1. Title (length 26):
MENOPAUSE AND RISK FACTORS

2. Writing Group (list individual with lead responsibility first):
(lead) White            Tyroler
    Davis              Hutchinson
    Patsch              Others

3. Timeline:
Data currently available

4. Rationale:
Evidence from epidemiologic studies suggests that post menopausal status is associated with increased CVD risk profiles in white women. In particular, post menopausal women have been found to have higher levels of total cholesterol, triglycerides, VLDL, and LDL when compared to pre menopausal women. Results are more inconsistent for blood pressure, weight and glucose level. Estrogen replacement therapy in post menopausal women appears to decrease levels of risk factors, primarily by raising HDL, particularly HDL2, and decreasing LDL. Limited data are available on the effect of menopause on risk factors in black women. Data from Evans County suggested racial differences in this regard: no association between menopausal status and total serum cholesterol in black women but significantly higher total cholesterol in post menopausal white women compared to pre menopausal white women. The proposed study will describe the cross-sectional association of menopausal status with standard risk factors in black and white women in the ARIC study.

5. Main Hypothesis:
This is a descriptive study.

6. Data (variables, time window, source, inclusions/exclusions):
Visit one data through June 30, 1989.
Variables: Total cholesterol, HDL, HDL2, HDL3, LDL, Triglycerides, Apo A-I, Apo A-II, Apo B, Insulin, Glucose. Also smoking status, weight, height, education, SBP, DBP, BMI.
Menopause variables: age when menopause began, cause of menopause, month and year of last menstrual period, currently taking BC pills, age when BC pill use ended, currently taking hormones, age when hormone (1 through 4) use ended.