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Title: Bone marrow stromal cell : mediated neuroprotection for spinal cord repair

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Stellingen behorend bij het proefschrift

**Bone Marrow Stromal Cell - Mediated Neuroprotection
for Spinal Cord Repair**

1. Bone Marrow Stromal Cells' therapeutic potential lies in their provision of paracrine support and not in their ability to differentiate. (this thesis)
2. Blood vessel preservation is an important factor in Bone Marrow Stromal Cell-mediated neuroprotection. (this thesis)
3. Bone Marrow Stromal Cell- mediated neuroprotection can be enhanced by genetically modifying the cells to overexpress Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor. (this thesis)
4. Improved Bone Marrow Stromal Cell survival results in increased therapeutic efficacy. (this thesis)
5. Protecting Bone Marrow Stromal Cells from reactive oxygen species improves their survival. (this thesis)
6. Some injured axons emanating from certain populations of neurons in the brainstem can slowly regrow for remarkably long distances (2 cm) once they are guided past the inhibitory environment of the glial scar. (Y. Lee et al. J. Neurosci 2013; 33(26):10591–10606)
7. Neuroregeneration will undoubtedly be essential following spinal cord injury, but the remarkable capacity of spared neuronal systems to reorganize might be more readily exploitable. (R. van den Brand et al. Science 2012; 336: 1182-1185.)
8. Animal models of spinal cord injury are inherently an imperfect approximation to human biology and none may fully predict efficacy in humans. (B. Kwon et al. Exp Neurol 2013; 248: 30–44)
9. To spend the majority of western medicine's resources on trying to postpone death in the last stages of life seems neither rational nor right.
10. To say that a man is made up of certain chemical elements is a satisfactory description only for those who intend to use him as a fertilizer. (Hermann Joseph Muller (1890-1967). Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology 1946)
11. Doctors should be allowed to prescribe placebo; it has been proven effective and it is cheap.
12. A society that puts equality before freedom will get neither. A society that puts freedom before equality will get a high degree of both. (Milton and Rose D. Friedman. Free to Choose 1980; 148)
13. Attachment to views, attachment to ideas, attachment to perceptions are the biggest obstacle to the truth. (Buddha)