

Stellingen

Behorende bij het proefschrift

“Genetic and Vascular Risk Factors for Cognitive Decline and Cerebral Small-Vessel Disease”

van Christiane Reitz

1. Plasma lipid levels should not be used as markers of Alzheimer’s disease risk in late-life. (*this thesis*)
2. The APOE ϵ 4 allele modifies the association between current smoking and risk of Alzheimer’s disease. (*this thesis*)
3. CRP is not causally involved in cerebral small-vessel disease. Previous studies reporting an association between serum or plasma CRP levels and cerebral small-vessel disease were likely biased by residual confounding. (*this thesis*)
4. The effect of blood pressure on dementia risk depends on the age of the person and the stage of the disease process: the older the person and the more advanced the disease process, the less harmful or even inverted the effect of blood pressure elevation on dementia risk. (*this thesis*)
5. Not pre-stroke cognitive function but rather the effect of stroke itself determines the risk of post-stroke dementia. (*this thesis*)
6. Medical research is an example for a society of a multi-cultural effort with less borders of ethnicity, religion or nationality.
7. Important in the evaluation of a statistical model is whether the model is consistent with the “real world” rather than whether it is true. It can never be true.
8. The terms “oligogenic” or “multigenic” when used by geneticists usually mean “untraceable-because-too-complex”.
9. “Memoria est thesaurus omnium rerum e custos.” [“Memory is the treasury and guardian of all things”] *Marcus Tullius Cicero. De Oratore (I, 5)*.
10. “You go into caves with only this one little light on your forehead and then you explore the cave.” (*Jana Huisman on research*)
11. “Es irrt der Mensch so lang er strebt.” *Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Faust I: Prolog im Himmel*.

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