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PRIMARY AND INTERVENTIONAL CARDIOLOGY

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Dear Henry:

I read with great interest your editorial in the New England Journal of November 3, 1988 regarding physical activity and the risk of heart disease. I think you did an excellent job of summarizing our current state of knowledge.

One question that has always intriqued me. Have any of the studies shown that a particular type of exercise engaged in in one's youth that is, long distance running, rowing, or swimming that would emphasize cardiovascular fitness seem to confer any long-term benefit? Secondly, is there any data regarding physical activity and body type - ectomorph, mesomorph, endomorph - in terms of cardiac risk? If you have any references in this area, I would like to have them.

Thank you for any help you may give. Please give my best to Art Leon. I hope all is well with you.

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