

### Propositions pertaining to the thesis:

## **“Individualized management of patients with chronic hepatitis B”**

1. HBeAg-negative chronic hepatitis B patients with HBsAg levels below 100 IU/mL can be considered inactive carriers with a high chance of HBsAg loss and may be monitored less frequently (*this thesis*)
2. Polymorphisms of *PNPLA3* are associated with steatosis and steatohepatitis, but are not associated with more advanced fibrosis, hepatocellular carcinoma development or mortality in patients with chronic hepatitis B (*this thesis*)
3. The risk of clinical disease progression can be accurately assessed with the PAGE-B score across a diverse group of treated and untreated chronic hepatitis B patients of different ethnic origin (*this thesis*)
4. In HBeAg-positive patients, 24 weeks of peginterferon add-on therapy leads to more serological response compared to ETV monotherapy, to more HBsAg decline compared to 52 weeks of peginterferon monotherapy, and prevents relapse after discontinuation of entecavir (*this thesis*)
5. Polymorphisms of *HLA-DPA1* and *HLA-DPBI* are associated with both virologic and serologic response to peginterferon therapy in Caucasian patients infected with HBV genotype A or D (*this thesis*)
6. The risk for hepatocellular carcinoma development in chronic hepatitis B patients can be reduced, but not eliminated, by potent nucleos(t)ide analogue therapy
7. The case against science is straightforward: much of the scientific literature, perhaps half, may simply be untrue: “poor methods get results” – modified from Richard Horton, *The Lancet* 2015
8. Het nieuwe is zelden goed, omdat het goede maar kortdurend nieuw is – *Arthur Schopenhauer, Parerga und Paralipomena 1851*
9. Het besef dat je nooit de waarheid in pacht zult hebben en van niets ooit alles af zult weten, wil niet zeggen dat je perspectief of overtuiging per definitie ontoereikend is. Het is tijdelijk en voor verandering vatbaar – *Rob Wijnberg*
10. Science never solves a problem without creating ten more – *George Bernard Shaw*
11. In every work of genius we recognize our own rejected thoughts; they come back to us with a certain alienated majesty – *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

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