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Glioblastoma : between bed and bench

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Publication date
2009

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Citation for published version (APA):

Versélewel de Witt Hamer, P. C. (2009). *Glioblastoma : between bed and bench*. [Thesis, fully internal, Universiteit van Amsterdam].

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Philip C. de Witt Hamer was born on July 18, 1973 in Amsterdam. He completed the Murmellius Gymnasium, Alkmaar, in 1991. After acquiring his Medical Degree in 1996, he worked as a research student (and house officer) for ten months at the Trauma Unit of Tygerberg Hospital in Cape Town, Republic of South Africa, studying (and treating) penetrating abdominal stab wounds. He graduated as a Medical Doctor *cum laude* at the Faculty of Medicine of the VU University Amsterdam in 1998. Before his training in Neurological Surgery started in 2001 at the Academic Medical Center, University of Amsterdam, he worked as a house officer at the Departments of Neurosurgery at the Academic Medical Center in Amsterdam (1999 and 2000 to 2001, Chair: Prof.dr. D. Andries Bosch) and at the Dijkzigt Hospital in Rotterdam (1999, Chair: Prof.dr. Cees J.J. Avezaat). His residency program in Neurological Surgery was supervised by Prof.dr. D. Andries Bosch (2001 to 2005), Dr Gert-Joan Bouma (2005 to 2007), Prof.dr. W. Peter Vandertop (2007 to 2008) and Dr Saskia M. Peerdeman (2008), respectively. During his residency, he spent a year of training at the Department of Neurology at the Academic Medical Center, University of Amsterdam, supervised by Prof.dr. Jan Stam in 2002. He was granted a basic oncological science year for residents in 2005 by the Dutch Cancer Society, for which he postponed his neurosurgical training by a year. In that same year the neuro-oncological research group, in which he participated, received an Accelerate Brain Cancer Cure award. After qualification as a neurosurgeon in 2008, he entered a clinical fellowship in Neurological Surgery at the VU University Medical Center in Amsterdam. This fellowship concentrated on functional neuro-oncological and epilepsy surgery during which he attended the clinical practice of Dr Mitch S. Berger at the University of California San Francisco, United States of America, and Prof.dr. Hugues Duffau, Centre Hôpital Université, Montpellier, France. At present, he is member of the board of the Neurosurgical Center Amsterdam, location VU University Medical Center, (Chair: Prof.dr. W. Peter Vandertop) focusing on neuro-oncological and epilepsy resections with brain mapping and neurophysiology.

He married Ester C. Zwagers in 2001 and together they raise three children: Gilles, Marte and Louik.