

19 May 1982

Corres - Keys

Henry Blackburn:

Thanks for going over the ms. "Serum cholesterol and 15-year cancer mortality." I don't mind shortening the title as you suggest and written above but I think many potential readers might like to more specifically know what the paper is about. Hence my preference for the inclusion of "men 40 to 59." Let us see what others think. *fine*

Sorry about the occasional typo. My typing is non-professional, my typewriter has no built-in correction, and when I read what I have typed I tend to make the mental correction without doing it physically.

It is true that Table 4 indicates that systolic blood pressure and body mass index are much more important risk factors for 15-year cancer death than serum cholesterol. That the risk increases with increasing blood pressure is not surprising; high blood pressure is our general enemy number two, age being number one. The increase in risk with decreasing relative body weight is something else and merits attention. However, I'd rather not get into the discussion here where the issue is serum cholesterol. I think of another paper on relative weight as a risk factor for CHD, and all-causes death as well as for cancer death. *good*

Currently I am putting data into shape for the analysis of relative body weight and the 15-year experience but a good deal of work lies ahead on quadratic and other curvilinear equations and models.

About your last point regarding mechanisms, I'll give it thought.

OK

sent 5/19/82 CB

*You have secretariat
service here (K. King)
when & if you want it.*