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FIFTH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON CLINICAL HEMORHEOLOGY

SYMPOSIUM: ANGIOLOGY AND HEMORHEOLOGY

Joint Meeting with the Société d'Angiologie de Langue Française

Introduction

MEETING OF ANGIOLOGY AND HEMORHEOLOGY IN BORDEAUX

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For a long time now vascular surgeons have been the sole representatives of vascular pathologies. Why? Because they mastered the therapy of the best known vascular disease: atheromatous arteriopathy. Angiology has attempted to regroup the various categories of vascular pathologies: arterial, venous and microcirculatory. Non-invasive and efficient means of diagnosis have appeared over the last 20 years. This has all contributed towards a resurgence of a medicosurgical vascular pathology. At present the physiopathological processes are being called into question; Raynaud's disease is a representative example. Because of this, the therapeutic indications have become increasingly structured.

However, it must be recognized that the greater part of research is centered on the hemodynamics of blood vessels (arteries and microcirculation) and on venous thromboembolism. At the same time, and in parallel, research into hemorheology has been pursued. The mechanics of circulating blood poses many problems. Fundamental scientists are giving their attention to these problems. Clinicians are trying to understand. The hemorheological applications concern arterial (arteriopathy and its treatment), microcirculatory (physiopathology of Raynaud's disease) and venous (venous thrombosis, venous insufficiency) pathologies. Clinicians wanting to evolve in their research works can no longer ignore hemorheology; some of them have even become its pioneers. The evolution of certain sectors of angiology necessarily involves hemorheology. Vascular pathology therapy will find its full expression in the association of these two disciplines. Their meeting point is the patient. The means will have to be pooled, the respective languages brought into line and made comprehensible to both sides.

It was in this that the Vth European Conference on Clinical Hemorheology in Bordeaux was particularly successful. Professor M.R. Boisseau organized an Angiological Symposium. It must be hoped that this initiative will prove to be the confirmation of the marriage between hemorheology and angiology. In this day and age when everything is moving over faster, this is an opportunity not to be missed. Everyone concerned by our shared research effort will surely benefit.