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TO: Richard Gillum
FROM: Henry Blackburn
SUBJECT: Coronary Heart Disease Mortality Trends in Minnesota, 1960-78

The article is really a marvelous reduction of a large mass of material.

I think you ought to discuss either under Methods or in the Discussion more details about transition and adjustment for ICDA codes 7 and 8.

I have the following suggestions for the abstract:

Line 3 - cross out "during the period". At the end of that line, "decline" should be singular.

Line 5 - cross out "levels of" and cross out "throughout" so that it reads "The northeast region had the highest CHD mortality."

Halfway down the page, a sentence begins "the authors conclude"; I would like a paragraph there and it should read "The authors conclude that:".

Then in Section 4 of that paragraph, I suggest re-wording as follows: "Regions differed in mortality rates for hypertension in the same way as they did in CHD mortality, but differed little in stroke mortality. This leaves unclear the role of hypertension in regional differences;".

Section 5 should read: "Trends in death and mortality indicate that a general decline in mortality, due to factors affecting a wide variety of diseases, does not explain the downward trends in CHD mortality."

A question here on Section 4. What is unclear about the role of hypertension in regional differences? Regional differences in coronary, or in total, or in stroke mortality? Please specify.