Propositions related to the thesis

OVERCOMING BARRIERS

1. The lack of an agreed-upon definition of feeding intolerance hampers the advancement of knowledge and comparison of interventions that may improve patient outcomes. (this thesis, chapter 4)

2. The recommendation for high enteral nutrition during the first week of critical illness based upon low quality evidence could potentially harm the critically ill child. (this thesis, chapter 5)

3. To enable appropriate weight achievement during the stable and recovery phase in critically ill infants, energy-protein dense formulas can be recommended in case of fluid restriction or insufficient caloric intake. (this thesis, chapter 6&7)

4. Omitting parenteral nutrition for the first week of critical illness established improvement of long-term physical and neurocognitive outcome of children who survived and strengthens the recommendation to withhold administering parenteral nutrition. (this thesis, chapter 11&12)

5. The low prioritisation of nutritional care in PICUs worldwide does not reflect the ability of nutritional therapy to influence the short-term and long-term legacy of critical illness. (this thesis, chapter 2)

6. Current approaches to describe feeding intolerance are the consequence of an oversimplification of the pathophysiological mechanisms behind this phenomenon.

7. The food you eat can be either the safest and most powerful form of medicine or the slowest form of poison. (Ann Wigmore, The Hippocrates Diet and Health Program, 1984)

8. Life is a tightly controlled balance between protein synthesis and protein degradation. (Adapted from Prof. Yoshinori Ohsumi, Nobel Lecture, 2016)

9. With roughly 234 million people undergoing surgery each year worldwide, it remains imperative that any potentially deleterious long-term effects of anaesthetics should be investigated and addressed. (Adapted from Vlisides et al., Current Pharmaceutical Design, 2012)

10. Surviving the PICU is only the beginning of a long road ahead involving readjustment challenges and psychological scars (Adapted from Jules Morgan, Lancet RM, 2020)

11. Of all the paths you take in life, make sure a few of them are dirt. (John Muir)