

What Interventional Cardiology Has Taught Us About Physiology and Pathophysiology
47th Annual Carl J. Wiggers Memorial Lecture
Cleveland, OH

David R. Holmes, MD
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN



Presenter Disclosure Information

David R. Holmes, Jr., M.D.

“What Interventional Cardiology Has Taught Us About Physiology and Pathophysiology”

The following relationships exist related to this presentation:

None



**Interventional Cardiology
Physiology and Pathophysiology**

- **Acute ischemic syndromes**
- **Coronary flow**
- **Role of platelets in health and disease**
- **Vascular healing**



Endothelial Function

Basic Science to Clinical Practice

Discovery of NO and the role of the endothelium

1980

Basic science

→

Clinical practice

MARIO CLINIC CPI240187-10

Smooth muscle cells
Endothelium

NE **Acetylcholine** **NO**

100
0

The obligatory role of endothelial cells in the relaxation of arterial smooth muscle by acetylcholine

Palaniappan L, Faganaro A, Jaffe V, Parise H.
Circulation 1994; 89: 1108-1114.

Abstract. The endothelium is the site of synthesis and release of endothelium-derived nitric oxide (EDNO), which is thought to mediate the vasorelaxant effect of endothelial cells. We have tested the hypothesis that EDNO is the obligatory mediator of endothelial cell-dependent relaxation of arterial smooth muscle by acetylcholine (ACh). In 10 patients with normal left ventricular function, we measured the forearm arterial blood flow (FABF) response to ACh (1.5 mg/min) and to a combination of ACh (1.5 mg/min) and the endothelial cell inhibitor N^G-monomethyl-L-arginine (L-NAME, 10 mg/min). FABF was measured by strain-gauge venous occlusion forearm arterial occlusion technique. FABF increased by 1.5 ± 0.2 ml/min/100 ml of forearm tissue (P < 0.05) in response to ACh. The response to ACh was completely abolished by L-NAME. The response to the combination of ACh and L-NAME was not different from the response to L-NAME alone. These results indicate that EDNO is the obligatory mediator of endothelial cell-dependent relaxation of arterial smooth muscle by ACh. The endothelium is the site of synthesis and release of EDNO, which is thought to mediate the vasorelaxant effect of endothelial cells. We propose that the use of the forearm method to assess endothelial function in clinical studies should include the use of an endothelial cell inhibitor to confirm the role of the endothelium in the response to ACh.

