

January 29, 1975

Mr. Gordon Slowut
Minneapolis Star and Tribune
425 Portland Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear Gordy,

I was really sad to miss the pleasant occasion on Marco Island this year but enjoyed your prompt and concise releases. As you may know there is a concern on the part of the Lipid Research Centers about the negative results in the Coronary Drug Project since they are also embarking on a major program based on lipid reducing effects of a drug. There are a number of differences however in that the Lipid Research Center project is directed toward primary prevention before the heart attack rather than in older groups of post-heart attack victims such as the Coronary Drug Project. It is even conceivable there will be some confusion in the minds of our MRFIT participants about the negative effects of this experiment though the results are largely irrelevant to the MRFIT project which is in primary prevention and intervenes on multiple factors and much earlier in the disease process. It is conceivable that an explanatory interview with Dr. Ivan Frantz who is most immediately concerned with the Lipid Research Program would be helpful and newsworthy.

Thanks for your unnecessary but appreciated remark that Ross and Stamler were substituting for me, wounded as I am. I am a little bit tired of taking adversary positions in debate but had looked forward with considerable relish to using Rosenman and Friedman's own quotations from their book to puncture some of their folk medicine and nonsense.

Cordially,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Professor and Director, and
Professor of Medicine

HR:jp

*Send him my love
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editorial.*