1. Title (length 26):
ARIC/MONICA COMPARISONS

2. Writing Group (list individual with lead responsibility first):
(lead) Jackson          Williams           Chambless

We will also invite the participation of MONICA investigators, including Drs. Gyarmas, Beaglehole, and Kuulaasma, and the participation of Dr. Millicent Higgins.

3. Timeline:
This will depend on getting permission from the MONICA Steering Committee to use MONICA data. The necessary ARIC data is available.

4. Rationale:
The aim of this proposal is to examine the relationship between male:female ratios of various mortality endpoints (see below) to male:female ratios of CVD risk factors using data from the four ARIC centers and the MONICA centers (approximately 30). Given the major differences in both mortality differentials and risk prevalence by sex among the centers to be examined these two data sources provide an ideal opportunity to investigate this issue. The use of male:female ratios would lessen the effect of methodological variation in measurement of risk factors and mortality levels.

5. Main Hypothesis:
That sex differences in mortality (total, CVD, IHD and stroke) are related to sex differences in exposure to CVD risk factors.

6. Data (variables, time window, source, inclusions/exclusions):
Visit 1 data on serum total cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, smoking, height, weight, and alcohol consumption. Routine official mortality statistics for total, CVD, IHD and stroke for the ARIC populations.