

ARIC MANUSCRIPT PROPOSAL FORM

Manuscript #333A

1. Title: Occupational activity and its relationship to leisure-time physical activity for ARIC cohort participants

2. Writing Group:

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3. Timeline:

Submit proposal to Publications Committee
Submit first draft of manuscript to Publications Committee

October 1997
Spring 1998

4. Rationale:

Physical activity is a complex measure, incorporating activity at work and leisure. Few comprehensive data exist on occupational activity in this country, beyond reports on job title. As occupational activity has declined in this century (1), assessment of leisure-time physical activity is often assumed to best represent physical activity in the population (2). We propose to examine this assumption using ARIC cohort data. Occupational activity was measured in the ARIC study utilizing seven questions on work activity as well as job title.

5. Main Hypotheses:

First, this study will describe occupational activity patterns at visit 1 and visit 3 for ARIC participants. It is hypothesized that occupational activity will be a significant contributor to overall physical activity and will decline over the 6-year period for all race-gender groups. Second, this study will document the relationship between occupational and leisure-time physical activity. It is hypothesized that occupational activity will be inversely related to leisure-time physical activity for all race-gender groups.

6. ARIC Data:

Occupational activity as measured by the modified Baecke questionnaire (derived work scores are available only for visit 1, but 7 questions that comprise the work score are available at visit-3)

Leisure-time physical activity as measured by the modified Baecke questionnaire at visit 1 and 3

Covariates: age, education, gender, ethnicity, study center

This proposal does not overlap with manuscript proposal #333 (Physical Activity Patterns and Predictors of Change in ARIC), a manuscript that focuses strictly on leisure-time physical activity change.

References Cited:

Ginzberg E. The mechanization of work. Scientific American 1982;247:67-75.

Kriska A, Caspersen C. Introduction to a collection of physical activity questionnaires. Medicine and Science in Sport and Exercise 1997;29:S5-9.