MARIO CLINIC CPI1008137-5

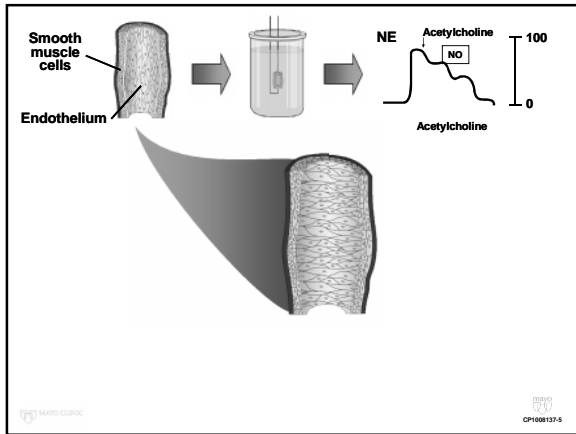
Smooth muscle cells
Endothelium

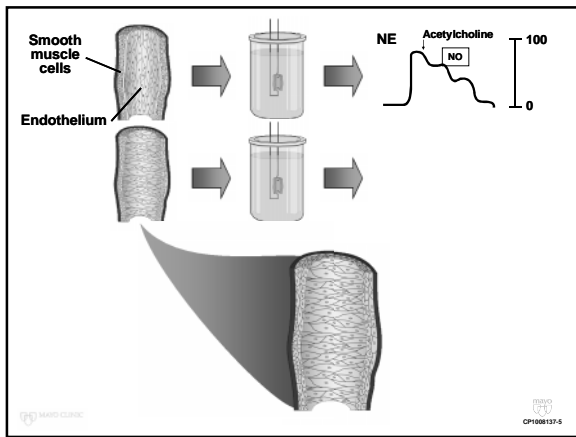
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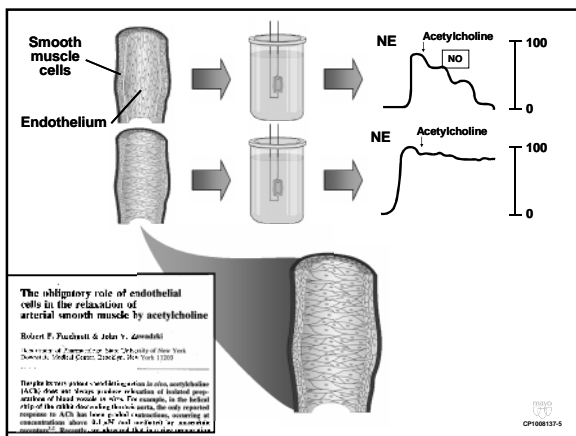
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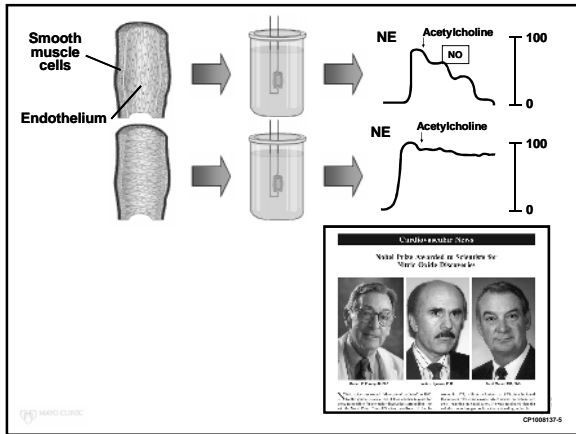
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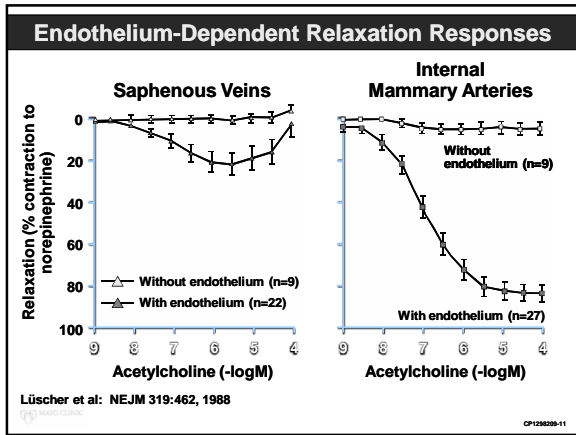
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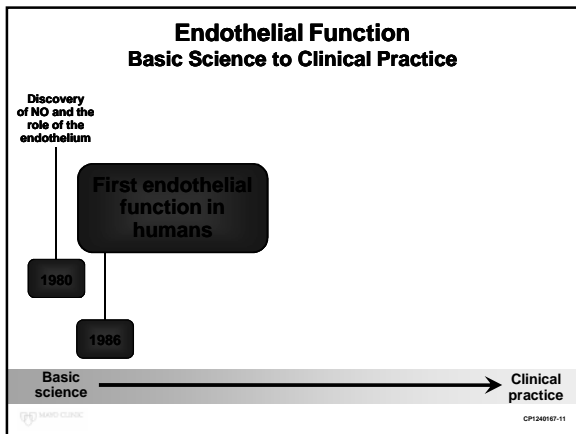












**PARADOXICAL VASOCONSTRICTION INDUCED BY ACETYLCHOLINE
IN ATHEROSCLEROTIC CORONARY ARTERIES**

PAUL L. LUDMER, M.D., ANDREW P. SELWYK, M.D., THOMAS L. SHOOK, M.D., RICHARD R. WAYNE, B.S.,
GILBERT H. MUDGE, M.D., R. WAYNE ALEXANDER, M.D., Ph.D., AND PETER GANZ, M.D.

Abstract Acetylcholine is believed to dilate normal blood vessels by promoting the release of a vasorelaxant substance from the endothelium (endothelium-derived relaxing factor). By contrast, if the endothelium is removed experimentally, acetylcholine constricts blood vessels. We tested the hypothesis that muscarinic cholinergic vasodilation: acetylcholine caused a dose-dependent dilation from a control diameter of 1.94 ± 0.16 mm to 2.16 ± 0.15 mm with the maximal acetylcholine dose ($P < 0.01$). In contrast, all eight of the arteries with advanced stenoses showed dose-dependent constriction, from 1.05 ± 0.05 to 0.32 ± 0.16 mm at the highest concentration of acetylcholine.

