

## DEPICT for ExomeChip

DEPICT was originally developed to (1) prioritize genes in associated GWAS loci, (2) identify gene sets enriched for genes in associated GWAS loci, and (3) identify tissues in which genes from associated GWAS loci are specifically expressed<sup>1</sup>. In this work, we adapted DEPICT to identify gene sets enriched for genes harboring significantly associated ExomeChip variants. In the following sections, we describe how the gene set enrichment analysis functionality in DEPICT was adapted to facilitate analysis of ExomeChip data. Next, we describe the input data and parameters used to perform DEPICT gene set enrichment analysis of the GWAS variants that were independent of the novel ExomeChip coding variants. Finally, we outline the steps we took to compare the results from DEPICT for ExomeChip (henceforth ‘EC-DEPICT’) with (1) the results from DEPICT for GWAS and (2) the results from the PASCAL method<sup>2</sup>.

### EC-DEPICT methods and analyses

**ExomeChip variants and genes.** We started by defining the set of variants and genes to analyze. To define a “background” set of variants with coherent annotations of their functional consequences on gene products, we used annotations from the CHARGE consortium file (see URLs, download date 2/10/16), which contained 247,037 variants in 27,196 genes. First, we limited the analysis to 220,647 variants with frameshift, non-synonymous, stopgain, stoploss, or splice-site annotations (in 17,473 unique genes). We then removed all variants that were not assessed in the height ExomeChip data, leaving 215,689 variants in 17,416 genes. For variants with different functional consequences that mapped to more than one gene, the most severe one was retained, leaving 17,415 genes. In instances where variants mapped to multiple genes with equal deleteriousness, the gene was chosen randomly. HUGO gene identifiers from the CHARGE annotation file were converted to Ensembl identifiers using Ensembl Biomart (version 84, GRCh37) gene homology mapping (see URLs, download date 4/18/2016). After removing variants that did not map to an Ensembl identifier present in DEPICT’s reconstituted gene sets, we were left with 199,907 variants in 15,652 genes. Finally, to ensure valid null distributions, we also excluded all variants absent from the null ExomeChip data that was used to calculate P-values (see below). After all filtering steps, a total of 41,538 variants in 11,756 genes were included in the analysis.

**Input variants to EC-DEPICT.** As input to EC-DEPICT, we took variants which either (1) had P-values  $<2 \times 10^{-7}$  in the discovery or conditional analyses or (2) had P-values between  $2 \times 10^{-6}$  and  $2 \times 10^{-7}$  in the discovery analysis and a P-value of  $<2 \times 10^{-7}$  in the combined discovery and replication analysis (**Supplementary Tables 11**). Then, to discern pathways that were highlighted by coding variants independently of known GWAS signals, we filtered for ExomeChip hits for height that were either independent of known GWAS loci or were the strongest signal in known GWAS loci and removed variants where there was a common ExomeChip missense variant statistically equivalent to a GWAS variant. A total of 128 variants in 119 genes were retained and used in the analysis.

**EC-DEPICT methodology overview.** To assess whether the ExomeChip variants were enriched for particular reconstituted gene sets, we next developed the EC-DEPICT algorithm, which is modeled closely off that in DEPICT. First, we downloaded the reconstituted gene sets used in Pers et al. (2015)(see URLs)<sup>1</sup>. For each gene set, the Z-scores for pathway membership of each significant gene from the ExomeChip were retrieved and summed. Then, the summed Z-scores

were normalized relative to 2,000 null ExomeChip backgrounds (see next paragraph for details) by subtracting off the mean null Z-score for a given gene set and dividing by the null standard deviation. The resulting adjusted Z-score was then converted to a P-value using the normal distribution. The Python programming language was used to implement EC-DEPICT, and the code can be downloaded from our Github repository (see URLs).

**Null ExomeChip backgrounds.** To create “null” ExomeChip data, we used genotype data from the Malmö Diet and Cancer (MDC), All New Diabetics in Scania (ANDIS), and Scania Diabetes Registry (SDR) cohorts, which comprised a total of 11,899 samples of Swedish ancestry. Using the genotypes and normally-distributed simulated phenotypes with no genetic basis, we conducted 2,000 ExomeChip association studies (nulls) that included only variants present in the height ExomeChip association analysis. Each null was sorted in order of ascending P-value, and the CHARGE-based variant-to-gene mapping was used to rank-order a total of 11,756 genes. To match the number of significant genes in the height ExomeChip results, we retained the top 119 genes from each null.

**False discovery rate calculations (FDR).** FDRs were calculated using 50 null permutations separate from the 2,000 used for P-value calculation. For each of the 50 nulls, an EC-DEPICT P-value was calculated for each reconstituted gene set to generate a null distribution of P-values. To calculate the FDR, we divided the number of null P-values less than a given threshold by 50, and then divided that by the number of observed P-values less than the given threshold. We considered significance at an FDR of  $<0.01$ .

**Distribution of observed P-values and type I error.** Theoretically, a given set of genes could be either over- or underrepresented among genes in associated GWAS loci or among associated genes from an ExomeChip study. For the height EC-DEPICT gene set enrichment, we observed that reconstituted gene set enrichment P-values indeed followed a U-shaped curve, indicating that particular reconstituted gene sets can be either enriched or depleted of the group of genes implicated by height ExomeChip variants (the complete list of reconstituted gene set results can be downloaded online, see URLs).

To assess the type I error, we calculated all reconstituted gene set enrichment P-values for 50 null ExomeChip studies and plotted them in a histogram. Their distribution was close to uniform, as indicated by the histogram.

In further exploring the DEPICT results, we noticed that in certain scenarios, extreme non-normality of pathway membership z-scores for certain gene sets could slightly increase type 1 error in DEPICT. To determine if this issue affected our results, we performed another DEPICT analysis using a version of the reconstituted gene sets where pathway membership scores were inverse normal transformed. We then compared the ranks of each gene set in the original data with their rank in the inverse normal transform. Of the 496 originally significant gene sets, only 22 were “outliers” ( $> 1.5 \times$  the interquartile range). We note that all but one of these outliers still had an FDR of  $<0.05$  in the inverse normal transformed data, and the remaining gene set had  $FDR < .10$ . These outliers are denoted in the supplementary table with an asterisk. Additionally, we note that removing these outliers leads to the loss of only one significant meta-gene set (which is still significant at  $FDR < 0.05$ ). We conclude that this issue only minimally impacts these results, but recommend that future users of this method should also repeat the analysis

using inverse normal transformed pathway membership scores, and look for outliers, as an additional check.

### DEPICT GWAS analysis

As input to the DEPICT analysis of height GWAS results, we started with significant noncoding variants found by GWAS (using Variant Effect Predictor for annotations). We constructed loci using DEPICT as previously described (beta version 1.1, release 194, see URLs), using 1000 Genomes phase 1 data (part of the DEPICT download bundle) and default parameters to perform the analysis (20 repetitions to compute FDRs, 500 permutations to adjust for biases), and eliminated loci containing overlap with any of the novel EC genes. This left 446 loci, which were used in the subsequent DEPICT gene set enrichment step.

### Correlation of reconstituted gene sets and comparisons of results

Many of the reconstituted gene sets are correlated with each other; it is therefore logical to group together substantially similar gene sets to facilitate interpretation and analysis of the data. We therefore generated a list of “meta-gene sets” in which each meta-gene set contained a group of highly related gene sets. To do this, we calculated the Pearson correlation matrix for all pairs of the 14,462 gene sets (based on gene set membership) and subsequently clustered the reconstituted gene sets based on their similarity (i.e. Pearson’s correlation coefficients). A Python implementation of the Affinity Propagation algorithm<sup>3</sup> was used for clustering (SciKit-Learn.clustering.AffinityPropagation version 0.17)<sup>4</sup>. Due to the relatively large number of reconstituted gene sets, we used a maximum iteration of 10,000 and a convergence iteration of 1,000.

We then used the meta-gene sets to compare the results from EC-DEPICT with (1) the results from DEPICT on the GWAS data and (2) the results from Pascal. In tables and figures, we used the “representative” gene set (as determined by the Affinity Propagation algorithm) as the gene set label for each meta-gene set. The P-value for each “meta-gene set” was chosen as the best P-value of any member gene set.

Similarly, we also used the meta-gene sets as labels for the heat maps in **Fig. 2** and **Supplementary Fig. 11**; each Z-score for gene set membership in the heat maps represents the Z-score for the gene set with the best P-value. Heat maps were generated using the ComplexHeatmap package in R<sup>5</sup>. For OMIM annotations, we supplemented a previously annotated list of OMIM genes (from Wood *et al.*<sup>6</sup>) with the results of a more recent search in OMIM for the terms “short stature,” “overgrowth,” “skeletal dysplasia,” or “brachydactyly,” and manually curated the combined list to include genes where mutations cause clinical abnormalities of skeletal growth. The manual curation was performed prior to obtaining the ExomeChip results.

