

Coronary Drug Project (CDP): Looking Back 50 Years

David L DeMets, PhD

Emeritus -Univ of Wisconsin-Madison

Lawrence Friedman, MD

Retired, NHLBI

Janet Wittes, PhD

StatCollaborative

James Neaton, PhD

Univ of Minnesota

CDP Contributions to RCTs

- CDP was a large multicenter trial, sponsored by NHLBI, to test cholesterol 5 lowering drugs on CV mortality compared to a placebo arm.
- Started in 1966, completed in 1974
- Recruited 8,341 patients with previous MI
- 3 of the 5 arms were terminated early for harm or no benefit
- One arm was completed with no benefit
- Another arm demonstrated a benefit

Long Term CDP Contributions

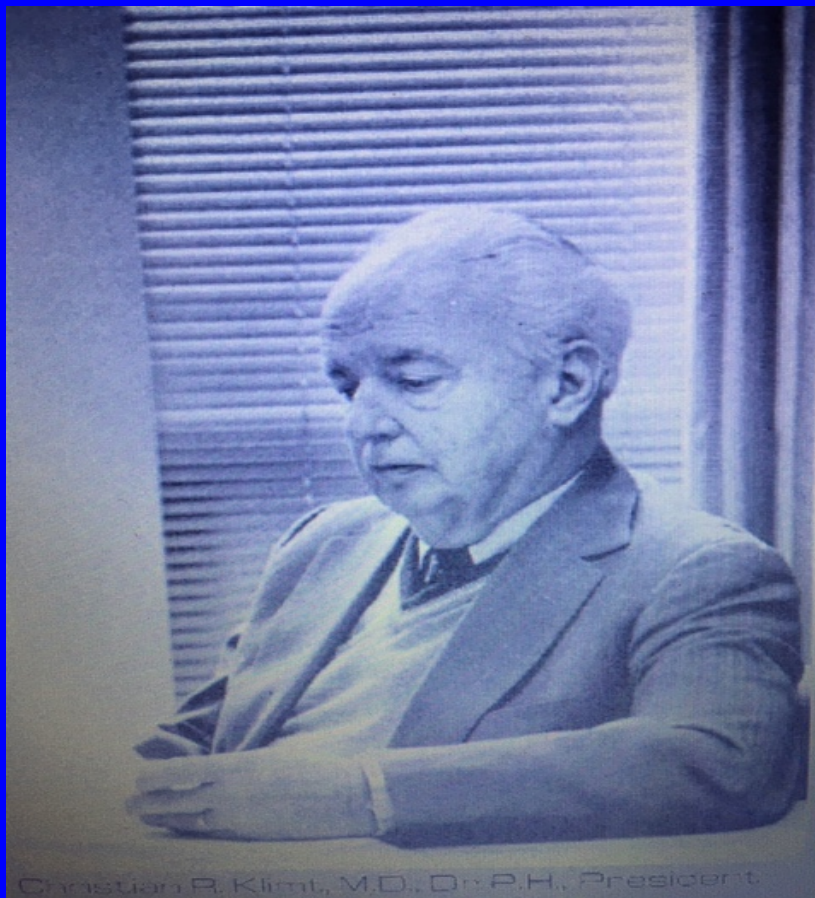
- While successful in evaluating 5 lipid lowering drugs, perhaps most important is that the CDP set the stage for future RCTs
- **Organizational structure** (L Friedman)
- **Monitoring methods** for accumulating data & terminating arms early (D DeMets)
- Appropriate **methods of analysis** (J Wittes)
- **Impact** on other NIH and industry sponsored trials (J Neaton)

