Contents

1.	General introduction	9
2.	A high response is not required to prevent selection bias J Clin Epid in press	21
3.	Cognitive function in the "oldest old" J Neurol Neurosurgery Psychiatry 2001	37
4.	Atherosclerosis and cognitive impairment are linked in the elderly Atherosclerosis in press	49
5.	Association between high-density lipoprotein and cognitive impairment Ann Neurol 2002	65
6.	Interaction between atherosclerosis and inflammation and cognitive function Submitted	79
7.	Interleukin-10 is associated with the metabolic syndrome and type-2 diabetes <i>Diabetes 2002</i>	99
8.	Inflammation and stroke Stroke 2002	113
9.	Summary and general discussion	125
10.	Samenvatting	137
	Nawoord	145
	Curriculum vitae	147