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CAPILLARY BLOOD FLOW IN RESPONSE TO REGIONAL FLOW STASIS IN SKIN MICROVASCULATURE OF THE HAIRLESS MOUSE EAR. E.A. Sorrentino, J. Moore and H.N. Mayrovitz Miami H. Institute, Miami Beach, Fl 33140 and University of Miami Miami Heart

The return of blood flow to a previously ischemic tissue region may be rapid, delayed or not occur at all as with the "no-reflow" phenomenon. The character of the reperfusion flow depends on the tissue being studied, the duration of ischemia and on factors related to surgical trauma associated with the preparation. In addition, reperfusion deficits in low flow regions, as compared with zero flow, may be quite different. To evaluate capillary flow responses to regional flow stasis without surgical trauma, we produced 4 hours of non-compressional regional flow stasis in the ear microvasculature of the hairless Capillary blood velocity (Vrbc, um/sec) was determined under basal, ischemic and reperfusion conditions in the ischemic risk (RSK) and non-risk (NRSK) regions. Basal Vrbc (mean + sem) was 244 + 50 and 195 + 30 in RSK and NRSK respectively and did not significantly differ. During the ischemic phase, the observed capillaries in RSK had no flow whereas capillaries in NRSK had flow similar to basal. Upon release of the occlusions, blood flow returned to the originally observed RSK capillaries in 5 of the 7 mice studied to date. In capillaries with reperfusion, Vrbc was 163 + 45 and 236 + 61 in RSK and NRSK respectively, but did not significantly differ from each other. Supported by American Heart Association, Florida Affiliate.

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