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Novel imaging insights into cardiac remodeling, myocardial function and risk stratification in cardiovascular disease

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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift getiteld Novel imaging insights into cardiac remodeling, myocardial function and risk stratification in cardiovascular disease.

1. Right ventricular myocardial function should always be evaluated in context, accounting for afterload and mechanical efficiency. (this thesis)
2. Right ventricular function is integral in tricuspid regurgitation and mediates the association with renal impairment. (this thesis)
3. Due to differences in age and comorbidities, valvular disease and cardiac remodelling in patients with bicuspid aortic valve must be evaluated separately from patients with a tricuspid aortic valve. (this thesis)
4. In valvular heart disease, the recognition of high-risk cardiac phenotypes with multiple abnormal parameters of cardiac structure and/or function identifies patients at even higher risk than patients who meet the traditional thresholds for intervention. (this thesis)
5. Guidelines should address when to intervene on patients with multiple “lesser” indications for surgery in valvular heart disease.
6. Flexibility in the guideline recommendations of cut-off values of parameters for intervention in valvular heart disease should be considered due to the arbitrary nature of almost all cut-off values and measurement variability.
7. Randomized controlled trials are needed to better define the timing for intervention in severe degenerative mitral regurgitation, tricuspid regurgitation and aortic regurgitation.
8. Serial evaluation of right ventricular myocardial function that accounts for after-load may facilitate effective non-invasive monitoring of disease progression in pulmonary arterial hypertension.
9. Conflicts of interest in academic research are not only financial but extend to personal and ideological biases.