

March 24, 1975

Jeremiah Stamler, M.D.  
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Dear Jerry,

This is in reply to your March 6 letter concerning Dr. Harrison's presentation of baseline BCG data. I also don't know what our responsibility is in the ancillary study reports. However, if we follow policy the materials presented in CDP studies, ancillary or otherwise, have always been based on a common knowledge of materials pre-circulated or already published. None of us has had the pleasure of seeing any of Dr. Harrison's data under any circumstances, even the Principal Investigators in the ancillary projects. I think it is highly inappropriate for him to request this privilege of presentation without at least simultaneously circulating the material he plans to present. If we have any stand to take at all in this I would suggest that we approve his presentation, that is accepting the invitation to present data, and that we indicate that prior to the presentation the material should be circulated among the Principal Investigators of the BCG ancillary project. Dr. Harrison has never shown any evidence of understanding the nature of collaborative study and appears not to do so now. I for one am disgusted with the whole performance of that ancillary study and would insist on this particular point of seeing the data before he presents it publicly. I am speaking primarily as a person in part responsible for the ancillary study and have no way of knowing whether the CDBA Editorial Board has any authority in this issue, but presumably it would if he is identifying his work with the CDP subjects and presenting other data than BCG on them. It is also not clear in your letter whether an abstract will be published or a Proceedings of the Conference will be published, in which case I feel even more strongly about this lack of collaborative spirit.

Sincerely,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.

PC: H. L. Taylor  
HB: jp

CDP