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### Minimally invasive pancreatic surgery

*A stepwise nationwide introduction*

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Propositions belonging to the thesis

## **MINIMALLY INVASIVE PANCREATIC SURGERY: A STEPWISE NATIONWIDE INTRODUCTION**

1. Minimally invasive distal pancreatectomy can be safely introduced using detailed technique description, video training, and proctoring for surgeons with experience in both pancreatic and minimally invasive surgery (*This thesis*)
2. In patients with an indication for distal pancreatectomy for lesions confined to the pancreas, the minimally invasive approach is preferred over the open approach (*This thesis*)
3. Additional research on minimally invasive pancreatic surgery for pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma is warranted (*This thesis*)
4. A minimally invasive approach to pancreatic surgery is unlikely to improve oncological outcomes (*This thesis*)
5. Minimally invasive pancreatoduodenectomy should only be performed by trained surgeons in centers with an adequate annual case load (*This thesis*)
6. Only after a multicenter randomized controlled trial, conclusions can be drawn on the superiority and generalizability of minimally invasive vs. open pancreatoduodenectomy (*This thesis*)
7. Patient-blinding in surgical trials comparing minimally invasive and open surgery is feasible (*This thesis*)
8. The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet (*Aristotle*)
9. If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together (*Ancient African proverb*)
10. The best view comes after the hardest climb (*Anonymous patient*)
11. I always think I should have done better (*Jonny Wilkinson*)

**Thijs de Rooij**  
September 28, 2018