**Julie Decock**

Mobile: +44 (0)7942604702, e-mail: [j.decock@uea.ac.uk](mailto:j.decock@uea.ac.uk), [uk.linkedin.com/in/juliedecock/](http://uk.linkedin.com/in/juliedecock/" \o "View public profile)

**Work experience**

2011-present Senior Research Associate, School of Biological Sciences, UEA, UK

“A Modular Active Nano-Platform for Advanced Cancer Management:   
Core Nanosystems, Tumor Targeting and Penetration, Molecular Imaging & Degradome based Therapy” – FP7 SaveMe programme

2010-2011 Senior Research Associate, School of Biological Sciences, UEA, UK

“Pilot investigation of MC1R activated signalling in cutaneous malignant melanoma”

2009-2010 Senior Research Associate, School of Biological Sciences, UEA, UK

“The role of MMP8 as tumour suppressor in breast cancer.”

2008-2009 Senior Research Associate, School of Biological Sciences, UEA, UK

“Hepsin as a biomarker for prostate cancer.”

2003-2008 Coordinator breast cancer blood & tissue bank, Multidisciplinary Breast Centre, Cancer Institute Leuven, Belgium

**Academic qualifications**

2003-2008 PhD in Medical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, KULeuven, Belgium

“The clinical relevance of (circulating) proteases in breast cancer: matrix metalloproteinases and cathepsins.”

1998-2002 Master in Biomedical Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Belgium

“Might heterozygous BRCA1- and BRCA2- mutation have an influence on the stability of the genomic DNA?”

**Skills**

**Lab techniques**

* molecular biology: site-directed mutagenesis, cloning, RNA/DNA-extraction, real time RT- PCR, siRNA gene silencing, ELISA, Western blot, MTT assay
* cellular biology: immunohistochemistry, immunofluorescence, confocal microscopy, time-lapse videomicroscopy
* cell culture: 2D and 3D mammalian cell culture, Tet-off lentiviral inducible system
* in vivo work: general husbandry, PyMT cancer mouse model

**Team work and supervision**

* supervision of PhD student, School of Biological Sciences, UEA, 2010-present
* supervision of third year undergraduate students for 8 week lab project, School of Biological Sciences, UEA, 2009-present
* chair of Research Staff Forum, UEA, 2010-present
* member of Research Staff safety committee, UEA, 2009-present
* staff representative for School of Biological Sciences, UEA, 2011-present
* organizer of “Research Staff workshops” and “Woman career event”, UEA, 2010-present

**Communication and teaching**

* Public engagement through monthly lab visits for trustees and fundraisers of cancer charities (Big C, CRUK), School of Biological Sciences, UEA, 2009-present
* Media coverage by Vlaamse Liga tegen Kanker (Belgium), Big C (UK), Coast2Coast cycle club (UK), AquaTerra Energy (UK), EDP (UK)
* Seminar leader and assessor of Cancer biology course, third year undergraduates, School of Biological Sciences, UEA, 2008-present
* Supervisor and assessor of 8 week long honor’s degree lab project, School of Biological Sciences, UEA, 2009-present

**Project and time management**

* Grant financial manager and project manager of European Framework FP7 Programme SaveMe project at UEA, UK, 2012-present
* Project manager of European Framework FP6 Programme “Cancerdegradome” project at KULeuven, Belgium, 2004-2007
* Forged a number of international collaborations at KULeuven, 2004-2007

**Information Technology**

* Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Access 2000
* SPSS, Statistica, GraphPad Prism
* Reference Manager, EndNote, Zotero, Mendeley
* ImageJ, Photoshop, Paint
* Axiovision

**Professional development**

* Grant reviewer for Cancer charity, 2012
* Ad hoc reviewer for various international journals
* Ad hoc grant reviewer National Medical Research Council from Singapore
* Leaderships skills, UEA, UK, 2011
* Access 2000 Advanced course, KULeuven, Belgium, 2007
* Reference Manager course, KULeuven, Belgium, 2006
* Biostatistics course, KULeuven, Belgium, 2005

**Organizations**

* British Society for Cell Biology (2012-present)
* International Proteolysis Society (2007-2008)

**Funding and awards**

* 2011 Company of Biologists summer studentship, UK
* 2010 Big C summer studentship, UK

**Personal information**

* Belgian nationality
* owner of an European drivers license B
* Language know-how: Dutch (native language), English (fluent), French (basic)
* Personal license holder ‘Scientific Procedures on Living animals’, HOTC modules 1-3, Cambridge, 2009

**Publications in peer-reviewed international journals**

Thirkettle S, **Decock J**, Arnold H, Pennington CJ, Jaworski DM, Edwards DR. Matrix metalloproteinase-8 (collagenase-2) induces the expression of interleukins-6 and -8 in breast cancer cells. J Biol Chem. 2013 Apr 30. PubMed PMID: 23632023.

Leivonen SK, Lazaridis K, **Decock J**, Chantry A, Edwards DR, Kähäri VM. TGF-β-elicited induction of tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinases (TIMP)-3 expression in fibroblasts involves complex interplay between Smad3, p38α, and ERK1/2. PLoS One. 2013;8(2):e57474. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0057474. PubMed PMID: 23468994

**Decock J**, Thirkettle S, Wagstaff L, Edwards DR. Matrix metalloproteinases: protective roles in cancer. J Cell Mol Med. 2011, 15(6):1254-65. Review.

