

Reply

Drs Belardi and Lucertini have appropriately emphasized the difficulties in classifying aneurysms and have suggested a system that uses three categories: aneurysm, arteriomegaly, and aneurysmosis. Although we are aware of the clinical value of differentiating arteriomegaly from aneurysmosis, the Journal of Vascular Surgery has requested that all aneurysm papers use the reporting standards for aneurysms that were published in 1991.¹ Consequently, we reported our results with this classification system: “An aneurysm is a permanent localized (ie, focal) dilation of an artery, having at least a 50% increase in diameter compared to the expected normal diameter of the artery in question. Arteriomegaly is diffuse arterial enlargement involving several arterial segments, (ie, nonfocal) with an increase in diameter of greater than 50% by comparison to the expected normal diameter. Ectasia is characterized by dilation less than 50% of the normal arterial diameter.”¹ There is no category of “aneurysmosis” in this system.

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REFERENCE

1. Johnston KW, et al. Suggested standards for reporting on arterial aneurysms. *J Vasc Surg* 1991;13:452-8.

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