### URLs

CHARGE Consortium ExomeChip annotation file:

<http://www.chargeconsortium.com/main/exomechip/>

Ensembl Biomart: <http://grch37.ensembl.org/biomart/>

DEPICT: [www.broadinstitute.org/mpg/depict](http://www.broadinstitute.org/mpg/depict)

EC-DEPICT: <https://github.com/RebeccaFine/height-ec-depict>

EC-DEPICT height reconstituted gene set enrichment results:  
<https://github.com/RebeccaFine/height-ec-depict/tree/master/analyses>  
EC-DEPICT meta-gene sets: [https://github.com/RebeccaFine/height-ec-depict/blob/master/data/metacluster\\_labels.txt](https://github.com/RebeccaFine/height-ec-depict/blob/master/data/metacluster_labels.txt)

### Additional references

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- 6 Wood, A. R. *et al.* Defining the role of common variation in the genomic and biological architecture of adult human height. *Nat Genet* **46**, 1173-1186 (2014).

## Additional funding information

Cohort or individual	Acknowledgements (funding, personal, groups), include funding identification numbers/codes
<b>1958 Birth Cohort</b>	We are grateful for being able to use the British 1958 Birth Cohort DNA collection. Sample collection funded by the Medical Research Council grant G0000934 and the Wellcome Trust grant 068545/Z/02. Genotyping was funded by the Wellcome Trust.
<b>1958 Birth Cohort</b>	Deloukas work forms part of the research themes contributing to the translational research portfolio of Barts Cardiovascular Biomedical Research Unit which is supported and funded by the National Institute for Health Research. Analysis was supported by BHF grant (Deloukas) RG/14/5/30893
<b>Acknowledgements for GECCO and individual studies</b>	<p>GECCO: The authors would like to thank all those at the GECCO Coordinating Center for helping bring together the data and people that made this project possible. ASTERISK: We are very grateful to Dr. Bruno Buecher without whom this project would not have existed. We also thank all those who agreed to participate in this study, including the patients and the healthy control persons, as well as all the physicians, technicians and students. CPS-II: The authors thank the CPS-II participants and Study Management Group for their invaluable contributions to this research. The authors would also like to acknowledge the contribution to this study from central cancer registries supported through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Program of Cancer Registries, and cancer registries supported by the National Cancer Institute Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results program. HPFS and NHS: We would like to acknowledge Patrice Soule and Hardeep Ranu of the Dana Farber Harvard Cancer Center High-Throughput Polymorphism Core who assisted in the genotyping for NHS and HPFS under the supervision of Dr. Immaculata Devivo and Dr. David Hunter, and Qin (Carolyn) Guo and Lixue Zhu who assisted in programming for NHS and HPFS. We would like to thank the participants and staff of the Nurses' Health Study and the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study, for their valuable contributions as well as the following state cancer registries for their help: AL, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, NE, NH, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, WA, WY. The authors assume full responsibility for analyses and interpretation of these data. PLCO: The authors thank Drs. Christine Berg and Philip Prorok, Division of Cancer Prevention, National Cancer Institute, the Screening Center investigators and staff of the Prostate, Lung, Colorectal, and Ovarian (PLCO) Cancer Screening Trial, Mr. Tom Riley and staff, Information Management Services, Inc., Ms. Barbara O'Brien and staff, Westat, Inc., and Drs. Bill Kopp and staff, SAIC-Frederick. Most importantly, we acknowledge the study participants for their contributions to making this study possible. The statements contained herein are solely those of the authors and do not represent or imply concurrence or endorsement by NCI. PMH: The authors would like to thank the study participants and staff of the Hormones and Colon Cancer study.</p>
<b>Add Health</b>	The analysis grant funded by National Institutes of Health Grant from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development R01HD057194 supported genotyping, phenotyping, and analysis using data from National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health), a program project directed by Kathleen Mullan Harris and designed by J. Richard Udry, Peter S. Bearman, and Kathleen Mullan Harris at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and funded by grant P01-HD31921 from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, with cooperative funding from 23 other federal agencies and foundations. Information on how to obtain the Add Health data files is available on the Add Health website ( <a href="http://www.cpc.unc.edu/addhealth">http://www.cpc.unc.edu/addhealth</a> ). No direct support was received from grant P01-HD31921 for this analysis. We thank Amy Perou of the BioSpecimen Processing facility and Amanda Floyd Beaty and Michael Andre of the Mammalian Genotyping Core at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. We are grateful to the Carolina Population Center (P2C HD050924) for general support.

<b>ADDITION-DK</b>	We would like to thank the ADDITION-DK participants and the participating general practitioners for their contribution to the study. We acknowledge the very important contributions of Dr. Knut Borch-Johnsen, Professor Anneli Sandbæk, and Professor Torsten Lauritzen in setting up the ADDITION-DK study. The ADDITION-DK study received funding from: the Danish Center for Evaluation and Health Technology Assessment; the Danish Research Foundation for General Practice; the counties of Aarhus, Copenhagen, Ringkøbing, Ribe, and South Jutland; the National Board of Health; the Danish Medical Research Council (22-04-0390); the Danish Diabetes Association; the Danish Diabetes Academy; the Danish Council for Strategic Research; the Novo Nordisk Foundation; the Diabetes Fund of the National Board of Health; the A.P. Møller Foundation; and the Aarhus University Research Foundation. ADDITION-DK has been given unrestricted grants from Novo Nordisk A/S, Novo Nordisk Scandinavia AB, Novo Nordisk UK, ASTRA Denmark, Pfizer Denmark, GlaxoSmithKline Pharma Denmark, Servier Denmark A/S, and HemoCue Denmark A/S. The ADDITION-PRO study was funded by an unrestricted grant from the European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes/Pfizer for Research into Cardiovascular Disease Risk Reduction in Patients with Diabetes (74550801), by the Danish Council for Strategic Research and by internal research and equipment funds from Steno Diabetes Center A/S.
<b>AGES-Reykjavik</b>	This study has been funded by NIH contracts N01-AG-1-2100 and 271201200022C, the NIA Intramural Research Program, Hjartavernd (the Icelandic Heart Association), and the Althingi (the Icelandic Parliament). The study is approved by the Icelandic National Bioethics Committee, VSN: 00-063. The researchers are indebted to the participants for their willingness to participate in the study.
<b>Airwave</b>	Funding: The Airwave Study is funded by the Home Office (grant number 780-TETRA) with additional support from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust (ICHNT) and Imperial College Biomedical Research Centre (BRC). Paul Elliott is an NIHR Senior Investigator and is supported by the ICHNT and Imperial College BRC, the MRC-PHE Centre for Environment and Health and the NIHR Health Protection Research Unit on Health Impact of Environmental Hazards. This work used computing resources of the UK MEDical BIOinformatics partnership - aggregation, integration, visualisation and analysis of large, complex data (UK MED-BIO) which is supported by the Medical Research Council [grant number MR/L01632X/1]. Acknowledgements: We thank all participants in the Airwave Health Monitoring Study. We also thank Louisa Cavaliero who assisted in data collection and management as well as Peter McFarlane and the Glasgow CARE, Patricia Munroe at Queen Mary University of London, Joanna Sarnecka and Ania Zawodniak at Northwick Park for their contributions to the study.
<b>Alex P. Reiner</b>	Alex P. Reiners was supported by R01 DK089256-05.
<b>Alex W Hewitt</b>	AWH is supported by an NHMRC Practitioner Fellowship (APP1103329).
<b>Alisa K. Manning</b>	Dr. Alisa K. Manning received funding from NIH/NIDDK K01 DK107836
<b>Amish</b>	We gratefully acknowledge our Amish liaisons, field workers and clinic staff and the extraordinary cooperation and support of the Amish community without which these studies would not have been possible. The Amish studies are supported by grants and contracts from the NIH, including K01HL116770, U01 HL072515-06, U01 HL84756, U01HL105198, U01 GM074518, . We thank our Amish research volunteers for their long-standing partnership in research, and the research staff at the Amish Research Clinic for their hard work and dedication.
<b>Andrew Hattersley</b>	Andrew T Hattersley is a Wellcome Trust Senior Investigator (WT098395); and a National Institute of Health Research Senior Investigator.
<b>Andrew Morris</b>	Andrew P Morris is a Wellcome Trust Senior Fellow in Basic Biomedical Science (grant number WT098017).
<b>Andrew R Wood</b>	Andrew R Wood is supported by the European Research Council (grant 323195: SZ-245 50371-GLUCOSEGENES-FP7-IDEAS-ERC)
<b>Anne Justice</b>	American Heart Association (13POST16500011); NIH (R01-DK089256, 1R01DK101855-01, 1K99HL130580-01A1)
<b>Anneke den Hollander (EUGENDA)</b>	The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Research Council under the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP/2007-2013) / ERC Grant Agreement n. 310644 (MACULA). We also thank the International Age-related Macular Degeneration Genomics Consortium.

