

ARIC MANUSCRIPT PROPOSAL FORM

Manuscript #361A

Memorandum

To: Members of the ARIC Publications Committee

From: Kathy Rose

Subject: Extension of MS 361 (Variations in Blood Pressure Response to Postural Change and Incident CHD in the ARIC study) to Include Two Manuscripts

I am writing to request approval to extend the scope of MS 361 to include two manuscripts. The originally approved proposal focused on the Association between postural change in blood pressure and incident CHD. Change was defined to include either an increase or decrease in blood pressure when changing from the supine to the standing position. While I was working on this project, I came across an article reporting results of a recent consensus conference, part of the purpose of which, was to agree upon a standard definition of orthostatic hypotension (OH) (decrease in SBP of ≥ 20 mmHg or decrease in DBP of ≥ 10 mmHg). Given that this is an officially recognized cut point and that there are no standards for categorizing postural blood pressure change in the literature, it seemed appropriate to include OH in addition to the originally planned analyses.

The association of OH with incident CHD turned out to be quite strong and was consistent across race and gender groups. There is a limited epidemiology literature on OH and CHD. It is mostly limited to the elderly or other high-risk populations and is not based on existing literature, as it is based on incident events and uses a middle-aged population.

My original intent was to incorporate the OH findings into the originally planned manuscript. However, after trying to do this, I came to the conclusion that findings pertaining to the OH-CHD relationship, as well as the overall postural blood pressure change - CHD relationship, could be more effectively communicated in a narrowly focused manuscript. Thus, I am requesting approval to submit an additional manuscript, which focuses specifically on orthostatic hypotension and incident CHD in the ARIC study. If you need additional information, I can be contacted by phone (919) 966-3168, fax (919) 966-9800 or email (krose@sph.unc.edu). Thank you for your consideration.