(third row, left to right). The symbols $\sigma$ and $\tau$ are used to distinguish the normal and shear components, respectively. It can be appreciated that the normal stress terms in the stress tensor are defined as those when $i = j$.

Emerel and colleagues are comparing the $\sigma_{qq}$ (the circumferential normal, aka “hoop,” stress) with $\sigma_{zz}$ (the axial normal stress), which they newly identified as relating to dissection risk.

Our literature is replete with the phrase “shear stress” with regard to the aorta. Emerel and colleagues have offered a different, and perhaps more pertinent, perspective on aortic wall stress.

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endothelial cells, with secondary effects on aortic wall remodeling.

Fortunately, my Commentary description of the role that wall shear stress may play in aortopathy and dissection remains relevant. Consider the Commentary, therefore, to complement, as well as compliment, the work of Emerel and colleagues.2

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