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Coures - Rose

October 12, 1981

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Dear Friends:

Well, I finally got down to the summary report this weekend and have reviewed all letters from you and all manuscripts. I'll send more details along shortly. Basically, the more I look at it the more I am happy with Geoff's outline as provided handwritten in Capri and in his June 29 letter to you.

I would really hope we might "get out" from under Section 3, Prevention in Patients. That's an extra day or two of work on something that we've all agreed has been thoroughly gone over in other WHO reports. On the other hand you've invited experts in the field. The section on control of risk factors in individuals is important because the direct educational component of community programs remains crucial as well as the self-help aspects as a response to community-wide education. It is also appropriate to consider improving the systematic preventive strategy in the medical system. So, may I encourage us again to consider dropping secondary prevention as a section?

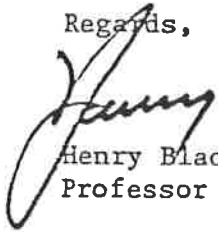
I am sure your experience is great in determining the length of such deliberations. However, it seems to me excessively long and too much to ask of so many experts. Could we not at least think of the possibility of terminating the full conference on Saturday afternoon, December 5, as an incentive to efficiency. With the agreement, of course, between us and your staff at WHO to stay on through the 8th for final edits. I think if we address ourselves to the specific issues of the outline and do not require formal presentations of all the experts, which are not relevant to the outline, and if we have a good strong chairman (as we do) to direct discussion, we can get all the controversy and all the exposure on the table for each of the major risk behaviors and community and individual strategies to be addressed.

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This is simply something to think about. I realize you have far more experience in knowing what it takes to accomplish such a report.

Your recent cable indicates November 29 - December 8 "inclusive". I assume that does not include December 8 night, and that we would adjourn on December 8 in time for afternoon flights.

Regards,



Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Professor and Director

HB:lr

P.S. TO Dr. Rose

Geoff, what are your plans for the weekend of November 28? Do you think we could improve chances of expeditious accomplishment of our purposes by meeting on the 27th or 28th, either in London or Geneva or en route? I have no preconceived idea except that I think we should definitely have some time together on the 29th without the press of social events.