

coronary tone is much more complicated than just looking at the worse narrowing, or percent stenosis, in an epicardial coronary vessel. Thus, it is almost naive to define such a luminal narrowing as exemplifying the nature of coronary blood flow and coronary artery flow reserve. I believe that we need to deal with the physiology of ischemia (whether it is fractional flow reserve determined using computed tomography or traditional fractional flow reserve determined during coronary angiography or just true angina experienced by a patient) and not the anatomy perceived by “stenosis” during visual inspection of an angiogram.

However, the main focus of my editorial was that atherosclerotic plaque disease is a disorder of the arterial wall, and it escapes detection by coronary angiography (or stress testing or perfusion testing) until it has advanced to be a disorder of the lumen. As I had stated, coronary atherosclerotic disease is a continuum and not a threshold.

Again, I thank Dr Rosenthal for his correspondence.

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Zika Virus Meningoencephalitis



To the Editor: In the March 2017 issue of *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*, Schwartzmann et al¹ reported on a single case of Zika virus meningoencephalitis and concluded that, “In this case, central nervous system involvement and ZIKV propagation to other organs in a disseminated pattern is quite similar to that observed in other fatal Flaviviridae viral infections.” The patient reported by Schwartzmann et al¹ was immunocompromised at the time of Zika virus infection; however, meningoencephalitis accompanying Zika virus infection has also been reported in apparently immunocompetent patients.²

An interesting question is whether the immune status has any relationship to the occurrence of meningoencephalitis. In the similar arbovirus infection, dengue infection, meningoencephalitis can also be seen regardless of immune status.³ In our setting in Southeast Asia, dengue is highly prevalent and Zika virus infection is also endemic. Nevertheless, Zika virus infection is usually asymptomatic and neurological manifestations are extremely rare. Furthermore, despite an extremely high prevalence of dengue in our area (30-224 cases per 100,000⁴), there has never been a report on meningoencephalitis in dengue patients regardless of immune status.

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In Reply—Zika Virus Meningoencephalitis



To the Editor: We read with interest the letter from Joob and Wiwanitkit¹ which reinforced our interpretation that immunosuppression predisposes the central nervous system (CNS) to infection by Zika virus.

It is known that some microbial infections of the CNS—such as those caused by toxoplasma, cryptococcus, and cytomegalovirus—can be related to predisposing underlying diseases. In the Brazilian Amazon region, the tropical climate favors the proliferation of large quantities of insect vectors and their vertebrate reservoirs, thus supporting the natural cycles of many arboviruses that can infect humans. In a study done in the state of Amazonas, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) samples from 110 patients with meningoencephalitis were tested by reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) for *Orthobunyavirus* and *Flavivirus*.² Lymphomonocytosis predominated in all CSF cell counts. Sequencing of RT-PCR products obtained from 3 patients identified Oropouche virus (Peribunyaviridae). Two of the 3 patients infected with Oropouche virus, a 54-year-old man and a 37-year-old woman, had underlying diseases that affected the CNS or the immune system (neurocysticercosis and AIDS,