Manuscript #541

1. Full Title: Incidence Trends in Myocardial Infarction: Comparison Between US and Poland Populations
   Abbreviated Title (Length 26): ARIC/Pol-MONICA MI Incidence

2. Writing Group (list individual with lead responsibility first):
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3. Timeline:
   Analysis to begin December 1997. First draft to be prepared by March 1998.

4. Rationale:
   The role of survival after myocardial infarction and medical care for hospitalized myocardial infarction in explaining the differences in CHD mortality between populations in the ARIC and Pol-MONICA studies are being explored in ARIC manuscript 276. Further investigations into the role of trends in myocardial infarction incidence in understanding differences CHD mortality is also warranted.

5. Main Hypothesis:
   1) The MI incidence rate is lower in the ARIC population as compared to Pol-MONICA.
   2) The annual rate of decline in MI incidence rates is greater in the ARIC population as compared to Pol-MONICA.

6. Data (variables, time window, source, inclusions/exclusions):
   ARIC community surveillance data from 1987 to 1994 will be used for these analyses.
   An event definition of hospitalized definite myocardial infarction that is similar in the two studies developed for manuscript 276 will be used for these analyses. Person identified as non-white and all those greater than 65 years of age will be excluded from the ARIC analysis for comparability reasons.