Manuscript #633

1. Full Title: Pulmonary Function and Echocardiographic Characteristics in African Americans
   Abbreviated Title: Pulmonary Function and Echo

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4. Timeline:
   Submit proposal to Publications Committee       December, 1998
   Complete Analysis                                            May, 1999
   Submit first draft to Publications Committee       August, 1999
   Journal submission                                             November, 1999

5. Rationale:
   Impaired pulmonary function has been associated with increased risk of cardiovascular (1) and all-cause mortality (2), although findings have been somewhat inconsistent. Lower levels of pulmonary function have also been linked with an adverse cardiovascular risk profile (3). Some studies were limited by the inability to adequately control for the potential confounding effects of smoking, while a few were able to detect significant associations among never smokers (4). However, reasons for these associations between pulmonary function and CVD remain unclear.

   Relatively few studies have evaluated echocardiographic indices of cardiac structure and function in relation to pulmonary function in a population-based setting (5-8). Associations were reported between pulmonary function and LV mass (5, 6, 8), LV diastolic dimensions (5), RV area and doppler estimates of pulmonary artery pressure (9), peak flow velocity in early diastole (7), as well as LV wall thickness, left atrial dimension, LV fractional shortening and the ratio of early to late diastolic flow velocity (8).

6. Main Hypothesis:
   Measures of pulmonary function (FEVI and FVC), adjusted for age, height and relevant covariates, will be inversely associated with LV mass, wall thickness and dimensions, and diastolic flow velocities. These associations will be partially, but not completely, explained by traditional CVD risk factors and will persist among never smokers.

7. Data:
   Mean levels of FEV1 and FVC from Visits 1 and 2 will be used as an estimate of pulmonary function in assessing potential associations with echocardiographic indices at Visit 3 for the Jackson ARIC cohort.
Lifestyle and Clinical Variables:
Age, height and smoking information from Visits 1, 2, and 3, pulmonary function variables at Visits 1 and 2, and gender, weight, BMI, waist circumference, waist-to-hip ratio, hypertension, blood pressure level, alcohol intake, physical activity, education, total cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, triglycerides, glucose, diabetes, as well as prevalent CHD, stroke, history of angioplasty and bypass grafting, reported physician diagnosis of lung disease and asthma from Visit 3.

Echo Variables:
LV mass, LV wall thickness and chamber dimensions, LA and aortic root diameter, regional wall motion abnormalities, fractional shortening, heart rate and BP at echo, cardiac output, mitral and aortic regurgitation, and LV diastolic filling indices.

References:


