1. Full Title: Why Are Heart Disease Mortality Rates for African American Men and Women in Mississippi So High? A Comparison of Cardiovascular Risk Factor Data from Jackson, MS with Data for the entire US.
   Abbreviated Title (length 26): Risk Factors: Jackson vs US

2. Writing Group (list individual with lead responsibility first):
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3. Timeline:
   Submit paper for ARIC review by July 1, 1998

4. Rationale:
   The State of Mississippi has the highest age-adjusted CVD and heart disease mortality rates in the country based on 1994 data. Trend data also indicate that rates for both black females and males from Mississippi (MS) are increasing. Using data from ARIC Visit 1 and NHANES III (1988-94) we hope to gain some insight into the possible contributions of the classical risk factors to the excess CVD mortality in MS.

5. Main Hypothesis:
   The mean levels or prevalence of selected CVD risk factors will be higher in blacks from the Jackson ARIC site compared to US blacks based on data from NHANES III.

6. Data (variables, time window, source, inclusions/exclusions):
   Questionnaire data: Health status, History of Diabetes and Heart Attack, Rose Angina, Cigarette smoking, Current of Use BP and Cholesterol Lowering Meds.
   Exam Data: BP, BMI, Serum Cholesterol (Total, HDL, LDL), Serum Triglycerides
   Time Window: ARIC Visit 1, 1987-89; NHANES III 1988-94
   Sources: NHLBI ARIC Visit 1 Data Set & NHANES III Public Use Data Set
   Exclusions: Missing Data
Note: Some of the ARIC data in this paper will be similar to data published by Hutchinson et al. (Angiology 1997;48:279-290). The purpose of this paper is, however, to make comparisons with a national data set.