

# Interactions of Leukocyte Integrins with Intercellular Adhesion Molecule 1 in the Production of Inflammatory Vascular Injury In Vivo

## The Schwartzman Reaction Revisited

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### Abstract

We have investigated the role of leukocyte-endothelial cell interactions in a rabbit model of hemorrhagic vasculitis. Microvascular injury was produced in the skin by intradermal injection of *Salmonella typhosa* endotoxin followed 20 h later by intravenous zymosan, which activates complement. Hemorrhagic necrosis develops in the "prepared" skin sites which is characterized by microthrombi, neutrophil aggregation, platelet and fibrin deposition, and massive extravasation of erythrocytes. Hemorrhage in these Schwartzman-like lesions was quantitated by  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -labeled autologous erythrocytes. Inhibition of the hemorrhagic response was obtained with mAb reactive with ICAM-1 as well as mAb against the leukocyte CD18 when either was administered intravenously just before intravenous zymosan challenge. This observation suggests that an intravascular event occurring in response to complement activation is required for the development of hemorrhagic vasculitis. We hypothesize that agents which successfully prepare the skin for the Schwartzman response after their intradermal injection do so by promoting increased intercellular adhesion molecule 1 (ICAM-1) expression on the vascular endothelium. Activation of complement then induces CD11/CD18 expression on circulating leukocytes thus producing an intravascular CD11/CD18-ICAM-1 (leukocyte-endothelium) adhesion event. Inhibition of intravascular leukocyte-leukocyte aggregation with mAb against CD11b (Mac-1) showed partial inhibition of hemorrhage, while mAb against CD11a (LFA-1) showed no inhibitory activity. This type of cytokine-primed, neutrophil-dependent vascular damage may be a model of human vasculitic processes where microvascular damage is produced in the absence of immune-complex deposition. (*J. Clin. Invest.* 1992; 89:259-272.) Key words: neutrophil • endothelium • complement activation • endotoxin • intercellular adhesion molecule 1

### Introduction

The development of an inflammatory response requires the adhesion of activated neutrophils to vascular endothelium. While the inflammatory response consists of events which tend

to localize and rid the host of invading pathogens, it is not uncommon to find that the same inflammatory response is responsible for significant host tissue damage resulting in morbidity and mortality. The adherence of leukocytes to vascular endothelium represents one of the functional consequences of the expression of a family of leukocyte surface glycoproteins. These adhesion molecules, referred to as the CD18 family of integrins, are heterodimers consisting of distinct alpha subunits: CD11a, CD11b, and CD11c, which associate with a common beta (CD18) subunit. CD11a/CD18 is also called LFA-1, CD11b/CD18 is called Mac-1, and CD11c/CD18 is also known as p150,95 (1). Stimulation of leukocytes by chemotactic factors including C5a, fMLP, and leukotriene B<sub>4</sub> results in rapid expression (< 1 min) of these preformed receptor molecules on the plasma membrane (2-4) as well as increased functional activity of previously expressed adhesion molecules (5, 6).

Recent studies have implicated intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1)<sup>1</sup> as at least one ligand for the CD18 family of leukocyte integrins (1, 7). ICAM-1 expression is normally present at low levels on several nonhematopoietic cell types, but can be upregulated by a variety of cytokines. Stimulation of endothelial cells by interleukin 1, tumor necrosis factor, interferon  $\gamma$ , as well as bacterial endotoxins, greatly increases ICAM-1 expression by these cells (8, 9). The significance of CD18/ICAM-1 interaction in contributing to certain inflammatory responses in vivo is clear (1).

Proper regulation of neutrophil adhesion is critical to host defense. Over the past several years, a group of pediatric patients has been described which is genetically deficient in the CD18 adhesion glycoproteins (10, 11). Neutrophils from these patients are defective in adhesion related functions such as aggregation, adhesion to endothelium, and spreading on surfaces. That most of these patients have died before the age of two years because of chronic bacterial infections illustrates the critical role that neutrophil adhesion plays in homeostasis.

Microvascular damage as seen in autoimmune diseases such as systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) has often been considered as resulting from deposition of immune complexes in the blood vessel wall. The Arthus reaction (intradermal injection of antigen in a previously sensitized animal) has become a model of immune complex-mediated vascular damage. Recently, Philips et al. suggested that an alternative mechanism of vascular damage may occur in SLE involving intravascular activation and aggregation of neutrophils in the absence of immune complex deposition (12), and that the Schwartzman reaction may be a model of this type of vasculitis not mediated by immune complex deposition.