**CDP Pioneers:
Jerry Stamler, MD
Professor, Northwestern Univ**



CDP Pioneers: Chris Klimt, MD

Maryland Medical Research Institute



- Director of CDP Coordinating Center
- Founding Member of the SCT

Statistical Pioneers: Jerry Cornfield



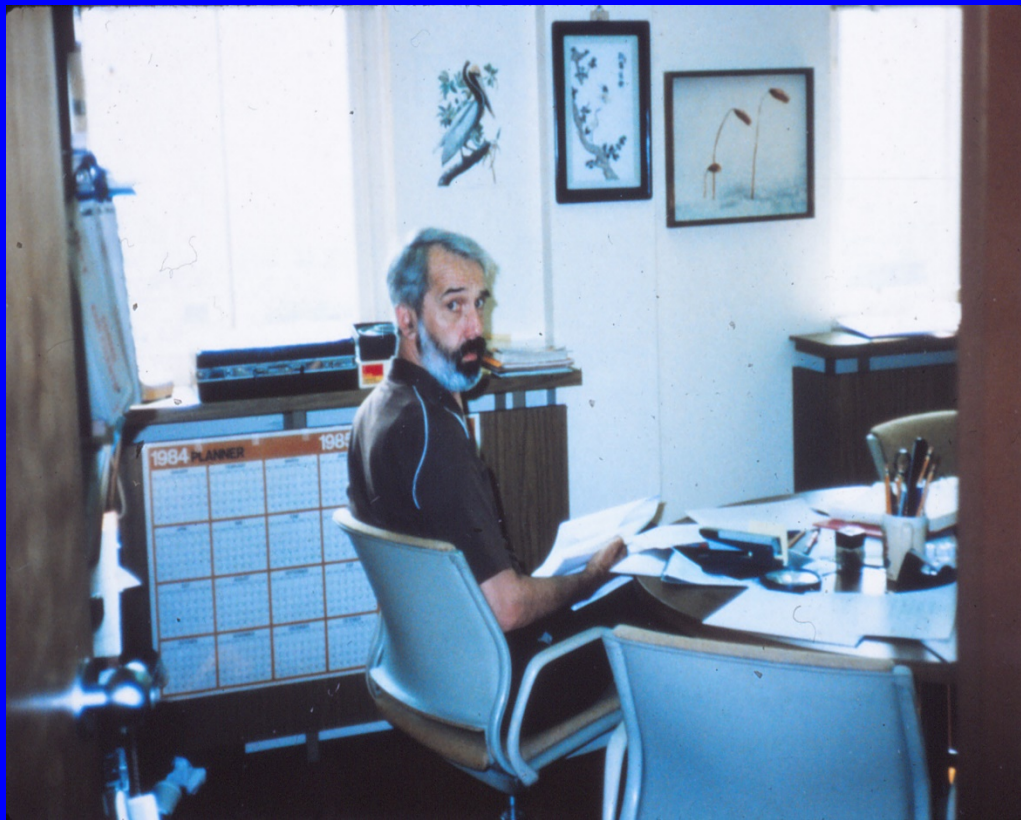
- Senior biostatistician, National Heart Lung & Blood Institute
- Statistical consultant to the CDP

Statistical Pioneers: Max Halperin, PhD



- Senior biostatistician: National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute
- Statistical Consultant to the CDP

CDP Statistical Pioneers



- Young Curt Meinert at work –
- PhD, 1964 Univ of Minnesota
- Founder of SCT & Journal CCT

CDP Statistical Pioneers



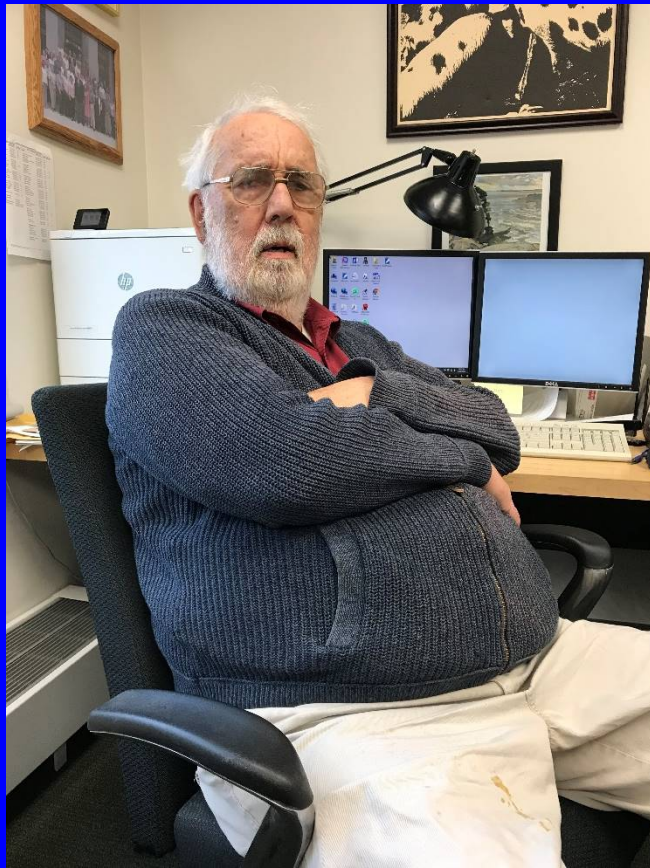
- Curt Meinert again
- This isn't Sleepy Eye MN anymore

