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1. Title:
Changes in utilization of cardiovascular medication in the ARIC study

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3. Timeline:
Final data from Visit 1 are available, final data from Visit 2 will be available in the fall of 93 and preliminary data are available now. About six months data analysis and three months manuscript preparation, so that a manuscript should be finished by August 1994.

4. Rationale:
Significant changes have taken place in drug treatments in the prevention and in acute and chronic treatment of coronary heart disease (CHD). The purpose of this paper is to document the uses of cardiovascular drugs in the ARIC cohort and to describe the changes between visit 1 and visit 2. There would be two focal points to the paper:
1. A general assessment of drug use stratified by the variables mentioned below.
   Questions to be asked are:
   Q1: Are there sex and race differences in treatment and primary prevention?
   Q2: Are there differences in drug use by social status?
   Q3: Are there differences among the insured vs. non-insured concerning the type and quality of treatment?
   Q4: Are there field center differences in treatment modes?
2. A description of changes in drug use between the two visits. This description would concentrate on changes in those medications used for primary prevention purposes (i.e. antihypertensives, lipid lowering drugs).
   Q1: Are there changes in the use of drugs indicated for primary prevention?
   Q2: Among those with a treatment indication, are there changes in the treatment profiles (e.g. increased use of ACE-inhibitors, etc.)
   Q3: Are there changes in the costs generated by drug treatment changes between the two study periods?

5. Hypotheses:
The paper is largely descriptive and socioeconomic.

6. Data:
Sociodemographic variables: sex, age, race, marital status, insurance status, employment status, education status.
Medical history: hypertension, hypercholesterol, smoking status, BMI, angina pectoris, previous AMI, diabetes.
Medication data: Cardiovascular drugs, Vitamin E, Salicylates, Anticoagulants, Estrogens, Progestins, oral
contraceptives; indication or perceived indication for use, time window, dosage.
Examination data: Blood pressure, Cholesterol levels (Total, LDL, HDL).
Outcome data: Symptomatic CHD, AMI.