March 14, 1974

Dr. Richard B. Shekelle
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Dear Rick:

On the WCGS data recently (March 4) forwarded us by S. Grube, there are a series of t values. Presumably these represent adjusted t values,— the t for regression coefficients in the simultaneous solution with other risk elements?

I would like to see a more rigorous, or at least more comprehensible, analysis using a basic 3 or 4 factor risk score to predict cases in the upper and lower fractiles, then seeing whether the addition of Rosenman-Friedman types to the equation increases the discrimination (and the concentration of cases in the upper fractile of risk).

I wonder if you might be able to get a run like this out of the WCGS. I think, despite the "significant t value", that if we find the added discrimination small, over and above "our" multiple risk score, it would not support massive retesting of this hypothesis. In other words, the evidence of "significant" independent contribution may not be really important.

Regards,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.

HB:jp
cc: O. Paul
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