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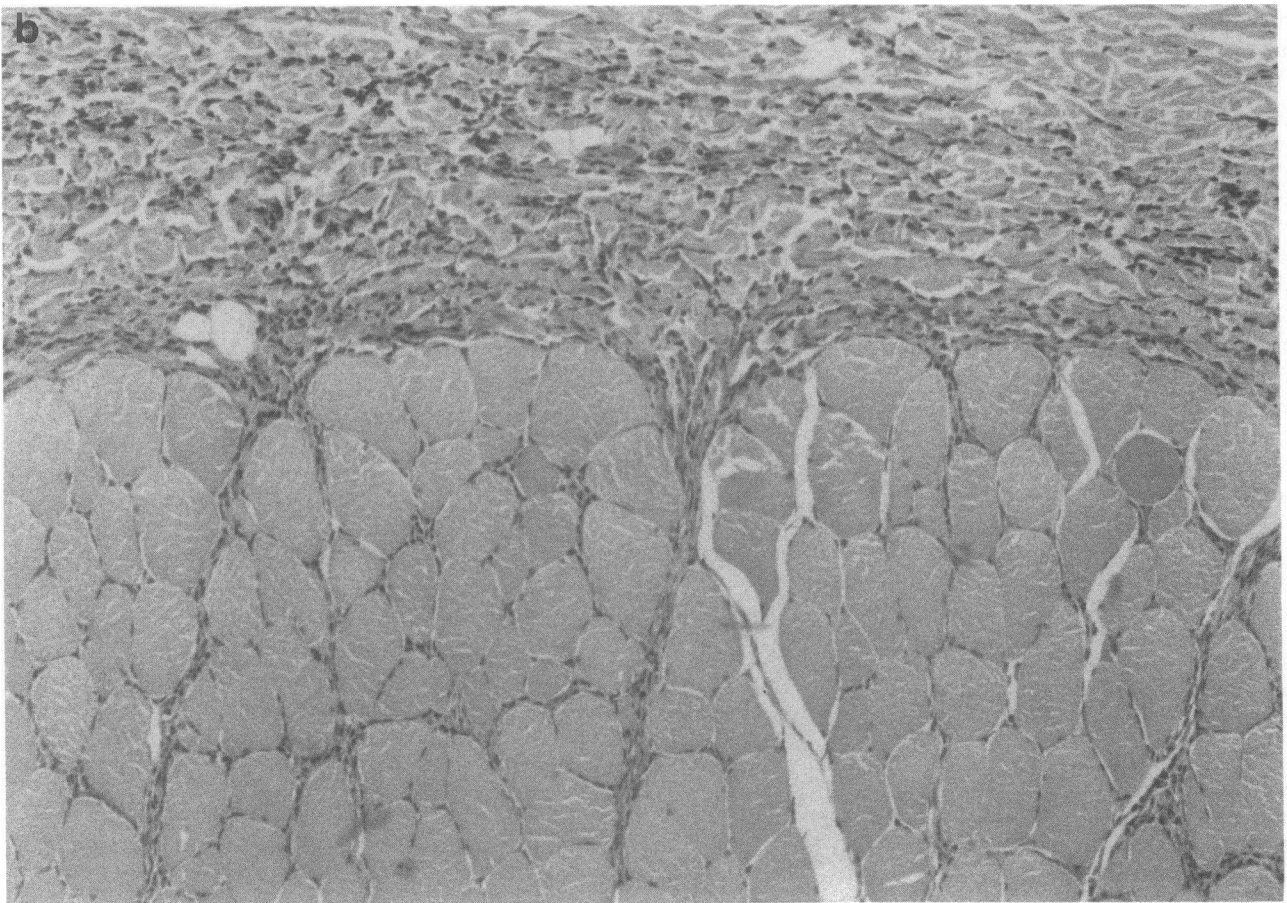
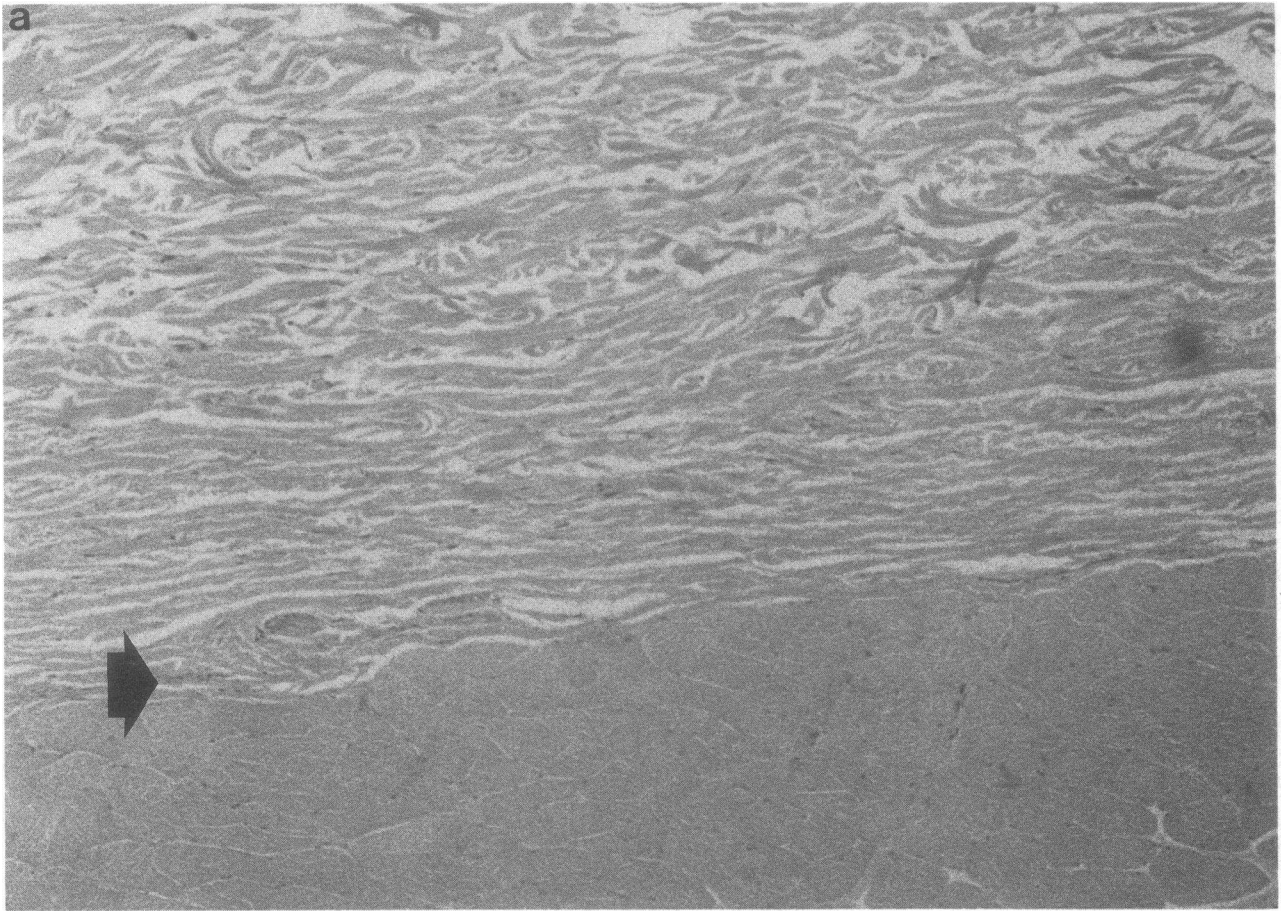
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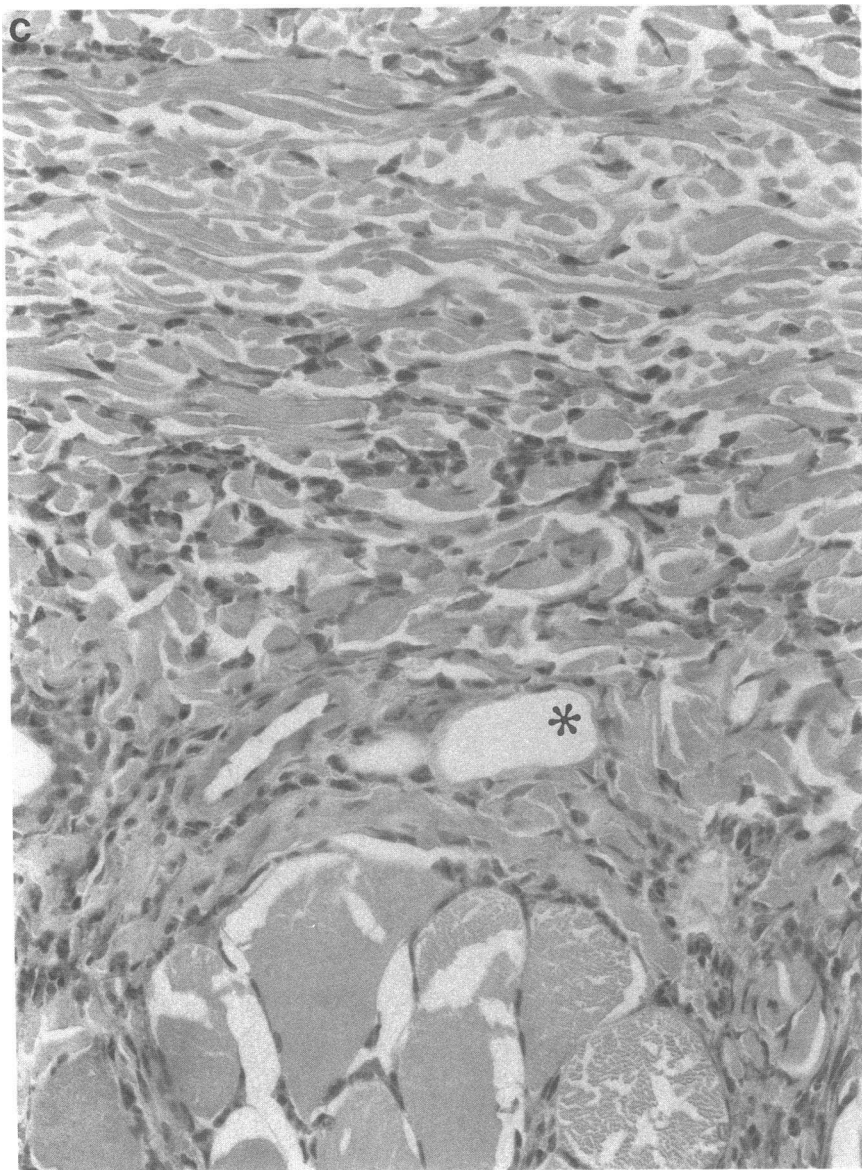
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1. Abbreviation used in this paper: ICAM-1, intercellular adhesion molecule 1.



*Figure 1*



**Figure 1.** (a) Histologic section of rabbit skin illustrating the junction between the dermis and the panniculus carnosus muscle (arrow), normal,  $\times 200$ . (b) Rabbit skin 20 h after i.d. injection of 30  $\mu\text{g}$  LPS. Inflammatory infiltrate (predominantly neutrophils) is evident in the deep dermis, extending down into the subcutaneous muscle,  $\times 200$ . (c) Same tissue as in (b) showing leukocytes in the dermis. The lumen of several vessels is patent and appears normal (asterisk),  $\times 300$ .

As originally described by Gregory Schwartzman in 1928 (13), intravenous (i.v.) injection of *Bacillus typhosus* culture filtrate produced hemorrhagic necrosis in skin sites where the same culture filtrate had been injected intradermally 24 h previously. In spite of much study over the past 60 years, the mechanism of vascular damage in the Schwartzman reaction is still not clear. It is now generally accepted that endotoxin was the active moiety in Schwartzman's culture filtrates; the same response can be elicited by injecting endotoxin rather than culture filtrate (14). Whereas a number of agents can substitute as the i.v. "challenge", it is more difficult to substitute for endotoxin as a "preparative" agent. How a tissue is prepared for Schwartzman-like lesions is a question which we have attempted to answer.

