

CHICAGO HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

CHICAGO CIVIC CENTER
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AAA copy

December 22, 1971

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Dr. Henry Blackburn
Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene
University of Minnesota
Stadium Gate 27
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

Dear Henry:

Just a brief note by way of follow-up of our telephone conversation a few days ago. Would you be in close touch with me on your telephone explorations with the members of our AHA Council Executive Committee on the matter of requesting support from the International Program Committee for Faculty Colloquia in Singapore. We need to communicate with Lew January soon on this, and -- as I mentioned to you -- he needs official support from a Council to consider this.

△One other thought, based on a number of conversations I have had around the country in recent weeks (among them, with Irv Page). As all of us know, several developments -- given wide publicity in the general press -- have muddied the atherosclerosis waters in recent months. Just to name a few, there is the scare about polyunsaturates and cancer, the continuing noise about sucrose, the latest presentations of the personality-behavior-stress question emanating from National Dairy Council publications, the confusion created by misinterpretations of the Framingham diet data, the efforts to distort the meaning of the cigarette smoking data on the Minnesota business-professional men.]

F.D.A.
Cholesterol
labelling.

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△While such documents as the ICHD Report on the Primary Prevention of the Atherosclerotic Diseases, now being up-dated for final publication, are very useful in clarifying the true situation at least with respect to some of these issues, there may be a need -- Irv felt strongly in the positive about this -- for independent evaluations and statements by responsible bodies, particularly the Council on Epidemiology and the Council on Arteriosclerosis of the AHA. I have talked with a couple of

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Cont.

Dr. Henry Blackburn
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others about this, e.g., Bill Connor, and there does seem to be agreement on this. If you concur, might it not be appropriate for you to take initiative within our Council on Epidemiology, and then perhaps suggest that something be done jointly with the Council on Arteriosclerosis.

I look forward to getting your reaction on this.

Here's hoping this finds you feeling better and on the way to recovery.

Warm good wishes for the Holiday Season from Rose and me to all the Blackburns.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jerry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeremiah Stamler, M.D.
Executive Director

JS/ms

ANA
Cone

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
THE MEDICAL SCHOOL
303 E. CHICAGO AVE.
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE
312-649-7914

JEREMIAH STAMLER, M.D.
PROFESSOR AND CHAIRMAN

March 8, 1972

Henry Blackburn, M.D.
School of Public Health
Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene
University of Minnesota - Stadium Gate #27
Minneapolis, Minn. 55455

Dear Henry:

You will be interested to see the attached. Viewed superficially, one's reaction might be that this is indeed excellent. The more such screening efforts among physicians, and among the public, the better. In general, I guess that is so. However, a little thought brings to mind our experience with Upjohn and the encouragement of mass detection of hyperglycemia, obviously in order to encourage use of Orinase--and of course you know the current status of that. Similarly, Ayerst is using all this to encourage use of Clofibrate, undoubtedly further encouraged by the recent JAMA paper by Krasno.

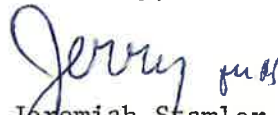
My hunch is--I may be wrong--we are going down a road that will end up similarly to the Orinase one.

This reminds me of our thought about a Committee of our Council on Epidemiology to review recent and current issues before the public eye in regard to atherosclerotic disease, either as a solo endeavor by us or in cooperation with the Council on Arteriosclerosis with the aim to generate a meaningful statement, for eventual approval by the Central Committee and then a wide dissemination.

Any progress on this? I gather the Executive Committee did not have the time to deal with it. If that is true, perhaps we should put our heads together on possible next steps, if you deem them appropriate.

Kindest regards,

Cordially,



Jeremiah Stamler, M.D.
Professor and Chairman

JS:mh