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EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCTION OF ARTERIO-SCLEROSIS.*

BY OSKAR KLOTZ, M.D.

Lecturer in Pathology, McGill University; and Resident Pathologist, Royal Victoria Hospital,
Montreal.

BEFORE taking up the study of the experimental production of arterio-sclerosis it is necessary to ask, What is arterio-sclerosis? (a) Is it an entity; or (b) are several distinct morbid conditions included under this one heading; or (c), what comes nearly to the same thing, in different states which we are accustomed to regard as arterio-sclerosis, do we find the different coats and constituents of these coats affected diversely?

It is necessary to ask these questions, because, as I shall show, different procedures and reagents have different effects upon the arteries, and whether we are to regard these experimental results as arterio-sclerosis must depend upon an answer to these questions. The subject of classification has been taken by Professor Veleh; fortunately, therefore, I need not discuss the various forms. All that I need say as indicating my point of view is that I do not agree with Jores' narrower definition. His extensive studies, which have received much attention, have led him to include only a particular histological change in the vessels as coming under the category of arterio-sclerosis, while the mass of other scleroses in the arteries remains unclassified. He and those who follow him would limit the term to conditions of intimal hyperplasia, with a peculiar splitting of the internal elastic lamina, conditions, which can only be distinguished under the microscope.

*Read before meeting of the British Medical Association, Toronto, August, 1907.