<b>ARIC</b>	The Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) study is carried out as a collaborative study supported by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) contracts (HHSN268201100005C, HHSN268201100006C, HHSN268201100007C, HHSN268201100008C, HHSN268201100009C, HHSN268201100010C, HHSN268201100011C, and HHSN268201100012C). The authors thank the staff and participants of the ARIC study for their important contributions. Funding support for “Building on GWAS for NHLBI-diseases: the U.S. CHARGE consortium” was provided by the NIH through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) (5RC2HL102419).
<b>ASCOT-UK and ASCOT-SC</b>	This work was supported by Pfizer, New York, NY, USA, for the ASCOT study and the collection of the ASCOT DNA repository; by Servier Research Group, Paris, France; and by Leo Laboratories, Copenhagen, Denmark. We thank all ASCOT trial participants, physicians, nurses, and practices in the participating countries for their important contribution to the study. In particular we thank Clare Muckian and David Toomey for their help in DNA extraction, storage, and handling. Genotyping of ASCOT-SC and the Exome chip in ASCOT-UK was funded by the National Institutes of Health Research.
<b>ATBC</b>	The ATBC Study was supported by contracts HHSN261201000006C and HHSN261201500005C
<b>Athero-Express Biobank Study</b>	We also acknowledge the support from the Netherlands CardioVascular Research Initiative from the Dutch Heart Foundation, Dutch Federation of University Medical Centres, the Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development and the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences.
<b>Athero-Express Biobank Study</b>	Sander W. van der Laan is funded through grants from the Netherlands CardioVascular Research Initiative (“GENIUS”, CVON2011-19), the Interuniversity Cardiology Institute of the Netherlands (ICIN, 09.001), and through the FP7 EU project CVgenes@target (HEALTH-F2-2013-601456). Claudia Tersteeg, Krista den Ouden, Mirjam B. Smeets, and Loes B. Collé are graciously acknowledged for their work on the DNA extraction. Saskia Haitjema, Ian D. van Koevorden, Evelyn Velema, Sara van Laar, Sander M. van de Weg, Arjan H. Schoneveld, Petra H. Homoed-van der Kraak, and Aryan Vink are graciously acknowledged for their continuing work on the Athero-Express Biobank Study. We would also like to thank all the (former) employees involved in the Athero-Express Biobank Study of the Departments of Surgery of the St. Antonius Hospital Nieuwegein and University Medical Center Utrecht for their continuing work. Jessica van Setten is graciously acknowledged for her help in the quality assurance and quality control of the genotype data. Lastly, we would like to thank all participants of the Athero-Express Biobank Study; without you these kinds of studies would not be possible.
<b>BBMRI-NL</b>	The BBMRI-NL embodies the Dutch Biobanking and Biomolecular Research Infrastructure project, including large population cohorts and clinical collections. All studies were financially supported by a Research Infrastructure financed by the Dutch government (NWO 184.021.007). The Hoorn Diabetes Care System Cohort study likes to acknowledge the Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development (ZonMW) for funding (grant number 113102006) and is supported by the Diabetes Care System West-Friesland. Contributing members of the DCS study are: G Nijpels, J Beulens, AMW van der Heijden, F Rutters, S Rauh, JM Dekker, all VU University Medical Center Amsterdam and LM 't Hart, N van Leeuwen, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, The Netherlands. NESCOG received funding from NWO/MaGW VIDI-016-065-318; NWO VICI 453-14-005, and this research was part of Science Live, the innovative research program of science center NEMO that enables scientists to carry out real, publishable, peer-reviewed research using NEMO visitors as volunteers. BOSOM received funding from the Dutch Cancer Society: NKI2009-4363 and would like to thank all their collaborators. HEBON will like to thank all their collaborators. The Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam is supported by a grant from the Netherlands Ministry of Health Welfare and Sports, Directorate of Long-Term Care. The authors would like to acknowledge DJH Deeg, M den Heijer, MA Huisman, NM van Schoor, and KMA Swart*. UCP would like to acknowledge Prof.Dr. Olaf H. Klungel and Dr. Anke-Hilse Maitland-Van der Zee for granting access to the UCP study data
<b>BioVU</b>	The BioVU dataset used in the analyses described were obtained from Vanderbilt University Medical Centers BioVU which is supported by institutional funding and by the Vanderbilt CTSA grant ULTR000445 from NCATS/NIH. Genotyping was funded by NIH grants RC2GM092618 from NIGMS/OD and U01HG004603 from NHGRI/NIGMS. Funding for TLE and DRVE was provided by 1R21HL12142902 from NHLBI/NIH.

<b>Blue Mountains Eye Study</b>	The Westmead/Sydney samples were collected in three studies that were supported by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), Australia: Grant IDs 974159, 211069, 457349 and 512423 supported the Blue Mountains Eye Study that provided population-based controls; Grant ID 302010 supported the Cataract Surgery and Risk of Age-related Macular Degeneration study that provided clinic-based early and late AMD cases and controls; and Grant ID 571013 supported the Genes and Environment in late AMD study that provided clinic-based late AMD cases. The NHMRC had no role in the design or conduct of these studies.
<b>BRAVE</b>	The BRAVE study genetic epidemiology working group is a collaboration between the Cardiovascular Epidemiology Unit, Department of Public Health and Primary Care, University of Cambridge, UK, the Centre for Control of Chronic Diseases, icddr,b, Dhaka, Bangladesh and the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
<b>BRIGHT</b>	This work was funded by the Medical Research Council of Great Britain (Grant number: G9521010D) and the Wellcome Trust Strategic Award (Grant number: 083948). The BRIGHT study is extremely grateful to all the patients who participated in the study and the BRIGHT nursing team. The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis. The Exome chip genotyping was funded by Wellcome Trust Strategic Awards 083948 and 085475.
<b>CARDIA</b>	The CARDIA Study is conducted and supported by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute in collaboration with the University of Alabama at Birmingham (HHSN268201300025C & HHSN268201300026C), Northwestern University (HHSN268201300027C), University of Minnesota (HHSN268201300028C), Kaiser Foundation Research Institute (HHSN268201300029C), and Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (HHSN268200900041C). CARDIA is also partially supported by the Intramural Research Program of the National Institute on Aging. Exome Chip genotyping was supported from grants R01-HL093029 and U01- HG004729 to MF. This manuscript has been reviewed and approved by CARDIA for scientific content.
<b>CCHS/CGPS/CIHDS</b>	We thank participants and staff of the Copenhagen City Heart Study, Copenhagen Ischemic Heart Disease Study, and the Copenhagen General Population Study for their important contributions.
<b>Cebu Longitudinal Health and Nutrition Survey</b>	The Cebu Longitudinal Health and Nutrition Survey (CLHNS) was supported by National Institutes of Health grants DK078150, TW005596, HL085144 and TW008288 and pilot funds from RR020649, ES010126, and DK056350. We thank the USC-Office of Population Studies Foundation research and data collection teams and the study participants who generously provided their time for this study.
<b>CHD Exome+ Consortium</b>	This work was funded by the UK Medical Research Council (G0800270), British Heart Foundation (SP/09/002), UK National Institute for Health Research Cambridge Biomedical Research Centre, European Research Council (268834), European Commission Framework Programme 7 (HEALTH-F2-2012-279233), Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ USA and Pfizer.
<b>CHES</b>	This paper was supported in part by The Chinese-American Eye Study (CHES) grant EY017337. The provision of genotyping data was supported in part by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, CTSI grant UL1TR001181, and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease Diabetes Research Center (DRC) grant DK063491 to the Southern California Diabetes Endocrinology Research Center.
<b>CHOP</b>	This research was financially supported by an Institute Development Award from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, a Research Development Award from the Cotswold Foundation, the Daniel B. Burke Endowed Chair for Diabetes Research and NIH grant R01 HD056465. The authors thank the network of primary care clinicians and the patients and families for their contribution to this project and to clinical research facilitated by the Pediatric Research Consortium (PeRC) at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. R. Chiavacci, E. Dabaghyan, A. (Hope) Thomas, K. Harden, A. Hill, C. Johnson-Honesty, C. Drummond, S. Harrison, F. Salley, C. Gibbons, K. Lilliston, C. Kim, E. Frackelton, F. Mentch, G. Otieno, K. Thomas, C. Hou, K. Thomas and M.L. Garris provided expert assistance with genotyping and/or data collection and management. The authors would also like to thank S. Kristinsson, L.A. Hermansson and A. Krisbjörnsson of Raförminn ehf for extensive software design and contributions.
<b>CLEAR</b>	NIH RO1 HL67406
<b>Cristen J. Willer</b>	C.J.W. is supported by HL094535 and HL109946 from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.



