Manuscript #110

1. Title (length 26):
Medication Use in the ARIC Study

2. Writing Group (list individual with lead responsibility first):
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3. Timeline:
The Data from Visit 1 on medication use and other personal data are available. The reclassification of the medication into the categories has been completed and is satisfactory for use. Data analysis may begin upon approval of the publications committee.

4. Rationale:
This manuscript will be the first of several related to medication use in the ARIC cohort. The first section will be devoted to description of the study as a whole, the medication form and collection procedures, and the classification of the medication dictionary and subsequent recoding. The second section will include basic information about medication use including frequency distributions by over-the-counter and prescription drugs, age, sex, race, and field center, and frequencies of the several categories of medications according to the MTC scheme. The MTC codes will be investigated in more detail for frequencies of those drugs that will be of later interest, including all cardiovasculars, hormones and drugs that may affect the clotting mechanism and lipid metabolism.

5. Main Hypothesis:
None. Descriptive, with intent to develop hypotheses.

6. Data (variables, time window, source, inclusions/exclusions):
Data requested will include the medications as recoded and demographic characteristics of the ARIC population, as noted above, from Visit 1.