Diagnosis and management of left valvular heart disease with advanced echocardiography and cardiac computed tomography

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Stellingen behorend bij het proefschrift getiteld "Diagnosis and management of left valvular heart disease with advanced echocardiography and cardiac computed tomography"

1. "In patients with low gradient severe AS and preserved LVEF, the evaluation of fusion AVAi, by incorporating the MDCT-derived LVOT area in the continuity equation, reclassified 52% of the normal flow–low gradient and 12% of the low flow– low gradient severe AS patients to true moderate AS." (this thesis)

2. "Patients with severe secondary MR had more impaired LV GLS than patients without significant MR despite having comparable LVEF." (this thesis)

3. "TAVR prostheses have a better hemodynamic profile at discharge in terms of a higher effective orifice area index, lower mean transvalvular pressure gradient, lower prevalence of forward low-flow, and PPM compared with those treated with the sutureless 3f Enable valve. However, the incidence of AR is significantly higher in patients treated with TAVR" (this thesis)

4. "Successful correction of chronic moderate to severe secondary MR in non-ischaemic dilated cardiomyopathy patients partly reverses the underlying LV pathophysiology, with significant increase of LV forward flow and LV reverse remodelling but without changes in LVEF and corrected-GLS over time" (this thesis)

5. "Among patients with discordant-AS grading, with tight AVA but low gradient, heavy AVC load consistent with severe calcified aortic valve diseasedis present in one-half of the patients, underscoring the potential of MDCT as an important clinical tool." (Clavel et al, J Am Coll Cardiol 2013;62:2329-2338)

6. "LFLG AS with preserved LVEF is observed in 9% of patients with severe AS and normal ejection fraction and is characterized by elevated global afterload and reduced longitudinal systolic function." (Adda et al, Circ Cardiovasc Imaging 2012;5:27-35)

7. "Non-invasive imaging techniques to assess indirect LV fibrosis in valvular heart disease include: Strain and strain rate imaging" (Debonnaire et al, Heart 2015;5:397-407)

8. "In organic mitral regurgitation, MVr resulted in a low incidence of long-term LV dysfunction. Importantly, an LV GLS of .219.9% was demonstrated to be a major independent predictor of long-term postoperative LV dysfunction after adjustment for the parameters currently implemented into guidelines." (Witkowski et al, Eur Heart J Cardiovasc Imaging 2013;14:69-76)

9. There is only one good thing, the knowledge that makes you wise and modest and one bad, the ignorance that makes you arrogant and judgemental. Inspired by Socrates (philosopher, Athens, 470 - 399 BC)

10. Always, always go through the fire of hard scientific work to get to the glow of publication; inspired by Odysseas Elytis (poet, Nobel prize winner, Athens, 1911 – 1996)

11. Knowledge never ends; I am getting older, but I am always being taught a lot from life and science. «Γηράσκω αεί διδασκόμενος», Solonas, Fragment 18 line 1, (lawmaker, Athens, 639 – 559 BC)

12. Always go back to a place that inspires you; for me is Leiden. "I will be back", Arnold Schwarzenegger, The Terminator 1984