



F. A. Gries P. Weidmann (Eds.)

# Diabetes and Hypertension

With 39 Figures and 20 Tables

Springer-Verlag  
Berlin Heidelberg New York  
London Paris Tokyo

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ISBN-13: 978-3-540-18623-6 e-ISBN-13: 978-3-642-73232-4  
DOI: 10.1007/978-3-642-73232-4

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Diabetes and hypertension / F. A. Gries, P. Weidmann (eds.)

p. cm.

ISBN-13: 978-3-540-18623-6 (U.S.)

1. Hypertension. 2. Diabetes – Complications and sequelae.

I. Gries, F. A. (F. Arnold) II. Weidmann, Peter.

[DNLM: 1. Diabetes Mellitus – complications. 2. Hypertension – complications. WK 835 D5336]

RC685.H8D5 1988

616.4'62 – dc 19

DNLM/DLC

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2127/3140/543210

Herrn Prof. Dr. med. *Walter Puls*  
zum 65. Geburtstag gewidmet

## Preface

The association of diabetes mellitus and hypertension has been well known for a long time. However, the important impact of hypertension on the development of chronic complications of diabetes and on the prognosis of the diabetic patient has only recently been realized.

The increasing number of patients with endstage diabetic nephropathy who need regular dialysis or renal transplantation reflects only one important aspect of this problem. As new targets for the treatment of hypertension were considered, it became evident, that drug treatment of hypertension in diabetics must take side effects into account which may be negligible in the nondiabetic patient.

Basic research has granted much new insight into the mechanisms which function to link diabetes, kidney function, hypertension, and vascular disease.

As a result of the high specialisation in research, such new information diffuses only slowly out of the circles of experts into clinical practice. Therefore, it was a most rewarding initiative of the Bayer Company to sponsor a conference which aimed at a mutual exchange of ideas between clinicians and researchers who are experts in either hypertension or diabetes.

The presentations given at this conference, together with some of the discussions, are compiled in this booklet. Proceeding from epidemiology, specific risks of the hypertensive diabetic and morphology of the kidney and heart are described. Updated reviews on the role of eicosanoids, atrial-natriuretic peptide, and insulin are given, and finally, various aspects of therapy are discussed. It is hoped, that these reviews and special lectures may lead to a better understanding of the complex problems of diabetes and hypertension.

The editors would like to thank all the authors who guaranteed the success of the conference and who agreed to submit a manuscript, Dr. H. Höhner and Dr. L. Müller from the Bayer Company Leverkusen, FRG, for sponsorship and organisation of the conference, and Ms. H. Hensler-Fritton for her invaluable help in producing this volume.

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