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Genetic Variants in Novel Pathways Influence Blood Pressure and Cardiovascular Disease Risk

The International Consortium for Blood Pressure Genome-Wide Association Studies

Abstract

Blood pressure (BP) is a heritable trait¹ influenced by multiple biological pathways and is responsive to environmental stimuli. Over one billion people worldwide have hypertension (BP 140 mm Hg systolic [SBP] or 90 mm Hg diastolic [DBP])². Even small increments in BP are associated with increased risk of cardiovascular events³. This genome-wide association study of SBP and DBP, which used a multi-stage design in 200,000 individuals of European descent, identified 16 novel loci: six of these loci contain genes previously known or suspected to regulate BP (*GUCY1A3-GUCY1B3*; *NPR3-C5orf23*; *ADM*; *FURIN-FES*; *GOSR2*; *GNAS-EDN3*); the other 10 provide new clues to BP physiology. A genetic risk score based on 29 genome-wide significant variants was associated with hypertension, left ventricular wall thickness, stroke, and coronary artery disease, but not kidney disease or kidney function. We also observed associations with BP in East Asian, South Asian, and African ancestry individuals. Our findings provide new insights into the genetics and biology of BP, and suggest novel potential therapeutic pathways for cardiovascular disease prevention.

Genetic approaches have advanced the understanding of biological pathways underlying inter-individual variation in BP. For example, studies of rare Mendelian BP disorders have identified multiple defects in renal sodium handling pathways⁴. More recently two genome-wide association studies (GWAS), each of >25,000 individuals of European-ancestry, identified 13 loci associated with SBP, DBP, and hypertension^{5,6}. We now report results of a new meta-analysis of GWAS data that includes staged follow-up genotyping to identify additional BP loci.

Primary analyses evaluated associations between 2.5 million genotyped or imputed single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and SBP and DBP in 69,395 individuals of European ancestry from 29 studies (Supplementary Materials Sections 1–3, Supplementary Tables 1–2). Following GWAS meta-analysis, we conducted a three-stage validation experiment that made efficient use of available genotyping resources, to follow up top signals in up to 133,661 additional individuals of European descent (Supplementary Fig. 1 and Supplementary Materials Section 4). Twenty-nine independent SNPs at 28 loci were significantly associated with SBP, DBP, or both in the meta-analysis combining discovery and follow up data (Fig. 1, Table 1, Supplementary Figs 2–3, Supplementary Tables 3–5). All 29 SNPs attained association $P < 5 \times 10^{-9}$, an order of magnitude beyond the standard genome-wide significance level for a single stage experiment (Table 1).

Sixteen of these 29 associations were novel (Table 1). Two associations were near the *FURIN* and *GOSR2* genes; prior targeted analyses of variants in these genes suggested they

Note added in proof: Since this manuscript was submitted, Kato et al published a BP GWAS in East Asians that identified a SNP highly correlated to the SNP we report at the *NPR3-c5orf23* locus²⁸.

Author contributions

Full author contributions and roles are listed in the Supplementary Materials Section 19.

may be BP loci^{7,8}. At the *CACNB2* locus we validated association for a previously reported⁶ SNP rs4373814 and detected a novel independent association for rs1813353 (pairwise $r^2 = 0.015$ in HapMap CEU). Of our 13 previously reported associations^{5,6}, only the association at *PLCD3* was not supported by the current results (Supplementary Table 4). Some of the associations are in or near genes involved in pathways known to influence BP (*NPR3*, *GUCY1A3-GUCY1B3*, *ADM*, *GNAS-EDN3*, *NPPA-NPPB*, and *CYP17A1*; Supplementary Fig. 4). Twenty-two of the 28 loci did not contain genes that were *a priori* strong biological candidates.

As expected from prior BP GWAS results, the effects of the novel variants on SBP and DBP were small (Fig. 1 and Table 1). For all variants, the observed directions of effects were concordant for SBP, DBP, and hypertension (Fig. 1, Table 1, Supplementary Fig. 3). Among the genes at the genome-wide significant loci, only *CYP17A1*, previously implicated in Mendelian congenital adrenal hyperplasia and hypertension, is known to harbour rare variants that have large effects on BP⁹.

