Contents

List of Contributing Authors ............................................. VII
VOGEL, J. H. K. (Santa Barbara, Calif.): Introduction .................... IX

Sudden Death

HOOD, WILLIAM B., jr. (Boston, Mass.): Risk Factors Revisited ............ 2
CRILEY, J. MICHAEL; LEWIS, A. JAMES, and AILSHIE, GAYLORD E. (Los Angeles/Torrance, Calif.): Mobile Emergency Care Units. Implementation and
Justification .......................................................... 9
SCHROEDER, JOHN S.; FITZGERALD, JOHN, and HARRISON, DONALD C. (Stanford, Calif.): Detection of the High-Risk Patient for Sudden Death .......... 25

Pre-Infarction Angina

GAULT, JAMES H. (Lancaster, Pa.): 'Preinfarction' Angina in Patients with Normal
Coronary Arteries .......................................................... 38
SCHROEDER, JOHN S.; BERNDT, THEODORE B., and HARRISON, DONALD C. (Stanford, Calif.): Indications for Surgery in the Patient with 'Impending Myocardial
Infarction' (Unstable Angina Pectoris) ................................. 48
MUNDTH, E. D.; BUCKLEY, M. J.; DAGGETT, W. M.; MCENANY, M. T.; GOLD,
H. K.; LEINBACH, R. C., and AUSTEN, W. G. (Boston Mass.): Surgical Intervention
for Preinfarction Angina ............................................. 59
VOGEL, JOHN H. K.; MCFADDEN, R. BRUCE; CORNISH, DAVID, and JAHNKE,
EDWARD J., jr. (Santa Barbara, Calif.): Objective Evaluation of Bypass
Surgery in Patients with Acute Coronary Artery Disease ............. 70

Acute Myocardial Infarction

SOBEL, BURTON E. (St. Louis, Mo.): Quantification of Myocardial Ischemic Injury 86
Sobel, Burton E. (St. Louis, Mo.): Management of Acute Myocardial Infarction. Pathophysiological Considerations ........................................ 99

Forrester, James S.; Chatterjee, Kanu, and Jobin, Gary (Los Angeles, Calif.): A new Conceptual Approach to the Therapy of Acute Myocardial Infarction ........................................................... 111

Forrester, James S.; Jobin, Gary, and Chatterjee, Kanu (Los Angeles, Calif.): Diagnosis and Therapy in the Critically Ill ..................... 124

Hood, William B., Jr. (Boston, Mass.): Effect of Reperfusion in Acute Ischemia and Infarction ................................................... 132

Ganji, John H.; Berg, Ralph, Jr.; Kendall, Robert W.; Duvoisin, George E., and Rudy, Lloyd W. (Spokane, Wash.): Coronary Bypass Graft for Stable Angina, Impending Myocardial Infarction and Acute Myocardial Infarction 140

Soroff, Harry S.; Cloutier, Charles T.; Begley, Linda A.; Norton, Robert L., and Birtwell, William C. (Boston, Mass.): External Counter-Pulsation in Power Failure ....................................................... 142


Surgical Considerations

Barnes, Hendrick B. (St. Louis, Mo.): Value of Internal Mammary Artery Bypass ............................................................. 170

Schroeder, John S.; Alderman, Edwin L., and Harrison, Donald C. (Stanford, Calif.): Perioperative Myocardial Infarction during Cardiac Surgery. Diagnosis, ECG and Enzyme Testing ........................................... 179

Index vols. 1-14 ..................................................................... 185

List of Contributing Authors

Ailshie, Gaylord E., Department of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif.; School of Medicine, and Division of Cardiology, Harbor General Hospital, Torrance, Calif.

Alderman, Edwin L., Cardiology Division Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif.

Austen, W. G., M.D., Department of Surgery and Medicine, Harvard Medical School and General Surgical and Medical Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.

Barnes, Hendrick B., M.D., Department of Surgery, St. Louis University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo.

Begley, Linda A., Tufts University School of Medicine, Tufts Surgical Service, Boston
City Hospital, Boston, Mass.
BERNDT, THEODORE B., Cardiology Division Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif.
BIRTWELL, WILLIAM C., Tufts University School of Medicine, Tufts Surgical Service, Boston City Hospital, Boston, Mass.
BUCKLEY, M. J., M.D., Department of Surgery and Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and General Surgical and Medical Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.
CHATTERJEE, KANU, M.D., Department of Cardiology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, Calif.
CLOUTIER, CHARLES T., Tufts University School of Medicine, Tufts Surgical Service, Boston City Hospital, Boston, Mass.
CRILEY, J. MICHAEL, M.D., Department of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Medicine, and Division of Cardiology, Harbor General Hospital, Torrance, Calif.
DAGGETT, W. M., M.D., Department of Surgery and Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and General Surgical Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.
DUVOISIN, GEORGE, M.D., South Center Medical Building, Spokane, Washington, Wash.

List of Contributing Authors VIII

FITZGERALD, JOHN, Cardiology Division, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif.
FORRESTER, JAMES S., M.D., Department of Cardiology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and Department of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif.
GANJI, JOHN H., M.D., South Center Medical Building, Spokane, Washington, Wash.
GAULT, JAMES, M.D., Cardiovascular Laboratories, Lancaster General Hospital, Lancaster, Pa.
GOLD, H. K., M.D., Department of Surgery and Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and General Surgical and Medical Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.
HARRISON, DONALD C., M.D., Cardiology Division, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif.
HOOD, WILLIAM B., M.D., Department of Medicine, Boston City Hospital, and Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, Mass.
JAHNKE, EWARD J., M.D., 1421 Chapala St., Santa Barbara, Calif.
JOBIN, GARRY, M.D., Department of Cardiology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and Department of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif.
LEINBACH, R. C., M.D., Department of Surgery and Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and General Surgical and Medical Services, Massachusetts General
Hospital, Boston, Mass.
LEWIS, A. JAMES, M.D., Department of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Medicine, and Division of Cardiology, Harbor General Hospital, Torrance, Calif.
MCENANY, M. T., M.D., Department of Surgery and Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and General Surgical and Medical Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.
MUNDTH, E. D., M.D., Department of Surgery and Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and General Surgical and Medical Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.
MCFADDEN, R. B., M.D., 5333 Hollister Ave., Suite 221, Santa Barbara, Calif.
NORTON, ROBERT L., Tufts University School of Medicine, Tufts Surgical Service, Boston City Hospital, Boston, Mass.
SCHROEDER, JOHN S., M.D., Cardiology Division, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif.
SOBEL, BURTON E., M.D., Cardiology Division, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo.
SOROFF, HARRY S., M.D., Tufts University School of Medicine, Tufts Surgical Service, Boston City Hospital, Boston, Mass.
VOGEL, JOHN H. K., M.D., Goleta Valley Community Hospital, 5333 Hollister Ave., Suite 221, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Introduction

This is the fifth cardiovascular conference to be held at Snowmass-at-Aspen, the purpose of which was to evaluate the current status of aggressive surgical medical care in acute coronary artery disease and to attempt to establish guidelines for the management of impending infarction, infarction and cardiogenic shock. The current status of pharmacologic therapy, emergency coronary artery bypass surgery, myocardial resection and assisted circulation, used as a combined effort with additional facilities in the cardiac care unit, is emphasized. In view of the rapidly changing indications for an aggressive approach in acute coronary artery disease, the integration of medical surgical care as outlined above needs to be constantly re-evaluated.

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JOHN H. K. VOGEL, M.D.