The need for this bibliography became apparent as we began to search the literature for an overview of the etiology of hypertension in the black community. We were surprised to find so few studies that focused on hypertension in blacks, or on the differences between black and white hypertensives. Most studies do not review the data separately, even though they are significant and of considerable concern.

In preparing this annotated bibliography, we hope to bring together a large body of information that is widely scattered so that the reader can get a perspective on the state of knowledge of hypertension in blacks. It is hoped that this bibliography will prove heuristic by enabling readers to see the large gaps in current knowledge.

We have attempted to make it complete, but we are aware that this is difficult with such a major undertaking. The bibliography was compiled from a combination of searches primarily utilizing: 1) Medlars, 1965–September 1, 1981; 2) Index Medicus, 1916–1965 with articles containing “Negro,” “Colored,” or “Black” in the title; and 3) the card catalog.

Some annotations are verbatim transcriptions of the abstracts, while others are summaries we prepared from the articles. For some older papers that did not have abstracts, the annotations are selective quotations from the original text.

In general, the terms “Black,” “Negro,” and “Colored” were recorded as used in each article. Therefore, no consistent or uniform usage will be found.

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