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**Abstract**

**STUDY OBJECTIVE:** Prospective assessment of serum homocysteine level in relation to risk of coronary heart disease (CHD) and stroke.

**DESIGN:** Case-cohort study with 17 years follow up.

**METHODS:** Homocysteine was measured from stored serum. Proportional hazards regression models were used to obtain adjusted hazard ratios.

**RESULTS:** There was no significant overall relationship between homocysteine and cardiovascular disease after controlling for known confounders. For women, removal of creatinine from the multivariate model resulted in a significant relationship.

**CONCLUSIONS:** These results provide little support for a significant independent relationship between level of homocysteine and risk of CHD or stroke in men and women with no evidence of pre-existing cardiovascular disease.