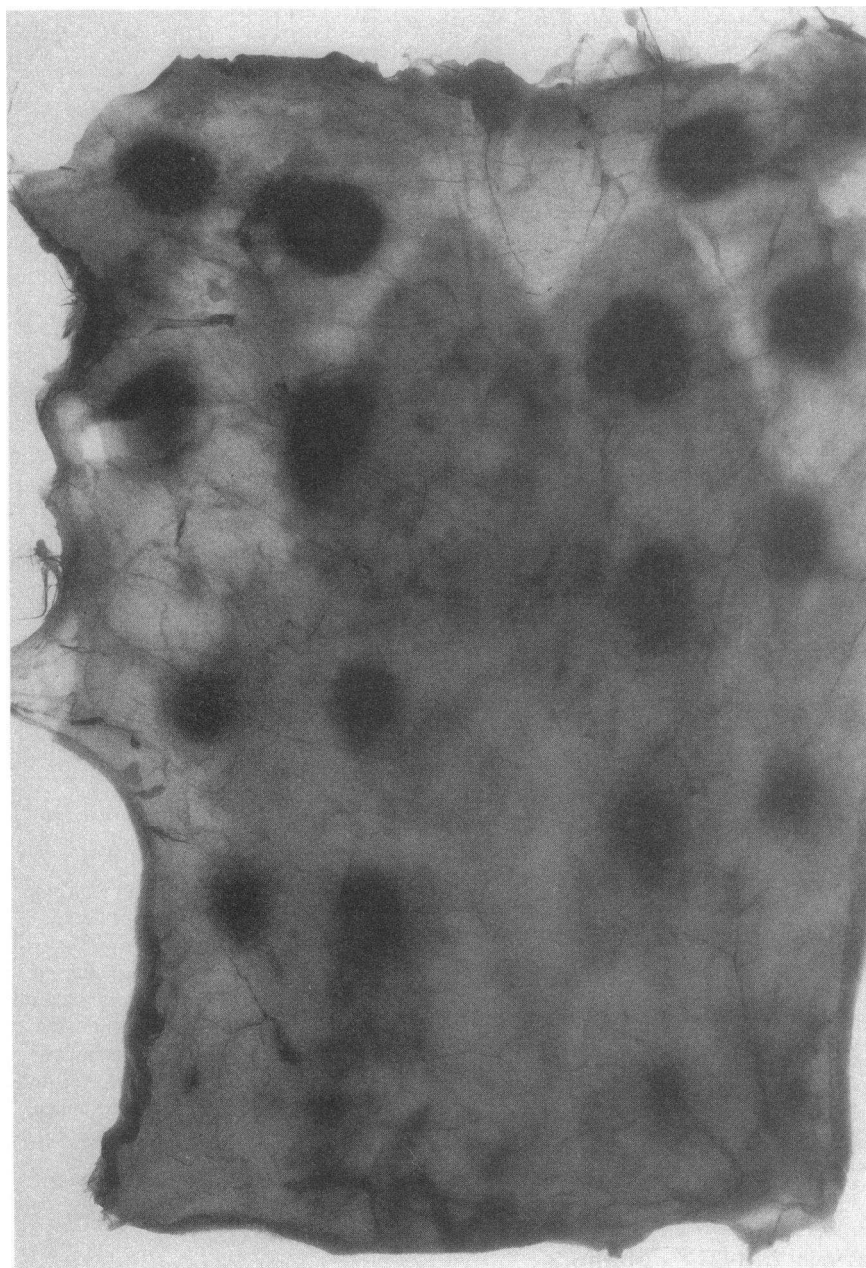
In this manuscript we report that monoclonal antibodies against ICAM-1, CD18, or CD11b, but not CD11a, can block the hemorrhagic vasculitis occurring in Schwartzman lesions, suggesting that preparation may require upregulation of ICAM-1 on vascular endothelium. Further, the response to the intravascular challenge appears to be an intravascular event dependent on both ICAM-1 and CD11b (Mac-1) activity.

## Methods

Male, New Zealand White rabbits, weighing from 2.8 to 3.8 kg, were used throughout these studies. They had access to commercial rabbit chow and tap water ad lib.

**Experimental protocol.** The hair on the dorsum was removed with electric clippers. Lipopolysaccharide W (*Salmonella typhosa* 0901; Difco Laboratories, Detroit, MI), in sterile 0.9% saline was injected i.d. in 0.2-ml vol. Each animal received six replicate preparative injections of 0, 3, 10, 30, and 100  $\mu\text{g}$  LPS. 18–20 h later, in vivo labeling of red blood cells was performed by injecting 20  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  stannous chloride (PYROLITE diagnostic kit, for  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  labeling of human blood; E. I. duPont, Billerica, MA), followed 30 min later by 200  $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{kg}$   $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  (sodium pertechnetate; Syncor Int'l Corp., Stamford, CT). This procedure results in  $> 97\%$  of the  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  activity in whole blood being associated with RBC's. After  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  injection, zymosan A (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO), in sterile saline, as a challenging agent, was injected via a marginal ear vein at 10 mg/kg. 4–6 h later, a sample of blood was drawn from each animal for calculation of  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$  labeling efficiency and specific activity. Euthanasia was performed by sodium pentobarbital overdose.

The dorsal skin of each animal, containing all sites of i.d. injection,



**Figure 2.** Schwartzman lesions in rabbit skin. Illustrated are groups of four replicate injections of (top to bottom) 100, 30, 10, 3, and 1  $\mu$ g LPS per site. 20 h after LPS injections, complement was activated by i.v. zymosan. 6 h later, the skin was removed and the hemorrhagic lesions were photographed from the dermal side.

was removed with a scalpel, laid out flat and frozen under a Pyrex dish containing solid CO<sub>2</sub> and methanol. When frozen, injection sites were removed with a specially made skin punch which fit into an electric drill, thus allowing removal of skin pieces of reproducible size. The <sup>99m</sup>Tc activity in each skin sample was then determined in an auto-gamma counter (Model 5870 [window setting of 120–160 kiloelectron volts]; Packard Instrument Co., Inc., Meriden, CT). The <sup>99m</sup>Tc activity in each sample was converted to blood equivalents by dividing by the specific activity (<sup>99m</sup>Tc cpm/known blood volume) of the blood from that animal.

Schwartzman-like lesions were produced in several additional animals, not labeled with <sup>99m</sup>Tc, and skin lesions were prepared for routine histological evaluation.

**Antibody treatment.** The mouse monoclonal antibody R6.5 (IgG2a, anti-human ICAM-1) has been described previously (15). R15.7, also a mouse monoclonal (IgG1) was raised against the canine CD18 adhesion glycoprotein. Its specificity was demonstrated by its ability to in-

hibit homotypic aggregation of JY cells (16), and by its binding to mouse  $\times$  human hybrids (17) expressing mouse CD11/human CD18 but not to hybrids expressing human CD11/mouse CD18. R7.1 (mouse IgG1, antiCD11a) binds to rabbit leukocytes as ascertained by flow cytometry. LM2 (mouse IgG1, antiCD11b) has been described previously (18). Purified mouse IgG was used as control. All antibodies, as purified protein, were dissolved in sterile saline and injected i.v. at 2 mg/kg.

**Immunohistochemical demonstration of ICAM-1.** In one additional animal, preparative injections of LPS were made as usual. 20 h later, biopsies of PBS- and LPS-injected skin were fixed and stained following the protocol of Gu and McGrath (19). Briefly, samples were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde, embedded in paraffin, cut in 5- $\mu$ m sections, dewaxed, and incubated with either mAb R6.5 or control mouse IgG. Detection of bound antibody was performed using biotinylated goat anti-mouse, peroxidase conjugated streptavidin and AEC substrate (BioGenex Laboratories, San Ramon, CA).

**Upregulation of CD11/CD18 in vivo.** In one experimental animal, a blood sample was obtained before and 30 min after the i.v. zymosan challenge. Blood cells were washed free of plasma in Dulbecco's PBS containing 0.13% NaN<sub>3</sub> (DPBS-Z). Aliquots of 100  $\mu$ l of blood cell suspension were pelleted and resuspended in 25  $\mu$ l of the mAb's R15.7 (anti-CD18), LM2 (antiCD11a), or control mouse IgG. The cells were incubated for 20 min at 4°C, washed 2 $\times$  with DPBS-Z, and incubated with 25  $\mu$ l of a 1:10 dilution of affinity purified, FITC-conjugated (ab)<sub>2</sub> goat anti-mouse IgG (heavy and light chain specific) (Cappel Research Products, Durham, NC) at 4°C for 20 min. The cells were then washed, treated with FACS<sup>®</sup> lysing solution (Becton Dickinson Immunochemistry Products, San Jose, CA) to lyse erythrocytes, and fixed in 1% paraformaldehyde. Analysis was performed using a FACS<sup>®</sup> 440 (Becton Dickinson).

## Results

18–20 h after the intradermal injection of *S. typhosa* endotoxin into rabbit skin, an accumulation of leukocytes (mostly neutrophils, some monocytes) was seen, with the strongest reaction occurring in the deep dermis just above the panniculus carnosus muscle (Fig. 1). In general, the accumulation of leukocytes had ceased by 18 h since dermal vessels were mostly free of adherent leukocytes and no evidence of microthrombi was seen. When animals were then challenged by systemic activation of complement, only the prepared intradermal sites became grossly hemorrhagic over a 4–6-h period (Fig. 2). Histologically, the response to challenge consisted of intravascular aggregation of leukocytes (Fig. 3), fibrin deposition, and massive extravasation of RBC's which was superimposed on the leukocyte accumulation induced by the endotoxin preparation. Quantitation of hemorrhage with autologous <sup>99m</sup>Tc-RBC showed an endotoxin dose-dependent response (Fig. 4). When 100  $\mu$ l of zymosan-activated rabbit plasma was substituted for endotoxin as the preparative injection, the hemorrhagic response after challenge was not significantly different from that of PBS-injected sites (14 $\pm$ 4, 21 $\pm$ 5, and 53 $\pm$ 6  $\mu$ l blood/site for PBS-, zymosan-activated plasma-, and LPS-injected sites, respectively).

To evaluate the role of ICAM-1 and the leukocyte integrins in the development of these hemorrhagic lesions, animals were pretreated with appropriate mAb. Administration of either antiCD18 or antiICAM-1 before both i.d. preparative and i.v. systemic challenge injections produced strong inhibition of the hemorrhagic response (Fig. 5). While that protocol showed that the hemorrhagic response was dependent on both CD18 and ICAM-1, it was not known whether these antibodies blocked a response to the preparative injection, or blocked some aspect of the response occurring after systemic complement activation. We therefore modified the protocol to administer mAb only before systemic challenge. Fig. 6 shows that strong (> 80%) inhibition of hemorrhage was obtained when either the CD18 or ICAM-1 molecule was occupied before complement activation. While mAb recognizing CD11b (Mac-1) produced significant inhibition (62%), mAb against CD11a (LFA-1) was without effect.

