

Professor Ancel Keys,
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Dear Ancel,

Thank you very much for the kind Christmas present of a copy of your book "Seven Countries. A Multivariate Analysis of Death and Coronary Heart Disease". I have just been reading Michael Oliver's Lancet essay "Serum Cholesterol - the Knave of Hearts and the Joker" in which he asserts that serum cholesterol has no influence on CHD below about 220 mgm. per 100 ml. This is very different from Fig.8.2 in your book and from the conclusions in the American Health Foundation's Workshop report "Plasma Lipids. Optimal Levels for Health". I hope that someone who has thoroughly studied the epidemiological data will write to the Lancet to correct - or at least argue with - this point that Oliver makes.

With best wishes for 1982.

Yours sincerely,

Stewart Truswell

A. Stewart Truswell.