

DIVISION OF BIOMETRY
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May 16, 1974

Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Professor and Director
Heart Attack Prevention Program
Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene
School of Public Health
Stadium Gate 27

File complete

Dear Henry:

I have a confession to make. A few weeks ago a charming young lady came to my house and asked if I would be interested in attending a screening visit for something called a Heart Attack Prevention Program. I indicated to her that I had an involvement in such a study and that, if I were to become eligible, my involvement may make me particularly inappropriate as a Usual Care participant and even a bad risk as a Special Intervention type. She had been informed by some of our neighbors that I had "an association" with the project so she didn't express skepticism of this possibility.

She did however express the view that if "such as me" should be excluded she would rather it be done by the staff at the Lab and not by herself. At that point I, of course, could, and perhaps should, have refused further participation. However, I was interested in the questions that were to be asked and rather than waste her time with my inquiries and then have the visit end as a refusal on her record, I also let her make an appointment for me at Mayflower Church for the following Saturday.

I had the best of intentions of mentioning this to either you or Henry T before the appointment but the opportunity didn't seem to come opportunely. Any fantasy thoughts of anonymity on my part were quickly dispelled when the ECG tech turned out to be a former student from Fall Quarter. Just this week I received the screening results and, as I had privately predicted, I am not risk-eligible. In fact, Henry, I am at such low-risk that I might just give someone a heart attack, rather than have one myself. I don't smoke cigarettes, DBP was 68 and my cholesterol 157. If I have a CHD episode in the next six years I shall have to blame my personality type - whatever it is - or "life events".

In any case I thought I should confess to having a primary screen "record" and although I could have refused, the invitation to participate by your effective staff person was too hard to resist. I must say I was impressed with the smoothness of the operation at the screen and was grateful for the chance to see it first hand from a potential participant's view.



HEALTH SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Hope my confession leads to any necessary absolution.

Cheers,

Marc

Marcus O. Kjelsberg, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and
Director

MOK/es

P.S. (Forgive the inappropriateness of a critical note tacked on to a confession, but the letter accompanying the Form 10 report refers to items 7,8,9 and 10. That is a bit confusing since they are not so identified in the copy the ineligible participant receives.

*sent 5/17
pc to
Lyons
Jean
reconcile
for me, please
Thanks. HB.*

*Jean doesn't understand this
+ wants to talk
to you -*