Stellingen

Although the mechanism of homologous recombination is highly conserved in all kingdoms of life, the specific functions of individual homologous recombination proteins can differ between yeast and mammals. (this thesis)

Without any functional evidence it is an overstatement to claim that mutations in *Rad54B*, found in a small percentage of primary cancers, provide a new insight in genetic instability underlying carcinogenesis. *Hiramoto et al.*, *Oncogene 18: 3422-6. 1999*

In absence of proper isogenic controls it cannot be concluded that *Rad54B* deficiency leads to reduced homologous gene targeting deficiency. *Miyagawa* et al., *EMBO 21:175:80, 2002*

It is premature to conclude that *Rad54B* does not contribute to DNA damage repair based on experiments performed with one cancer cell line. *Miyagawa et al.*, *EMBO 21:175:80, 2002*

Lack of statistic analysis concerning levels of chromosomal abnormalities in *Artemis*-deficient mouse embryonic fibroblasts weakens the argument classifying *Artemis* as a genome caretaker. *Rooney et al., Mol. Cell 6: 1379:90, 2002*

Legal, political, and ethical issues concerning embryonic stem cell research can hinder the potentially beneficial input of this research in therapeutic applications.

The DNA sequence information derived from the Human Genome Project provides an enormous potential to improve human health and well-being.

SARS outbreak is a perfect example of media-fed hysteria. Its real influence on global public health remains to be analyzed.

It is questionable whether the reasons to invade Iraq were based on valid arguments or political considerations.

The Dutch Foreign Police is the best example of inefficient and unprofessional Dutch Bureaucracy.

"Gutta cavat lapidem, non vi, sed saepe cadendo" also applies to science.