CDP Statistical Pioneers



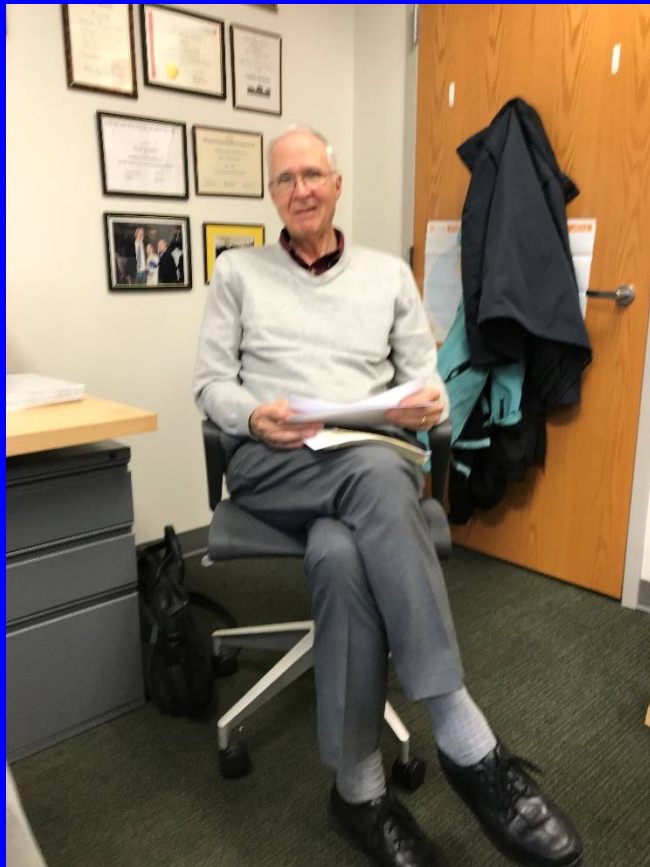
- A young Paul Canner at work on the CDP
- PhD, Univ of Minnesota, 1966

CDP Statistical Pioneers



- Meinert a few (50+) years later
- Same old Curt

CDP Statistical Pioneers



- Canner in his biostatistics retirement
- Still quiet and far too modest

CDP Statistical Pioneers



- A Double Threat

The Magnificent Seven

(Required Reading)

- CDP: 1981 CCT, Decision Making in CTs
- CDP: 1970 JAMA, Termination of Hi dose Estrogen
- CDP: 1972 JAMA, Termination of Dextrothyroxin
- CDP: 1973 JAMA, Termination of Lo dose estrogen
- CDP: 1975 JAMA, Clofibrate & Niacin
- Canner: 1977 Biometrics, Monitoring long term trials
- CDP: 1980 NEJM, Influence of adherence & intermediate response on analysis

CDP Contributions to RCTs

- Organizational structure & termination of 3 arms (L Friedman)
- Methods for monitoring accumulating data & terminating arms early (D DeMets)
- “Inappropriate” methods of RCT analysis (J Wittes)
- Impact on other NIH and industry sponsored trials (J Neaton)