<b>CROATIA_Korcula</b>	The CROATIA-Korcula study was funded by grants from the Medical Research Council (UK), European Commission Framework 6 project EUROSPAN (Contract No. LSHG-CT-2006-018947), European Commission Framework 7 project BBMR-LPC (grant 313010), Republic of Croatia Ministry of Science, Education and Sports research grant (216-1080315-0302) and Croatian Science Foundation (grant 8875). We would like to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the recruitment team in Korcula, the administrative teams in Croatia and Edinburgh and the people of Korcula. The SNP genotyping for the CROATIA-Korcula cohort was performed in Helmholtz Zentrum München, Neuherberg, Germany
<b>Dajiang J. Liu</b>	DJL is supported by 1R01HG008983-01 and 1R21DA040177-01
<b>Daniel R. Witte</b>	Daniel R. Witte is supported by the Danish Diabetes Academy, which is funded by the Novo Nordisk Foundation.
<b>deCODE</b>	We thank participants in deCODE cardiovascular- and obesity studies and collaborators for their cooperation. The research performed at deCODE Genetics was part funded through the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013), ENGAGE project, grant agreement HEALTH-F4-2007- 201413.
<b>DHS</b>	This study was supported in part by R01 HL67348, R01 HL092301, R01 NS058700 (to DWB) and the General Clinical Research Centre of the Wake Forest School of Medicine (M01 RR07122, F32 HL085989). The authors thank the other investigators, the staff, and the participants of the DHS study for their valuable contributions.
<b>DIABNORD</b>	We are grateful to the study participants who dedicated their time and samples to these studies. We also thank the health professionals and data managers involved in the Västerbotten Health Survery (VHS), the Swedish Diabetes Registry, and the Umeå Medical Biobank staff for the biomedical data and DNA extraction. We also thank M Sterner, G Gramsperger and P Storm (Lund University Diabetes Centre, Malmö, Sweden) for their expert technical assistance with genotyping and genotype data preparation. The current study was funded by Novo Nordisk, the Swedish Research Council, Pahlsson's Foundation, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation, and the Skåne Regional Health Authority (all to PWF).
<b>DIACORE</b>	We thank all participating patients of the DIACORE study. The DIACORE study is funded by the KfH Stiftung Präventivmedizin e.V. . Genotyping was funded by the Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung to CAB (2012_A147) and the University Hospital Regensburg. CAB has received funding from the KfH Stiftung Präventivmedizin e.V., the Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung and the Dr Robert Pfleger Stiftung. We thank the physicians and health insurance companies supporting the DIACORE study: Axel Andreae, Gerhard Haas, Sabine Haas, Jochen Manz, Johann Nusser, Günther Kreisel, Gerhard Bawidamann, Frederik Mader, Susanne Kißkalt, Johann Hartl, Thomas Segiet, Christiane Gleixner, Christian Scholz, Monika Schober (Chief of Supply Management, Allgemeine Ortskrankenkasse Bayern), Cornelia Heinrich (Communication Manager, Allgemeine Ortskrankenkasse Bayern), Thomas Bohnhoff (Disease Management, Techniker Krankenkasse), Thomas Heilmann (Head of Disease Management, Techniker Krankenkasse), Stefan Stern (Consulting Physician, Allgemeine Ortskrankenkasse Bayern), Andreas Utz (Head of Department, Allgemeine Ortskrankenkasse Bayern), Georg Zellner (Chief of Supply Management, Deutsche Angestellten Krankenkasse), Werner Ettl (Barmer-GEK), Thomas Buck (Barmer-GEK), Rainer Bleek (IKK classic), Ulrich Blaudzun (IKK classic). We further thank the study nurses for their expert work in performing the study visits: Simone Neumeier, Sarah Hufnagel, Petra Jackermeier, Sabrina Obermüller, Christiane Ried, Ulrike Hanauer, Bärbel Sendtner, Natalia Riewe-Kerow.
<b>DPS</b>	The DPS has been financially supported by grants from the Academy of Finland (117844 and 40758, 211497, and 118590 (MU); The EVO funding of the Kuopio University Hospital from Ministry of Health and Social Affairs (5254), Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation (40058/07), Nordic Centre of Excellence on ÖSystems biology in controlled dietary interventions and cohort studies, SYSDIET (070014), The Finnish Diabetes Research Foundation, Yrjö Jahnsson Foundation (56358), Sigrid Juselius Foundation and TEKES grants 70103/06 and 40058/07.
<b>DR'S EXTRA</b>	The DR's EXTRA Study was supported by grants to Rainer Rauramaa by the Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland (627;2004-2011), Academy of Finland (102318; 123885), Kuopio University Hospital, Finnish Diabetes Association, Finnish Heart Association, Päivikki and Sakari Sohlberg Foundation and by grants from European Commission FP6 Integrated Project (EXGENESIS); LSHM-CT-2004-005272, City of Kuopio and Social Insurance Institution of Finland (4/26/2010).

<b>EGCUT</b>	EGCUT work was supported by IUT20-60 from the Estonian Research Council; by the European Regional Development Fund to the Centre of Excellence in Genomics and Translational Medicine (GenTransMed); EGCUT were further supported by the US National Institute of Health [R01DK075787].
<b>eMERGE-Seattle</b>	NIH U01HG008657 and a State of Washington Life Sciences Discovery Award (265508) to the Northwest Institute of Genetic Medicine and U01 AG 06781 grant. U01 HG 06375 with additional support for the original cohort assembly being U01 AG006781.
<b>ENDO and PCOS</b>	Genotyping was funded by the Wellcome Trust under awards WT064890 and WT086596. Analysis of genetic data was funded by the Wellcome Trust under awards WT098017, WT086596 and WT090532.
<b>EPIC-CVD Consortium</b>	CHD case ascertainment and validation and genotyping in EPIC-CVD were principally supported by grants awarded to the University of Cambridge from the EU Framework Programme 7 (HEALTH-F2-2012-279233), the UK Medical Research Council (G0800270) and British Heart Foundation (SP/09/002), and the European Research Council (268834). We thank all EPIC participants and staff for their contribution to the study, the laboratory teams at the Medical Research Council Epidemiology Unit for sample management and Cambridge Genomic Services for genotyping, Sarah Spackman for data management, and the team at the EPIC-CVD Coordinating Centre for study coordination and administration.
<b>EPIC-InterAct</b>	We thank all EPIC participants and staff for their contribution to the EPIC-InterAct study. Funding for the EPIC-InterAct project was provided by the EU FP6 programme (LSHM_CT_2006_037197).
<b>EPIC-Norfolk</b>	EPIC-Norfolk is supported by programme grants from the Medical Research Council UK (G1000143) and Cancer Research UK (C864/A14136) and with additional support from the European Union, Stroke Association, British Heart Foundation, Research into Ageing, Department of Health, The Wellcome Trust and the Food Standards Agency. NJW, CL and RAS also acknowledge support from the Medical Research Council, UK (MC_UU_12015/1; MC_PC_13048). We thank all EPIC participants and staff for their contribution to the study, and the laboratory teams at the MRC Epidemiology Unit for sample management.
<b>EPIC-Potsdam</b>	The study was supported in part by a grant from the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) to the German Center for Diabetes Research (DZD e.V.). The recruitment phase of the EPIC-Potsdam study was supported by the Federal Ministry of Science, Germany (01 EA 9401) and the European Union (SOC 95201408 05 F02). The follow-up of the EPIC-Potsdam study was supported by German Cancer Aid (70-2488-Ha I) and the European Community (SOC 98200769 05 F02). Exome chip genotyping of EPIC-Potsdam samples was carried out under supervision of Per Hoffmann and Stefan Herms at Life & Brain GmbH, Bonn. We thank all EPIC-Potsdam participants for their invaluable contribution to the study.
<b>EpiHealth</b>	EpiHealth was supported by the Swedish Research Council strategic research network Epidemiology for Health, Uppsala University and Lund University. Genotyping in EpiHealth was supported by Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation (grant no. 20120197 and 20140422), Knut och Alice Wallenberg Foundation (grant no. 2013.0126), and Swedish Research Council (grant no. 2012-1397). Genotyping was performed by the SNP&SEQ Technology Platform in Uppsala. We thank the EpiHealth participants for their dedication and commitment.
<b>EXTEND</b>	EXTEND data were provided by the Peninsula Research Bank, part of the NIHR Exeter Clinical Research Facility
<b>Family Heart Study</b>	The Family Heart Study (FamHS) research was supported by NIH grants: R01-HL-117078 from NHLBI, and R01-DK-089256 from NIDDK.
<b>Fenland</b>	We thank the Fenland Study volunteers for their time and help, the General Practitioners and practice staff for assistance with recruitment, the Investigators, Co-ordination team and the Epidemiology Field, Data and Laboratory teams. The Fenland Study is funded by the MRC (MC_U106179471) and Wellcome Trust. NJW, CL and RAS also acknowledge support from the Medical Research Council, UK (MC_UU_12015/1; MC_PC_13046).

<b>FIN-D2D 2007</b>	The FIN-D2D 2007 study was supported by funds from the hospital districts of Pirkanmaa; Southern Ostrobothnia; North Ostrobothnia; Central Finland and Northern Savo; the Finnish National Public Health Institute; the Finnish Diabetes Association; the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health in Finland; Finland's Slottery Machine Association; the Academy of Finland [grant number 129293] and Commission of the European Communities, Directorate C-Public Health [grant agreement no. 2004310]. The Broad Genomics Platform performed the genotyping.
<b>FINCAVAS</b>	The Finnish Cardiovascular Study (FINCAVAS) has been financially supported by the Competitive Research Funding of the Tampere University Hospital (Grant 9M048 and 9N035), the Finnish Cultural Foundation, the Finnish Foundation for Cardiovascular Research, the Emil Aaltonen Foundation, Finland, and the Tampere Tuberculosis Foundation. The authors thank the staff of the Department of Clinical Physiology for collecting the exercise test data.
<b>Finnish Twin Cohort</b>	This study was funded through ENGAGE (European Network for Genetic and Genomic Epidemiology), FP7-HEALTH-F4-2007, grant agreement number 201413; Academy of Finland (265240, 263278). Genotyping was performed at the Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland (FIMM), Helsinki, Finland, The Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, Hinxton, UK, and the Broad Institute, Cambridge, Mass., USA.
<b>FINRISK 2007 (T2D)</b>	VS was supported by the Academy of Finland, grant #139635, and the Finnish Foundation for Cardiovascular Research. The Broad Genomics Platform performed the genotyping.
<b>FINRISK/Veikko Salomaa</b>	Dr. Salomaa has been supported by the Finnish Foundation for Cardiovascular Research
<b>Folkert W. Asselbergs</b>	Folkert W. Asselbergs is supported by a Dekker scholarship-Junior Staff Member 2014T001 – Netherlands Heart Foundation and UCL Hospitals NIHR Biomedical Research Centre.
<b>Framingham Heart Study</b>	This research was conducted in part using data and resources from the Framingham Heart Study of the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health and Boston University School of Medicine. The analyses reflect intellectual input and resource development from the Framingham Heart Study investigators participating in the SNP Health Association Resource (SHARe) project. This work was partially supported by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute's Framingham Heart Study (Contract No. N01-HC-25195) and its contract with Affymetrix, Inc for genotyping services (Contract Nos. N01-HC-25195 and HHSN268201500001I). This research was partially supported by grant NIDDK 1R01DK8925601. A portion of this research utilized the Linux Cluster for Genetic Analysis (LinGA-II) funded by the Robert Dawson Evans Endowment of the Department of Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine and Boston Medical Center.
<b>GECCO funding and individual studies</b>	GECCO: National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (U01 CA137088; R01 CA059045). ASTERISK: Supported by the local Hospital Program of Clinical Research PHRC-BRD09/C from the University Hospital Center of Nantes (CHU de Nantes), the Regional Council of Pays de la Loire, the Groupement des Entreprises Françaises dans la Lutte contre le Cancer (GEFLUC), the Association Anne de Bretagne Génétique and the Ligue Régionale Contre le Cancer (LRCC). CPS-II: The American Cancer Society funds the creation, maintenance, and updating of the Cancer Prevention Study-II (CPS-II) cohort. This study was conducted with Institutional Review Board approval. HPFS is supported by the National Institutes of Health (P01 CA 055075, UM1 CA167552, R01 137178, R01 CA151993 and P50 CA127003) and NHS by the National Institutes of Health (UM1 CA186107, R01 CA137178, P01 CA87969, R01 CA151993 and P50 CA127003). NFCCR: This work was supported by an Interdisciplinary Health Research Team award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CRT 43821); the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (U01 CA74783); and National Cancer Institute of Canada grants (18223 and 18226). The authors wish to acknowledge the contribution of Alexandre Belisle and the genotyping team of the McGill University and Génome Québec Innovation Centre, Montréal, Canada, for genotyping the Sequenom panel in the NFCCR samples. PLCO: Intramural Research Program of the Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics and supported by contracts from the Division of Cancer Prevention, National Cancer Institute, NIH, DHHS. PMH: National Institutes of Health (R01 CA076366).

