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Anterior-posterior axis formation in *Xenopus laevis*

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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift:

‘Anterior-posterior axis formation in *Xenopus laevis*’

1. Initial expression of retinoid sensitive Hox genes is not depending on retinoids. (this thesis)
2. Nieuwkoop's activation step induces anterior identities including the midbrain-hindbrain boundary. (this thesis)
3. AP patterning information is generated in the non-organiser mesoderm. (this thesis)
4. Hox genes in *Xenopus laevis* are expressed in a temporal colinear way. (this thesis)
5. Coordinated expression of ncRNA's and Hox genes can be explained by splicing of large 'operon-like' transcripts. Sasaki *et al.*, BBRC 2007; Mainguy *et al.*, PloS ONE 2007
6. Hox protein transfer provides an ideal signalling mechanism to coordinate expression of AP identities in two tissue layers. Hooiveld *et al.*, Int. J.Dev. Biol. 1999; Prochiantz and Joliot, Nat. Rev. Mol. Cell. Biol. 2003
7. Embryos are able to pattern their AP axis without an organiser being present. Ober and Schulte-merker, Dev. Biol. 1999; Ang and Rossant, Cell 1994
8. Snail is a repressor and can repress brachyury. Fujiwara *et al.*, Development 1998; Aybar *et al.*, Development 2003; Ibrahim dissertation 2002
9. Het bekijken van een object vanuit een andere hoek kan heel verhelderend werken. Koide *et al.*, Int. J. Dev. Biol. 2002
10. De hoeveelheid data geproduceerd door 'next generation' sequencers neemt sneller toe dan de rekencapaciteit van de computers die die data moeten verwerken.
11. De media spelen een grote, door henzelf genegeerde, rol in het induceren van de huidige kredietcrisis.
12. Onze nauwe verwantschap met de chimpansee komt het meest tot uitdrukking in ons gedrag.