Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift

“The Developmental Neurobiology of Brain Connectivity in Schizophrenia”

Tonya White, 1 September 2010

1. Whereas much work in adults with schizophrenia has focused on aberrant frontal activation, the abnormalities found in the prefrontal cortex may be associated with downstream or secondary insults emanating from earlier developing brain regions. (dit proefschrift)

2. Schizophrenia is associated with an array of clinical symptoms and cognitive deficits that cannot be localized to any one brain region, but involve distributed brain networks. (dit proefschrift)

3. Children and adolescents with schizophrenia share similar cognitive deficits as those found in adults with schizophrenia, and specifically, the problems are related to difficulties in encoding. (dit proefschrift)

4. White matter abnormalities in schizophrenia are less evident during the early course of the illness, and become more pronounced over time. (dit proefschrift)

5. The surface morphology of the human brain does not appear to maintain a constant gyralization ratio as once thought, but is altered with both typical development and in children and adolescents with schizophrenia. (dit proefschrift)

6. The peak age of onset for schizophrenia occurs during the late teens and early twenties, a time when there is continued neurodevelopment especially in the prefrontal cortex.

7. There is considerable overlap in putative genes, symptomatology and disruption in higher-order cognitive functions across a number of different psychiatric disorders.

8. The negative symptoms of schizophrenia are the most difficult to treat and are most closely tied to both cognitive function and functional outcome.

9. The artifacts of today are the imaging sequences of tomorrow.

10. “I was like... playing on the sea-shore, and diverting myself now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.” Isaac Newton

11. “The more subjective the discipline, the more opinionated the scholars.”