Fig. 7 photographically illustrates ICAM-1 expression on dermal vessels 20 h after the i.d. preparative injection of LPS. Such expression was seen on most venous vessels in the inflammatory sites, whereas ICAM-1 expression was only occasionally seen in PBS-injected skin, and with what appeared to be less intense staining.

Leukocytes were activated by i.v. zymosan (systemic activation of complement) as evidenced by increased binding of mAb reactive with either CD18, or CD11a (Mac-1). Fig. 8 *a* illustrates that a significant basal CD18 expression increased by threefold. Fig. 8 *b* shows that little binding of anti-CD11a occurred until after zymosan injection.

While intravascular adhesion of leukocytes to endothelium consistently occurred after i.v. challenge, the endothelium of animals pretreated with mAb reactive with CD18 was relatively free of adherent leukocytes (Fig. 9). Pretreatment with antiCD11b did not inhibit leukocyte-endothelial adhesion, but intravascular leukocyte-leukocyte aggregation was not seen (Fig. 11).

## Discussion

When complement is activated by i.v. zymosan 20 h after i.d. injection of endotoxin, hemorrhagic vasculitis ensues in those prepared skin sites. These Schwartzman-like lesions are characterized histologically by microthrombi, neutrophil aggregation, platelet and fibrin deposition, and later, massive extravasation of RBC. The requirement of the local preparative injection is absolute; microvascular damage of this sort is not produced simply by activating complement. No hemorrhage in normal or vehicle injected skin was detected after challenge.

It has been noted by several investigators (13, 14) that thrombosis and hemorrhage only follow challenge in i.d. sites where erythematous, inflammatory reactions developed in response to preparation. Several groups have shown (14, 20) that accumulation of <sup>51</sup>Cr-leukocytes peaks 3–4 h after the preparative injections, and that there was a direct, quantitative relationship between accumulation of leukocytes after preparation and the ensuing hemorrhage following challenge. Schwartzman-like lesions don't develop in neutropenic animals (21), injection of neutrophil-derived proteases produces vascular damage which, ultrastructurally, resembles Schwartzman lesions (22), and inhibition of leukocyte proteases effectively inhibits this hemorrhagic response (23). These observations imply a requirement for neutrophil accumulation in local areas after exposure to a suitable preparative agent.

Our data suggest a different neutrophil dependence than protease release from accumulated leukocytes. When leukocytes were allowed to accumulate in the skin after i.d. endotoxin, and then mAb directed against the CD18 leukocyte adhesion glycoprotein was administered as a single injection just before i.v. challenge, hemorrhagic lesions were dramatically inhibited. This observation suggests that leukocytes accumulated in the interstitium are not responsible for the ensuing hemorrhage, but that the intravascular leukocyte aggregation (Fig. 3) is what leads to the hemorrhagic response. Products of complement activation, as well as leukotrienes and bacterial chemotactic peptides activate neutrophils and stimulate, within minutes, the expression of preformed CD18 complex on the leukocyte plasma membrane. We have now demonstrated that this upregulation occurs after the challenge injection in these experiments. This suggests, therefore, that the activation of circulating leukocytes results in a CD18-dependent leukocyte-endothelial cell adhesion which is a necessary event for the development of Schwartzman-like lesions. Fig. 9 shows a representative dermal venule from an animal pretreated with an antiCD18 mAb (R15.7) just before challenge. Although a

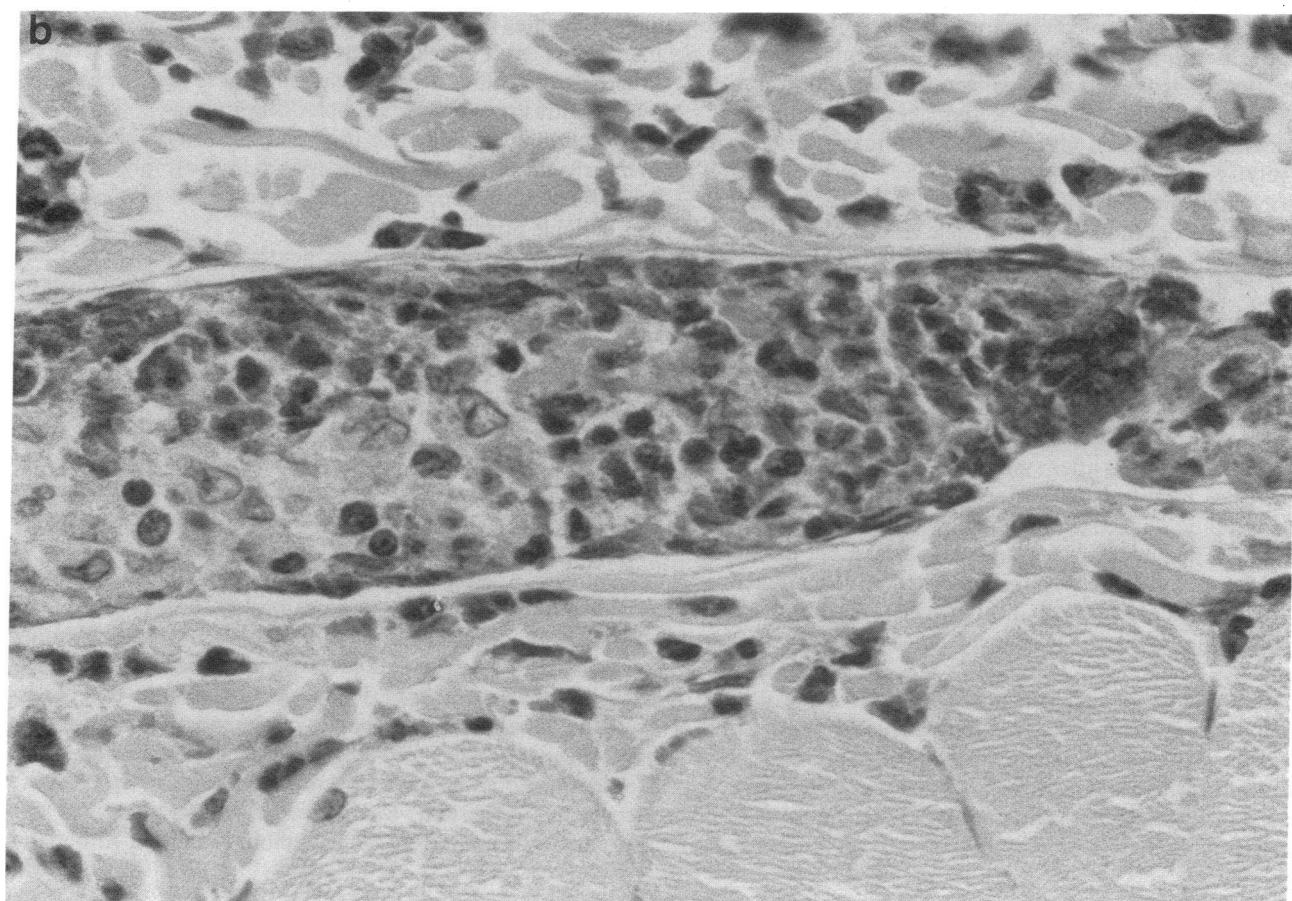
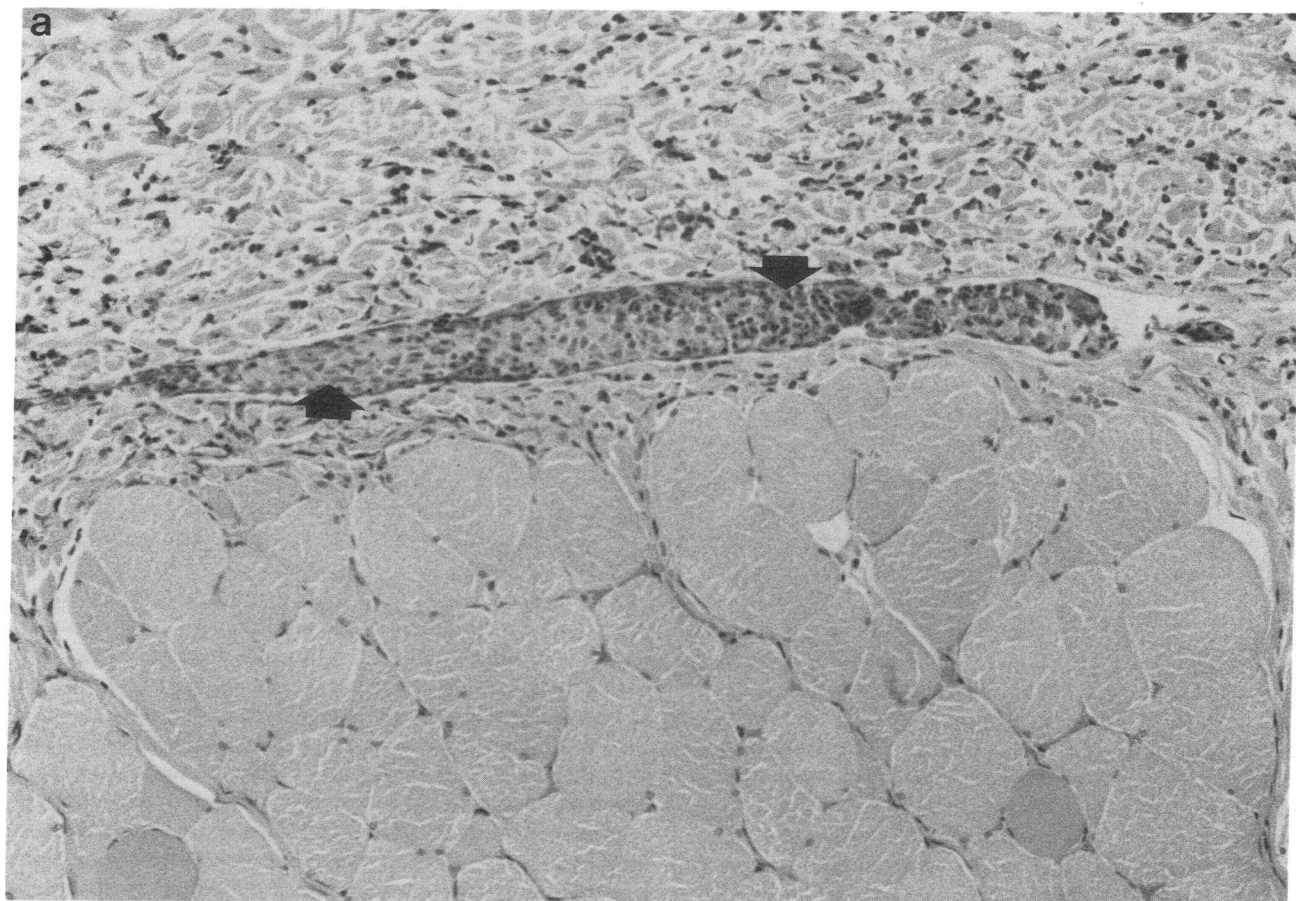


