Dissecting carpal tunnel syndrome through statistical modelling: Factors influencing treatment outcomes

Stellingen:

1. 'The use of computer-adaptive techniques in patient-reported outcome measures can reduce patient burden and increase compliance .' (this thesis)

2. 'Patients with a codiagnosis of a trigger finger, ulnar nerve neuropathy or trapeziometacarpal joint arthrosis have less symptom improvement at 6 months after a carpal tunnel release (this thesis)

3. `Hand surgeons performing more open carpal tunnel releases do not have better patient-reported outcomes` (this thesis)

4. 'Worrying about carpal tunnel syndrome and having symptoms of depression both negatively effect the return to work after a carpal tunnel release (this thesis)

5. 'Patients who preoperatively believe in a beneficial effect of a carpal tunnel release return to work earlier after a carpal tunnel release" (this thesis)

6. Surgeons are improving surgical and anaesthetic techniques to improve outcome. However they fail to acknowledge the role of the patient in optimising their eligibility for surgery and thereby improving surgical outcomes. (*Wynter-Blyth et al., British Medical Journal 2017*)

7. To assess the usefulness of prediction models, we must evaluate them not on their ability to recapitulate historical trends, but instead on their accuracy in predicting future events. (*Chen et al., New England Journal of Medicine 2017*)

8. Whether artificial-intelligence systems are "smarter" than human practitioners makes for a stimulating debate — but is largely irrelevant. Combining machine-learning software with the best human-clinician "hardware" will permit delivery of care that outperforms what either can do alone.' (*Chen et al., New England Journal of Medicine 2017*)

9. Most current prediction models are not useful in daily clinical practice because the representation of the models for interpretation and practical use is often overlooked. (*Van Belle et al., PLOS ONE 2015*)

10. "Declare the past, diagnose the present, foretell the future." (*Hippocrates*)

11. "Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful." (*Albert Schweitzer*)