

COPY

410 Groveland Ave. No. 802  
Minneapolis MN 55403  
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Dr. Henry Blackburn, Mayo Professor  
Division of Epidemiology,  
School of Public Health  
University of Minnesota  
1300 South Second Street  
Suite 300  
Minneapolis MN 55454-1015.

Dear Henry,

Tom Strasser has sent you what I think is a copy of Kannel's Ancel Keys 1994 lecture. I think this should be discussed in the ms. on the railroad men. With my terrible vision I cannot read the ms. in full but I think we should comment that the Framingham data includes men younger than age 40 so the analysis is not comparable to the analyses restricted to men aged 40-59 as in our studies. It may be that body mass index is a risk factor for relatively young men but we deal with middle-aged men at entry.

I thought perhaps our exclusion of prevalence men would make a difference but I enclose a copy of the US railroad finding when prevalence is not excluded. BMI does not distinguish 25-year dead and alive.

I have also made the analysis on the U.S. railroad men restricted to men under age 50 at entry. Entry BMI does not distinguish the survivors from the men dead in 25 years.

In the Framingham data I have not seen the age distribution and I'd like to see the relation of 25-year deaths to body mass index in men aged 40 to 59 to compare with our analyses. Also I would like to point out that Framingham subjects are not a sample of a defined population; a third of the subjects are volunteers. Can you write a few lines on the age, and perhaps on the samples for the ms?

Yours,

Ancel Keys