



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
TWIN CITIES

*Copies - Simmons*

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December 20, 1982

Reuel A. Stallones, M.D., M.P.H., Dean  
School of Public Health  
The University of Texas  
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P.O. Box 20186  
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Dear Stoney:

I really do feel the need for you to look at the section on the shape of the cholesterol coronary relationship and that on concordant and discordant population and individual correlations. I am also not very happy with the time integrated risk exposure which is a little weak in spots. I think there are some ideas here and I would personally be grateful for your response to them.

You will not be surprised to hear that your review of nutrition and coronary disease from which I expected so much missed the mark in many regards, including your inordinate emphasis on a bunch of actually junky trials, your absolute unqualification of the MRFIT results, when it is really a very difficult and a very complex situation, your failure to discuss basic issues of causality and the development of public health policy based on the best evidence. I guess I don't mind expressing a very real alarm at a person of your perspicacity, maturity and judgment expressing the opinion that MRFIT puts a nail in the coffin. I am puzzled by your giving so much relevance to any of the high risk trials, controlled or uncontrolled.

Fortunately, ideas about the universe continue to be based on congruent observations and not on any experiment. Obviously, there are gaps in the evidence and alot of problems with it but what you regard as important evidence puzzles me to no end. The presentation in Osaka didn't allow you to really arrive at any conclusions, discussion or recommendations. I hope I can get a preprint to see what you really feel about the issue since your recitation of the facts did not lead to their integration.

December 20, 1982

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We had a delightful day at Katsura. It would be nice to be rich enough to engage in such purity of thought and design in architecture.

Cordially,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.  
Professor and Director

/jml

Enclosure ; *ACQ CHICAGO NOV. 12/20/82 JML*

(Dictated by, but sent in the absence of, Dr. Henry Blackburn)