<b>FUSION</b>	The FUSION study was supported by DK093757, DK072193, DK062370, and ZIA-HG000024. The Center for Inherited Disease Research (CIDR) and the Broad Genomics Platform performed the genotyping.
<b>Gabriel Cuellar-Partida</b>	G.C.P received scholarship support from the University of Queensland and QIMR Berghofer
<b>GeMEP (Geisinger Genomic Medicine Exome Project)</b>	The biobanking and genotyping at Geisinger Health System was funded by Pennsylvania Commonwealth Universal Research Enhancement Program, the Ben Franklin Technology Development Fund of PA, Grants from the NIH (P30DK072488, R01DK088231 and R01DK091601), and the Geisinger Clinical Research Fund.
<b>Generation Scotland</b>	Generation Scotland received core funding from the Chief Scientist Office of the Scottish Government Health Directorate CZD/16/6 and the Scottish Funding Council HR03006. Genotyping of the GS:SFHS samples was carried out by staff at the Genetics Core Laboratory at the Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility, Edinburgh, Scotland and was funded by the UK's Medical Research Council. We are grateful to the families who took part in GS:SFHS, the GPs and Scottish School of Primary Care for their help in recruiting them, and the whole GS team, which includes academic researchers, clinic staff, laboratory technicians, clerical workers, statisticians and research managers. We are grateful to the families who took part in GS:SFHS, the GPs and Scottish School of Primary Care for their help in recruiting them, and the whole GS team, which includes academic researchers, clinic staff, laboratory technicians, clerical workers, statisticians and research managers
<b>Genetic Epidemiology Network of Arteriopathy (GENOA)</b>	Support for GENOA was provided by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (HL119443, HL054464, HL054457, HL054481, HL87660, and HL086694) of the National Institutes of Health. Genotyping was performed at the Mayo Clinic (Stephen T. Turner, MD, Mariza de Andrade PhD, Julie Cunningham, PhD). Genotyping for GENOA whites was performed by Eric Boerwinkle, PhD and Megan L. Grove from the Human Genetics Center and Institute of Molecular Medicine and Division of Epidemiology, University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, Texas, USA. Genotyping for GENOA African Americans was performed at the Center for Inherited Disease Research (CIDR) at Johns Hopkins University. We would also like to thank the families that participated in the GENOA study.
<b>GLACIER</b>	We thank the health professionals and data managers involved in the Västerbotten Health Survey and we are grateful to the study participants who dedicated their time and samples to the study. We thank J Hutiainen and Å Ågren (Dept. of Biobank Research, Umeå University, Sweden) for data organization and K Enquist and T Johansson (Västerbottens County Council, Umeå, Sweden) for technical assistance with DNA extraction. We also thank M Sterner, G Gramsperger and P Storm for their expert technical assistance with genotyping and genotype data preparation (Lund University Diabetes Centre, Malmö, Sweden). The current study was funded by Novo Nordisk, the Swedish Research Council, Pålsson's Foundation, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation, and the Skåne Regional Health Authority (all to PWF).
<b>GoDARTS</b>	GoDARTS study was funded by The Wellcome Trust Study Cohort Wellcome Trust Functional Genomics Grant (2004-2008) (Grant No: 072960/2/03/2) and The Wellcome Trust Scottish Health Informatics Programme (SHIP) (2009-2012). (Grant No: 086113/Z/08/Z).
<b>GRAPHIC</b>	The GRAPHIC Study was funded by the British Heart Foundation (BHF) (RG/200004). Exome array genotyping was funded by the NIHR and the Wellcome Trust (083948/B/07/Z). NM is funded by the NIHR Leicester Cardiovascular Biomedical Research Unit. CPN is funded by the BHF (CH/03/001). NJS holds a Chair funded by the BHF (CH/03/001) and is a NIHR Senior Investigator.
<b>Guillaume Lettre</b>	GL is funded by the Montreal Heart Institute Foundation and the Canada Research Chair program.
<b>Hanieh Yaghootkar</b>	H.Y. is supported by the European Research Council grant: 323195; SZ-245 50371-GLUCOSEGENES-FP7-IDEAS-ERC.
<b>Hanieh Yaghootkar &amp; Tim Frayling</b>	H.Y. and T.M.F. are supported by the European Research Council grant: 323195; SZ-245 50371-GLUCOSEGENES-FP7-IDEAS-ERC.

<b>Health2006</b>	Establishment of the Health2006 cohort was financially supported by The Velux Foundation; The Danish Medical Research Council, Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation; The Aase and Ejner Danielsens Foundation; ALK-Abelló A/S (Hørsholm, Denmark), Timber Merchant Vilhelm Bangs Foundation, MEKOS Laboratories (Denmark), and Research Centre for Prevention and Health, the Capital Region of Denmark.
<b>Health ABC</b>	HABC funding/acknowledgement: The Health ABC Study was supported by NIA contracts N01AG62101, N01AG62103, and N01AG62106 and, in part, by the NIA Intramural Research Program. The genome-wide association study was funded by NIA grant 1R01AG032098-01A1 to Wake Forest University Health Sciences and genotyping services were provided by the Center for Inherited Disease Research (CIDR). CIDR is fully funded through a federal contract from the National Institutes of Health to The Johns Hopkins University, contract number HHSN268200782096C. This study utilized the high-performance computational capabilities of the Biowulf Linux cluster at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. ( <a href="http://biowulf.nih.gov">http://biowulf.nih.gov</a> ).
<b>Health and Retirement Study (HRS)</b>	HRS is supported by the National Institute on Aging (NIA U01AG009740). The genotyping was funded separately by the National Institute on Aging (RC2 AG036495, RC4 AG039029) and was conducted by the NIH Center for Inherited Disease Research (CIDR) at Johns Hopkins University. Genotyping quality control and final preparation of the data were performed by the University of Michigan School of Public Health. A portion of this work was also supported by R03 AG046398.
<b>HELIC MANOLIS, HELIC Pomak</b>	This work was funded by the Wellcome Trust (098051) and the European Research Council (ERC-2011-StG 280559-SEPI). The MANOLIS cohort is named in honour of Manolis Giannakakis, 1978-2010. We thank the residents of the Mylopotamos villages, and of the Pomak villages, for taking part. The HELIC study has been supported by many individuals who have contributed to sample collection (including A. Athanasiadis, O. Balafouti, C. Batzaki, G. Daskalakis, E. Emmanouil, C. Giannakaki, M. Giannakopoulou, A. Kaparou, V. Kariakli, S. Koinaki, D. Kokori, M. Konidari, H. Koundouraki, D. Koutoukidis, V. Mamakou, E. Mamelaki, E. Mpamiaki, M. Tsoukana, D. Tzakou, K. Vosdogianni, N. Xenaki, E. Zengini), data entry (T. Antonos, D. Papagrigroriou, B. Spiliopoulou), sample logistics (S. Edkins, E. Gray), genotyping (R. Andrews, H. Blackburn, D. Simpkin, S. Whitehead), research administration (A. Kolb-Kokocinski, S. Smee, D. Walker) and informatics (M. Pollard, J. Randall).
<b>HUNT-MI</b>	The Nord-Trøndelag Health Study (The HUNT Study) is a collaboration between the HUNT Research Centre (Faculty of Medicine, Norwegian University of Science and Technology NTNU), the Nord-Trøndelag County Council, the Central Norway Health Authority and the Norwegian Institute of Public Health. The HUNT-MI study is a collaboration between investigators from the HUNT study and the University of Michigan. Genotyping services for 3992 samples were provided by the Northwest Genomics Center at the University of Washington, Department of Genome Sciences, under US Federal Government contract number HHSN268201100037C from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. We thank the HUNT study participants for their contributions to scientific research.
<b>INGI-FVG</b>	This study was partially supported by Regione FVG (L.26.2008) and Italian Ministry of Health (GR-2011-02349604).
<b>Inter99</b>	Data collection in the Inter99 study was supported economically by The Danish Medical Research Council, The Danish Centre for Evaluation and Health Technology Assessment, Novo Nordisk, Copenhagen County, The Danish Heart Foundation, The Danish Pharmaceutical Association, Augustinus foundation, Ib Henriksen foundation and Becket foundation, and the Health Insurance Foundation (grant No. 2010 B 131).
<b>IRASFS</b>	This research was supported by funding from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK): DK097524, DK085175, and DK087914; the National Institute for Heart, Lung, and Blood Disorders (NHLBI): HL060944, HL061019, HL060919, HL060944, HL061019, and the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI): HG007112. The provision of genotyping data was supported in part by funds from the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Michigan.
<b>Jeff Haessler</b>	Jeff Haessler was supported by NHLBI R21 HL121422-02.

