Dilated Cardiomyopathy in Children
unraveling the determinants of disease progression

1. A conservative approach of listing for heart transplantation early after dilated cardiomyopathy diagnosis is justified in a considerable amount of children. (this thesis)

2. The actual NT-proBNP level as well as its change over time are associated with the risk of death, heart transplantation, and the need for mechanical circulatory support in children with dilated cardiomyopathy. (this thesis)

3. The New York University Pediatric Heart Failure Index and physical functioning on the health-related quality of life questionnaire provide independent prognostic information in children with dilated cardiomyopathy. (this thesis)

4. Risk factors which are identified during the follow-up of children with dilated cardiomyopathy have additional value to those which have been obtained in previous registry studies, because the natural course of the disease and the response to therapy have been taken into account. (this thesis)

5. A high number of patients is needed to study risk factors in multivariable models or medical heart failure treatment in children with chronic dilated cardiomyopathy, underscoring the need for a large international collaboration. (this thesis)

6. There are three phases to treatment: diagnosis, diagnosis, diagnosis. (William Osler, 1892)

7. Chocolate intake reduces the risk of cardiovascular diseases such as heart failure, stroke and hypertension. (Zhang et al., Int J Cardiol, 2013;168; 5448-5450)

8. In light of our multicenter collaboration: “Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” (Henry Ford)

9. Cycling has a positive effect on emotional health: improving levels of well-being, self-confidence and tolerance to stress, while reducing tiredness and difficulties with sleep. (Boyd et al., 1998)

10. This is your life. Do what you love, and do it often. (The Holstee Manifesto, 2009)

11. Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning. (Winston Churchill)

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