

Jan Paul Medema studied Chemistry in Leiden and performed his PhD studies from 1991 to 1996 at the University of Utrecht analyzing the role of the Ras GTPase GAP120 in differentiation of keratinocytes. During his first postdoctoral years at the German Cancer Center in Heidelberg ('96-'98) he worked on the signal transduction cascade induced by CD95/Fas/APO-1 and used this insight in cancer immunology during his postdoc at the LUMC in Leiden. Here he became assistant (2000) and subsequently associate Professor (2004) focussing more and more on the role of cell death escape mechanisms that tumors use to avoid immune surveillance and help escape from chemotherapy. In 2005 he moved to the AMC in Amsterdam to start the laboratory of Experimental Oncology and Radiobiology (LEXOR) and became full Professor, department head and in 2016 Scientific director of the Cancer Center Amsterdam. In 2017 Jan Paul Medema became part of the OncoCode Institute, for which is now Scientific Director.

His laboratory LEXOR at the Amsterdam UMC now houses multiple research teams that study cancers of the gastrointestinal tract, specifically colorectal, esophageal and pancreatic cancer, zooming in on heterogeneity in response to therapy.