

March 16, 1966

Memo

To: N. Schulz, B. Parlin, H. Taylor and A. Keys

From: Henry Blackburn, M.D.

Re: Normal Cardiovascular Cohort

Reference is made to the memo of 7/10/64 on screening normal cohorts in all population data. We should proceed to screen the first round group of railroad cards to produce a "normal cardiovascular cohort" defined as a group free of major heart, respiratory and vascular disease. As suggested in the 7/10/64 memo it would simplify future operations if the analysis cards of the "normal cardiovascular cohort" were assigned an identifying punch code. I assume this was never done.

The cardiovascular and related items excluded from the total to produce the normal cardiovascular cohort are those Norris has assigned Roman Numerals I, II, and IV. (e.g. Clinical History of heart attack, stroke, diabetes, findings of diastolic murmur, definite or possible heart disease, peripheral and cerebral vascular disease, x-ray evidence of definite cardiomegaly or aortic aneurysm, and certain major ECG items).

For study purposes this cohort should be called hereafter the "normal cardiovascular cohort". It should be identified in railroad data by April 1st and in a regular order thereafter for all first-round international data.

A separate cohort should be identified which is free of items III and V and called "normal respiratory cohort".

Excluded items for cardiovascular and respiratory groups are not mutually exclusive, and many occur in the same individual.

HB:z