Propositions accompanying the thesis

Tunnel Vision:
Treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome and the role of ultrasound

1. Corticosteroid injections can be a valuable initial treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome in patients with absence of severe electrodiagnostic test results. (this thesis)

2. Besides clinical severity and co-morbidities, other potential predictors of carpal tunnel release outcome such as mental health and patient experiences need investigation, since much of the outcome variation between patients remains unexplained. (this thesis)

3. Practice does not make perfect in carpal tunnel surgery. (this thesis)

4. Dynamic ultrasound images provide limited value in predicting surgical outcome of carpal tunnel syndrome when acquired solely in the transverse plane. (this thesis)

5. Ultrasound-guided injections are more effective compared to blind injections in the treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome. (this thesis)

6. When sonographic imaging becomes included in their skill set, hand surgeons could really lend a hand. (Zumsteg JW et al., Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine, 2019)

7. 3D-printed models can assist in improving the surgical learning curve of residents. (Lin QS et al., World Neurosurgery, 2018)

8. Physician empathy is the strongest driver, accounting for 65% of the variation, of patient satisfaction with the hand surgeon. (Menendez ME et al., Journal of Hand Surgery Am., 2015)

9. The Fibonacci sequence is a handy method in helping us understand the basic anatomical framework and corresponding function of digits. (Hutchison AL et al., Hand (N Y), 2010)

10. The use of propensity score matching in observational studies is a viable alternative to randomized controlled trials. (Hirst A et al., Annals of Surgery, 2019)

11. "The glory of medicine is that it is constantly moving forward, that there is always more to learn." (Dr. William J. Mayo)

Stefanie Evers
Rotterdam, May 2019