1. Title:
Homocyst(e)ine and atherosclerosis

2. Writing Group:
(lead) Malinow
   Nieto
   Szklo
   Chambless
   Bond

3. Timeline:
Immediately (analyses are done and a preliminary draft of the paper is ready).

4. Rationale:
Homocyst(e)ine has been found associated with clinical cardiovascular outcomes in cross-sectional and prospective studies. These associations were independent of other risk factors. An ancillary study to study the association between homocyst(e)ine levels and carotid wall thickness was approved. Sera from a sample of ARIC ultrasound cases and controls (287 pairs) was sent to Malinow's lab in Oregon for determination of homocyst(e)ine.

5. Main Hypothesis:
Homocyst(e)ine is an independent risk factor for atherosclerosis.

6. Data (variables, time window, source, inclusions/exclusions):
Homocyst(e)ine (as determined by Malinow) and major cardiovascular risk factors (smoking, blood pressure, lipids, etc.).
287 matched ultrasound cases and controls.