



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

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Dr. R.F. Altman
Ministério da Saúde
Fundação Oswaldo Cruz
Cx. Postal, 926-CEP 20 000
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
South America

Dear Dr. Altman:

Thank you for the copy of your Ms.: "Progression and Regression of Atherosclerosis: A Review".

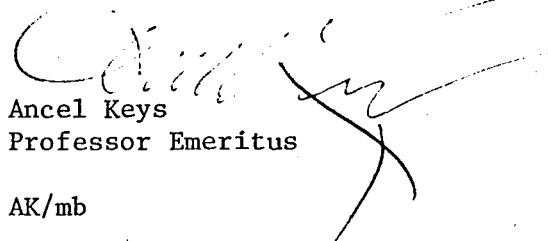
I am interested in your emphasis on the phospholipids and their interaction with cholesterol and the possible relation to atherogenesis. But I confess that even your admirable statement of the evidence of those views leaves me still somewhat doubtful.

The question of HDL on alpha lipoprotein cholesterol interests me very much, of course. I feel that current claims for its protective power are quite unwarranted. Long-time prospective data are absent except from my own cohorts of Minnesota men, followed from 1953 through 1978 and the men we examined in Finland in 1956. I have just finished the follow-up of those men through 1980 but the analysis of the data is still in progress.

I am puzzled by the figures for "mg %" in plasma, man, women in your Table 1, p. 5a. Are those figures supposed to be averages, or normal means, or what? Certainly we must consider the statistical distributions and age.

I wish you success in your continued study of these important problems.

Sincerely,



Ancel Keys
Professor Emeritus

AK/mb