

# Propositions

Part of this thesis

## **Prenatal exposure to non-persistent chemicals and child neurodevelopment: an epidemiological study**

1. The exposure to organophosphate pesticides of pregnant women in the Netherlands was higher than reported by birth cohort studies in other countries except China. (*this thesis*)
2. The consumption of fruit is an important determinant of organophosphate pesticide exposure. (*this thesis*)
3. Higher maternal exposure to phthalates and organophosphate pesticides during pregnancy is predictive of lower cognitive functioning in children. (*this thesis*)
4. Exposure to phthalates and organophosphate pesticides during fetal life is associated with differences in brain development in childhood. (*this thesis*)
5. Fetal exposure to phthalates and organophosphate pesticides is associated with gestational growth restriction. (*this thesis*)
6. The common practice of research to study the health effects of single chemicals ignores the fact that the exposure to chemicals is universal, rarely occurs in isolation, and chemicals may interact.
7. The Covid-19 pandemic was an illustrative test run to show that tackling challenges like climate change does not solely depend on scientific knowledge and technology, but on international collaboration and solidarity.
8. A significant p-value does not infer victory.
9. Extensive pre-market safety and toxicity assessments for chemicals by independent scientific institutions will prevent adverse health outcomes and be cost-beneficial.
10. *Only the dose makes the poison* – credited to Paracelsus – assumes linearity, which is often violated.
11. When you google your preferred answer, you are always right.