<b>JHS</b>	We thank the Jackson Heart Study (JHS) participants and staff for their contributions to this work. The JHS is supported by contracts HHSN268201300046C, HHSN268201300047C, HHSN268201300048C, HHSN268201300049C, HHSN268201300050C from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.
<b>Joel N. Hirschhorn</b>	NIH R01DK075787
<b>John D. Rioux</b>	JDR is funded by the Montreal Heart Institute Foundation and the Canada Research Chair program.
<b>Kari North</b>	KEN was supported by R01-DK089256 ; 2R01HD057194; U01HG007416; R01DK101855, and AHA grant 13GRNT16490017
<b>KORA</b>	The KORA study was initiated and financed by the Helmholtz Zentrum München – German Research Center for Environmental Health, which is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and by the State of Bavaria. Furthermore, KORA research was supported within the Munich Center of Health Sciences (MC-Health), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, as part of LMUinnovativ.
<b>KORA S4</b>	The KORA study was initiated and financed by the Helmholtz Zentrum München – German Research Center for Environmental Health, which is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and by the State of Bavaria. Furthermore, KORA research was supported within the Munich Center of Health Sciences (MC-Health), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, as part of LMUinnovativ. I.M.H. received funding from the Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF 01ER1206, 01ER1507) and from the National Institutes of Health (NIH R01DK075787).
<b>Kristin Young</b>	KLY was supported by KL2TR001109
<b>Leipzig-adults</b>	This work was supported by the Kompetenznetz Adipositas (Competence network for Obesity) funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (German Obesity Biomaterial Bank; FKZ 01GI1128), and by grants from the Collaborative Research Center funded by the German Research Foundation (CRC 1052 "Obesity mechanisms"; C01, B01, B03).
<b>LOLIPOP-Exome, LOLIPOP-OmniEE</b>	The LOLIPOP study is supported by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Comprehensive Biomedical Research Centre Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, the British Heart Foundation (SP/04/002), the Medical Research Council (G0601966, G0700931), the Wellcome Trust (084723/Z/08/Z), the NIHR (RP-PG-0407-10371), European Union FP7 (EpiMigrant, 279143), and Action on Hearing Loss (G51). We thank the participants and research staff who made the study possible. The work was carried out in part at the NIHR/Wellcome Trust Imperial Clinical Research Facility.
<b>Lothian Birth Cohort 1921 and Lothian Birth Cohort 1936</b>	We thank the cohort participants and team members who contributed to these studies. Phenotype collection in the Lothian Birth Cohort 1921 was supported by the UK's Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), The Royal Society and The Chief Scientist Office of the Scottish Government. Phenotype collection in the Lothian Birth Cohort 1936 was supported by Age UK (The Disconnected Mind project). Genotyping was supported by Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology (Pilot Fund award), Age UK, and the Royal Society of Edinburgh. The work was undertaken by The University of Edinburgh Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology, part of the cross council Lifelong Health and Wellbeing Initiative (MR/K026992/1). Funding from the BBSRC and Medical Research Council (MRC) is gratefully acknowledged.
<b>Manuel A. Rivas</b>	Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine Award, Clarendon Scholarship
<b>Mark I McCarthy</b>	Mark I McCarthy is a Wellcome Trust Senior Investigator (WT098381); and a National Institute of Health Research Senior Investigator.
<b>Markus Perola</b>	We wish to thank THL DNA laboratory for its skillful work. Funding: Finnish Academy grants no. 255935 and 269517; The EU FP7 under grant agreements nr. 313010 (BBMRI-LPC), nr. 305280 (MIMOmics), and HZ2020 633589 (Ageing with Elegans), The Yrjö Jahnsson Foundation, The Juho Vainio Foundation
<b>Marshfield Clinic Personalized</b>	funded by NIH U01HG8701 and UL1TR000427

<b>Medicine Research Project</b>	
<b>Mengmeng Du</b>	M.D. is supported by the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health (R25 CA94880, P30 CA008748).
<b>MESA</b>	This research was supported by the Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA) contracts N01-HC-95159, N01-HC-95160, N01-HC-95161, N01-HC-95162, N01-HC-95163, N01-HC-95164, N01-HC-95165, N01-HC-95166, N01-HC-95167, N01-HC-95168, N01-HC-95169 and by grants UL1-TR-000040 and UL1-RR-025005 from NCCR . Funding for MESA Family was provided by grants R01-HL-071205, R01-HL-071051, R01-HL-071250, R01-HL-071251, R01-HL-071252, R01-HL-071258, R01-HL-071259, and UL1-RR-025005. Funding for MESA SHARe genotyping was provided by NHLBI Contract N02-HL-6-4278. The provision of genotyping data was supported in part by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, CTSI grant UL1TR001181, and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease Diabetes Research Center (DRC) grant DK063491 to the Southern California Diabetes Endocrinology Research Center.
<b>METSIM</b>	Academy of Finland (137,544 and 272,741), the Finnish Cardiovascular Research Foundation. Genotyping was conducted at the Genetic Resources Core Facility (GRCF) at the Johns Hopkins Institute of Genetic Medicine.
<b>Michael O. Woods</b>	Funding was kindly provided to M.O.W. by the Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute
<b>MONICA-Brianza</b>	Research Center on Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, University of Insubria, Varese: MM Ferrario (principal investigator), F Gianfagna, G Veronesi. Research Centre on Public Health, University of Milano-Bicocca, Monza, Italy: Giancarlo Cesana, P Brambilla and So Signorini from Laboratory Medicine, Desio Hospital are acknowledged for lab analysis and biobanking. The Brianza cohort study have been supported by the Health Administration of Regione Lombardia [grant n 17155/2004 and 10800/2009] and by the Italian Ministry of Health through a collaboration with the Istituto Superiore di Sanità [grant 2012/597].
<b>Montreal Heart Institute Biobank (MHIBB)</b>	We thank all participants and staff of the André and France Desmarais Montreal Heart Institute's (MHI) Biobank. The genotyping of the MHI Biobank was done at the MHI Pharmacogenomic Centre and funded by the MHI Foundation.
<b>MORGAM Data Centre</b>	The MORGAM Project received funding during the work from European Union FP 7 projects CHANCES (HEALTH-F3-2010-242244) and BiomarCaRE (278913). This has supported central coordination and part of the activities of the The MORGAM Data Centre, at THL in Helsinki, Finland. MORGAM Participating Centres are funded by regional and national governments, research councils, charities, and other local sources
<b>Niels Grarup, Torben Hansen, Oluf Pedersen, Henrik Vestergaard, Jette Bork-Jensen, Mette Hollensted, Vincent Appel, Christian T. Have, Anette P. Gjesing, Johanne M. Justesen, Kristine H. Allin</b>	The Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Basic Metabolic Research is an independent Research Center at the University of Copenhagen partially funded by an unrestricted donation from the Novo Nordisk Foundation (www.metabol.ku.dk).
<b>Nijmegen</b>	The Nijmegen Biomedical Study is a population-based survey conducted at the Department for Health Evidence and the Department of Laboratory Medicine of the Radboud university medical center. Principal investigators of the Nijmegen Biomedical Study are L.A.L.M. Kiemeny, A.L.M. Verbeek, D.W. Swinkels en B. Franke. The NBS exome chip data were generated in a research project that was financially supported by BBMRI-NL, a Research Infrastructure financed by the Dutch government (NWO 184.021.007). The Nijmegen Bladder Cancer Study, NBCS exome chip data were generated in a research project that was financially supported by BBMRI-NL, a Research Infrastructure financed by the Dutch government (NWO 184.021.007).

