

ARIC MANUSCRIPT PROPOSAL FORM

Manuscript #392

1. Full Title: Weight change prior to baseline in participants who die within the first years of follow-up
Abbreviated Title: Prior weight change & death

2. Writing Group (list individual with lead responsibility first):

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3. Timeline:

Some analyses for this work has already been completed. We estimate that a manuscript will be ready for submission to the Publications Committee within six months of approval.

4. Rationale:

In studies of the BMI-mortality relationship, it is common for investigators to drop from the analyses subjects who die during the first one to five years of follow-up. This is done because of the high probability that recent, disease-induced weight loss may make the baseline weight lower than the participant's usual weight. Although this is a common assumption, we are aware of no studies that have directly tested it.

5. Main Hypothesis:

Participants who died in each of the five years following visit 2 experienced a greater decline in BMI between visits 1 and 2 than participants who remained alive. Both all-cause and CVD deaths will be examined.

6. Data (variables, time window, source, inclusions/exclusions):

Age, gender, race, center, weight visit 1, BMI visit1, weight visit 2, BMI visit 2, date of visit 1, date of visit 2, date of death