

Throughout his scientific career Jack van Horsen has been interested in understanding the pathogenetic basis of neurodegenerative disorders. He obtained his PhD at the Radboud University Nijmegen in 2005 on the expression and role of heparan sulphate proteoglycans in Alzheimer's disease. Thereafter, he started as a postdoctoral scientist at the MS Center Amsterdam working on extracellular matrix alterations in MS brain tissue. In 2010 he received the MS Fellowship that allowed him to continue his scientific work on the identification of molecular pathways underlying impaired mitochondrial metabolism and reactive oxygen species production in MS and to examine the potential of antioxidant and mitochondrial protection to counteract oxidative stress and improve mitochondrial function. The approach the group uses is to assemble information obtained from careful neuropathological examination of MS brain tissue and translate these findings into experimental in vitro and in vivo models and vice versa. Together with many collaborators our group has published over 90 papers in peer-reviewed journals. Their work is funded by collaborative grants from pharmaceutical companies, Amsterdam Neuroscience, Progressive MS Alliance, Dutch MS Research Foundation and the National MS Society. Jack van Horsen is currently appointed as an associate professor at the Department of Molecular Cell Biology and Immunology and a visiting professor at the University of Hasselt, Belgium.