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**Conversations in the tumor microenvironmentasion:
experimental models of fibroblast driven cancer cell inv**
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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift getiteld

Conversations in the Tumor Microenvironment: experimental models of fibroblast-driven cancer cell invasion.

1. The clinical underperformance of CAF-targeted therapies reflects an insufficient understanding of CAF stress resilience and adaptive survival under therapeutic pressure.
2. CAF phenotypic plasticity renders single-pathway inhibition an inherently insufficient therapeutic strategy (*thesis*)
3. The absence of a clinically validated temporal map of collagen remodeling events in breast cancer progression represents a critical gap in disease staging and intervention timing (*thesis*)
4. An image that requires extensive processing to yield a conclusion is an image that should have been acquired better (*thesis*)
5. CAF plasticity is not only a mechanism of tumor promotion but an underexploited therapeutic vulnerability in its own right.
6. Local collagen matrix heterogeneity generates spatially distinct cell-ECM feedback loops that bulk stiffness measurements systematically fail to capture.
7. PhD contract lengths should be revised periodically to reflect median time-to-degree and in the Dutch life sciences, that median has long exceeded four years.
8. The tumor microenvironment is a heterogenous collection of local ecosystems, and where invasion occurs is determined by local tumor-stromal organization and collagen architecture. (*thesis*)
9. The Dutch do not understand that we live to eat, not eat to live.
10. ADHD is managed as a social inconvenience and treated as a productivity problem; the person living it is an afterthought in both the diagnosis and the advice that follows.

