James Bryan Herrick Encyclopedia Article

James Bryan Herrick

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James Bryan Herrick

1861-1954

American physician and cardiologist who published the first description of sickle cell anemia, including observations of the abnormal red blood cells that characterize this disorder. Eventually, scientists discovered that the disorder is a genetic disease caused by an abnormal form of hemoglobin, called hemoglobin S. The disorder is inherited and occurs predominantly in blacks. Herrick's medical practice and clinical research program developed a specialization in cardiovascular disease. Herrick published classical accounts of cardiovascular disease, including myocardial infarctions (heart attacks).