New England Journal of medicine 315 (17) 1986

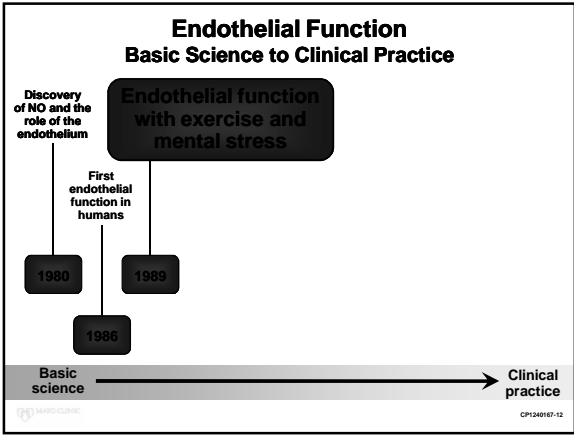
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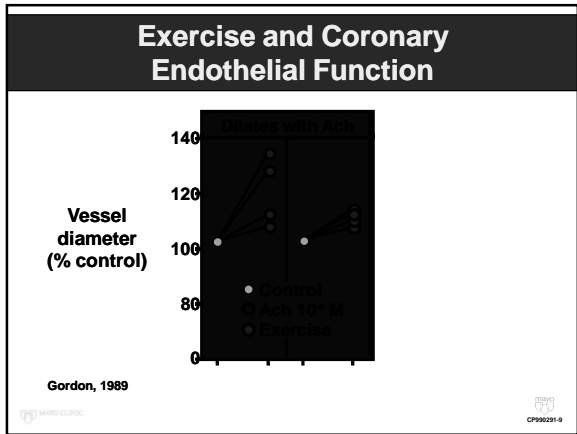
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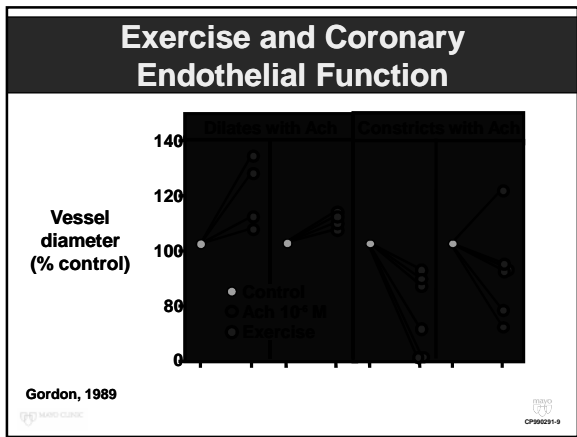
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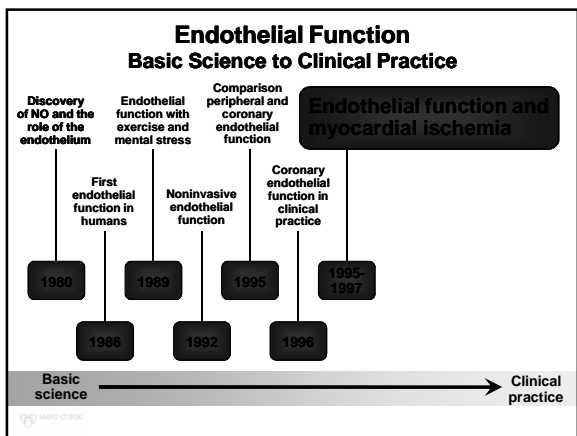
New England Journal of medicine 315 (17) 1986

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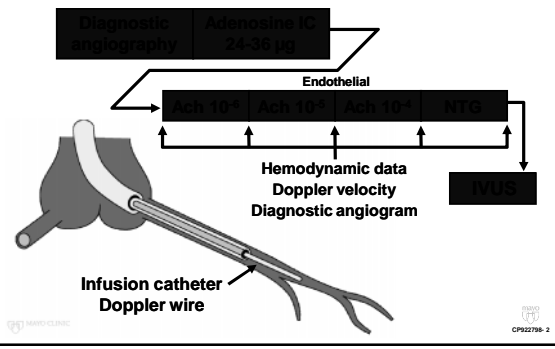




