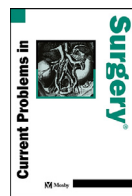




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## Foreword

Neointimal hyperplasia of the artery wall represents the leading cause of vessel re-stenosis and graft failure after vascular intervention. Despite advances in our understanding of its pathophysiology and considerable success in its suppression in the laboratory, this has not yet translated into clinical benefit. In this issue of *Current Problems in Surgery*, Morgan P. McMonagle, MB, BCh, MD, FRCSEd from St. Mary's Hospital in London provides a masterful overview on this topic entitled, "The Quest for Effective Pharmacological Suppression of Neointimal Hyperplasia." The monograph begins with an overview of the current problem. The pathobiology of neointimal hyperplasia is then covered in significant detail. Subsequent sections discuss potential therapies in the pharmacological suppression of neointimal hyperplasia, including the experimental evidence, in considerable detail. These include agents that target platelets, the renin-angiotensin system, calcium channels, HMG-CoA reductase, inflammation, and the coagulation system. Future directions are then addressed insightfully, suggesting that there is considerable room for optimism. This authoritative review is both comprehensive and practical. It should become a valued addition to the literature on this complex topic and a resource for all interested in improving the care of patients with this capricious condition.

Stanley W. Ashley, MD  
*Editor in Chief*