We performed several analyses to identify potential causal alleles and mechanisms. First, we looked up the 29 genome-wide significant index SNPs and their close proxies ($r^2 > 0.8$) among *cis*-acting expression SNP (eSNP) results from multiple tissues (Supplementary Materials Section 5). For 13/29 index SNPs, we found association between nearby eSNP variants and expression level of at least one gene transcript ($10^{-4} > p > 10^{-51}$, Supplementary Table 6). In 5 cases, the index BP SNP and the best eSNP from a genome-wide survey were identical, highlighting potential mediators of the SNP-BP associations.

Second, because changes in protein sequence are strong *a priori* candidates to be functional, we sought non-synonymous coding SNPs that were in high LD ($r^2 > 0.8$) with the 29 index SNPs. We identified such SNPs at 8 loci (Table 1, Supplementary Materials Section 6, Supplementary Table 7). In addition we performed analyses testing for differences in genetic effect according to body mass index (BMI) or sex, and analyses of copy number variants, pathway enrichment, and metabolomic data, but we did not find any statistically significant results (Supplementary Materials Sections 7–9, Supplementary Tables 8–10).

We evaluated whether the BP variants we identified in Europeans were associated with BP in individuals of East Asian (N=29,719), South Asian (N=23,977), and African (N=19,775) ancestries (Table 1, Supplementary Tables 11–13). We found significant associations in individuals of East Asian ancestry for SNPs at 9 loci and in individuals of South Asian ancestry for SNPs at 6 loci; some have been reported previously (Supplementary Tables 12 and 15). The lack of significant association for individual SNPs may reflect small sample sizes, differences in allele frequencies or LD patterns, imprecise imputation for some ancestries using existing reference samples, or a genuinely different underlying genetic architecture. Because of limited power to detect effects of individual variants in the smaller non-European samples, we created genetic risk scores for SBP and DBP incorporating all 29 BP variants weighted according to effect sizes observed in the European samples. In each non-European ancestry group, risk scores were strongly associated with SBP ($P=1.1 \times 10^{-40}$ in East Asian, $P=2.9 \times 10^{-13}$ in South Asian, $P=9.8 \times 10^{-4}$ in African ancestry individuals) and DBP ($P=2.9 \times 10^{-48}$, $P=9.5 \times 10^{-15}$, and $P=5.3 \times 10^{-5}$, respectively; Supplementary Table 13).

We also created a genetic risk score to assess association of the variants in aggregate with hypertension and with clinical measures of hypertensive complications including left ventricular mass, left ventricular wall thickness, incident heart failure, incident and prevalent stroke, prevalent coronary artery disease (CAD), kidney disease, and measures of kidney function, using results from other GWAS consortia (Table 2, Supplementary Materials Sections 10–11, Supplementary Table 14). The risk score was weighted using the average of

SBP and DBP effects for the 29 SNPs. In an independent sample of 23,294 women¹⁰, an increase of 1 standard deviation in the genetic risk score was associated with a 21% increase in the odds of hypertension (95% CI 19%–28%; Table 2, Supplementary Table 14). Among individuals in the top decile of the risk score, the prevalence of hypertension was 29% compared with 16% in the bottom decile (odds ratio 2.09, 95% CI 1.86–2.36). Similar results were observed in an independent hypertension case-control sample (Table 2). In our study, individuals in the top compared to bottom quintiles of genetic risk score differed by 4.6 mm Hg SBP and 3.0 mm Hg DBP, differences that approach population-averaged BP treatment effects for a single antihypertensive agent¹¹. Epidemiologic data have shown that differences in SBP and DBP of this magnitude, across the population range of BP, are associated with an increase in cardiovascular disease risk³. Consistent with this and in line with findings from randomized trials of BP-lowering medication in hypertensive patients^{12,13}, the genetic risk score was positively associated with left ventricular wall thickness ($P=6.0\times 10^{-6}$), occurrence of stroke ($P=3.3\times 10^{-5}$) and CAD ($P=8.1\times 10^{-29}$). The same genetic risk score was not, however, significantly associated with chronic kidney disease or measures of kidney function, even though these renal outcomes were available in a similar sample size as for the other outcomes (Table 2). The absence of association with kidney phenotypes could be explained by a weaker causal relation of BP with kidney phenotypes than with CAD and stroke. This finding is consistent with the mismatch between observational data that show a positive association of BP with kidney disease, and clinical trial data that show inconsistent evidence of benefit of BP lowering on kidney disease prevention in patients with hypertension¹⁴. Thus, several lines of evidence converge to suggest that BP elevation may in part be a consequence rather than a cause of sub-clinical kidney disease.