<b>OBB</b>	The Oxford Biobank is supported by the Oxford Biomedical Research Centre and part of the National NIHR Bioresource.
<b>Ophthalmic Western Australia Biobank</b>	The OWAB acknowledges financial support for participant recruitment and sample processing provided by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) of Australia (#1023911), the Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia, the BrightFocus Foundation and a Ramaciotti Establishment Grant. CERA receives Operational Infrastructure Support from the Victorian Government.
<b>Pal R. Njolstad</b>	European Research Council (AdG; 293574), Research Council of Norway, University of Bergen, KG Jebsen Foundation, Helse Vest, Norwegian Diabetes Association
<b>Patrick T. Ellinor</b>	This work was supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health to Dr. Ellinor (1RO1HL092577, R01HL128914, K24HL105780). Dr. Ellinor is also supported by an Established Investigator Award from the American Heart Association (13EIA14220013) and by the Fondation Leducq (14CVD01).
<b>Paul L. Auer</b>	Paul L. Auer was supported by NHLBI R21 HL121422-02 and R01 DK089256-05.
<b>Paul L. Huang</b>	NIH grants NS33335 and HL57818
<b>PIVUS and ULSAM</b>	These projects were supported by Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation (Wallenberg Academy Fellow), European Research Council (ERC Starting Grant), Swedish Diabetes Foundation (2013-024), Swedish Research Council (2012-1397, 2012-1727, and 2012-2215), Marianne and Marcus Wallenberg Foundation, County Council of Dalarna, Dalarna University, and Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation (20120197). The computations were performed on resources provided by SNIC through Uppsala Multidisciplinary Center for Advanced Computational Science (UPPMAX) under Project b2011036. Genotyping was funded by the Wellcome Trust under awards WT064890 and WT086596. Analysis of genetic data was funded by the Wellcome Trust under awards WT098017 and WT090532. We thank the SNP&SEQ Technology Platform in Uppsala ( <a href="http://www.genotyping.se">www.genotyping.se</a> ) for excellent genotyping.
<b>PROMIS</b>	We are thankful to all the study participants in Pakistan. Recruitment in PROMIS was funded through grants available to investigators at the Center for Non-Communicable Diseases, Pakistan (Danish Saleheen and Philippe Frossard) and investigators at the University of Cambridge, UK (Danish Saleheen and John Danesh). Field-work, genotyping, and standard clinical chemistry assays in PROMIS were principally supported by grants awarded to the University of Cambridge from the British Heart Foundation, UK Medical Research Council, Wellcome Trust, EU Framework 6-funded Bloodomics Integrated Project, Pfizer, Novartis, and Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ USA.
<b>PRIME Study</b>	We thank the PRIME Study participants and staff for their contribution to the study. The recruitment of the PRIME Study was organized under an agreement between the French National Institute for Medical Research (Inserm) and the Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ USA, Sharpe and Dohme-Chibret Laboratory, with the following participating Laboratories : The Strasbourg MONICA Project, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, EA 3430, University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, F-67085, France (D. Arveiler, B. Haas); The Toulouse MONICA Project, INSERM,UMR 1027; and Department of Epidemiology, Universite Paul Sabatier - Toulouse Purpan, Toulouse, France (J. Ferrieres, JB. Ruidavets); The Lille MONICA project; INSERM, U744; Institut Pasteur de Lille; Univ Lille Nord de France; UDSL, Lille, France (P. Amouyel, M. Montaye); The Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland (A. Evans, J. Yarnell, F. Kee); The Department of Atherosclerosis, INSERM, U545, Lille; Institut Pasteur de Lille, Lille; and Faculté de Médecine, and Université Lille Nord de France, Lille, France (G. Luc, JM. Bard); The Laboratory of Haematology, INSERM, U626, Marseille, Hôpital La Timone, Marseille, France (I. Juhan-Vague, Pierre Morange); Laboratory of Endocrinology, INSERM, U563, Toulouse, France (B. Perret); The Vitamin Research Unit, The University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland (F. Gey); The Nutrition and Metabolism Group, Centre for Public Health, Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland (Jayne Woodside, Ian Young); The DNA Bank, INSERM/UPMC, Paris Universitatis UMRS 937, Paris, F-75013 (F. Cambien); The Coordinating Center, INSERM, Universite Paris-Sud, Villejuif, France (P. Ducimetiere, A. Bingham).



<b>PROSPER/WOSCOPS</b>	The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n° HEALTH-F2-2009-223004.
<b>QIMR</b>	We are grateful to the twins and their families for their generous participation in these studies. We would like to thank staff at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research: Dixie Statham, Ann Eldridge and Marlene Grace for sample collection, Lisa Bowdler, Steven Crooks and staff of the Molecular Epidemiology Laboratory for sample processing and preparation, Scott Gordon, Brian McEvoy, Belinda Cornes and Beben Benyamin for data QC and preparation, and David Smyth and Harry Beeby for IT support. We acknowledge funding from the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC grants 241944, 339446, 389875, 389891, 389892, 389938, 442915, 442981, 496739, 496688, 552485, 613672, 613674, 619667, 1049472, 1050208, 1075175, 1078399), the U.S. National Institute of Health (grants AA07535, AA10248, AA014041, AA13320, AA13321, AA13326, AA011998 and DA12854) and the Australian Research Council (ARC grant DP0770096).
<b>Rebecca S. Fine</b>	NIH T32 GM096911-05
<b>RISC</b>	The RISC study was supported by European Union grant QLG1-CT-2001-01252 and AstraZeneca. The initial genotyping of the RISC samples was funded by Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ USA.
<b>RSI</b>	The generation and management of the Illumina exome chip v1.0 array data for the Rotterdam Study (RS-I) was executed by the Human Genotyping Facility of the Genetic Laboratory of the Department of Internal Medicine, Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, The Netherlands. The Exome chip array data set was funded by the Genetic Laboratory of the Department of Internal Medicine, Erasmus MC, from the Netherlands Genomics Initiative (NGI)/Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)-sponsored Netherlands Consortium for Healthy Aging (NCHA; project nr. 050-060-810); the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO; project number 184021007) and by the Rainbow Project (RP10; Netherlands Exome Chip Project) of the Biobanking and Biomolecular Research Infrastructure Netherlands (BBMRI-NL; www.bbMRI.nl ). We thank Ms. Mila Jhamai, Ms. Sarah Higgins, and Mr. Marijn Verkerk for their help in creating the exome chip database, and Carolina Medina-Gomez, MSc, Lennard Karsten, MSc, and Linda Broer PhD for QC and variant calling. Variants were called using the best practice protocol developed by Grove et al. as part of the CHARGE consortium exome chip central calling effort. The Rotterdam Study is funded by Erasmus Medical Center and Erasmus University, Rotterdam, Netherlands Organization for the Health Research and Development (ZonMw), the Research Institute for Diseases in the Elderly (RIDE), the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the Ministry for Health, Welfare and Sports, the European Commission (DG XII), and the Municipality of Rotterdam. The authors are grateful to the study participants, the staff from the Rotterdam Study and the participating general practitioners and pharmacists.
<b>SEARCH</b>	CRUK ref: A490/A10124
<b>SEARCH/SIBS genotyping</b>	CRUK ref: C8197/A16565
<b>SHIP/SHIP-Trend</b>	SHIP is part of the Community Medicine Research net of the University of Greifswald, Germany, which is funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (grants no. 01ZZ9603, 01ZZ0103, and 01ZZ0403), the Ministry of Cultural Affairs as well as the Social Ministry of the Federal State of Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, and the network 'Greifswald Approach to Individualized Medicine (GANI_MED)' funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (grant 03IS2061A). ExomeChip data have been supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (grant no. 03Z1CN22) and the Federal State of Mecklenburg-West Pomerania. The University of Greifswald is a member of the Caché Campus program of the InterSystems GmbH.
<b>SIBS</b>	CRUK ref: C1287/A8459
<b>Silk Road</b>	The study was funded by the sponsors of the scientific expedition Marcopolo 2010, and by Ministry of Health RC 35/09

