

## CONTENTS

<b>I.</b>	<b>GENERAL INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>II.</b>	<b>STRUCTURING THE CLINICAL DECISION PROBLEM: INTRODUCTION TO MICROSIMULATION MODELING</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>III.</b>	<b>EVOLUTION OF ALLOGRAFT AORTIC VALVE REPLACEMENT OVER 13 YEARS: RESULTS OF 275 PROCEDURES</b>	<b>35</b>
	<i>Eur J Cardiothorac Surg 2002; in press</i>	
<b>IV.</b>	<b>REPORT OF THE DUTCH EXPERIENCE WITH THE ROSS PROCEDURE IN 343 PATIENTS</b>	<b>53</b>
	<i>Eur J Cardiothorac Surg 2002; in press</i>	
<b>V.</b>	<b>IS THERE A PLACE FOR PEDIATRIC VALVOTOMY IN THE AUTOGRAFT ERA?</b>	<b>71</b>
	<i>Eur J Cardiothorac Surg 2001;20:89-94</i>	
<b>VI.</b>	<b>ESTIMATING EVENT-FREE LIFE EXPECTANCY AFTER AUTOGRAFT AORTIC ROOT REPLACEMENT IN ADULTS: APPLICATION OF META-ANALYSIS AND MICROSIMULATION</b>	<b>85</b>
	<i>Ann Thorac Surg 2001;71:S344-8</i>	
<b>VII.</b>	<b>PROGNOSIS AFTER AORTIC ROOT REPLACEMENT WITH CRYOPRESERVED ALLOGRAFTS IN ADULTS: META- ANALYSIS AND MICROSIMULATION BASED ESTIMATES</b>	<b>101</b>
	<i>Submitted</i>	
<b>VIII.</b>	<b>AUTOGRAFT OR ALLOGRAFT AORTIC ROOT REPLACEMENT?</b>	<b>121</b>
	<i>Submitted</i>	
<b>IX.</b>	<b>PROGNOSIS AFTER AORTIC VALVE REPLACEMENT WITH DIFFERENT VALVE SUBSTITUTES: AGE- AND GENDER- SPECIFIC EVIDENCE BASED ESTIMATES USING MICROSIMULATION</b>	<b>139</b>
	<i>Computers in Cardiology Proceedings 2001, volume 28:141-4</i>	
<b>X.</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>149</b>
	<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>163</b>
	<b>NEDERLANDSE SAMENVATTING</b>	<b>171</b>
	<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	<b>179</b>
	<b>CURRICULUM VITAE</b>	<b>183</b>
	<b>LIST OF PUBLICATIONS</b>	<b>185</b>