Propositions accompanying this thesis

Genetic and non-genetic determinants and clinical consequences of an impaired lung function

1. The proportion of never-smokers among COPD cases is substantial and higher in females than in males. **(*This thesis*)**

2. The Pulmonary Artery: Aorta (PA:A) ratio is a good prognostic marker of mortality in individuals with moderate to severe COPD, especially in those with a low diffusion capacity. **(*This thesis*)**

3. Heritability estimates tell us that a substantial amount of variance in diffusing capacity can be explained by our genes. **(*This thesis*)**

4. Although genetic variation in the adhesion G protein-coupled receptor G6 (*ADGRG6*) is associated with pulmonary diffusion, more research is needed to understand its distinct role in the pathogenesis of lung diseases. **(*This thesis*)**

5. DNA methylation might mediate the effect of environmental exposures on lung function. **(*This thesis*)**

6. Genome-wide association studies can provide us with novel directions for research into the pathophysiology of diseases.

7. If the new regulations are meant to remind individuals of their right to protect their personal data, then it is our duty as researchers to remind those individuals of their right to benefit from scientific research.

8. When studying determinants of diseases for which smoking is an independent risk factor, residual confounding by tobacco smoking cannot be completely ruled out.

9. It is the long history of humankind (and animal kind, too) that those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed. *(Charles Darwin)*

10. DLCO/VA reflects the physiology of pulmonary diffusion more appropriately than DLCO. *(Hughe et al.)*

11. If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants. *(Isaac Newton)*

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