

## STELLINGEN

behorende bij het proefschrift

**Mining Electronic Healthcare Record Databases to Augment  
Drug Safety Surveillance**

1. Drug safety surveillance is a complex process founded on more data than what is readily available from published clinical trials, observational studies, or individual case reports; exploring routinely-collected electronic healthcare data for signal detection may contribute to this pool of information sources. [*this thesis*]
2. Harmonization across differently structured healthcare databases to facilitate safety signal detection may be an ambitious goal, but the results are nevertheless enlightening: there is no such thing as 'one size fits all.' [*this thesis*]
3. Proactive safety surveillance using European healthcare data networks for signal detection is feasible, but inter-continental collaboration is crucial to maximize leverage. [*this thesis*]
4. Automated signal filtering and substantiation streamlines the process of prioritizing potential safety signals, but manual verification remains a necessary step. [*this thesis*]
5. Mining EHR databases for drug safety surveillance is still a work-in-progress. The dynamic nature of medicine, health care, and drug development renders drug safety a moving target; there is the overriding need to continually re-assess and improve the paradigm of safety surveillance. [*this thesis*]
6. If you can see more of the whole, you are moving closer towards the truth.
7. There are no absolutes in medicine. Ask any *enlightened* doctor who has had the opportunity and good fortune to treat real patients and he will tell you that no two patients are the same.
8. Ideas are tested by experiment. That is the core of science; everything else is bookkeeping. [*Zombie Feynman, xkcd*]
9. Without question, technology can increase our capabilities. But there is much that technology cannot do: deal with the unpredictable, manage uncertainty, construct a soaring building, perform a life-saving operation. [*Atul Gawande, The Checklist Manifesto*]
10. Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep. [*Scott Adams, The Dilbert Principle*]
11. It is all about the journey, not so much the destination.

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