

**Table S1** Gender-specific hazard ratios and 95% confidence intervals of cardiovascular disease for ECG abnormalities in Code4 and 5 at study entry

MC	At entry	No. at risk		Stroke	Coronary heart disease	Total CVD		
<b>Men</b>								
Code4	No	4033	cases	435 (Reference)	177 (Reference)	595 (Reference)		
			Minor	263	cases	63	17	78
			Age- and gender- adjusted HR (Model 1)	2.45 (1.88-3.20)‡	1.56 (0.95-2.58)	2.24 (1.76-2.84)‡		
				Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 2)	1.94 (1.48-2.55)‡	1.31 (0.78-2.18)	1.80 (1.42-2.30)‡	
				Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 3)	1.86 (1.42-2.45)‡	1.22 (0.72-2.05)	1.73 (1.36-2.22)‡	
	Major	121	cases	31	17	45		
			Age- and gender- adjusted HR (Model 1)	2.86 (1.98-4.13)‡	4.07 (2.46-6.75)‡	3.24 (2.38-4.40)‡		
			Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 2)	1.85 (1.26-2.72)†	2.99 (1.75-5.11)‡	2.25 (1.64-3.08)‡		
			Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 3)	1.82 (1.23-2.68)†	2.68 (1.56-4.61)‡	2.18 (1.58-3.00)‡		
			Code5	4028	cases	448 (Reference)	174 (Reference)	603 (Reference)
					Minor	311	cases	61
	Age- and gender- adjusted HR (Model 1)	2.02 (1.54-2.64)‡			1.73 (1.10-2.72)*	2.04 (1.62-2.58)‡		
			Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 2)	1.45 (1.09-1.91)†	1.36 (0.85-2.18)	1.51 (1.18-1.91)‡		
			Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 3)	1.39 (1.05-1.84)*	1.33 (0.83-2.14)	1.46 (1.15-1.86)†		
Major	78	cases	20	16	33			
		Age- and gender- adjusted HR (Model 1)	2.97 (1.90-4.66)‡	6.49 (3.87-10.87)‡	3.93 (2.76-5.59)‡			
		Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 2)	1.93 (1.21-3.06)†	4.98 (2.89-8.59)‡	2.71 (1.88-3.90)‡			
		Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 3)	1.90 (1.19-3.03)†	4.58 (2.63-7.95)‡	2.64 (1.83-3.80)‡			
<b>Women</b>								
Code4	No	5587	cases	473 (Reference)	130 (Reference)	596 (Reference)		
			Minor	823	cases	77	28	103
			Age- and gender- adjusted HR (Model 1)	1.04 (0.81-1.32)	1.41 (0.93-2.12)	1.11 (0.90-1.37)		
				Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 2)	0.88 (0.69-1.13)	1.17 (0.77-1.77)	0.94 (0.76-1.17)	
				Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 3)	0.86 (0.67-1.10)	1.20 (0.78-1.82)	0.93 (0.75-1.15)	
	Major	229	cases	46	5	51		
			Age- and gender- adjusted HR (Model 1)	2.27 (1.67-3.07)‡	0.90 (0.37-2.20)	1.99 (1.49-2.65)‡		
			Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 2)	1.62 (1.18-2.23)†	0.59 (0.24-1.48)	1.41 (1.05-1.90)*		
			Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 3)	1.46 (1.04-2.04)*	0.58 (0.23-1.48)	1.29 (0.94-1.77)		
Code5			5705	cases	476 (Reference)	123 (Reference)	591 (Reference)	

Minor	703	cases	76	31	106
		Age- and gender- adjusted HR (Model 1)	1.10 (0.86-1.41)	1.84 (1.24-2.75)†	1.27 (1.03-1.56)*
		Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 2)	0.94 (0.73-1.20)	1.64 (1.09-2.46)*	1.09 (0.88-1.34)
		Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 3)	0.89 (0.69-1.14)	1.72 (1.14-2.59)†	1.05 (0.85-1.31)
Major	231	cases	44	9	53
		Age- and gender- adjusted HR (Model 1)	2.31 (1.69-3.15)‡	1.83 (0.92-3.61)	2.24 (1.69-2.97)‡
		Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 2)	1.90 (1.39-2.61)‡	1.42 (0.71-2.84)	1.84 (1.38-2.45)‡
		Multivariate-adjusted HR (Model 3)	1.82 (1.32-2.50)‡	1.44 (0.72-2.89)	1.78 (1.33-2.38)‡

\*P<0.05; †P<0.01; ‡P<0.001

Model 2: Covariates were age, gender, systolic blood pressure, antihypertensive medication, BMI, smoking category (never, past or current smokers), alcohol intake category (never, past, current <46, current ≥46 g/day), serum total cholesterol and diabetic type.

Model 3: Covariates comprised Model 2 plus other ECG abnormalities (high R-wave, ventricular premature beats, atrial fibrillation) at study entry.



Major	→	Minor	40	2.8 (110.3)	85.0	56.2 (7.5)	23.8 (3.9)	139.8 (14.8)	81.7 (10.8)	28.2	20.5	6.9 (14.0)	200.4 (35.7)	7.9
Major	→	Major	191	2.5 (483.9)	71.2	56.9 (8.6)	24.6 (3.5)	148.0 (25.3)	84.9 (13.8)	32.6	27.6	14.4 (23.7)	199.1 (38.3)	8.1
P for difference					<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.30	0.37	<0.001	0.034

Values are the mean ± standard deviation or percentages, adjusted for age and gender.

Minnesota Code: Code4 minor; 4-3 to modified 4-5: Code4 major; 4-1 to 4-2: Code5 minor; 5-3 to modified 5-5: Code5 major; 5-1 to 5-2.