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From Graham Smith.

Professor Brunner is looking for support in three areas of research all examining the association between smoking and cardiovascular disease.

A. The mechanism of smoke induced activation of platelets

B. What is the baseline level of free cytosolic 45 Ca in smokers compared to non-smokers.

C. Vascular compliance in hypertensive patients.

Three clearly defined projects that appear to be realistic and should provide results in the time suggested.

Smoking is regarded as only one factor in the development of cardiovascular disease and as such "other", more important factors, must be taken into account. Indeed it may be interesting to note the effect of diet, stress etc. on platelet activation and somehow put smoking into perspective.

From the document it is not clear how much of project B has been completed. Page 2b on the second report relates to work in this area.

Distinguishing acute and chronic effects is important as for example increased blood pressure is associated with acute effects of smoking whilst the smoking population has a lower blood pressure (on average) than non-smoking.

Interpretation of project A should be closely monitored especially when it comes down to individual smoke components.

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