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Mineralocorticoid receptor gene variants : implications for stress, blood pressure and personality

Leeuwen, N. van

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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift

**MINERALOCORTICOID RECEPTOR GENE
VARIANTS
Implication for stress, blood pressure and
personality**

Nienke van Leeuwen

1. By using *in vitro* functional genotypes and haplotypes the role of the gene in a certain *in vivo* function can be tested (this thesis).
2. The function of a mineralocorticoid receptor gene variant becomes detectable after exposure to a challenge rather than that it already is apparent under resting conditions (this thesis).
3. The mineralocorticoid receptor is promiscuous since it can respond to either the glucocorticoid cortisol or the mineralocorticoid aldosterone (this thesis).
4. An individual's personality is influenced by genetic variation in the mineralocorticoid receptor (this thesis).
5. The amount of MR protein, modulated by genetic variation within the MR gene, can influence stress-induced neuroendocrine and autonomic responses (this thesis).
6. The Dutch expression: who says "A" must say "B", is not tenable for the synthesis of the A and B variants of the mineralocorticoid receptor (this thesis).
7. It is likely that imprecision and uncertain validity of psychiatric diagnoses have frustrated progress in the identification of susceptibility genes for depression (C.E. Bearden, *An. Rev. Clin. Psychol.* 5, 49-69, 2009).

8. The 'missing heritability' as gap between heritability and genetic variation observed in almost all complex traits and disorders, may not be missing, it may simply be buried deeper than previously thought in a multitude of genetic variants that have tiny effects individually (A. Katsnelson, Nature 465, 998, 2010).
9. Translational research means different things to different people but it seems interesting to almost everyone (S.H. Woolf, JAMA 299, 211-213, 2008).
10. There are neuroendocrine arguments for the concept that a cup of tea facilitates coping with the stress of everyday life (Press release 16 July 2010, Andrew Steptoe, UCL Department of Epidemiology and Public Health).
11. A crisis may change your life but it doesn't have to ruin it (Dr. Phil).
12. Vakantie is een gedragsaanpassing van de mens om stress te ontlopen (O.C. Meijer).