

Minisymposium Fecal incontinence—constipation

Thursday 20th June 2019

Room 16 Education centre, 2nd floor UMCG, Hanzeplein 1, Groningen

18.30 – 19.00	Coffee and snacks	
19.00 – 19.05	Opening	Paul Broens
19.05 – 19.25	Constipation in children	Marjolijn Timmerman
19.25 – 19.40	Constipation in adults	Sanne Verkuijl
19.40 – 20.10	Translumbosacral neuromodulation	Satish Rao
20.10 – 20.30	Break	
20.30 – 21.00	Fecal continence: Novel tests and Treatments	Satish Rao
21.00 – 21.30	Fecal continence revisited	Paul Broens
21.30	Drinks	

To be able to organise the catering you are kindly asked to send an email to afcg-onderzoek@umcg.nl, mentioning with how many people you are planning to attend this meeting.

Presenters:

Marjolijn Timmerman, MD

Marjolijn Timmerman studied Medicine at the University of Groningen. Since December 2014 she was admitted to the dual MD/PhD path as a member of Dr. P.M.A. Broens' research team at the Anorectal Physiology Laboratory. The research work she has been carrying out for her thesis focuses on acute abdominal pain in children, with special attention for appendicitis and constipation. Because both diseases present with the same symptoms, it is important to refine the diagnostic process to enable physicians to distinguish more precisely between appendicitis and constipation. Additionally, the treatment strategies of both appendicitis and constipation require improvement, because appendicitis can still lead to complications, and constipation is still not always treated efficiently and completely. Marjolijn's thesis addresses the diagnostics of appendicitis and constipation and how they can be improved.

To date Marjolijn published an article about the influence of body mass index (BMI) on the diagnostics and treatment of appendicitis. She investigated the possible relationship between certain viral infections and the development of appendicitis in children. Marjolijn also participated in developing the Groningen Pediatric Defecation and Fecal Continence questionnaire. Marjolijn used the questionnaire to study the prevalence of constipation and fecal incontinence and their symptoms in Dutch children. Marjolijn will defend her thesis on the 8th of July at the University of Groningen.

Sanne Verkuijl, MD/PhD-student

Sanne Verkuijl has studied Medicine at the University of Groningen since 2012. She contacted Dr. Broens in 2014 to perform a pilot project and since then she has been involved in research at the Anorectal Physiology Laboratory besides doing her regular medical course work. In September 2016 Sanne was admitted to the dual MD/PhD path as a member of Dr. Broens' re-



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search group. She will write up her research findings in a doctoral thesis that she is expected to defend in 2021. During that year she will also obtain her medical degree. Sanne investigates the physiology and pathophysiology of the anorectal region by studying the process of defecation in healthy volunteers and patients with different anorectal dysfunctions. Furthermore, she performs research on the long-term outcomes of different types of surgery in patients with colon cancer.

Satish Rao, MD PhD, Prof.

Satish Rao received his MD from Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad, India, his PhD from the University of Sheffield, UK, and the Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP) in London, UK, in 1997. He completed his training in internal medicine at several academic centers in UK and a clinical research fellowship in gastroenterology at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, University of Sheffield, UK. Dr. Rao is Professor of Medicine, Founding Director, Gastroenterology/ Hepatology and Founding Director, Digestive Health Clinical Research Center, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University, Augusta, GA.

Dr Rao is one of a rare breed of academicians who has excelled as an outstanding researcher, distinguished educator and as a Master Clinician. Dr. Rao's research interests focus on the pathophysiology and treatment of anorectal disorders, IBS, food intolerance constipation and visceral pain. He has pioneered several new techniques and has received several patents. He has received numerous national/international awards. He received three meritorious honors from the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA), the AGA Distinguished Clinician Award, AGA Masters Award for Outstanding Clinical Research and AGA Distinguished Educator Award. He was honored by the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) with its highest research award, ACG Auxiliary Research Award, the International Foundation for Functional GI disorders with the Senior Clinical Investigator Award, the University of Iowa Regents Distinguished Award for Faculty Excellence, "Dr PN Chuttani Oration", the highest honor from the Indian Society of Gastroenterology, and recently Augusta University Distinguished Researcher award and the Harold J Harrison Distinguished University Chair.

A former President of the American Neurogastroenterology/Motility Society, and a very productive, federally funded investigator with UO-1 and RO-1 grants investigating novel treatments for Fecal Incontinence, Dr. Rao has edited several books. He has published over 460 articles in top journals with 11,700 citations, and an outstanding H index of 64. An astute clinician with an international reputation Dr Rao has been selected as one of the "Best Doctors in America" and as America's Top Doctors for over 25 years. He has mentored 90 Physicians from across the world, many of whom are leaders in their own countries. A highly sought after speaker, he has lectured in 33 countries.

Paul Broens, MD PhD

Paul Broens studied medicine at the Catholic University Nijmegen, graduating in 1991. He trained to be a surgeon at the University of Leuven (Belgium), completing his studies there in 2002. He further specialized to become a paediatric surgeon at the UMCG and the Hannover Medical School (Germany). In 2005 he joined the paediatric surgery staff at the UMCG, becoming head of the department in 2017. While still a student, he developed interest in anorectal physiology during his internship at the University of Pécs medical school (Hungary). The ideas he developed in Pécs constituted the basis for the research he conducted for his PhD in Leuven. He defended his thesis, titled 'Anorectal Sensibility', in 2003, and has been involved in research related to the treatment of faecal incontinence and constipation ever since. In 2010 he founded the Anorectal Physiology Laboratory Groningen at the UMCG. At the APLG, researchers and corporate partners develop new techniques for the optimal registration of anorectal physiological findings. The Anorectal physiology laboratory consists at the moment of 16 members of which 10 are PhD-students. As the director of the APLG, Dr Broens supervises all measurements, as well as the scientific research.