Our discovery meta-analysis (Supplementary Fig. 2) suggests an excess of modestly significant ($10^{-5} < P < 10^{-2}$) associations likely arising from common BP variants of small effect. By dividing our principal GWAS dataset into non-overlapping discovery ($N\approx 56,000$) and validation ($N\approx 14,000$) subsets, we found robust evidence for the existence of such undetected common variants (Supplementary Fig. 5, Supplementary Materials Section 12). We estimate¹⁵ that there are 116 (95% CI 57–174) independent BP variants with effect sizes similar to those reported here, which collectively explain $\approx 2.2\%$ of the phenotypic variance for SBP and DBP, compared with 0.9% explained by the 29 associations discovered thus far (Supplementary Fig. 6, Supplementary Materials Section 13).

Most of the 28 BP loci harbour multiple genes (Supplementary Table 15, Supplementary Fig. 4), and although substantial research is required to identify the specific genes and variants responsible for these associations, several loci contain highly plausible biological candidates. The *NPPA* and *NPPB* genes at the *MTHFR-NPPB* locus encode precursors for atrial- and B-type natriuretic peptides (ANP, BNP), and previous work has identified SNPs, modestly correlated with our index SNP at this locus, that are associated with plasma ANP, BNP, and BP¹⁶. We found the index SNP at this locus was associated with opposite effects on BP and on ANP/BNP levels, consistent with a model in which the variants act through increased ANP/BNP production to lower BP¹⁶ (Supplementary Materials Section 14).

Two other loci identified in the current study harbour genes involved in natriuretic peptide and related nitric oxide signalling pathways,^{17,18} both of which act to regulate cyclic guanosine monophosphate (cGMP). The first locus contains *NPR3*, which encodes the natriuretic peptide clearance receptor (NPR-C). *NPR3* knockout mice exhibit reduced clearance of circulating natriuretic peptides and lower BP¹⁹. The second locus includes *GUCY1A3* and *GUCY1B3*, encoding the alpha and beta subunits of soluble guanylatecyclyase (sGC); knockout of either gene in murine models results in hypertension²⁰.

Another locus contains *ADM*, encoding adrenomedullin, which has natriuretic, vasodilatory, and BP-lowering properties²¹. At the *GNAS-EDN3* locus, *ZNF831* is closest to the index SNP, but *GNAS* and *EDN3* are two nearby compelling biological candidates (Supplementary Fig. 4, Supplementary Table 15).

We identified two loci with plausible connections to BP via genes implicated in renal physiology or kidney disease. At the first locus, *SLC4A7* is an electro-neutral sodium bicarbonate co-transporter expressed in the nephron and in vascular smooth muscle²². At the second locus, *PLCE1* (phospholipase-C-epsilon-1 isoform) is important for normal podocyte development in the glomerulus; sequence variation in *PLCE1* has been implicated in familial nephrotic syndromes and end-stage kidney disease²³.

Missense variants in two genes involved in metal ion transport were associated with BP in our study. The first encodes a His/Asp change at amino acid 63 (*H63D*) in *HFE* and is a low penetrance allele for hereditary hemochromatosis²⁴. The second is an Ala/Thr polymorphism located in exon 7 of *SLC39A8*, which encodes a zinc transporter that also transports cadmium and manganese²⁵. The same allele of *SLC39A8* associated with BP in our study has recently been associated with high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol levels²⁶ and BMI²⁷ (Supplementary Table 15).

In conclusion, we have shown that 29 independent genetic variants influence BP in people of European ancestry. The variants reside in 28 loci, 16 of which were novel, and we confirmed association of several of them in individuals of non-European ancestry. A risk score derived from the 29 variants was significantly associated with BP-related organ damage and clinical cardiovascular disease, but not kidney disease. These loci improve our understanding of the genetic architecture of BP, provide new biological insights into BP control and may identify novel targets for the treatment of hypertension and the prevention of cardiovascular disease.

