

## University of Groningen

### Fluid Bodies

Verwaal, Ruben

**IMPORTANT NOTE: You are advised to consult the publisher's version (publisher's PDF) if you wish to cite from it. Please check the document version below.**

*Document Version*

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

*Publication date:*  
2018

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

*Citation for published version (APA):*

Verwaal, R. (2018). *Fluid Bodies: Physiology and Chemistry in the Eighteenth-Century Boerhaave School*. [Thesis fully internal (DIV), University of Groningen]. University of Groningen.

**Copyright**

Other than for strictly personal use, it is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

The publication may also be distributed here under the terms of Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, indicated by the "Taverne" license. More information can be found on the University of Groningen website: <https://www.rug.nl/library/open-access/self-archiving-pure/taverne-amendment>.

**Take-down policy**

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

*Downloaded from the University of Groningen/UMCG research database (Pure): <http://www.rug.nl/research/portal>. For technical reasons the number of authors shown on this cover page is limited to 10 maximum.*

# *Theses*

regarding the PhD dissertation

## **Fluid Bodies**

Physiology and Chemistry in the Eighteenth-Century Boerhaave School

*by Ruben E. Verwaal*

1. Chemistry of the fluids played an essential role in the medical and physiological understanding of the body in the eighteenth century.
  2. The debate on blood by chemists and haematologists was not a dispute about empirical facts, but a question of belief systems.
  3. The flowering of urine chemistry has shown that students were more important contributors to research than historians have often made them out to be.
  4. When it comes to breastfeeding, a professor proposes, but a mother disposes.
  5. Historians of health, medicine, and life style ought to always consider the insensible perspiration – for though it was invisible, it was ubiquitous nonetheless.
  6. The conception of semen and other bodily fluids in terms of chemical constituents reshaped medical perceptions of disease and enabled a reinvention of the field of pathology.
  7. The Boerhaave school of medical and chemical researchers was widespread and continued to thrive until the end of the eighteenth century.
  8. I discovered that the true “juice of life” is coffee.
  9. Writing a PhD is 10% inspiration, 90% perspiration.
  10. A street should be named after the most illustrious and renowned professor Hieronymus David Gaubius.
-