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Diagnostic testing in pediatrics: yield and drivers

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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift:

Diagnostic testing in pediatrics: yield and drivers

1. Though paediatricians are keen to limit unnecessary testing, they find it difficult to do so because of anticipated personal negative consequences [this thesis].
2. Population screening, which is aimed at asymptomatic citizens, comes with a responsibility to maximise net benefit and to justify the associated societal costs [this thesis].
3. At present, a health care provider has more to lose than to gain from limiting unnecessary testing [this thesis].
4. Testing to potentially improve outcomes for future patients should be discussed and handled as such [this thesis].
5. Efficiency and patient-centeredness, key components of quality of care, can sometimes be in conflict [this thesis].
6. Diagnosis is a process, rather than an event, of which uncertainty is an integral part [Dahm, JAMA 2022].
7. The desire to eliminate all uncertainty in the diagnostic process leads to excessive testing, with substantial healthcare costs.
8. Collectively funded healthcare systems need regulation and should reflect on their goals in relation to their means, to decide on an acceptable miss rate in diagnosis, to set limits to testing for reassurance, and to curb testing to 'know for the sake of knowing'.
9. Industry, media, and physicians tend to emphasize specific values, such as individual patients' right to best care, professional autonomy, and innovation, while neglecting society's interests, such as opportunity costs and efficiency [Saini, Lancet 2017].
10. The passage of time, a trustful and longer-term relationship between patient and provider, and a legally and socially safe environment for the provider facilitate efficient and correct diagnosis [Romano JAMA Intern Med 2015; Fritz, J Med Ethics 2019].
11. Humans have unique cognitive skills to oversee long-term consequences, yet limited ability to appropriately care about the future [vrij naar Justin Gregg in: If Nietzsche were a Narwhal].
12. Die Hoffnung stirbt zuletzt.