort t ₀
100	100
Brazilian cohort FU	Bolivian cohort <mark>FU</mark>
100	100

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Field team Prata



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GWS | Q.M. Gastmann-Wichers Stichting