

Stellingen

1. Fully Bioresorbable scaffolds (BRS) are a novel approach that provides transient vessel support with drug delivery capability without the long-term limitations of metallic drug-eluting stents, such as permanent caging with or without malapposition. **(this thesis)**
2. Bioresorbable vascular scaffolds have similar angiographic acute recoil and better conformability when compared to conventional metallic stent. **(this thesis)**
3. Struts still discernible by optical coherence tomography (OCT) at 2 years are compatible with fully bioresorbed polymer replaced by a provisional matrix of proteoglycan, as demonstrated by histology and gel permeation chromatography. At 3 and 4 years, struts are no longer visible on OCT and histology, which confirms complete integration of the struts into the arterial wall. **(this thesis)**
4. The metal-free polymeric scaffold allows unrestricted coronary computed tomography (CT) angiography with an option of functional assessment of narrowing using CT based fractional flow reserve. **(this thesis)**
5. At long term follow-up, bioresorbable scaffold showed late luminal enlargement due to plaque reduction with a trend to adaptive restrictive remodeling and re-establishment of both endothelial and non-endothelial dependent vasomotion. **(this thesis)**
6. By liberating the coronary artery from the metallic caging, the vessel recovers pulsatility and became responsive to shear stress and physiological cyclic strain. **(this thesis)**
7. The vessel transiently scaffolded by a bioresorbable scaffold but fully amenable to biological, pharmacological and physiological impact, may allow a more permissive and extensive paving of large areas of atherosclerosis thereby potentially reducing cardiac morbidity and mortality associated with plaque rupture. **(this thesis)**
8. A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new. **(Albert Einstein)**
9. There are no facts, only interpretations. **(Friedrich Nietzsche)**
10. If the future is unrealistic, it will remain the future; if the future is realistic, it will become soon the past. **(Patrick W. Serruys)**
11. Only idiots do not change their minds. **(father of the above)**