

The most important agent which has been found as the probable cause of the lesion is the group of streptococci. It is probable that no particular member of the streptococcus group is alone responsible for the arterial lesions.

Animal experiments have shown that various types of streptococci may induce individual reactions similar to those observed in periarteritis nodosa, but up to the present no characteristic damage has been produced upon the arterial wall whereby aneurysm, thrombosis, and rupture have presented the picture seen in the human form of periarteritis nodosa.

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(A full review of the literature is contained in the articles by Lamb and by Dickson.)