

October 1, 1974

Curtis L. Meinert, Ph.D.
Division of Clinical Investigation
610 West Lombard Street
University of Maryland
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Dear Curt:

Thanks for your Sept. 20 note about work in CDP Natural History. As you know, we would be happy to continue natural history analyses in CDP. We believe that the committee could join in an application originating with the Co-ordinating Center which would strengthen the possibility of continued exploitation of these data. However, we will do whatever appears most acceptable and appropriate to all concerned. Obviously, a mechanism for continued follow-up of cause-specific disability and death in CDP would greatly expand the value of continued analyses.

We can understand but cannot agree with Max Halperin about concentrating on particular characteristics of interest for individual CDP publications. There are many precedents for pursuing categorical analyses, in the context, of course, of the confounding factors.

Regards,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.

cc: J. Stamler
D. Jacobs

HB/kn *S. Tomlinson*

done
10/1/74

g-jk

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September 20, 1974



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Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene
University of Minnesota
Stadium Gate 27
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Dr. Jeremiah Stamler
Community Health & Preventive Medicine
Northwestern University, Medical School
303 East Chicago Avenue
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Dear Henry and Jerry:

At this point it is difficult to think very far beyond our forthcoming series of meetings in the CDP concerning termination of treatments in that study and the future of the CDPA. Nevertheless it is necessary to do so in order to get things in order for the November 7th meeting of the CDP Natural History Committee. I will, with the help of others here, undertake preparation of the agenda for that meeting but I would appreciate input from the two of you in doing so. As agreed at our meeting in Chicago on September 5th, we will want to discuss the future role of this committee as the CDP winds down and the possibility of expanding the functions of this committee to assume some advisory role in analyses designed to evaluate treatment differences, particularly once the business of the Data Monitoring Committee is completed.

A second item to be covered is the review of the status of various paperwriting activities now underway.

We also agreed during a corridor conversation with Max to make time for a reassessment of our present paperwriting policy in the natural history area. His questions, if I understand them correctly, relate to whether or not it is wise to prepare a paper such as the one dealing with lipids. I believe his concern is that proceeding in this way and taking it out of the context of the 40-variable paper may very well give a somewhat misleading impression as to the relative importance of lipids compared to other important baseline characteristics.

I have communicated Bernie Lewis' request for further breakdown of the cholesterol and triglyceride values into a low density component and have suggested certain kinds of analyses in this area. It would be useful if these are completed by the time of our meeting to review these and obtain comments and suggestions for added analyses along this line.

Dr. Henry W. Blackburn
Dr. Jeremiah Stamler
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Please drop me a note if you have any other suggestions for agenda items for the November 7th meeting.

Sincerely,



Curtis L. Meinert, Ph.D.
Professor

CLM:neg

cc: Dr. P. Canner
Dr. C. Klimt
Dr. G. Knatterud
Dr. W. Krol