ARIC MANUSCRIPT PROPOSAL FORM

Manuscript #254

1. Title:
Estrogens and cognitive function

2. Writing Group:
(lead) Szklo, Fried, Folsom, Nieto, Chambless, Cerhan

3. Timeline:
Could be examined now.

4. Rationale:
Two papers "in press" in the Am J Epidemiol show discrepant findings regarding the relationship of estrogen replacement therapy (ERT) to Alzheimer's disease. The current proposal relates to the examination of cognitive function obtained in visit 2 in regard to ERT in postmenopausal women.

5. Main Hypothesis:
ERT is related to an improved performance of the measures of cognitive function available from visit 2 female post-menopausal participants (Delayed Word Recall, Digit Symbol Substitution and Word Fluency).

6. Data:
Reproductive questionnaire variables. Scores on the three cognitive function tests (A classification scheme for these will be developed.) Main risk factors (to examine their role as confounding or intermediate variables, or effect modifiers, should associations be found).