

## Propositions belonging to the thesis

### Microsimulation Models to Inform Colorectal Cancer

#### Screening Decisions: *From validated tools to tailoring recommendations*

- 1) The effect of flexible-sigmoidoscopy screening or of guaiac fecal occult blood testing on colorectal cancer mortality is consistent across several European settings. (this thesis)
- 2) Known life-style risk factors can explain the heterogenous rates of colorectal cancer incidence in Europe: the natural history of colorectal cancer does not differ across European countries. (this thesis)
- 3) Patients with cystic fibrosis should be screened for colorectal cancer from an earlier age and with a shorter screening interval than the general population. (this thesis)
- 4) Existing colorectal cancer screening guidelines for high-risk groups based on genetic predisposition or gastrointestinal disorders cannot be generalized to other high-risk populations, such as individuals with cystic fibrosis or childhood cancer survivors. (this thesis)
- 5) When randomized clinical trials are deemed unethical or infeasible, valid decision models are the best alternative to guide clinical practice. (this thesis)
- 6) Younger cancer survivors are particularly vulnerable to material, psychological, and behavioral medical financial hardship. (Zheng Z, et al. Cancer, 2019)
- 7) The current outbreak of COVID-19 is leading to additional health problems such as stress, anxiety, depressive symptoms, insomnia, denial, anger and fear globally. (Torales J, et al. Int J Soc Psychiatry, 2020)
- 8) Although stomach cancer is the third most common cause of cancer death worldwide, it has not been given the attention it deserves. (Herrero R, et al. JAMA, 2014)
- 9) To call in the statistician after the experiment is done may be no more than asking him to perform a post-mortem examination: he may be able to say what the experiment died of. (attributed to Ronald Fisher)
- 10) When you have mastered numbers, you will in fact no longer be reading numbers, any more than you read words when reading books. You will be reading meanings. (attributed to W.E.B. Du Bois)
- 11) When you leave for Ithaca, may your journey be long and full of adventures and knowledge. (Constantine Cavafy)

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July 3, 2020