1. Title:
Alcohol Reliability

2. Writing Group:
(lead) Carpenter
    Chambless
    Demirovic
    Folsom
    Sorlie

3. Timeline:
Preliminary analyses could begin now and final analyses completed as soon as Visit 2 data are closed.

4. Rationale:
Almost 20% of the ARIC participants are former drinkers. The usefulness of the alcohol consumption data for former drinkers in examining CVD-related questions is suspect. The main focus of this paper will be upon the reliability of self-reported alcohol consumption by former drinkers at Visit 1 who are also former drinkers at Visit 2. In addition to investigating the reliability of usual number of drinks before stopped drinking alcoholic beverages, the paper can also report upon agreement in self-reports of number of years alcoholic beverages were drunk and the type of beverages ordinarily drunk, possibly controlling for years since the participant stopped drinking. A secondary focus of the paper will be to report the stability of self-reported drinking measures for current drinkers between Visit 1 and 2 in the ARIC population.

5. Main Hypothesis:
Report the reliability of self-reported alcohol consumption by former drinkers overall and by time periods since last drank alcohol. With respect to the secondary focus on current drinkers, it is expected that there will be little to no change in reported drinking patterns.

6. Data:
Visit 1 and Visit 2 alcohol variables, age, gender, race, center, V1DATE01, V2DATE01.