Pitch Simon Mooijaart – Geroscience

The challenge
As the population ages, there is an increase in healthcare demand of older patients, often with multi-morbidity and varying levels of vitality and frailty. Delivering healthcare to this population is more complex and more time-consuming putting a large burden on our healthcare system. Moreover, effectiveness of our treatments is poorly studied older patients, making the evidence-base weak, and little is known about the consequences of disease and treatment for outcomes especially relevant for older patients, such as functional independence and quality of life.

The opportunity
Understanding the biology of ageing is an important driver of improving care for our older patients and hence their length and quality of life. The aims of Geroscience are to understand how aging processes enable diseases and to exploit that knowledge to slow the appearance and progression of age-related diseases and disabilities. Integrating the basic understanding of ageing with clinical studies of older patients, enables to ultimately deliver evidence-based interventions to prevent poor outcomes of disease.

The offer
Many clinical studies in populations of older patients provide the opportunity to study relevant determinants of the ageing process. Such cohorts exist for instance in older patients with cancer ([www.tentstudie.nl](http://www.tentstudie.nl)), end stage renal disease ([www.polderstudie.nl](http://www.polderstudie.nl)) and covid-19 ([www.covidold.nl](http://www.covidold.nl)), and harbor a wealth of biomaterial, patient characteristics, disease parameters and disease and treatment outcomes. The Mooijaart lab is looking for basic ageing scientists to exploit our common knowledge to deliver high quality patient care and improve quality of life of older people with and after disease.