Methods summary

Supplementary Materials provide complete methods and include the following sections: study recruitment and phenotyping, adjustment for antihypertensive medications, genotyping, data quality control, genotype imputation, within-cohort association analyses, meta-analyses of discovery and validation stages, stratified analyses by sex and BMI, identification of eSNPs and nsSNPs, metabolomic and lipidomic analyses, CNV analyses, pathway analyses, analyses for non-European ancestries, association of a risk score with hypertension and cardiovascular disease, estimation of numbers of undiscovered variants, measurement of natriuretic peptides, and brief literature reviews and GWAS database lookups of all validated BP loci.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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Authors

Georg B. Ehret^{1,2,3*}, Patricia B. Munroe^{4*#}, Kenneth M. Rice^{5*}, Murielle Bochud^{2*}, Andrew D. Johnson^{6,7*}, Daniel I. Chasman^{8,9*}, Albert V. Smith^{10,11*}, Martin D. Tobin¹², Germaine C. Verwoert^{13,14,15}, Shih-Jen Hwang^{6,16,7}, Vasyi Pihur¹, Peter Vollenweider¹⁷, Paul F. O'Reilly¹⁸, Najaf Amin¹³, Jennifer L Bragg-Gresham¹⁹, Alexander Teumer²⁰, Nicole L. Glazer²¹, Lenore Launer²², Jing Hua Zhao²³, Yurii Aulchenko¹³, Simon

¹Center for Complex Disease Genomics, McKusick-Nathans Institute of Genetic Medicine, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD 21205, USA

²Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (IUMSP), Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois and University of Lausanne, Bugnon 17, 1005 Lausanne, Switzerland

³Cardiology, Department of Specialties of Internal Medicine, Geneva University Hospital, Rue Gabrielle-Perret-Gentil 4, 1211 Geneva 14, Switzerland

*contributed equally

⁴Clinical Pharmacology and The Genome Centre, William Harvey Research Institute, Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London, London EC1M 6BQ, UK

#to whom correspondence should be addressed: aravinda@jhmi.edu; m.j.caulfield@qmul.ac.uk; levyd@nhlbi.nih.gov;

p.b.munroe@qmul.ac.uk; cnewtonch@partners.org

⁵Department of Biostatistics, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

⁶Framingham Heart Study, Framingham, MA, USA

⁷National Heart Lung, and Blood Institute, Bethesda, MD, USA

⁸Division of Preventive Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, 900 Commonwealth Avenue East, Boston MA 02215, USA

⁹Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA

¹⁰Icelandic Heart Association, Kopavogur, Iceland

¹¹University of Iceland, Reykjavik, Iceland

¹²Department of Health Sciences, University of Leicester, University Rd, Leicester LE1 7RH, UK

¹³Department of Epidemiology, Erasmus Medical Center, PO Box 2040, 3000 CA, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

¹⁴Department of Internal Medicine, Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

¹⁵Netherlands Consortium for Healthy Aging (NCHA), Netherland Genome Initiative (NGI), The Netherlands

¹⁶Center for Population Studies, National Heart Lung, and Blood Institute, Bethesda, MD, USA

¹⁷Department of Internal Medicine, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois, 1011 Lausanne, Switzerland

¹⁸Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, Imperial College London, Norfolk Place, London W2 1PG, UK

¹⁹Center for Statistical Genetics, Department of Biostatistics, University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, USA

²⁰Interfaculty Institute for Genetics and Functional Genomics, Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-University Greifswald, 17487 Greifswald, Germany

²¹Cardiovascular Health Research Unit, Departments of Medicine, Epidemiology and Health Services, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

²²Laboratory of Epidemiology, Demography, Biometry, National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, USA

²³MRC Epidemiology Unit, Institute of Metabolic Science, Cambridge CB2 0QQ, UK

Heath²⁴, Siim Sõber²⁵, Afshin Parsa²⁶, Jian'an Luan²³, Pankaj Arora²⁷, Abbas Dehghan^{13, 14, 15}, Feng Zhang²⁸, Gavin Lucas²⁹, Andrew A. Hicks³⁰, Anne U. Jackson³¹, John F Peden³², Toshiko Tanaka³³, Sarah H. Wild³⁴, Igor Rudan^{35, 36}, Wilmar Igl³⁷, Yuri Milaneschi³³, Alex N. Parker³⁸, Cristiano Fava^{39, 40}, John C. Chambers^{18, 41}, Ervin R. Fox⁴², Meena Kumari⁴³, Min Jin Go⁴⁴, Pim van der Harst⁴⁵, Wen Hong Linda Kao⁴⁶, Marketa Sjögren³⁹, D. G. Vinay⁴⁷, Myriam Alexander⁴⁸, Yasuharu Tabara⁴⁹, Sue Shaw-Hawkins⁴, Peter H. Whincup⁵⁰, Yongmei Liu⁵¹, Gang Shi⁵², Johanna Kuusisto⁵³, Bamidele Tayo⁵⁴, Mark Seielstad^{55, 56}, Xueling Sim⁵⁷, Khanh-Dung Hoang Nguyen¹, Terho Lehtimäki⁵⁸, Giuseppe Matullo^{59, 60}, Ying Wu⁶¹, Tom R. Gaunt⁶², N. Charlotte Onland-Moret^{63, 64}, Matthew N. Cooper⁶⁵, Carl G.P. Platou⁶⁶, Elin Org²⁵, Rebecca

