Propositions accompanying the thesis

Tunnel Vision: Treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome and the role of ultrasound

- 1. Corticosteroid injections can be a valuable initial treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome in patients with absence of severe electrodiagnostic test results. (this thesis)
- 2. Besides clinical severity and co-morbidities, other potential predictors of carpal tunnel release outcome such as mental health and patient experiences need investigation, since much of the outcome variation between patients remains unexplained. (this thesis)
- **3.** Practice does not make perfect in carpal tunnel surgery. (this thesis)
- **4.** Dynamic ultrasound images provide limited value in predicting surgical outcome of carpal tunnel syndrome when acquired solely in the transverse plane. (this thesis)
- **5.** Ultrasound-guided injections are more effective compared to blind injections in the treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome. (this thesis)
- **6.** When sonographic imaging becomes included in their skill set, hand surgeons could really lend a hand. (Zumsteg JW et al., Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine, 2019)
- **7.** 3D-printed models can assist in improving the surgical learning curve of residents. (Lin QS et al., World Neurosurgery, 2018)
- **8.** Physician empathy is the strongest driver, accounting for 65% of the variation, of patient satisfaction with the hand surgeon. (Menendez ME et al., Journal of Hand Surgery Am., 2015)
- **9.** The Fibonacci sequence is a handy method in helping us understand the basic anatomical framework and corresponding function of digits. (Hutchison AL et al., Hand (N Y), 2010)
- **10.** The use of propensity score matching in observational studies is a viable alternative to randomized controlled trials. (Hirst A et al., Annals of Surgery, 2019)
- 11. "The glory of medicine is that it is constantly moving forward, that there is always more to learn." (Dr. William J. Mayo)

Stefanie Evers Rotterdam, May 2019