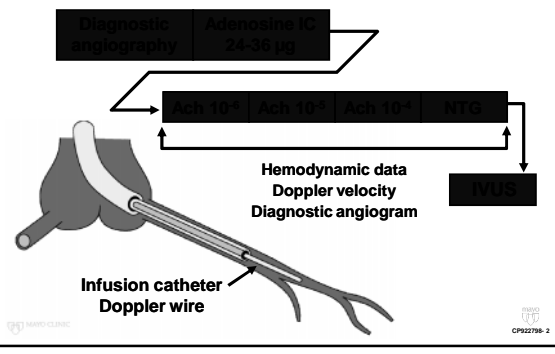




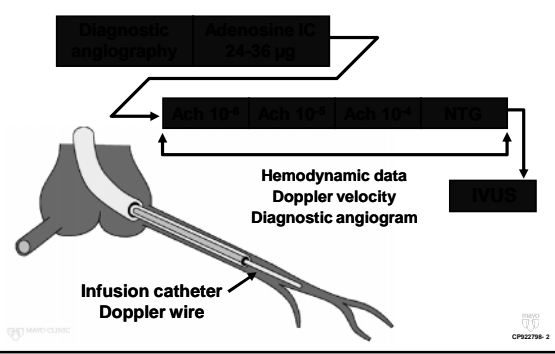
Coronary Blood Flow Function Protocol

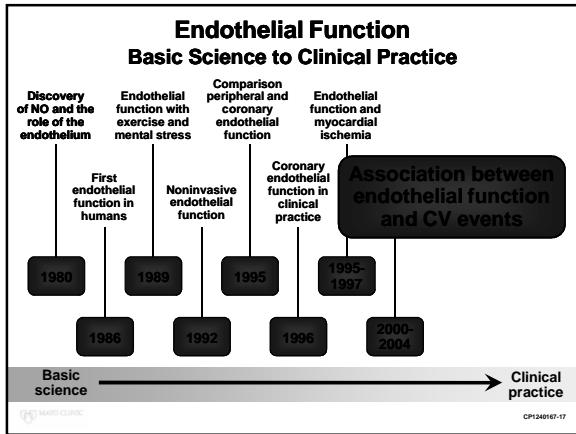


Functional Coronary Angiogram



Functional Coronary Angiogram





Endothelial Dysfunction, Oxidative Stress, and Risk of Cardiovascular Events in Patients With Coronary Artery Disease

Thomas Heitzer, MD; Tinas Schilzig, BS; Karoline Krohn, BS; Thomas Meinertz, MD; Thomas Münzel, MD

Background—Endothelial dysfunction is implicated in coronary artery disease and may contribute to its clinical manifestations. Increased oxidative stress has been linked to impaired endothelial function in atherosclerosis and may play a role in the pathogenesis of cardiovascular events. This study was designed to determine whether endothelial dysfunction and vascular oxidative stress have prognostic impact on cardiovascular event rates in patients with coronary artery disease.

Methods and Results—Endothelium-dependent and -independent vasodilation was determined in 281 patients with documented coronary artery disease by measuring forearm blood flow responses to acetylcholine and sodium nitroprusside using venous occlusion plethysmography. The effect of the readministration of vitamin C (24 mg/min) was assessed in a subgroup of 179 patients. Cardiovascular events, including death from cardiovascular causes, myocardial infarction, ischemic stroke, coronary angioplasty, and coronary or peripheral bypass operation, were studied during a mean follow-up period of 4.5 years. Patients experiencing cardiovascular events ($n=91$) had lower vasodilator responses to acetylcholine ($P<0.001$) and sodium nitroprusside ($P<0.05$), but greater benefit from vitamin C ($P<0.01$). The Cox proportional regression analysis for conventional risk factors demonstrated that blunted acetylcholine-induced vasodilation ($P=0.011$), the effect of vitamin C ($P=0.001$), and age ($P=0.016$) remained independent predictors of cardiovascular events.

Conclusions—Endothelial dysfunction and increased vascular oxidative stress predict the risk of cardiovascular events in patients with coronary artery disease. These data support the concept that oxidative stress may contribute not only to endothelial dysfunction but also to coronary artery disease activity. (*Circulation*. 2001;104:2673-2678.)

Key Words: antioxidants ■ coronary disease ■ endothelium ■ free radicals ■ prognosis

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