Figure 3

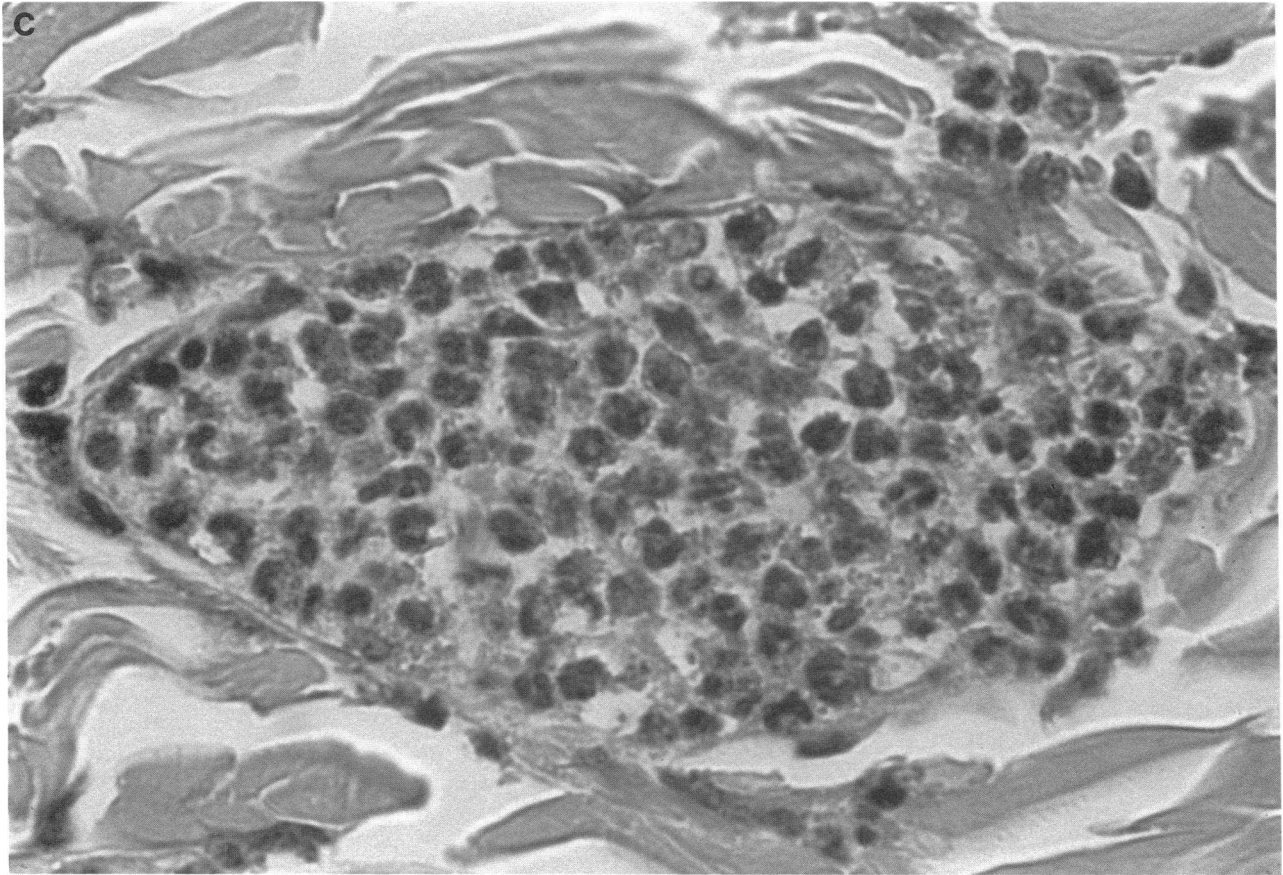


Figure 3. (a) and (b) Photomicrograph of rabbit skin, previously injected with 30  $\mu$ g LPS, 2 h after zymosan challenge. Superimposed on the leukocyte infiltration resulting from the LPS preparative injection (see Fig. 1 b), is seen intravascular leukocyte aggregation and thrombus formation (arrows),  $\times 300$  and  $\times 500$  (c). Another vessel from the same lesion, note intravascular plugging by leukocyte aggregate,  $\times 500$ .

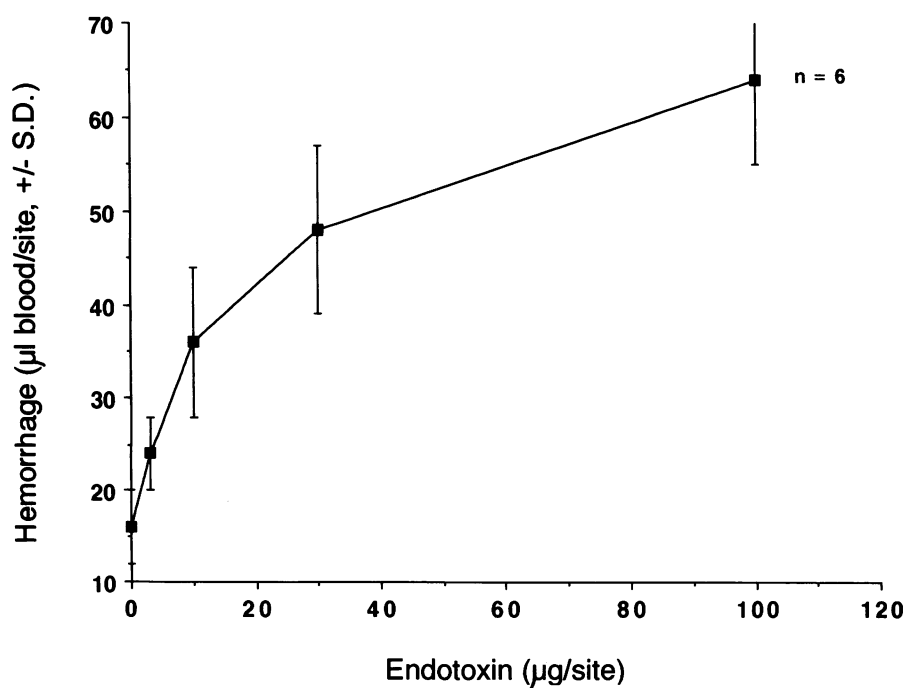


Figure 4. Quantitation of hemorrhage in Schwartzman lesions in rabbit skin. RBC's were labeled in vivo with  $^{99m}$ Tc. Intradermal injection of LPS was performed 20 h before i.v. injection of zymosan. 6 h after zymosan, hemorrhagic lesions (see Fig. 2) had developed. These lesions were removed, and  $^{99m}$ Tc activity in each was determined. It can be seen that a LPS dose-dependent hemorrhage has been produced.

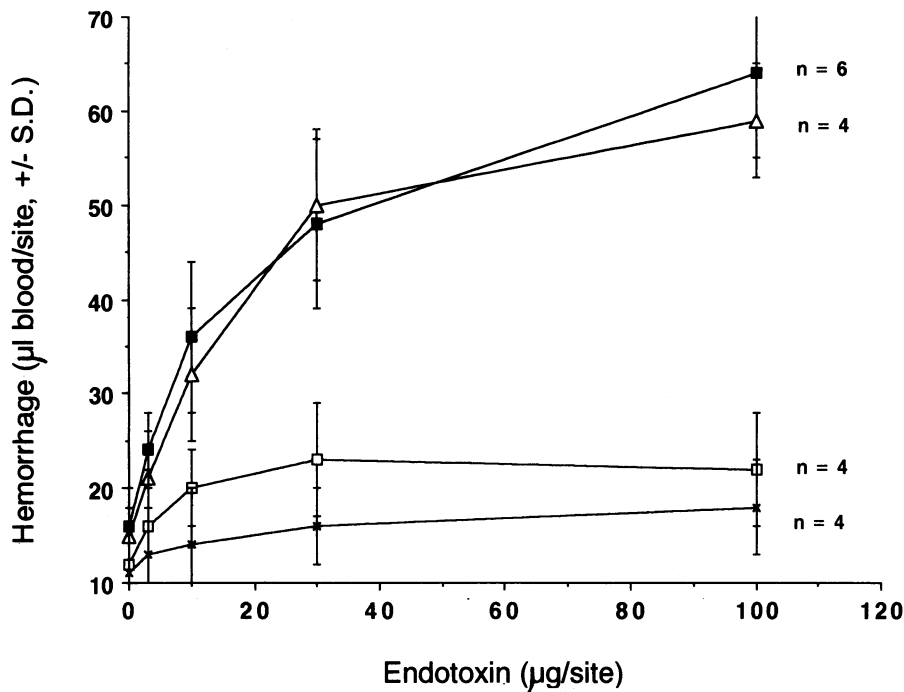


Figure 5. Schwartzman-induced hemorrhage in rabbit skin. Pretreatment of animals with mAb reactive with either CD18 (R15.7, X) or with ICAM-1 (R6.5, □) both before the i.d. preparative LPS injections and again just before the intravenous zymosan injection. Significant inhibition of the hemorrhagic response by either mAb was obtained. Mouse IgG (Δ) was administered as a control. All antibodies were administered at 2 mg/kg, i.v.

few neutrophils are adherent to the endothelium, most of the endothelial surface is free of adherent cells, and leukocyte aggregates as in Fig. 3 were not seen.

If extravasated leukocytes are not producing the vascular damage, what is the nature of the preparative injection? The strong inhibitory effect of an antiICAM-1 mAb suggests that ICAM-1 has been upregulated in areas treated with the preparative agent. Bacteria (14, 24), endotoxin (14, 24), IL-1 $\beta$  (20, 24), TNF $\alpha$  (24) have been used successfully as preparative agents for the Schwartzman response. Endotoxin and these cytokines have also been shown to induce ICAM-1 expression on cultured vascular endothelial cells (8, 9, 25), and our data demonstrate ICAM-1 upregulation in response to LPS in vivo. It is not sufficient to call leukocytes into a tissue to successfully

prepare a tissue for the Schwartzman reaction. While agents which can work as preparative agents do produce leukocyte accumulation in vivo, other chemotactic agents, such as fMLP which also produces local infiltration, do not prepare tissues for the Schwartzman response, although they can successfully challenge (26). We have found that i.d. C5a, while producing leukocyte accumulation (Fig. 10), will not support the Schwartzman response, and further, that C5a did not induce ICAM-1 expression on cultured endothelial cells (Dr. Christina Myers, personal communication). Rampart et al. (27) have shown that IL-1-induced neutrophil accumulation in rabbit skin can be blocked by protein synthesis inhibitors, while neutrophil influx in response to C5a, fMLP, and LTB $_4$  was unaffected. We therefore consider that the nature of preparation for Schwartzman-

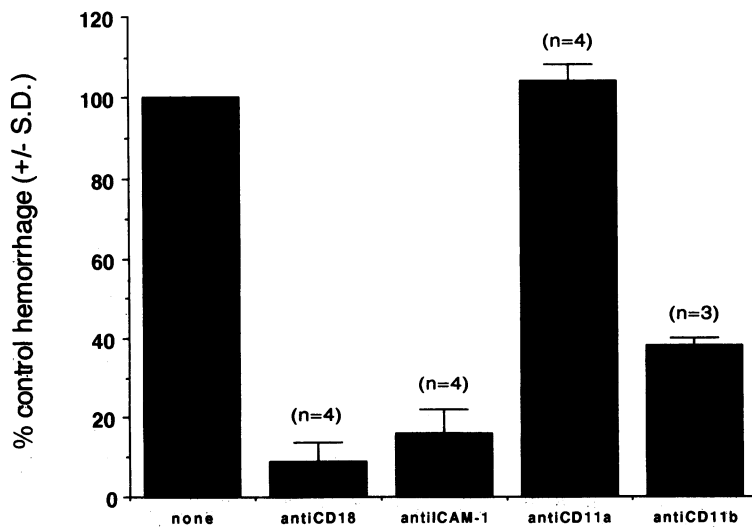


Figure 6. Effect of antiadhesion mAb on Schwartzman-induced hemorrhage in rabbit skin. In animals whose skin had been primed with i.d. LPS injections, mAb reactive with various adhesion molecules were administered i.v. at 2 mg/kg as a single dose, just before i.v. zymosan challenge. 6 h after challenge, the hemorrhagic lesions were removed from the skin, and the blood content of each was determined. The graph illustrates the effect of mAb on the 100  $\mu$ g LPS/site lesions. AntiCD18 and antiICAM-1 were both very effective at blocking the development of hemorrhage. AntiCD11a was not inhibitory, whereas antiCD11b inhibited hemorrhage by 62%.

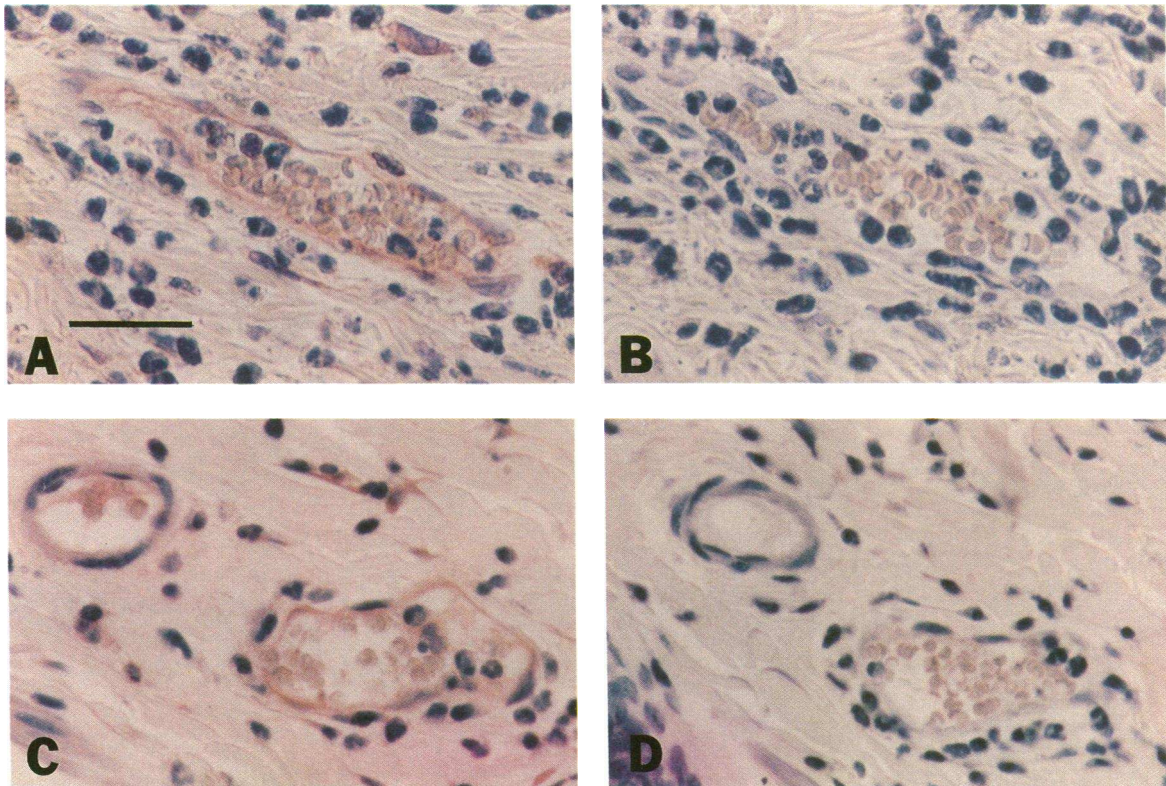


Figure 7. *A* and *C* illustrate the immunolocalization of ICAM-1 on rabbit dermal blood vessels 20 h after the intradermal injection of 3 µg *S. typhosa* endotoxin. R6.5 was used as primary mAb. Uniform staining of the endothelium is seen. The majority of vessels in endotoxin treated skin showed this ICAM-1 expression, whereas only an occasional vessel in saline injected skin stained for ICAM-1. *B* and *D* show the same vessels as in *A* and *C*, respectively, where mouse IgG (control) was used as primary mAb. No nonspecific staining is evident. Bar equals 50 µm.

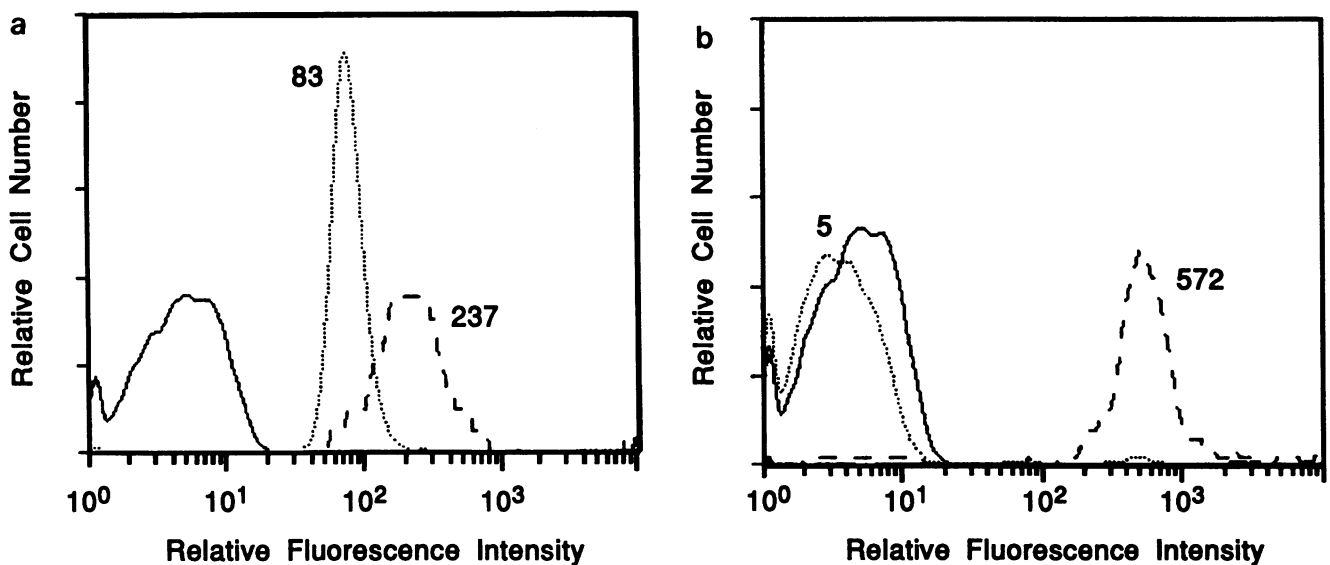


Figure 8. Flow cytometric analysis of rabbit blood before and 30 min after i.v. injection of zymosan (complement activation). (a) Normal rabbit leukocytes, not incubated with primary antibody, showed a low level of (auto)fluorescence. Significant basal CD18 expression was found on normal circulating leukocytes (mean fluorescence of 83) which increased threefold (mean fluorescence of 237) after challenge. (b) As assessed by mAb LM2, no CD11b (Mac-1) was detected on unstimulated leukocytes whereas zymosan challenge stimulated a dramatic upregulation of the CD11b antigen (mean fluorescence of 572). (Solid line represents normal control leukocytes not incubated with primary antibody.)



**Figure 9.** Histology of representative blood vessel from Schwartzman lesion in a rabbit pretreated with a mAb against CD18. Although this section shows some leukocyte-endothelial adhesion (*arrow*), most of the vessel surface is free of adherent cells (*asterisk*), and no leukocyte aggregates are seen. Hemorrhage was blocked by > 90% in these lesions,  $\times 300$ .

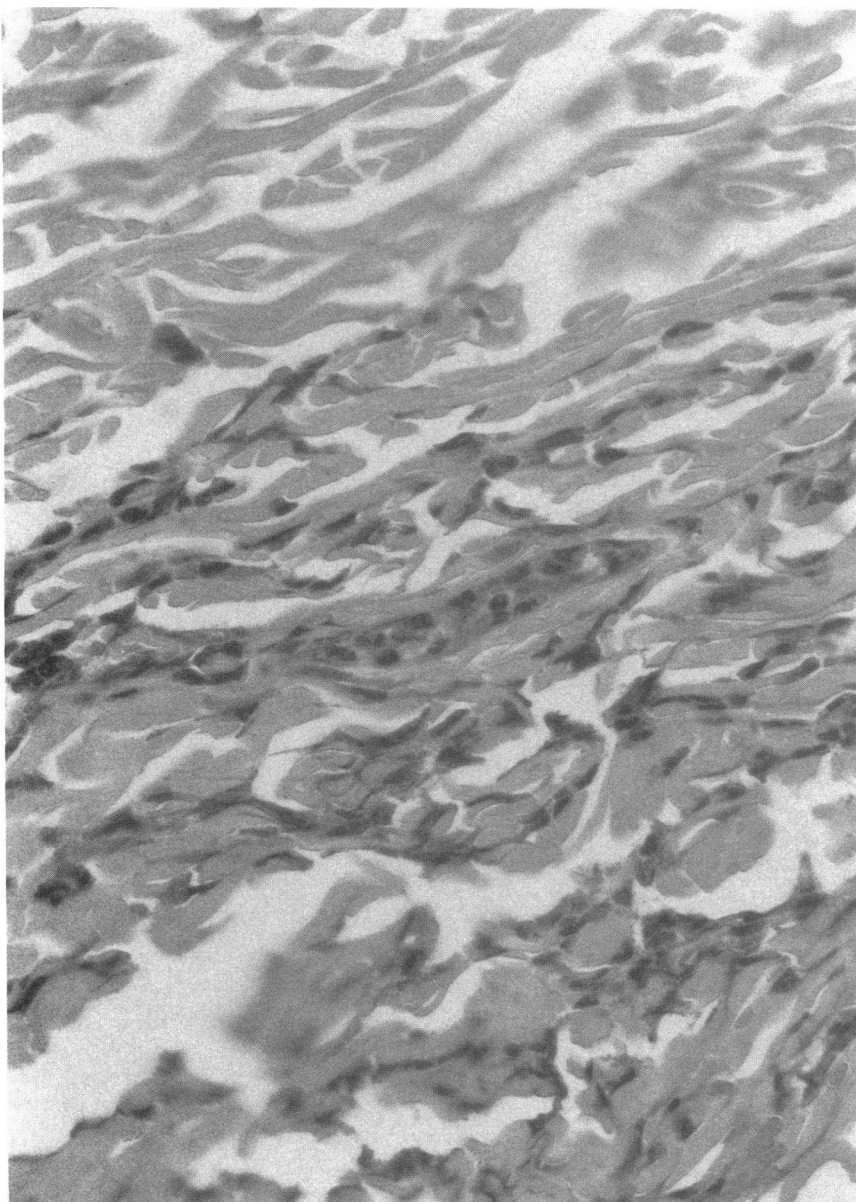
like inflammatory lesions is the upregulation of ICAM-1 on endothelium, and that the accumulated leukocytes in the interstitium after the preparative injection are as much a consequence of ICAM-1 upregulation as is the hemorrhage following challenge.

While these data suggest that a CD18-ICAM-1 dependent leukocyte-endothelial cell adhesion is necessary for this vasculitis to occur, intravascular leukocyte-leukocyte aggregation appears also to be required. Anderson et al. (18) demonstrated that human granulocytes aggregate in response to C5a *in vitro*, and that this aggregation was inhibited by 97% by the same antiCD11b (Mac-1) antibody used in our studies. Antibody recognizing CD11a (LFA-1) was not inhibitory. If one contrasts the intravascular aggregation seen in the uninhibited Schwartzman response (Fig. 3) with vessels from an animal pretreated with antiCD11b (Fig. 11), it is clear that while CD18/ICAM-1 dependent leukocyte adhesion was not completely inhibited as evidenced by a single layer of leukocytes adherent to the vessel surface, no leukocyte aggregation occurred, and hemorrhage was partially inhibited in these animals.

We have previously shown, by intravital microscopic ob-

servation of the mesenteric microcirculation in the rabbit, that mAb against CD11a and CD11b are effective in blocking the initial adhesion of C5a stimulated leukocytes to the vascular endothelium (28). Considering the observation that antiCD11a did not inhibit the Schwartzman hemorrhage, these data suggest that the initial CD18/ICAM-1 dependent leukocyte adhesion in the Schwartzman response is mediated by both LFA-1 and Mac-1. Inhibiting only LFA-1 will not block the hemorrhagic lesions. Inhibiting Mac-1 activity blocks both leukocyte-endothelial cell adhesion as well as leukocyte-leukocyte aggregation. Fig. 12 illustrates the proposed mechanism of the development of this "cytokine primed", intravascular leukocyte-mediated vascular damage.

