1. The prognostic microRNA *hsa-miR-7* is predictive for progression-free survival and response in breast cancer patients with recurrent disease treated with tamoxifen (this thesis).

2. In contrast to what one might expect the miR-7 sponge *CDR1-AS* (ciRS-7) is neither prognostic in primary breast cancer nor predictive in 1st-line tamoxifen-treated breast cancer patients (this thesis).

3. Breast tumors express a wide variety of circular RNAs (this thesis).

4. circCNOT2 is predictive of progression-free survival in aromatase inhibitor-treated advanced breast cancer patients (this thesis).

5. Defects in the *RB1* signaling pathway are associated with resistance to 17-AAG (this thesis).

6. The decoding of the human genome has provided a well-needed reference for studies on human diseases.

7. The ENCODE project on the function of non-coding sections of the human genome led to an increase in research linking such non-coding sections to diseases.

8. The speed at which individual tumors can be assessed by next generation sequencing has accelerated scientific discoveries in cancer research in an unimaginable way, enabling us to make great progress.

9. A fair share of non-coding RNA genes overlooked so far will likely represent the missing puzzle pieces explaining the biological complexity in human cells.

10. Genetic regulation in cells is like a clockwork with many intricate details, hard to put back in place once in disorder.

11. There is only one way to avoid criticism: do nothing, say nothing and be nothing (Aristotle).