

Of course they cannot be held responsible for not quoting work which had not been communicated to the public at the time their paper was first submitted, but we would call your readers' attention to the abstract on page 612 of the same edition of your Journal, of the paper given at Oak Ridge in June, 1964. In it a tentative multiple hit model is proposed not only to provide a meeting point between the two schools of thought, but also to explain the intermediate observations which agree with neither. The model is under active exploration.

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in so doing, our conclusion differed from the interpretation of Drs. Murphy and Mustard, we apologize for not so stating.

However, in the abstract from the symposium on blood platelets,³ they presented four pieces of evidence from which they adduced that "random destruction is the more important mechanism." Other workers⁴ have interpreted the data presented by Mustard and Murphy¹ as indicating that platelet destruction is random. Hopefully, additional data will clarify this and other problems of platelet kinetics.

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Rebuttal:

In their papers on the effects of heparin or Dicoumarol on platelet economy,^{1,2} Drs. Murphy and Mustard computed platelet survival on both an exponential and a linear model. They observed that these drugs prolonged the survival of platelets. If platelet destruction were determined by senescence, i.e. achieving a finite life span, survival curves would be linear and would not be prolonged by changes in the environment. In the absence of published survival curves, we were left to interpret these data as indicating predominantly random destruction. If,

References

1. Mustard, J. F. and Murphy, E. A.: Blood platelet economy during moderate and intensive heparin therapy. *Blood* 22:1, 1963.
2. — and —: Platelet economy during moderate and intensive dicoumarol therapy. *Lancet* 2:960, 1961.
2. —, — and Robinson, G. A.: The pattern of platelet destruction. *Blood* 20:765, 1962.
4. Aster, R. H. and Jandl, J. H.: Platelet sequestration in man. I. *Methods. J. Clin. Invest.* 43:843, 1964.

ERRATUM

In the paper by G. Sirchia, S. Ferrone and F. Mercuriali: "The Action of Two Sulfhydryl Compounds on Normal Human Red Cells. Relationship to Red Cells of Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria," published in *BLOOD* 25:502, 1965, a misprint appears. The first line on page 503 reads "for exactly 19 minutes" instead of "for exactly 9 minutes."