Reviewer's report

Title: Disparities in Lipid Management for African Americans and Caucasians with Coronary Artery Disease: A National Cross-Sectional Study

Version: 1 Date: 17 May 2004

Reviewer: Keith C Ferdinand

Reviewer's report:

General

Assessing the work:
1 - Question posed by authors is new and well defined
2 - Methods are appropriate and well-described. there are sufficient details. However, discretionary revisions are needed to replicate the work.
3 - Data are sound and well-controlled
4 - Manuscript adheres to relevant standards
5 - Discussion and conclusions are well-balanced and supported
6 - Title and abstract are accurate
7 - Writing is acceptable

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

There should be a section on limitations that describes potential pitfalls in the data:
A - Less than 12 percent African Americans means sample may be underpowered to comment in general vs US pop.
B - Needs clear and specific definition of coronary artery disease.
C - Must clearly define how charts selected to insure randomness.
D - Clearly define the clinician's offices, i.e., private, academic, public health centers, urban, rural, so that this data may be replicated.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests: