

Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift

PREGNANCY AND CARDIAC DISEASE

1. Contemporary patients after surgery for aortic coarctation without risk factors can have their antenatal visits and delivery in a secondary care center. (this thesis)
2. Women with arterial switch operation for transposition of the great arteries have favourable pregnancy outcomes and should be counselled as low risk (mWHO risk class II). (this thesis)
3. The combination of cardiac disease and preeclampsia requires tertiary care, a low threshold for delivery and prolonged postpartum clinical and outpatient monitoring postpartum. Aspirin prophylaxis is indicated for cardiac diseases associated with a high incidence of preeclampsia. (this thesis)
4. Women with cardiac disease who use beta blockers not only have an elevated risk for a small for gestational age infant but also for neonatal congenital heart disease. This should be discussed before pregnancy and switching to other agents should be considered. (this thesis)
5. Mortality after Intensive Care Admission in obstetric patients is low, but morbidity and perinatal mortality are substantial and have an impact on quality of life years after the admission. (this thesis)
6. Improving pregnancy outcomes starts before pregnancy.
7. The contributions of minorities have been systemically erased or overlooked in academic and medical history and we should strive to correct this – for instance, the Blalock-Taussig shunt should be renamed the Blalock-Thomas-Taussig shunt, to credit the crucial role of Vivien Thomas (a Black man) in developing the shunt.
8. What treatment in an emergency is administered by ear? Words of comfort. (Abraham Verghese)
9. The challenges in keeping healthcare accessible and affordable cannot be solved without the participation of medical professionals in policy making – therefore these professionals must be better educated about the organizational and financial aspects of healthcare.
10. The ability of women to participate equally in the economic and social life of the nation has been facilitated by their ability to control their reproductive lives. (Sandra Day O'Connor, first female US Supreme Court Justice)
11. If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. (Maya Angelou)