Propositions belonging to the doctoral thesis

Virus Genomic Epidemiology to Inform Public Health Policy

1. Genomic epidemiology can refute transmission hypotheses with certainty, but cannot prove transmission.
   --This thesis
2. Phylogenetic analyses of outbreaks and transmission events should be performed with all available epidemiological data in order to prevent biased conclusions.
   -- This thesis
3. External introductions are increasingly driving new HCV infections among MSM and international transmission still occurs, even after the introduction of DAAs.
   -- This thesis
4. Although the incidence of HCV among MSM has been decreasing, prospective, international, genomic surveillance remains important to monitor elimination progress and to detect potential resistant HCV variants.
   --This thesis
5. Inferring transmission clusters is complex and methods should depend on the research question, but they should refrain from using arbitrary thresholds of genetic distance.
   -- This thesis
6. “Systematic pathogen surveillance is within our grasp, but is still undervalued and underfunded relative to the magnitude of the threat”
   -- Michael Worobey (2017).
7. *“Everything that happens twice will surely happen a third time”*
   -- Paulo Coelho in *The Alchemist (1988)*
8. *"Education isn't something you can finish."*
   -- Isaac Asimov (1920 - 1992)
9. *“I think”*
   -- Charles Darwin *in reference to the tree of life sketch from his Notebook B (1837-1838)*