

Gerard van Doornum, Ton van Helvoort, and
Neeraja Sankaran

Leeuwenhoek's Legatees and Beijerinck's Beneficiaries

*A History of Medical Virology in The
Netherlands*

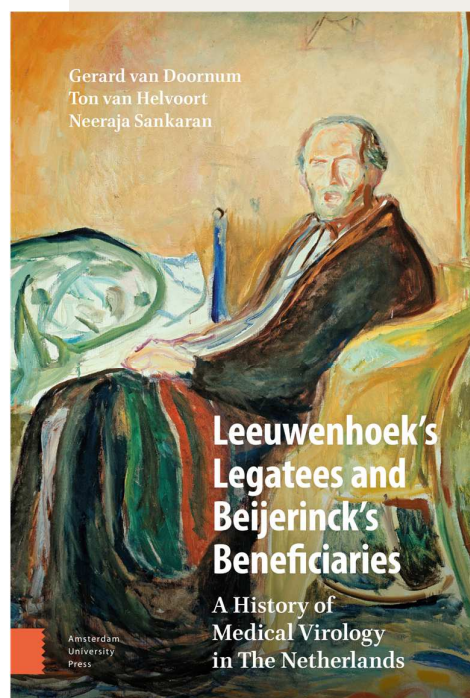
Leeuwenhoek's Legatees and Beijerinck's Beneficiaries: A History of Medical Virology in The Netherlands offers a tour of the history of Dutch medical virology. Beginning with the discovery of the first virus by Martinus Beijerinck in 1898, the authors investigate the reception and redefinition of his concept in medical circles and its implications for medical practice. The relatively slow progress of these areas in the first half of the twentieth century and their explosive growth in the wake of molecular techniques are examined. The surveillance and control of virus diseases in the field of public health is treated in depth, as are tumour virus research and the important Dutch contributions to technical developments instrumental in advancing virology worldwide. Particular attention is paid to oft forgotten virus research in the former Dutch colonies in the East and West Indies and Africa.

"This unique chronicle of Dutch medical virology is recommended literature for all. It describes scientific highlights of a discipline that allowed a dramatic reduction of morbidity and mortality in the past century."

Ab Osterhaus and Roel Coutinho

"The discoveries of the Dutch scientists Van Leeuwenhoek and Beijerinck profoundly influenced the development of microbiology and virology. This book describes the evolution of Dutch medical virology against the context of international developments in the field of virus research."

Harald zur Hausen



Gerard van Doornum is professor emeritus of Clinical Virology, Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Ton van Helvoort studied at the University of Nijmegen. As an independent historian of science, he specializes in chemistry and medicine.

Neeraja Sankaran trained as microbiologist and science writer before obtaining her PhD in the history of science and medicine at Yale University. She currently works as independent scholar and a freelance science writer and editor.

February 2020
360 pages, 31 b/w illustrations
Hardback
ISBN 978 94 6372 011 3
e-ISBN 978 90 4854 406 6
€49.95 / £42.95 / \$58.95
Open Access

ORDER

Available to order through your local bookseller or via aup.nl. Distribution outside North America through NBN International Ltd and available in North America through Baker & Taylor Publisher Services.