²⁴Centre National de Génotypage, Commissariat à L'Energie Atomique, Institut de Génomique, Evry, France

²⁵Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of Tartu, Riia 23, Tartu 51010, Estonia

²⁶University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, USA, 21201, USA

²⁷Center for Human Genetic Research, Cardiovascular Research Center, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts, 02114, USA

²⁸Department of Twin Research & Genetic Epidemiology, King's College London, UK

²⁹Cardiovascular Epidemiology and Genetics, Institut Municipal d'Investigacio Medica, Barcelona Biomedical Research Park, 88 Doctor Aiguader, 08003 Barcelona, Spain

³⁰Institute of Genetic Medicine, European Academy Bozen/Bolzano (EURAC), Viale Druso 1, 39100 Bolzano, Italy -Affiliated Institute of the University of Lübeck, Germany

³¹Department of Biostatistics, Center for Statistical Genetics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48109, USA

³²Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, The Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, University of Oxford, Oxford, OX3 7BN, UK

³³Clinical Research Branch, National Institute on Aging, Baltimore MD 21250, USA

³⁴Centre for Population Health Sciences, University of Edinburgh, EH89AG, UK

³⁵Centre for Population Health Sciences and Institute of Genetics and Molecular Medicine, College of Medicine and Vet Medicine, University of Edinburgh, EH8 9AG, UK

³⁶Croatian Centre for Global Health, University of Split, Croatia

³⁷Department of Genetics and Pathology, Rudbeck Laboratory, Uppsala University, SE-751 85 Uppsala, Sweden

³⁸Amgen, 1 Kendall Square, Building 100, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA

³⁹Department of Clinical Sciences, Lund University, Malmö, Sweden

⁴⁰Department of Medicine, University of Verona, Italy

⁴¹Ealing Hospital, London, UB1 3HJ, UK

⁴²Department of Medicine, University of Mississippi Medical Center, USA

⁴³Genetic Epidemiology Group, Epidemiology and Public Health, UCL, London, WC1E 6BT, UK

⁴⁴Center for Genome Science, National Institute of Health, Seoul, Korea

⁴⁵Department of Cardiology, University Medical Center Groningen, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

⁴⁶Departments of Epidemiology and Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore MD, USA

⁴⁷Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Uppal Road, Hyderabad 500 007, India

⁴⁸Department of Public Health and Primary Care, University of Cambridge, CB1 8RN, UK

⁴⁹Department of Basic Medical Research and Education, and Department of Geriatric Medicine, Ehime University Graduate School of Medicine, Toon, 791-0295, Japan

⁵⁰Division of Community Health Sciences, St George's University of London, London, SW17 0RE, UK

⁵¹Epidemiology & Prevention, Division of Public Health Sciences, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC 27157, USA

⁵²Division of Biostatistics and Department of Genetics, School of Medicine, Washington University in St. Louis, Saint Louis, Missouri 63110, USA

⁵³Department of Medicine, University of Eastern Finland and Kuopio University Hospital, 70210 Kuopio, Finland

⁵⁴Department of Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology, Loyola University Medical School, Maywood, IL, USA

⁵⁵Department of Laboratory Medicine & Institute of Human Genetics, University of California San Francisco, 513 Parnassus Ave. San Francisco CA 94143, USA

⁵⁶Genome Institute of Singapore, Agency for Science, Technology and Research, Singapore, 138672, Singapore

⁵⁷Centre for Molecular Epidemiology, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, Singapore, 117597, Singapore

⁵⁸Department of Clinical Chemistry, University of Tampere and Tampere University Hospital, Tampere, 33521, Finland

⁵⁹Department of Genetics, Biology and Biochemistry, University of Torino, Via Santena 19, 10126, Torino, Italy

⁶⁰Human Genetics Foundation (HUGEF), Via Nizza 52, 10126, Torino, Italy

⁶¹Department of Genetics, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, 27599, USA

