K. Messmer (ed.)

**Microcirculation in Chronic Venous Insufficiency**

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This book is a reflection of the presentation and the discussions made during the 15th Bodensee symposium on microcirculation in Lindau, Germany, on June 20th 1998.

Chronic venous insufficiency is a very common disease, based on incompetence of the veins of the lower leg. The vein incompetence is characterised by venous hypertension, which in time leads to serious skin alterations such as dermato- and liposclerosis, white atrophy and leg ulcers.

The book contains four parts.

The first part deals with the functional microcirculatory unit and physiology including the microlymphatic system. Of great interest is the chapter about fluid 'balance' between the microcirculation and interstitium, in which the authors give a revision of the classical filtration-reabsorption scheme.

The second part describes the interaction between white cells and endothelial cells, which nowadays is regarded as particularly important in the development of skin changes due to chronic venous insufficiency.

The third part concerns the treatment of microcirculation disorders, including an interesting chapter about the possibility of transplantation of lymphatic vessels.

The fourth part gives information about the role of microangiopathy in the development of venous leg ulcers.

The book provides a clear review of recent research concerning the relation between skin microcirculation and chronic venous insufficiency.

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