1. Title:
Pulse Pressure and Atherosclerosis Progression

2. Writing Group:
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3. Timeline:
Analyses will begin immediately after approval.

4. Rationale:
Limited longitudinal data are available which evaluate the progression of atherosclerosis associated with hypertension. Cross sectional data from ARIC indicate that systolic blood pressure is associated with intimamedia thickening (IMT), however, after adjusting for systolic blood pressure, the association between diastolic blood pressure and IMT is J or U shaped. These cross sectional results indicate that pulse pressure may be important in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis.

5. Main Hypothesis:
(1) Pulse pressure at baseline, and the 6 year change in systolic blood pressure and pulse pressure will be associated with intimal medial thickening.

6. Data (variables, time window, source, inclusions/exclusions):
Visit 1: SBP, DBP, Hyphtmdo1, Age, BMI, Race, Gender
Visit 3: SBP, DBP, Hypertension Med, Weight, Mean common carotid IMT.
Exdude: Prevalant CAD at Visit 1.