⁶²MRC Centre for Causal Analyses in Translational Epidemiology, School of Social & Community Medicine, University of Bristol, Bristol BS8 2BN, UK

⁶³Julius Center for Health Sciences and Primary Care, University Medical Center Utrecht, Heidelberglaan 100, 3508 GA Utrecht, The Netherlands

⁶⁴Complex Genetics Section, Department of Medical Genetics -DBG, University Medical Center Utrecht, 3508 GA Utrecht, The Netherlands

Hardy⁶⁷, Santosh Dahgam⁶⁸, Jutta Palmen⁶⁹, Veronique Vitart⁷⁰, Peter S. Braund^{71, 72}, Tatiana Kuznetsova⁷³, Cuno S.P.M. Uiterwaal⁶³, Adebawale Adeyemo⁷⁴, Walter Palmas⁷⁵, Harry Campbell³⁵, Barbara Ludwig⁷⁶, Maciej Tomaszewski^{71, 72}, Ioanna Tzoulaki^{77, 78}, Nicholette D. Palmer⁷⁹, CARDIoGRAM consortium⁸⁰, CKDGen Consortium⁸⁰, KidneyGen Consortium⁸⁰, EchoGen consortium⁸⁰, CHARGE-HF consortium⁸⁰, Thor Aspelund^{10, 11}, Melissa Garcia²², Yen-Pei C. Chang²⁶, Jeffrey R. O'Connell²⁶, Nanette I. Steinle²⁶, Diederick E. Grobbee⁶³, Dan E. Arking¹, Sharon L. Kardina⁸¹, Alanna C. Morrison⁸², Dena Hernandez⁸³, Samer Najjar^{84, 85}, Wendy L. McArdle⁸⁶, David Hadley^{50, 87}, Morris J. Brown⁸⁸, John M. Connell⁸⁹, Aroon D. Hingorani⁹⁰, Ian N.M. Day⁶², Debbie A. Lawlor⁶², John P. Beilby^{91, 92}, Robert W. Lawrence⁶⁵, Robert Clarke⁹³, Rory Collins⁹³, Jemma C Hopewell⁹³, Halit Ongen³², Albert W. Dreisbach⁴², Yali Li⁹⁴, J.H. Young⁹⁵, Joshua C. Bis²¹, Mika Kähönen⁹⁶, Jorma Viikari⁹⁷, Linda S. Adair⁹⁸, Nanette R. Lee⁹⁹, Ming-Huei Chen¹⁰⁰, Matthias Olden^{101, 102}, Cristian Pattaro³⁰, Judith A. Hoffman Bolton¹⁰³, Anna Köttgen^{104, 103}, Sven Bergmann^{105, 106}, Vincent Mooser¹⁰⁷, Nish Chaturvedi¹⁰⁸, Timothy M. Frayling¹⁰⁹,

⁶⁵Centre for Genetic Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of Western Australia, Crawley, WA, Australia

⁶⁶HUNT Research Centre, Department of Public Health and General Practice, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, 7600 Levanger, Norway

⁶⁷MRC Unit for Lifelong Health & Ageing, London, WC1B 5JU, UK

⁶⁸Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Department of Public Health and Community Medicine, Institute of Medicine, Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg, 40530 Gothenburg, Sweden

⁶⁹Centre for Cardiovascular Genetics, University College London, London WC1E 6JF, UK

⁷⁰MRC Human Genetics Unit and Institute of Genetics and Molecular Medicine, Edinburgh, EH2, UK

⁷¹Department of Cardiovascular Sciences, University of Leicester, Glenfield Hospital, Leicester, LE3 9QP, UK

⁷²Leicester NIHR Biomedical Research Unit in Cardiovascular Disease, Glenfield Hospital, Leicester, LE3 9QP, UK

⁷³Studies Coordinating Centre, Division of Hypertension and Cardiac Rehabilitation, Department of Cardiovascular Diseases, University of Leuven, Campus Sint Rafaël, Kapucijnenvoer 35, Block D, Box 7001, 3000 Leuven, Belgium

⁷⁴Center for Research on Genomics and Global Health, National Human Genome Research Institute, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA

⁷⁵Columbia University, NY, USA

⁷⁶Department of Medicine III, Medical Faculty Carl Gustav Carus at the Technical University of Dresden, 01307 Dresden, Germany

