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During my medical training I carried out studies on lung function, genetic polymorphisms, endocrine function and demography in high altitude populations in Nepal. In my PhD I established a model of respiratory syncytial (RS) virus infection in the mouse, and studied the T lymphocyte response to RS virus first in the mouse and then in the human.

Since 1987 I have studied the virology and immunology of persistent virus infections, in particular infection with the human T-cell leukaemia virus (HTLV-I) - see <https://doi.org/10.26320/SCIENTIA225>

Our aim is to produce a comprehensive, coherent, qualitative and quantitative understanding of the persistence of HTLV-I and the immune response to HTLV-I, and an explanation of why certain individuals infected with HTLV-I develop fatal or disabling diseases while the majority remain asymptomatic. We use a broad range of techniques in molecular and cellular immunology, viral and host genetics, cell biology, DNA expression microarrays, proteomics and mathematics.