Wagstaff L, Kelwick R, **Decock J**, Edwards DR. The roles of ADAMTS metalloproteinases in tumorigenesis and metastasis. Front Biosc 2011, 16:1861-72.

Van Belle V, **Decock J**, Hendrickx W, Brouckaert O, Pintens S, Moerman P, Wildiers H, Paridaens R, Christiaens MR, Van Huffel S, Neven P. Short term prognostic index for breast cancer: NPI or Lpi. Pathol Res Int 2010; 2011:918408.

Neven, P; Van Calster, B; Van den Bempt, I; Van Huffel, S; Van Belle, V; Hendrickx, W; **Decock, J**; Wildiers, H; Paridaens, R; Amant, F; Leunen, K; Berteloot, P; Timmerman, D; Van Limbergen, E; Weltens, C; Van den Bogaert, W; Smeets, A; Vergote, I; Christiaens, MR; Drijkoningen, M. Age interacts with the expression of steroid and HER-2 receptors in operable invasive breast cancer. Breast Cancer Res Treat 2008, 110 (1):153-159.

**Decock J.,** Obermajer N., Vozelj S., Hendrickx W., Paridaens R. and Kos J. Cathepsin B, cathepsin H, cathepsin X and cystatin C in sera of patients with early-stage and inflammatory breast cancer. Int J Biol Markers 2008; 23(3):161-168.

Brouckaert, O; Pintens, S; Van Belle, V; Van Huffel, S; Camerlynck, E; Amant, F; Leunen, K; Smeets, A; Berteloot, P; Van Limbergen, E; **Decock, J**; Hendrickx, W; Weltens, C; Van den Bogaert, W; Vanden Bempt, I; Drijkoningen, M; Paridaens, R; Wildiers, H; Vergote, I; Christiaens, MR; Neven, P. Short-term outcome of primary operated early breast cancer by hormone and HER-2 receptors. Breast Cancer Res Treat 2009; 115 (2):349-358.

**Decock J**, Hendrickx W, Vanleeuw U, Van Belle V, Van Huffel S, Christiaens MR, Ye S, Paridaens R. Plasma MMP1 and MMP8 expression in breast cancer: protective role of MMP8 against lymph node metastasis. BMC Cancer 2008, 8:77.

Van Calster, B; Bempt, IV; Drijkoningen, M; Pochet, N; Cheng, JQ; Van Huffel, S; Hendrickx, W; **Decock, J**; Huang, HJ; Leunen, K; Amant, F; Berteloot, P; Paridaens, R; Wildiers, H; Van Limbergen, E; Weltens, C; Timmerman, D; Van Gorp, T; Smeets, A; Van den Bogaert, W; Vergote, I; Christiaens, MR; Neven, P. Axillary lymph node status of operable breast cancers by combined steroid receptor and HER-2 status: triple positive tumours are more likely lymph node positive. Breast Cancer Res Teat 2009, 113 (1):181-187.

**Decock J.,** Paridaens R., Ye S. Genetic polymorphisms of matrix metalloproteinases in lung, breast and colorectal cancer. Clin Genet 2008;73(3):197-211.

**Decock J**, Long JR, Laxton RC, Shu XO, Hodgkinson C, Hendrickx W, Pearce EG, Gao YT, Pereira AC, Paridaens R, Zheng W, Ye S. Association of matrix metalloproteinase-8 gene variation with breast cancer prognosis. Cancer Res 2007; 67(21):10214-21.

De Brakeleer S, Bogdani M, De Grève J, **Decock J**, Sermijn E, Bonduelle M, Goelen G, Teugels E. Loss of nuclear BRCA protein staining in normal tissue cells derived from BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutation carriers. Mutat Res 2007; 619 (1-2):104-12.

**Decock J**, Hendrickx W, Drijkoningen M, Wildiers H, Neven P, Smeets A, Paridaens R. Matrix metalloproteinase expression patterns in luminal A breast carcinomas. Disease Markers 2007; 23(3):189-96.

**Decock J.** How accurate is the antiprimer Quenching-based Real-Time PCR for detection of Her2/neu in clinical cancer samples? Clin Chem 2006; 52(7):1438-9

**Decock J**, Paridaens R, Cufer T. Proteases and metastasis: clinical relevance nowadays? Curr Opin Oncol 2005; 17 (6): 545-50.

**Decock J**, Hendrickx W, Wildiers H, Christiaens MR, Neven P, Drijkoningen M, Paridaens R. Plasma gelatinase levels in patients with primary breast cancer in relation to axillary lymph node status, Her2/neu expression and other clinicopathological variables. Clin Exp Metastasis 2005; 22 (6): 495-02.

**Book Chapters**

**Decock J**, Hendrickx W, Stefan C, Neven P., Wildiers H., Christiaens MR., Smeets A. and Paridaens R. (2007) Characterization of breast cancer subtypes by immunohistochemistry in a large retrospective study. Chapter XIV of New Research on Tumor Markers, (Sinise G.A., ed.), Nova Science Publishers, Inc. (Hauppauge, NY), ISBN 1-60021-423-1