<b>SORBS</b>	This work was supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany, FKZ: 01EO1501 (AD2-060E). This project was further supported by grants from the Collaborative Research Center funded by the German Research Foundation (CRC 1052; C01, B01, B03), from the German Diabetes Association, from the DHFD (Diabetes Hilfs- und Forschungsfonds Deutschland) and from Boehringer Ingelheim Foundation . We thank all those who participated in the study. Sincere thanks are given to Knut Krohn (Microarray Core Facility of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Clinical Research, University of Leipzig) for the genotyping support.
<b>Southampton</b>	The Southampton study acknowledges Southampton Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility for research nurse support in collecting DNA samples. AJL supported at the University of Southampton by funding from The Wellcome Trust (076169/A), American Health Assistance Foundation (M2007110), Macula Vision Research Foundation, TFC Frost Charitable Trust, Brian Mercer Charitable Trust, Macular Society, Hobart Trust and the Gift of Sight appeal.
<b>STC2 functional work</b>	The Danish Council for Independent Research and The Lundbeck Foundation, both to C.O.
<b>Steven A. Lubitz</b>	NIH grants K23HL114724 and Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Clinical Scientist Development Award 2014105
<b>The Mother Child Cohort of Norway</b>	The Norwegian Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education and Research, NIH/NIEHS (contract no. N01-ES-75558), and NIH/NINDS (grant no. 1 UO1 NS 047537-01 and grant no. 2 UO1 NS 047537-06A1)
<b>The Mount Sinai BioMe Biobank</b>	The Mount Sinai IPM Biobank Program is supported by The Andrea and Charles Bronfman Philanthropies.
<b>The NEO Study</b>	The authors of the NEO study thank all individuals who participated in the Netherlands Epidemiology in Obesity study, all participating general practitioners for inviting eligible participants and all research nurses for collection of the data. We thank the NEO study group, Pat van Beelen, Petra Noordijk and Ingeborg de Jonge for the coordination, lab and data management of the NEO study. The genotyping in the NEO study was supported by the Centre National de Génotypage (Paris, France), headed by Jean-Francois Deleuze. The NEO study is supported by the participating Departments, the Division and the Board of Directors of the Leiden University Medical Center, and by the Leiden University, Research Profile Area Vascular and Regenerative Medicine. Dennis Mook-Kanamori is supported by Dutch Science Organization (ZonMW-VENI Grant 916.14.023).
<b>The NHPAC study and the GBTDS study</b>	The NHPAC study and the GBTDS study are supported by the National Basic Research Program of China (973 Program 2012CB524900), and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (30930081, 81170734, 81321062, and 81471013). We are grateful to all participants of the NHAPC and the GBTDS studies, and also thank our colleagues at the laboratory and local CDC staffs of Beijing and Shanghai, as well as local staffs of the Bijie People's Hospital for their assistance with data collection.
<b>The Western Australian Pregnancy Cohort (Raine) Study</b>	This study was supported by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia [grant numbers 403981, 1021105, 003209, 82893, and 572613] and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research [grant number MOP-82893]. The authors are grateful to the Raine Study participants and their families, and to the Raine Study research staff for cohort co-ordination and data collection. The authors gratefully acknowledge the following institutes for providing funding for Core Management of the Raine Study: The University of Western Australia (UWA), Curtin University, the Raine Medical Research Foundation, the UWA Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, the Telethon Kids Institute, the Women and Infants Research Foundation and Edith Cowan University.. This work was supported by resources provided by the Pawsey Supercomputing Centre with funding from the Australian Government and Government of Western Australia.
<b>Thomas F. Vogt</b>	Thomas F.Vogt current affiliation: CHDI Management/CHDI Foundation, Princeton, New Jersey, USA
<b>Timothy D Spector</b>	Timothy D Spector is holder of an ERC Advanced Principal Investigator award.

<b>TUDR</b>	This study was supported by the National Eye Institute of the National Institutes of Health (EY014684 to J.I.R. and Y.-D.I.C.) and ARRA Supplement (EY014684-03S1, -04S1), the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease grant DK063491 to the Southern California Diabetes Endocrinology Research Center, the Eye Birth Defects Foundation Inc., the National Science Council, Taiwan (NSC 98-2314-B-075A-002-MY3 to W.H.S.) and the Taichung Veterans General Hospital, Taichung, Taiwan (TCVGH-1003001C to W.H.S.), the Ministry of Science and Technology, Taiwan (MOST 104-2314-B-075A-006 -MY3 to W.H.S.) and the Taichung Veterans General Hospital, Taichung, Taiwan (TCVGH-1030101C to W.H.S.).
<b>Tune H. Pers</b>	Lundbeck Foundation and Benzon Foundation for support
<b>TwinsUK</b>	TwinsUK study was funded by the Wellcome Trust; European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013). The study also receives support from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) BioResource Clinical Research Facility and Biomedical Research Centre based at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust and King's College London.
<b>UCLA-Utrecht</b>	Funding provided by NIMH R01 MH090553 and R01 MH078075 (to RAO)
<b>UKGPCS</b>	UKGPCS would also like to thank the following for funding support: The Institute of Cancer Research and The Everyman Campaign, The Prostate Cancer Research Foundation, Prostate Research Campaign UK (now Prostate Action), The Orchid Cancer Appeal, The National Cancer Research Network UK, The National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) UK. We are grateful for support of NIHR funding to the NIHR Biomedical Research Centre at The Institute of Cancer Research and The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust. UKGPCS should also like to acknowledge the NCRN nurses, data managers and Consultants for their work in the UKGPCS study. A list of UKGPCS collaborators can be found at: <a href="http://www.icr.ac.uk/our-research/research-divisions/division-of-genetics-and-epidemiology/oncogenetics/research-projects/ukgpcs/ukgpcs-collaborators">http://www.icr.ac.uk/our-research/research-divisions/division-of-genetics-and-epidemiology/oncogenetics/research-projects/ukgpcs/ukgpcs-collaborators</a>
<b>UKOPS</b>	The UKOPS study was funded by The Eve Appeal (The Oak Foundation) and supported by the National Institute for Health Research University College London Hospitals Biomedical Research Centre (to U. Menon and S.A. Gayther).
<b>Utrecht Health Project (UHP)</b>	The Utrecht Health Project received grants from the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports (VWS), the University of Utrecht, the Province of Utrecht, the Dutch Organisation of Care Research, the University Medical Centre of Utrecht, and the Dutch College of Healthcare Insurance Companies.
<b>Utrecht Health Project (UHP)</b>	The exome chip data were generated in a research project that was financially supported by BBMRI-NL, a Research Infrastructure financed by the Dutch government (NWO 184.021.007).
<b>Valérie Turcot</b>	VT is funded by a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) postdoctoral fellowship.
<b>Vejle Biobank</b>	The Vejle Diabetes Biobank was supported by The Danish Research Council for Independent Research
<b>Warren, Munroe and Caulfield</b>	This work forms part of the research themes contributing to the translational research portfolio for the NIHR Barts Cardiovascular Biomedical Research Unit, UK. Caulfield is a NIHR Senior Investigator.
<b>Women's Genome Health Study (WGHS)</b>	The WGHS is supported by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (HL043851 and HL080467) and the National Cancer Institute (CA047988 and UM1CA182913), with collaborative scientific support and funding for genotyping provided by Amgen.

<b>WHI</b>	The WHI program is funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the US National Institutes of Health and the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHSN268201100046C, HHSN268201100001C, HHSN268201100002C, HHSN268201100003C, HHSN268201100004C and HHSN271201100004C). Exome chip data and analysis were supported through the Exome Sequencing Project (NHLBI RC2 HL-102924, RC2 HL-102925 and RC2 HL-102926), the Genetics and Epidemiology of Colorectal Cancer Consortium (NCI CA137088), and the Genomics and Randomized Trials Network (NHGRI U01-HG005152). The authors thank the WHI investigators and staff for their dedication and the study participants for making the program possible.
<b>YFS</b>	The Young Finns Study has been financially supported by the Academy of Finland: grants 286284, 134309 (Eye), 126925, 121584, 124282, 129378 (Salve), 117787 (Gendi), and 41071 (Skidi); the Social Insurance Institution of Finland; Kuopio, Tampere and Turku University Hospital Medical Funds (grant X51001); Juho Vainio Foundation; Paavo Nurmi Foundation; Finnish Foundation of Cardiovascular Research ; Finnish Cultural Foundation; Tampere Tuberculosis Foundation ; Emil Aaltonen Foundation ; and Yrjö Jahnsso Foundation. The expert technical assistance in the statistical analyses by Ville Aalto and Irina Lisinen is gratefully acknowledged.
<b>Zoltan Kutalik</b>	Leenaards Foundation( <a href="http://www.leenaards.ch/">http://www.leenaards.ch/</a> ), Swiss National Science Foundation (31003A-143914) and SystemsX.ch (51RTP0_151019).
<b>Simon de Denus</b>	Simon de Denus is supported by the Montreal Heart Institute Foundation and is the recipient of the Université de Montréal Beaulieu-Saucier Chair in Pharmacogenomics.
<b>Valerie Turcot</b>	Valerie Turcot is supported by a postdoctoral fellowship from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
<b>UCP</b>	We acknowledge Prof.Dr. Olaf H. Klungel and Dr. Anke-Hilse Maitland-Van der Zee for granting access to the UCP study data. The exome chip data were generated in a research project that was financially supported by BBMRI-NL, a Research Infrastructure financed by the Dutch government (NWO 184.021.007)
<b>j. Andrew Pospisilik</b>	NIH and the Max Planck Society
<b>Iris M Heid</b>	BMBF 01ER1206 and BMBF 01ER1507
<b>Claus Oxvig</b>	Funding sources: The Danish Council for Independent Research, the Novo Nordisk Foundation, and The Lundbeck Foundation.
<b>Stuart MacGregor</b>	Stuart MacGregor is supported by an Australian Research Council Future Fellowship.
<b>Fotios Drenos</b>	FD is supported by the UK Medical Research Council (MC_UU_12013/1-9)
<b>Bratati Kahali and Elizabeth K. Speliotes</b>	BK and EKS were supported by the Doris Duke Medical Foundation, NIH grant R01DK106621-01, the University of Michigan Internal Medicine Department, Division of Gastroenterology, the University of Michigan Biological Sciences Scholars Program and The Central Society for Clinical Research
<b>Young Finns Study (YFS)</b>	The Young Finns Study has been financially supported by the Academy of Finland: grants 286284, 134309 (Eye), 126925, 121584, 124282, 129378 (Salve), 117787 (Gendi), and 41071 (Skidi); the Social Insurance Institution of Finland; Competitive State Research Financing of the Expert Responsibility area of Kuopio, Tampere and Turku University Hospitals (grant X51001); Juho Vainio Foundation; Paavo Nurmi Foundation; Finnish Foundation for Cardiovascular Research ; Finnish Cultural Foundation; Tampere Tuberculosis Foundation; Emil Aaltonen Foundation; Yrjö Jahnsso Foundation; Signe and Ane Gyllenberg Foundation; and Diabetes Research Foundation of Finnish Diabetes Association. The expert technical assistance in the statistical analyses by Irina Lisinen is gratefully acknowledged.

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