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Universiteit Leiden



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Author: Steggerda, Sylke Jeanne **Title:** The neonatal cerebellum

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Stellingen behorend bij het proefschrift

"The Neonatal Cerebellum"

- 1. Cerebellar injury occurs frequently in very preterm infants and includes major, destructive lesions and smaller, less devastating injury. (this thesis)
- 2. The high incidence of cerebellar injury warrants cranial ultrasound examinations that include mastoid fontanelle views in very preterm infants. *(this thesis)*
- 3. Small (punctate) hemorrhagic cerebellar lesions are beyond the scope of cranial ultrasound and can only be detected with MRI. (this thesis)
- 4. Routine MRI for the detection of small hemorrhagic cerebellar lesions is not warranted as these lesions seem to have a favorable prognosis. *(this thesis)*
- 5. In critically ill full-term neonates mastoid fontanelle sonography enables early detection of major and clinically relevant posterior fossa abnormalities. *(this thesis)*
- 6. From 24 weeks to 40 weeks of gestation, the cerebellum undergoes a rate of growth nearly unparalleled elsewhere in the brain. (*Volpe JJ. J Child Neurol 2009; 24;1085-1104*)
- 7. Cerebellar hemorrhagic injury in preterm infants is associated with a high prevalence of long-term pervasive neurodevelopment disabilities and may play an important and under-recognized role in the cognitive, learning, and behavioral dysfunction known to affect survivors. (*Limperopoulos C. Pediatrics 2007*; 120:584-593)
- 8. Parents should be given an informed choice as to whether they want an MRI done on their baby. (*Pearce R. Acta Paediatr 2012; 101:1013-1015*)
- 9. Optimizing the initial respiratory support in the delivery room improves cerebral blood flow stability and cerebral oxygenation and reduces the initiation of an inflammatory response, suggesting that simply improving the initial respiratory care in the delivery room has the potential to reduce brain injury. (*Polglase G. Pediatr Res 2014; 75:682-688*)
- 10. The small brain of small babies deserves great attention.
- 11. Kind words can be short and easy to speak but their *echoes* are truly endless. *(Mother Theresa 1910-1997)*
- 12. You cannot open a book without learning something. (Confucius 551-479 BC)
- 13. There are no problems, only opportunities. *(mijn moeder)*