

Abstract of paper to be considered for presentation at the
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3rd INTERNATIONAL JOINT MEETING ON
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VASCULAR SURGERY

CEREBROVASCULAR SYMPTOMS IN PRIMARY
THROMBOCYTOSIS—Bernad, PG (Massachusetts
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Twenty-eight cases of primary thrombocyto-
sis associated with cerebrovascular symptoms
have been analyzed. Five were personally
studied at the Massachusetts General Hospital,
and 23 additional cases were reviewed from the
literature. Ages ranged from 32 to 81. Twenty-
six of the 28 had platelet counts over one
million per cu. mm. Symptomatology and find-
ings included transient ischemic attacks of
paralysis of upper and lower extremities, dys-
phasia, dysarthria, and paresthesias of face,
arms, hands and fingers. Also recorded were
transient monocular blindness, retinal artery
embolism, retinal venous occlusion, headache,
vertigo, seizures, occlusion of carotid, basilar
and middle cerebral arteries and lateral med-
ullary syndrome. Therapy included 32P, nitrogen
mustard, myleran, splenectomy, steroids,
heparin, coumadin, aspirin and sulfinpyrazone.
Studies of platelet aggregation undertaken in
three cases showed a return toward normal with
treatment. Successful reduction in platelet
count prevented the transient ischemic manifes-
tations. Platelet studies should be considered
in the investigation of all cerebrovascular
cases particularly when transient symptoms evade
adequate explanation.

[See "Rules for Submitting Abstracts"
for details for completion.]

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AUTHOR'S SIGNATURE

Peter Bernad

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