⁷⁷Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, Imperial College, London, W2 1PG, UK

⁷⁸Clinical and Molecular Epidemiology Unit, Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology, University of Ioannina School of Medicine, Ioannina, Greece

⁷⁹Wake Forest University Health Sciences, Winston-Salem, NC 27157, USA

⁸⁰A list of consortium members is supplied in the Supplementary Materials

⁸¹Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA

⁸²Division of Epidemiology, Human Genetics and Environmental Sciences, School of Public Health, University of Texas at Houston Health Science Center, 12 Herman Pressler, Suite 453E, Houston, TX 77030, USA

⁸³Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA

⁸⁴Laboratory of Cardiovascular Science, Intramural Research Program, National Institute on Aging, NIH, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

⁸⁵Washington Hospital Center, Division of Cardiology, Washington DC, USA

⁸⁶ALSPAC Laboratory, University of Bristol, Bristol, BS8 2BN, UK

⁸⁷Pediatric Epidemiology Center, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA

⁸⁸Clinical Pharmacology Unit, University of Cambridge, Addenbrookes Hospital, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 2QQ, UK

⁸⁹University of Dundee, Ninewells Hospital & Medical School, Dundee, DD1 9SY, UK

⁹⁰Genetic Epidemiology Group, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, UCL, London WC1E 6BT, UK

⁹¹Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Western Australia, Crawley, WA, Australia

⁹²Molecular Genetics, PathWest Laboratory Medicine, Nedlands, WA, Australia

⁹³Clinical Trial Service Unit and Epidemiological Studies Unit, University of Oxford, Oxford, OX3 7LF, UK

⁹⁴Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Case Western Reserve University, 2103 Cornell Road, Cleveland, OH 44106, USA

⁹⁵Department of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA

⁹⁶Department of Clinical Physiology, University of Tampere and Tampere University Hospital, Tampere, 33521, Finland

⁹⁷Department of Medicine, University of Turku and Turku University Hospital, Turku, 20521, Finland

⁹⁸Department of Nutrition, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, 27599, USA

⁹⁹Office of Population Studies Foundation, University of San Carlos, Talamban, Cebu City 6000, Philippines

¹⁰⁰Department of Neurology and Framingham Heart Study, Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA, 02118, USA

¹⁰¹Department of Internal Medicine II, University Medical Center Regensburg, 93053 Regensburg, Germany

¹⁰²Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, University Medical Center Regensburg, 93053 Regensburg, Germany

¹⁰³Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore MD, USA

¹⁰⁴Renal Division, University Hospital Freiburg, Germany

¹⁰⁵Département de Génétique Médicale, Université de Lausanne, 1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

¹⁰⁶Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, 1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

¹⁰⁷Division of Genetics, GlaxoSmithKline, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101, USA

Muhammad Islam¹¹⁰, Tazeen H. Jafar¹¹⁰, Jeanette Erdmann¹¹¹, Smita R. Kulkarni¹¹², Stefan R. Bornstein⁷⁶, Jürgen Grässler⁷⁶, Leif Groop^{113, 114}, Benjamin F. Voight¹¹⁵, Johannes Kettunen^{116, 126}, Philip Howard¹¹⁷, Andrew Taylor⁴³, Simonetta Guarrera⁶⁰, Fulvio Ricceri^{59, 60}, Valur Emilsson¹¹⁸, Andrew Plump¹¹⁸, Inês Barroso^{119, 120}, Kay-Tee Khaw⁴⁸, Alan B. Weder¹²¹, Steven C. Hunt¹²², Yan V. Sun⁸¹, Richard N. Bergman¹²³, Francis S. Collins¹²⁴, Lori L. Bonnycastle¹²⁴, Laura J. Scott³¹, Heather M. Stringham³¹, Leena Peltonen^{119, 125, 126, 127}, Markus Perola¹²⁵, Erkki Vartiainen¹²⁵, Stefan-Martin Brand^{128, 129}, Jan A. Staessen⁷³, Thomas J. Wang^{6, 130}, Paul R. Burton^{12, 72}, Maria Soler Artigas¹², Yanbin Dong¹³¹, Harold Snieder^{132, 131}, Xiaoling Wang¹³¹, Haidong Zhu¹³¹, Kurt K. Lohman¹³³, Megan E. Rudock⁵¹, Susan R Heckbert^{134, 135}, Nicholas L Smith^{134, 136, 135}, Kerri L Wiggins¹³⁷, Ayo Doumatey⁷⁴, Daniel Shriner⁷⁴, Gudrun Veldre^{25, 138}, Margus Viigimaa^{139, 140}, Sanjay Kinra¹⁴¹, Dorairajan Prabhakaran¹⁴², Vikal Tripathy¹⁴², Carl D. Langefeld⁷⁹, Annika Rosengren¹⁴³, Dag S. Thelle¹⁴⁴, Anna Maria Corsi¹⁴⁵, Andrew Singleton⁸³, Terrence Forrester¹⁴⁶, Gina Hilton¹, Colin A. McKenzie¹⁴⁶,

