Diagnosis and decision making in endodontics with the use of cone beam computed tomography
Metska, M.E.
Acknowledgements

Working part-time in ACTA for the last five years has been quite an experience. I have seen and learned a lot from my teachers and colleagues and some lessons are for a life time.

I would like to thank my supervisor professor dr. Paul Wesselink for giving me the opportunity to fulfill this dream. Thank you for the support and trust that you showed throughout this experience but most of all, for giving me the liberty to pursue new ideas, new projects that make up this thesis.

Rifat Ozok, my daily supervisor, where do I start? A thank you is not enough to express my gratitude for all your help, guidance and trust. It has been a privilege working under your supervision and I hope that you can keep on guiding many more PhD candidates in the future. Thank you for the well constructed criticism, the discussions about endodontic literature and life in general. Most of all thank you for your friendship.

I would also like to thank all the colleagues in the Radiology department of ACTA for giving me the opportunity and the liberty to use their workstations for assessing CBCT scans under “appropriate lighting conditions” and really big monitors. Dr Kostas Syriopoulos, dr. Erwin Berkhout, dr. Gerard Sanderink thank you for making me in many instances be part of the diagnostic procedure of many interesting cases; I have learned a lot from this collaboration. Special thanks to Kostas for the interesting discussions about literature, presentations and diagnostic issues in radiology. I would also like to thank my co-authors dr. Bassam Hassan and (in a few months dr.) Azin Parsa for their input, collaboration and enthousiasm. Bassam thank you for introducing me to the Amira software, it has been a very valuable tool.

My sincere thanks to my co-authors dr. Irene Aartman, dr. Jan Harm and Vania Liem. It has been a pleasure working with you. Irene, through our discussions it became even more clear to me how important it is to design
properly a study from the beginning. Vania thank you for the wonderful collaboration and your enthusiasm during the last project.

Dion Hildenberg thank you for your contribution in making the list of the patients that we had to follow throughout the years; together with José Boom-Leune I have to thank you for all the phone calls you did to remind and arrange the check-up appointments. Eveline Gerlings and Danielle Boonzaijer it was nice working with you; unfortunately we did not have the required experience with the Amira software at that time to make the measurements more efficient and we missed a publication. Anjali Kaiwar, it was very nice meeting and working with you, although the project we started did not give publishable results. Leo van Ruijven, thank you for the time that you spent with the micro CT scans; the project that we started is something interesting that we need to complete.

Dear colleagues, friends, PhD and post-doc fellows in the endodontic department of ACTA, thank you for the interaction in and out of the university, for sharing knowledge and experiences during the meetings. To the postgraduate endodontic students in 2009 till 2011 thank you for your help collecting the patients that were necessary to complete the measurements of the volume of periapical lesions. Marjolein Wassenaar thank you for the nice time in the office and the gezelligheid!

To all my colleagues, assistants and staff in Tandartsen Punt, thank you all for your support and understanding the last three years that we are collaborating. It is wonderful working with you all!

To my dear colleagues and friends Francine Stevens and Miri Shauli, thank you for the good times we had during our cultural adventures in museums and exhibitions and for the extracted teeth that you helped me collect!
Special thanks to Tess Smelt for being such a wonderful assistant, to Thanassis Noulas for the help with the statistics in the last project of this thesis and to Noa Redero for making the graphic design of this thesis so beautiful!

To all my friends, new and old, that have been there listening, criticizing, supporting and most of all making life fun!

My dear paranymphs Dimitra Metska and Kelly Lazaridi, words are not enough to thank you for everything! Dimitra you are the best sister I could ever ask for!

Special thanks to my parents Apostolos and Katerina. Mum, dad without your love, support and understanding I wouldn’t be here. Thank you so much! Dear parents-in-law Ilias and Despo thank you, you are magnificent.

Yianni, my husband, my love, thank you for everything! We made this thesis together; your input, critical reviews and ideas are part of this thesis. I am very happy that you are part of my life!