

## The New England Journal of Medicine

10 SHATTUCK STREET, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02115-TELEPHONE 617 / 734-9800

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY

OFFICE OF THE EDITOR

November 15, 1974

Henry Blackburn, M.D. School of Public Health Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene Stadium Gate 27 University of Minnesota Minneapolis, MN 55455

Dear Dr. Blackburn:

Thank you so much for submitting to the <u>Journal</u> "Professional Views on Atherosclerosis and Coronary Disease". There has been a bit of an argument about this essay, which accounts for the delay in my writing to you about it. However, the argument has been resolved and the <u>Journal</u> would be happy to accept this as a signed <u>editorial</u>.

My only request is that you introduce somewhere a reference to the article which this editorial summarizes rather than using the footnote which you have now on your title page, a procedure that is not in accordance with <u>Journal</u> practices. Thus, you might use the reference right after the sentence in the first paragraph stating "These I like to call the academic and the pragmatic views."

Sincerely yours,

Franz J (Ingelfinger M.D

FJI:mpp

Franz J. Ingelfinger, M.D. Editor
New England Journal of Medicine
10 Shattuck St.
Boston, Mass. 02115

Dear Dr. Ingelfinger:

The enclosed correspondence with Bob Schlant indicates why I send you a potential editorial.

Cordially,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.

HB/kn

enclosures

pc & editorial .

Robert C. Schlant, M.D. Director, Division of Cardiology Emory University School of Medicine 69 Butler Street, S.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Bob:

You response to my opinionated Progress atticle was thoughtful, kind, pleasing, reassuring and encouraging. I confess to being similarly impressed with the nature of your very direct public remarks last month at the Georgia Baptist Hospital luncheon. It is clear that there is something to be said for the pragmatic view of prevention in a society with an "epidemic" of coronaries, probably of cultural originss We would both surely prefer the dispassionate and balanced overview, but it sometimes takes the adversary approach to indicate the conceptual problem and to pierce the sometimes rigid academic armor!

I have entertained the idea of separate short editorials on "The Academic and Pragmatic Attitudes" and The Atherosclerosis Problem in Childhood" (enclosed), as parhaps having wider interest than to the readers of an expensive book for subspecialists. However, to date I've done nothing about them. Most editors I know are jealous of and insistent on the uniqueness of the material they accept to print. However, I will send them along to Dr. Ingelfinger for his opinion. Thanks.

Cordially.

Henry Blackburn, M.D. Professor and Director Professor of Medicine

HB/kn

## EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

THOMAS K. GLENN MEMORIAL BUILDING

	DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE	September 18, 1974
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The Woodruff Medical Center

## EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

THOMAS K. GLENN MEMORIAL BUILDING

69 BUTLER STREET, S. E. ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

September 18, 1974

Henry W. Blackburn, Jr., M. D. 2108 Oliver Avenue Minneapolis, Minnesota 55405

Dear Henry:

I would like to congratulate you on a superb chapter "Progress in the Epidemiology and Prevention of Coronary Heart Disease" from Progress in Cardiology, vol. III. I think you really have done a tremendous synthesis of a great amount of material. I was particularly intrigued by your discussion of the two polar attitudes. That discussion and the succeeding paragraphs to the end of the chapter are truly magnificent. I wish that somehow it would be possible to have it rewritten slightly and available as an editorial. Have you thought about taking the latter section and writing an editorial for a widely distributed journal. Perhaps the New England Journal of Medicine would have the widest distribution (next to the JAMA) and it certainly might be something that Dr. Inglefinger might be interested in. I would think Dr. Grace and the American Journal of Medicine would be similarly interested in a provocative editorial such as that and also certainly the American Journal of Cardiology which I know would be very interested in it.

You really have done a superb job in crystalizing and expressing the current state of knowledge.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Schlant, M. D.

Professor of Medicine (Cardiology)

Director, Division of Cardiology

S/k

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