Propositions belonging to this thesis

Epidemiology of microscopic colitis: exploring leads for pathophysiological mechanisms

1. An improved awareness instead of a higher prevalence, is responsible for the increasing MC incidence rates in the Netherlands. *This thesis*

2. Although NSAID / PPI exposure increases the risk of MC, there is insufficient evidence to consider MC a primarily drug-induced disease. *This thesis*

3. A direct inhibitory effect of NSAIDs and PPIs on the paracellular permeability of the colon is unlikely to be a primary underlying mechanism of drug-induced MC. *This thesis*

4. Considering the strong association between smoking and MC, the performance of additional studies that explore the association between exposure to ambient air pollution and MC is justified. *This thesis*

5. Healthcare providers should be fully aware of the influence of proton pump inhibitors (PPIs) on the gut microbiome. *(Imhann, Gut 2015)*

6. Honey lavage should be considered as an alternative to antibiotic treatment in therapy-resistant Clostridium difficile infections. *(Giles, Int. J. Antimicrob. Agents 2017)*

7. Not gluten, but fermentable oligo-, di-, monosaccharides and polyols (FODMAPs) induce symptoms in patients with so-called self-reported, non-celiac, gluten sensitivity. *(van Gils, Nutrients 2016)*

8. Better understanding of risk factors and underlying pathophysiological mechanisms will lead to preventive strategies and targeted treatments on the long-term, eventually improving MC outcomes. *This thesis*

9. The eye only sees what the mind is prepared to comprehend. *(Henri Bergson)*

10. Scientific research is largely dependent on trust and honesty.