Imaging of coronary atherosclerosis with multi-slice computed tomography

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Citation

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STELLINGEN

behorende bij het proefschrift

"Imaging of Coronary Atherosclerosis With Multi-Slice Computed Tomography"

1. Consistently high negative predictive values with regard to the presence of significant coronary atherosclerosis have been reported with multi-slice CT coronary angiography, making the technique particularly suitable to exclude coronary stenoses in patients with previously unknown coronary artery disease at intermediate risk. *(This thesis)*

2. Patients with a normal multi-slice CT coronary angiography have an excellent prognosis during the first-year of follow-up. *(This thesis)*

3. In selected patients with previous stent implantation, 64-section CT can be used to evaluate in-stent restenosis with high accuracy. *(This thesis)*

4. Coronary plaque classification as assessed by multi-slice CT paralleled relative plaque composition as assessed by virtual histology intravascular ultrasound. However virtual histology intravascular ultrasound provides more precise plaque characterization. *(This thesis)*

5. Potentially, multi-slice CT can be useful for non-invasive identification of atherosclerotic coronary plaque patterns associated with higher cardiovascular risk. *(This thesis)*

6. The severity of a focal stenosis assessed by multi-slice CT is in itself not sufficient to predict the hemodynamic significance of the coronary plaque burden. *(Schuijf JD, et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2006; 48:2508-14)*

7. Today's challenge is to identify and treat the dangerous vulnerable plaques responsible for myocardial infarction and death; to find and treat only angina-producing stenotic lesions is no longer enough. *(Falk E, et al. Circulation 1995; 92:657-71)*

8. Coronary artery calcium score provides independent and incremental information in addition to traditional risk factors in the prediction of all-cause mortality in asymptomatic patients. *(Budoff MJ, et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2007;49:1860–70)*

9. Contrast and radiation risks have to be assessed very carefully if ever considering the use of CT angiography in primary prevention settings. *(Achenbach S. J Am Coll Cardiol 2008; 52:1344-6)*

10. Truth is what stands the test of experience. *(Albert Einstein)*

11. Facts are stubborn things, but statistics are more pliable. *(Marc Twain)*

12. Learn the art of patience. Patience creates confidence, decisiveness, and a rational outlook, which eventually leads to success. *(Brian Adams)*

13. If one would only speak up when he knows what he is talking about, the world would be quiet. *(Following discussion with Guy Heyndrickx)*

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19 maart 2009