

## STELLINGEN

1. The addition of echocardiographic monitoring to standard exercise electrocardiographic stress testing improves both the sensitivity and the specificity of the test for the diagnosis of myocardial ischaemia.
2. Stress echocardiography offers the unique advantage of locating the site, the extent and the severity of myocardial ischaemia.
3. Stress echocardiogram can be reliably interpreted by every cardiologist after adequate training and some experience.
4. Every echocardiographic laboratory should familiarise itself with more than one stress modality, in order to have a flexible approach to individual patients.
5. The type of stress seems less important than being able to perform stress echocardiography.
6. Not all definitive answers are given yet to the questions when and in whom to perform a stress echocardiographic test.
7. In the individual patient, wall motion score index is not helpful to predict the severity of coronary stenosis.
8. The major limitation of stress echocardiography is the subjective evaluation of the test results.
9. The development of an easy-to-perform quantitative method for left ventricular wall motion analysis remains the major challenge for stress echocardiography in the next decade.
10. Large-scale multicenter studies should provide the information for the final validation of stress echocardiography.
11. Exercise echocardiography: ready, willing and able (Armstrong WF, J Am Coll Cardiol 1988; 11: 1359-61).

12. Man does not begin to think easily, but afterward he does not stop anymore (Rousseau).
13. "...with each movement of the heart, when there is a delivery of a quantity of blood from the veins to the arteries, a pulse takes place and can be heard within the chest..." (William Harvey, *De motu cordis*, 1028).

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