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#44

A METHOD FOR PRODUCING REGIONAL MICROVASCULAR ISCHEMIA.

J.Moore, E.A.Sorrentino, H.N.Mayrovitz Miami Heart
Institute, Miami Beach, FL 33140 and University of Miami

Effecting flow stasis in the microvasculature occlusion of feeding arteries is often unsuccessful because of collateral pathways supplying the microvascular region to be studied. Reperfusion deficits in low flow ischemic regions, as compared with zero flow states, may be quite different. To study and compare differences in severely ischemic microvasculature with non-ischemic tissue in the same microvascular bed, we developed a procedure whereby non-compressional regional ischemia is produced in the ear microvasculature of the hairless mouse. After anesthesia, the ear vasculature is examined in toto with a surgical microscope and a decision made as to risk (RZ) and non-risk (NRZ) zones, dependent on the particular vascular supply. Using a high power microscope, capillary loops within each zone are video recorded for baseline data. Then, under low power, the central artery, a lateral artery (either anterior or posterior) and primary inter-anastamosing branches are reversibly ligated using microsurgical technique. The presence of complete stasis is confirmed (75% of cases) using high-power microscopy while video data is acquired. If stasis is incomplete, a removable hemo-clip placed slightly above the central artery. Reperfusion is produced by removal of the suture ligatures. With this technique the mice are fully recoverable for chronic study. Supported by American Heart Association, Florida Affiliate.

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