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Universiteit Leiden



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Title: Clinical and molecular features of high-grade osteosarcoma

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Stellingen (hypotheses)

behorend bij het proefschrift:

Clinical and Molecular Features of High-Grade Osteosarcoma

- 1. Thorough study of epidemiologic data provides a good insight into the origin and development of osteosarcoma (this thesis).
- 2. There are at present only four effective chemotherapeutic drugs in the treatment of osteosarcoma; administering a combination of more than three of these drugs increases the toxicity, but does not further improve its efficacy (this thesis).
- 3. In view of the complexity of osteosarcoma at the genome level, analysis of the difference in gene expression at the single gene level in osteosarcoma versus non-malignant bone tissue is less useful than pathway analysis (this thesis).
- 4. The therapeutic use of a monoclonal antibody against an antigen that has not proven to be expressed at the surface of osteosarcoma cells is ill-founded and therefore ethically unjustified (this thesis).
- 5. Patients with pulmonary metastases of osteosarcoma, that are considered to be resectable, should be treated forcefully and repeatedly with surgery whenever possible; this provides the only chance for cure for these patients (this thesis).
- 6. Patients with osteosarcoma in the age group of 18-30 years have a significantly worse chance of survival than those younger than 18 years of age, due to increased rate of relapse or death (Janeway et al. Cancer 2012; 118 (18): 4597-605).
- 7. It is obvious that care for patients with rare diseases like osteosarcoma is concentrated in bone tumour treatment centres that have experience in the multi-disciplinary diagnosis andtherapy of such a complex disease,
- 8. Cathedrals have a quality that is lacking in modern museums (Alain de Botton, Filosofie Magazine 2011; 20 (July-Aug): 73).
- 9. Expect nothing; be prepared for anything (old Samurai saying).
- 10. To write a thesis is a challenge, not only at a scientific level but also at a social level: you get to know your friends and your partner.