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TWIN CITIES

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Copies - Keys

July 20, 1982

TO: Ancel Keys
FROM: Henry Blackburn
SUBJECT: Berlin Manuscript

B

With Dave Jacobs' help, I took on the enclosed discussion of discrepancies and controversy for the Berlin manuscript. It was well received, though, of course, it doesn't resolve anything.

If you find "nonsense," I'd like to hear about it. I didn't feel I should mention your 15 year analyses. It is some months from publication.

I hope that you, and we, can be prepared for the publicity you will receive on publication of "Cholesterol and 15 Year Mortality." If you have a statement prepared on the implications, I'd enjoy reading it so we might respond as nearly together as possible:

- 1) Implications for MDs advice for the individual patient
- 2) Implications to the diet-heart theory, of which you are considered the originator.
- 3) Implications for public policy in diet.

Please don't misinterpret again my asking for your opinion on implications for policy as "suppressing the evidence." It's just that we must be prepared for a rather profound reaction to this analysis by you, since you don't take up these implications in the presentation. Mann, Harper, Olson and company will have their greatest field day, just at the time when we're trying to get whole communities to change their eating pattern. Responsible interpretation by you, the source, is essential to public health policy. Thanks.

/jml

Enclosures: *KEYS LETTER (ATTACHED) AND W. BERLIN MS.*

*7/22/82
JM*

84060 Pioppi (SA), Italy
28 June 1982

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Dear Henry,

Sorry, but not surprised, that Daan Kromhout's application got a low priority. From what I gather, even high priorities are apt to be low in actual funding. I presume that Alessandro Menotti, due here shortly, will fill me in and advise what, if any, may be next.

Re the cholesterol-cancer ms., I've had responses from Alessandro, Sven, and Andy Dostas, all OK except that Alessandro wants to have Susanna Conti on the title page and Andy hints that another Greek should be there. Susanna did major programming and Adrian Corcondilas did major mortality follow-up for Greece. So I propose to add both of them and also Toshima to the author list.

great

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Andy thought we should distinguish early and later cancer deaths and I agree. As a result, I separated out the cancer deaths in the first five years, Margaret helping in that tedious job with the printout of the T Deck from Rome. The result is incorporated in Table 2 and text sent herewith. There was also lots of work to get rid of a couple of very minor number discrepancies and tighten the text as well as do the calculations for the early cancer deaths, etc. All would be done in final form to send off to a journal were it not for the fact that I lack multiple logistic solutions for the cancer deaths omitting those in the first five years. I strongly suspect that when these are at hand the indications of an inverse relationship in the previous logistic solutions for total 15-year experience will disappear or be much reduced. But I must wait for the computer runs I am asking to be done in Rome as soon as Alessandro gets back.

yes

Carrie, Nino and Anna arrived here last week in the heat of what turned out to be the hottest period in our 18 years' experience in these parts. Not a breath of wind, the sea a mirror and the thermometer in the shade at 85 at 6 a.m. rising to near 100 from noon to 5 p.m. In Sicily 110 was registered and the heat and drought have done much damage to crops. So Angelo and I water at least 4 hours a day. But yesterday the weather broke, the evening was gorgeous and this morning perfect, dry air, gentle breeze, 75° blue sky and sea.

Jerry and Rose are due tonight and we are due to spend a couple of days starting July 1st at a "Simposo Internazionale su Alimentazione e Salute" at a new luxury hotel on the seaside near Sapri. Pressing invitations to participate came by phone and I declined on the basis of the presence of Carrie and Co. but it was insisted they too would be guests and would like the two swimming pools, the sand beach, three tennis courts, etc. and I am asked only to talk for a few minutes, in English, so we plan to go. I'll give this letter and Xerox copies I'll have made in Vallo to Carrie who will be back in Minnesota on the 5th, quicker than sending this by post. We'll be back on July 16th.

Regards to all. Please share this with HLT.


Ancel Keys