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TO: MHP Executive Board
FROM: Henry Blackburn
SUBJECT: Society of Clinical Trials Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA.

I have accepted to talk about issues in community trials and demonstrations at the Society of Clinical Trials Meeting in Pittsburgh. (Contact person: Curt Furberg, NIH). The tentative program includes: 1) what questions are answered by community versus conventional trials, 2) issues of recruitment of communities in the absence of informed consent, 3) problems and accomplishments in the educational program, 4) design and analysis and education process evaluation, 5) implications for the future.

It appears to me that this is being set up by people who are critical or even antagonistic to community trials and that the main purpose of it is to air these criticisms and responses. It was felt that our first presentation at the Epidemiology Council last spring was show-and-tell with inadequate consideration of the problems. In general that is correct. At any rate, we should be well represented and I have agreed to participate in a two hour session on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 4th. We will discuss whether others of us should be represented instead of, or in addition to me. I have not been assigned a specific topic at this time but will keep you posted on developments.

HB/jml

Could be a good challenge!
R.L.