

**On a seldom-described artery (A. termatica) : with suggestions as to the names of the principal encephalic arteries / by Burt G. Wilder.**

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ON A SELDOM-DESCRIBED ARTERY (A. TERMATICA),  
WITH SUGGESTIONS AS TO THE NAMES OF THE  
PRINCIPAL ENCEPHALIC ARTERIES.

By BURT G. WILDER, M.D.

In all the human brains examined in the anatomical laboratory of Cornell University, in which the arteries were preserved and injected, there has been found the small artery which is shown in the preparation exhibited, and represented in my paper on "Encephalic Nomenclature" (*N. Y. Med. Jour.*, March 21, 1885, pp. 325, 327, figs. 1, 3). In that paper it was named *Arteria termatica* (termatic artery), from its location just cephalad of the terma (*lamina terminalis* or *l. cinerea*), which it also supplies with small branches. Its origin will be described presently. It usually divides soon into a right and left portion, which supply respectively the cinerea forming the surface of the triangular area ventrad of the rostrum, on either side, and then extend around the genu to the dorsal aspect of the callosum. The ultimate distribution has not yet been determined. The artery merits notice, both because it is *mesal* or *azygous* at its origin, and because, so far as I can ascertain, it has never been named or described, or accurately figured, although a few authors represent some short vessels as given off from the place of origin of the termatic.

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In making notes of observations upon this artery, I found somewhat irksome the repetition of even the abbreviations of the dionymic names commonly applied to some of the arteries at the base of the brain, and substituted the following mononyms, which I venture to recommend to this Association. The names *vertebralis* and *basilaris* need no improvement. With all the Latin names, of course, the word *Arteria* is understood, or its abbreviation *A.*, and after the English paronyms the word *artery*. The method of converting dionyms into mononyms is that which was first so aptly applied by Owen to the great veins, *præcava* and *postcava* (permitting the use of adjectives *precaval* or *postcaval*), and adopted by me for the encephalic commissures and some other parts in 1880 (see also "Anatomical Technology," pp. 14, 484, 485).

Common Latin names.	Proposed names.	English paronyms.	Abbreviations.
Vertebralis.	Vertebralis.	Vertebral.	<i>vrth.</i>
Basilaris. ( <i>az.</i> )	Basilaris.	Basilar.	<i>bslr.</i>
Cerebellaris superior.	Præcerebellaris.	Precerebellar.	<i>prcbl.</i>
Cerebellaris anterior.	Medicerebellaris.	Medicerebellar.	<i>mcbl.</i>
Cerebellaris inferior.	Postcerebellaris.	Postcerebellar.	<i>pcbl.</i>
Cerebralis anterior.	Præcerebralis.	Precerebral.	<i>prcb.</i>
Cerebralis media.	Medicerebralis.	Medicerebral.	<i>mcbl.</i>
Cerebralis posterior.	Postcerebralis.	Postcerebral.	<i>pcb.</i>
Communicans anterior. ( <i>az.</i> )	Præcommunicans.	Precommunicant.	<i>prcm.</i>
Communicans posterior.	Postcommunicans.	Postcommunicant.	<i>pcm.</i>
Choroidea anterior.	Præchoroidea.	Prechoroid.	<i>prchrd.</i>
Choroidea posterior.	Postchoroidea.	Postchoroid.	<i>pchrd.</i>

I have no name to propose for the very awkward dionymic eponym, *Circulus Willisii* (circle or pentagon or hexagon of Willis), but one is certainly desirable.

In six out of seven brains examined for the termatic artery, it was found to spring only once from a distinct precommunicant artery uniting the precerebrals, as commonly described. In the other cases, as in the preparation exhibited, it arose from the place of junction of the precerebrals, the precommunicant being wholly absent. The precerebrals are joined for only a few millimeters, and then separate again to follow their accustomed course.