

ARIC MANUSCRIPT PROPOSAL FORM

Manuscript #148

1. Title (length 26):

Correlates of Cognitive Function

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

(lead) J. Cerhan A. Folsom E. Shahar
G. Heiss L. Crum J. Mortimer

3. Timeline:

Analysis to begin with the arrival of Visit 2 tape. First manuscript draft expected in 3-4 months. Presentation and discussion of the results may require more than one manuscript.

4. Rationale:

There is currently a great interest in exploring the relationship between cognitive function and nonneurologic chronic diseases as well as with common behaviors/exposures. However, there is little population-based information on cognitive function. In general, most studies involving cognitive function have been conducted in small, select populations, and have not collected information that allowed simultaneous evaluation of the influence of education, alcohol use, smoking, medications, physical activity, depressive symptoms, and prevalent chronic diseases. Normative data from the ARIC cognitive function tests would be of great interest to epidemiologists and other researchers, as well as to clinicians. In addition, the ARIC data set can be used to test several hypotheses on the correlates of cognitive function, each of which is detailed in the addendum.

5. Main Hypothesis:

Each hypothesis is individually listed in the addendum.

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

ARIC Visit 1 and ARIC Visit 2 (partial) data. Inclusions: all persons completing visit 2 to date, except for persons with a history of stroke or TIAs or who are currently on psychotropic medications. Variables: age, gender, race, education, occupation, fatigue symptoms, systolic and diastolic blood pressure, ultrasound carotid artery measurements, fibrinogen level, hematocrit, pulmonary function results, diabetic status, blood glucose, alcohol and tobacco use, physical activity and current medications.