

MR imaging for rectal cancer staging

Citation for published version (APA):

Bogveradze, N. (2023). *MR imaging for rectal cancer staging: current concepts and controversies*. [Doctoral Thesis, Maastricht University]. Maastricht University. <https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20230608nb>

Document status and date:

Published: 01/01/2023

DOI:

[10.26481/dis.20230608nb](https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20230608nb)

Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Please check the document version of this publication:

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**Stellingen behorend bij het proefschrift
'MR Imaging for rectal cancer staging – current concepts and controversies'**

Nino Bogveradze, 8-6-2023

1. The experience level of radiologists has a major impact on diagnostic staging, risk stratification and treatment decision making in rectal cancer – *This thesis*
2. There is a clinical need to better educate radiologists – as well as MRI technicians – in anatomical concepts important for staging – *This thesis*
3. Clinically used guidelines, such as the TNM staging manual, are not always sufficiently clear or applicable to the radiological staging setting, causing struggles for radiologists on a daily basis – *This thesis*
4. Updated guidelines and concepts in staging have increasingly been implemented into radiological reporting practice in the Netherlands, but there is still room for improvement and a need to develop dedicated training programs to better support guideline implementation strategies – *This thesis*
5. Clinical and radiological guidelines should be adapted to the clinical setting and available resources of individual countries and institutions; national societies should be involved to guide this process and translate guidelines into the domestic language to facilitate clinical implementation on a local scale.
6. Multidisciplinary team members should learn to speak the same “language” as this will benefit interdisciplinary communications and ultimately oncological patient management.
7. Being a radiologist is beyond distinguishing shades of grey, it is complex, precious, and intriguing to be a part of cutting-edge developments in medicine, being a part of new discoveries, and a gateway to modern technology.
8. “A picture worth a thousand words” - *Frederick R. Barnard*
9. “Labor Omnia Vincit – Hard work conquers all” – *Virgil's Georgics, Book I, lines 145-6*
10. “Success is not final; failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts” – *Winston Churchill*