

PROCEEDINGS - PART I

SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF BIORHEOLOGY  
NANCY, FRANCE, 18-23 JUNE 1989

SYMPOSIUM: LEUKOCYTE ADHESION - RHEOLOGICAL, BIOPHYSICAL, AND  
PHARMACOLOGICAL APPROACHES

Introductory Remarks

G.W. Schmid-Schönbein, Editor and J. Hakim, Guest Editor

We are now witnessing a flood of reports giving testimony to the extraordinary importance of leukocytes in cardiovascular disease. Granulocytes and monocytes are now being implicated as participants in myocardial, cerebral, renal, and skeletal muscle ischemia, in arterosclerosis, claudication, diabetes, in certain forms of drug toxicity, and many other pathophysiological conditions. Leukocytes may not only participate in these complications as cellular messengers for an inflammatory response, but may in fact be involved in the trigger mechanisms that initiate the pathophysiology.

The following seven contributions provide a summary of key issues that control the function of leukocytes in the circulation. Emphasis is placed on adhesion and its control through membrane glycoproteins and cytokines. Three of the contributions summarize novel observations on the role of a methylxanthine (Pentoxifylline) on leukocyte adhesion and activation and its beneficial action on organ perfusion.

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