

**Stellingen behorend bij het proefschrift:  
"Aspects of myocardial infarction-induced remodeling  
relevant to the development of heart failure"**

1. Insufficient vascular growth rather than remodeling of the (existing) blood vessels causes decreased oxygenation of the non-infarcted myocardium after a large myocardial infarction, progressing the transition of left ventricular dysfunction to heart failure.

*The present thesis*

2. The surprising observation of a reduced intrinsic heart rate after chronic low-dose aspirin treatment of infarcted rats is attributed to the effect on the interstitial collagen network in the non-infarcted tissue.

*The present thesis*

3. The outspoken beneficial effects of chronic low-dose aspirin treatment in myocardial infarcted rats motivates re-evaluation of this therapy as a routine in the clinic.

*The present thesis*

4. Apoptosis contributes to the transition of left ventricular dysfunction to heart failure after a large myocardial infarction, by erasing cells from a tissue already short of cells.

5. All newly diagnosed elderly heart failure patients, who were previously fit, should undergo full cardiological investigation to search for surgically correctable causes.

6. Thrombolysis; it is better to create living problems than dead certainties.

7. Resistance to genetic modification of animals delays reduction in waiting time for heart transplantation.

8. Despite its high standards of clinical care, Holland has not recognized the principles of systematic and coordinated approach to the multiply injured patient yet to establish "accident and emergency medicine" as a clinical discipline.

9. The clinically beneficial effects of cannabis rather than the political reasoning should be the ultimate deciding factor in its official recognition as a therapeutic agent.

10. Life is a game of scrabble; the building bricks are given by chance, and construction of plans and ideas must fit in with the opportunities on the board.

11. It is not an optimist who calls a pessimist a realist.

12. Travelling is precious, let the world be your oyster and you will harvest a pearl.

13. No man is an island, unless his name is Madagascar.

*Phil Kay, Scottish Comedian*

Rotterdam, 21 mei 1997

