

PhD Propositions

Decision Making in Patients Undergoing Coronary Artery Revascularization

A New Era in Clinical Trial Design and Evidence-Based Practice

1. Multidisciplinary Heart Team decision-making minimizes physician-related bias without exposing patients to a higher risk of adverse events while awaiting treatment. (*this thesis*)
2. For patients with multivessel disease and diabetes or higher coronary complexity, bypass surgery will remain the mainstay therapy for the foreseeable future. (*this thesis*)
3. The etiology of a stroke following bypass surgery is multifactorial, including patient comorbidities, cardiopulmonary bypass and the use of antifibrinolytic agents beside surgical techniques. (*this thesis*)
4. Optimal medical therapy plays a vital role in the outcome of patients with coronary artery disease regardless of revascularization strategy. (*this thesis*)
5. The use of alternative approaches for the analysis of composite endpoints in clinical trials leads to more accurate treatment comparisons and has the potential to achieve adequate statistical power with a lower number of participants. (*this thesis*)
6. The globalization of clinical trials is a multifaceted phenomenon that requires significant effort from the academic community and regulatory bodies worldwide to maintain the excellence of scientific data and ethical integrity. (*NEJM 2009;360:816-823*)
7. Clinical practice guidelines offer a critical appraisal of the relevant scientific literature and provide recommendations for a particular treatment; however, there is no 'one size fits all' solution to enhance patients care delivery, and guidelines are only intended to assist clinicians in selecting the best care for an individual patient.
8. Sharing individual patient data from clinical trials is a promising avenue in cardiovascular science which saves time and resources, exposes fewer patients to risk, and advances medical science and human health. (*NEJM 2015;372:201-202*)
9. Coronary artery disease requires a commitment to lifelong medical treatment and lifestyle changes because it is not a temporary illness, but rather an ongoing pathologic process.
10. Teamwork in cardiac surgery is crucial to ensure patient safety and improve quality of care.
11. "The good physician treats the disease; the great physician treats the patient who has the disease." (*William Osler*)



Milan Milojevic