There may be numerous conditions of human pathology which have as a basis events similar to those presented by this model. Complement-mediated neutrophil aggregation has been suggested as contributing to the tissue damage in various disease entities including adult respiratory distress syndrome (29), pancreatitis (30), and myocardial infarction (31). The multiple vascular thrombosis and tissue necrosis of the Schwartzman reaction has also been postulated as the pathogenic mecha-

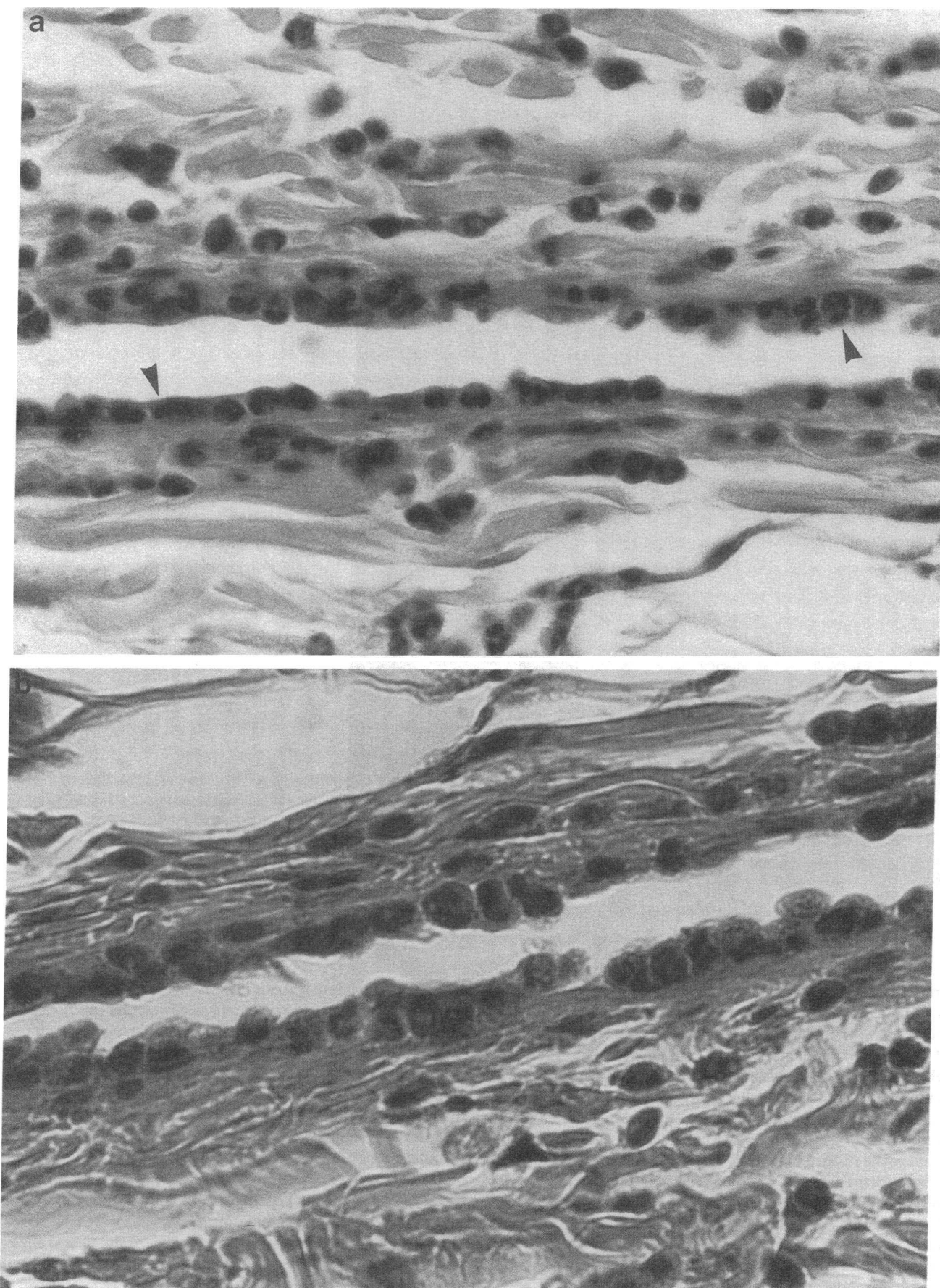


*Figure 10.* Histology of rabbit skin 20 h after the intradermal injection of C5a (100  $\mu$ l of zymosan-activated rabbit plasma). A marked dermal infiltrate of leukocytes has occurred, appearing similar in magnitude to that elicited by 30  $\mu$ g LPS (Fig. 1 c),  $\times 300$ .

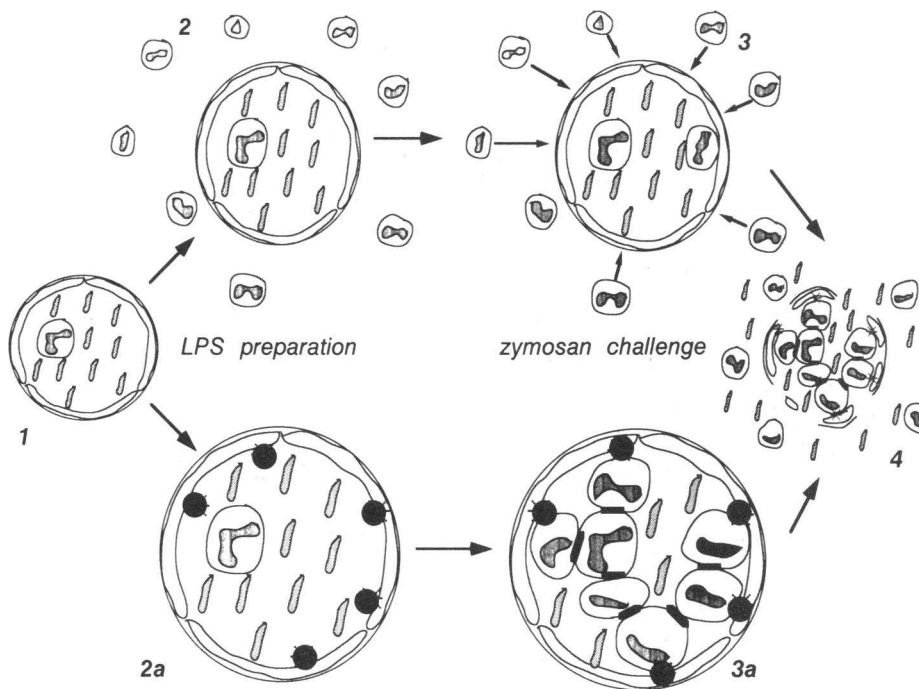
nism of disseminated intravascular coagulation (32). Hopkins et al. (33) have described intravascular leukocyte aggregation in association with increased circulating levels of complement split products in patients with SLE; leukocyte aggregates in cerebral and mesenteric vessels were associated with cerebral and bowel infarction. In another study of SLE patients, a direct correlation between neutrophil Mac-1 expression and clinical disease severity was reported, with Mac-1 levels returning to normal as the disease improved (34). Upregulation of ICAM-1 has been demonstrated on both vascular endothelium and proximal tubule epithelium in murine autoimmune lupus nephritis, and is coincident with increased levels of IL-1 and TNF in the kidney (35).

Whereas the Arthus reaction has often been considered as an animal model representative of immune complex-me-

diated vascular damage, the Schwartzman reaction may also have a correlate in human disease where vascular injury occurs without immune complex deposition. In referring to vasculitic syndromes, Fauci recently summarized "circulating immune complexes need not result in deposition of the complexes in blood vessels with ensuing vasculitis, and many patients with active vasculitis do not have demonstrable circulating or deposited immune complexes" (36). While cytokine priming (that is, stimulation of ICAM-1 and probably other endothelial cell adhesion molecules) may serve to direct leukocyte accumulation to infected tissues, sequential endothelial cell activation followed by activation of circulating leukocytes may lead to severe tissue damage. Further understanding of the role of adhesion events may provide ways to intervene in life-threatening, leukocyte-mediated inflammatory events.



**Figure 11.** Histology of 6-h old Shwartzman lesions in rabbit skin, showing the effect of administration of antiCD11b, 2 mg/kg, just before i.v. zymosan challenge. CD18/ICAM-1 dependent leukocyte-endothelial adhesion has not been completely inhibited as indicated by a single layer of leukocytes adherent to the vessel surface (*arrow*), but no leukocyte aggregation was seen in these skin sections. (a)  $\times 400$ ; (b) from another animal,  $\times 600$ .



**Figure 12.** Proposed mechanism of the development of Shwartzman lesions. The most accepted pathway from normal morphology, vessel 1, to hemorrhagic necrosis, vessel 4, involves the accumulation of extravascular leukocytes, vessel 2, in response to an agent capable of preparing the tissue for the Shwartzman response, in this case LPS. The challenge agent then leads to protease release from those leukocytes, vessel 3, thereby damaging the vessel and thus producing a hemorrhagic event. We propose an alternate mechanism. The critical effect of the preparative agent is the induction of increased ICAM-1 expression (●) on the vascular endothelium, vessel 2a. The challenge agent then activates circulating leukocytes, causing rapid expression of the CD18 complex which binds to vessels now expressing ICAM-1, vessel 3a. In addition to CD18/ICAM-1 leukocyte-endothelial adhesion, a leukocyte-leukocyte aggregation also appears to be required (■). This intravascular adhesion/aggregation of leukocytes damages the vessel wall, resulting in hemorrhagic necrosis.

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