

December 24, 1975

Robert M. Kohn, M.D.
Department of Medicine
State University of New York at Buffalo
100 High Street
Buffalo, NY 14203

Dear Bob,

Thank you for your 15th of December letter. It was one of my greatest disappointments to miss the week in Israel. My son underwent second surgery last week and hopefully he will get home in time for Christmas. It is a long and complicated story and he faces many complicated bone grafts and artificial joint procedures over the next months. He may end up with something like a functional hand (but hardly for piano playing!).

The Serial ECG paper was a tour de force on the part of Tomi and myself. It was purely methodological research. We received prior approval that this was a needed methodological study which should be recognized as the authors' individual effort. I still see no reason why everybody's name can't be mentioned at the end, and the work of the people who so faithfully gathered the data be recognized in the usual way.

I am looking to Dr. Prineas who has effectively led the ECG center here in recent years to take all initiative for CDP ECG analyses along with Dave Jacobs who's now with us here. It appears that the Baltimore Coordinating Center is doing its part and presumably things will move forward. I will not myself be pushing these matters because of heavy administrative, organizational and planning functions to keep the Laboratory vigorous and viable. The working in such interesting data will be a luxury for me in the coming period.

I think the idea of a meeting in February in New Orleans is very appropriate.

Cordially yours,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.

HB:jp

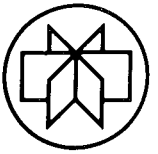
pc: P. Canner

R. Prineas

D. Jacobs

J. Stamler

} E pc of Kohn letter



DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

*pc R.P.
D.J.*

Reply on page

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

School of Medicine

Buffalo General Hospital

December 15, 1975

RECEIVED

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LAB OF PHYSIOLOGICAL
HYGIENE

Dr. Henry Blackburn
Laboratory of Physiologic Hygiene
Stadium Gate 27
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Henry:

I was distressed to hear of your son's accident, and missed being with you at the Israel meeting. I hope by now your son is improving.

Thank you for sending the rejected ECG classification paper. I've also been looking at the material that Paul Canner forwarded. We certainly have collected alot of data!

Has any consideration been given to submitting the classification paper to another journal? One referee was obviously opposed to the concept of the CDP, and his comments reflect this prejudice. Some of the questions raised by the second referee might be handled by a brief rewrite of appropriate sections.

As far as the other data are concerned, I should like to see them brought up to date to include the total follow-up period. Also, it would be interesting to see an analysis of the various treatment groups to determine if these sub-groups have the same prognostic predictive factors operative that the placebo group had.

Perhaps the whole committee should have another telephone conference, or perhaps a face to face meeting (New Orleans?) to kick the whole thing around and make definite writing assignments to get the work done.

Incidentally, I note that the rejected paper had individual authorship, with an appended list of CDP participants. It had been my impression that all CDP papers were to be published from the CDP group without individual author identity. However, in the EKG paper I think Dr. Tominga had a unique contribution, and should be given some authorship credit. In that case, I would see no need to list the entire CDP group in an appendix. This is a problem the Editorial and Steering committees should address as a matter of future policy.

I recognize that all of us are too busy, but somebody is going to have to act as chairman and whip us all into line. I presume that you are that individual. Good luck.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Kohn, M.D.

RMK:mb
cc: Paul Canner