

PROPOSITIONS PERTAINING TO THE PhD-THESIS

Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation; from an academic pioneering project to a multidisciplinary patient-centered clinical & scientific program

1. Perseverance in combination with a collaborative and creative spirit between clinicians and engineers have been the cornerstone of the success of Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI) by offering treatment to those who were refused for surgical valve replacement (high-risk) and later as a minimal invasive alternative for those eligible for surgery. (this thesis)
2. Success of an innovative clinical program not only demands vision and persistence but also a supportive multidisciplinary team similar to the building of an Egyptian pyramid; starting from the bottom with all subsequent layers playing a pivotal role. (this thesis)
3. Shared decision-making must include patient preferences. (this thesis)
4. Early identification of patients at increased risk for post-operative delirium prevents functional decline and impaired prognosis after TAVI. (this thesis)
5. Recognizing frailty in elderly patients demands a structured and objective assessment using validated scoring systems. Eyeballing does not suffice. (this thesis)
6. The institution of a dedicated nurse practitioner and TAVI-coordinator are essential for standardization of care and, hence, ensuring quality of a TAVI-program.
7. Precision medicine does not only entail technical and procedural planning but also patient empowerment.
8. It should be emphasized that TAVI in the young with severe aortic stenosis stands for a balanced strategy with special attention for the individual patient's anatomy, lifetime priorities and expectations.
9. TAVI was met with a fierce opposition in its early days and leading to strong statements such as "totally unrealistic and most stupid idea that I ever heard, will never work ... ".
Prof. Alain Cribier
10. Door goed te kijken naar wat mensen doen die je bewondert, ben je in staat om gedrag en mentaliteit over te nemen. *David de Kock en Arjan Vergeer*
11. Aan het einde komt alles goed en als het niet goed is, dan is dit nog niet het einde.
(persoonlijk)