

## Propositions belonging to this thesis:

### **Non-genetic mechanisms leading to local and distant metastasis**

1. Immortalized cancer cell lines encompass distinct cellular identities which reflect the intra-tumor heterogeneity characteristic of primary malignancies and as such represent unique and still very useful tools in modern cancer research next to primary reagents such as organoids.
2. DOC1-dependent promotor binding of NuRD drives SWI/SNF eviction, formation of repressive chromatin, and transcriptional repression of master regulators of EMT (this thesis).
3. Wnt signaling has mainly a promoting role, rather than an initiating role, in the metastatic progression in high grade serous ovarian cancer (this thesis).
4. EMT activation resulting from enhanced Wnt signaling and *ZEB1* upregulation are distinctive features of the EpCAM<sup>lo</sup> transcriptome in both colon and ovarian cancer (this thesis).
5. Targeting tumor cell plasticity may represent a novel approach to prevent the appearance of drug-resistant cells and to improve to targeted treatments (this thesis).
6. Metastases account for the great majority of cancer-associated deaths, yet this complex process remains the least understood aspect of cancer biology (Weinberg, Cell, 2017 Feb 9;168(4):670-691.doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2016.11.037).
7. Context overrides. In different contexts, cells do different things (Mina Bissell).
8. It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most adaptable to change (Charles Darwin).
9. The devil of evidence-based medicine is in the transition between research and practice— from study to clinical problem, from study participant to patient, and back (Van Weel, Lancet, 2003 Oct 11;362(9391):1170.).
10. Negative results are just what I want. They're just as valuable to me as positive results. I can never find the thing that does the job best until I fins the ones that don't (Thomas Edison).
11. Ik heb het nog nooit gedaan, dus ik kan het/I have never tried that before, so I think I should definitely be able to do that (Pippi Longstocking).

Miriam Teeuwssen