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Advanced echocardiographic imaging in valvular and systemic diseases

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Stellingen behorend bij het proefschrift getiteld:

Advanced echocardiographic imaging in valvular and systemic diseases

1. Advancements in software within the field of echocardiography allow for improved understanding of myocardial and mitral annular function in patients with mitral regurgitation as well as Systemic Sclerosis (this thesis)
2. In patients with mitral regurgitation correct differentiation of etiologies and lesions is necessary to enable audit of the quality and durability of a center's mitral repairs and also for outcomes research (Anyanwu et. al. Semin Thorac Cardiovasc Surg, 2007)
3. The dynamics of the LV and mitral annulus differ across the different mechanisms of mitral regurgitation and have important implications for its quantification (this thesis)
4. Reduction of MR severity with MitraClip is associated with reverse LV and LA remodeling, even reduction of MR severity to moderate is associated with LV and LA reverse remodeling (Grayburn et al, Circ, 2013)
5. LV diameter and LV ejection fraction can be misleading in case of altered loading in significant mitral regurgitation, therefore more sophisticated techniques are needed like speckle tracking echocardiography (Thomas et al, JACC imaging, 2018)
6. Response to MitraClip implantation is affected by the extent of LV and left atrial (LA) disease, and thus extent of fibrosis, which in turn can best be assessed by LV and LA global longitudinal strain (this thesis)
7. Speckle-tracking strain analysis can detect subtle myocardial dysfunction in patients with systemic sclerosis (SSc) and decreased global longitudinal strain is associated with lower functional capacity and rhythm disturbances (Yiu et al . Arthritis Rheum, 2011)
8. Primary heart disease is the main offender in SSc and highlights the importance of thorough cardiac investigations to identify patients presenting with SSc at a preclinical stage of cardiac involvement (Elhai et al, Ann Reum Dis, 2017)
9. Using global longitudinal strain rather than conventional parameters, earlier detection of LV dysfunction in patients with Systemic Sclerosis is possible (this thesis)
10. Met logisch nadenken kom je ver, maar met verbeelding kun je grenzen verleggen ("Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere", Albert Einstein, 1879-1955)
11. Om succesvol te zijn moet je eerst een loopneus krijgen (Vrij vertaald uit een Jamaicaanse gezegde, "If yuh waa good, yuh nose haffi run")