¹⁰⁸International Centre for Circulatory Health, National Heart & Lung Institute, Imperial College, London, UK

¹⁰⁹Genetics of Complex Traits, Peninsula Medical School, University of Exeter, UK

¹¹⁰Department of Community Health Sciences & Department of Medicine, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan

¹¹¹Medizinische Klinik II, Universität zu Lübeck, Lübeck, Germany

¹¹²Diabetes Unit, KEM Hospital and Research Centre, Rasta Peth, Pune-411011, Maharashtra, India

¹¹³Department of Clinical Sciences, Diabetes and Endocrinology Research Unit, University Hospital, Malmö, Sweden

¹¹⁴Lund University, Malmö 20502, Sweden

¹¹⁵Program in Medical and Population Genetics, Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02139, USA

¹¹⁶Department of Chronic Disease Prevention, National Institute for Health and Welfare, FIN-00251 Helsinki, Finland

¹²⁶FIMM, Institute for Molecular Medicine, Finland, Biomedicum, P.O. Box 104, 00251 Helsinki, Finland

¹¹⁷William Harvey Research Institute, Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London, London EC1M 6BQ, UK

¹¹⁸Merck Research Laboratory, 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065, USA

¹¹⁹Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, Hinxton, CB10 1SA, UK

¹²⁰University of Cambridge Metabolic Research Labs, Institute of Metabolic Science Addenbrooke's Hospital, CB2 0QQ, Cambridge, UK

¹²¹Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

¹²²Cardiovascular Genetics, University of Utah School of Medicine, Salt Lake City, UT, USA

¹²³Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California 90033, USA

¹²⁴National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, USA

¹²⁵National Institute for Health and Welfare, 00271 Helsinki, Finland

¹²⁷Broad Institute, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142, USA

¹²⁸Leibniz-Institute for Arteriosclerosis Research, Department of Molecular Genetics of Cardiovascular Disease, University of Münster, Münster, Germany

¹²⁹Medical Faculty of the Westfalian Wilhelms University Muenster, Department of Molecular Genetics of Cardiovascular Disease, University of Muenster, Muenster, Germany

¹³⁰Division of Cardiology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA, USA

¹³¹Georgia Prevention Institute, Department of Pediatrics, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA, USA

¹³²Unit of Genetic Epidemiology and Bioinformatics, Department of Epidemiology, University Medical Center Groningen, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands

¹³³Department of Biostatistical Sciences, Division of Public Health Sciences, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC 27157, USA

¹³⁴Department of Epidemiology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 98195, USA

¹³⁵Group Health Research Institute, Group Health Cooperative, Seattle, WA, USA

¹³⁶Seattle Epidemiologic Research and Information Center, Veterans Health Administration Office of Research & Development, Seattle, WA 98108, USA

¹³⁷Department of Medicine, University of Washington, 98195, USA

¹³⁸Department of Cardiology, University of Tartu, L. Puusepa 8, 51014 Tartu, Estonia

¹³⁹Tallinn University of Technology, Institute of Biomedical Engineering, Ehitajate tee 5, 19086 Tallinn, Estonia

¹⁴⁰Centre of Cardiology, North Estonia Medical Centre, Sütiste tee 19, 13419 Tallinn, Estonia

¹⁴¹Division of Non-communicable disease Epidemiology, The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine London, Keppel Street, London WC1E 7HT, UK

¹⁴²South Asia Network for Chronic Disease, Public Health Foundation of India, C-1/52, SDA, New Delhi 100016, India

¹⁴³Department of Emergency and Cardiovascular Medicine, Institute of Medicine, Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg, 41685 Gothenburg, Sweden

¹⁴⁴Department of Biostatistics, Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, University of Oslo, 0317 Oslo, Norway

¹⁴⁵Tuscany Regional Health Agency, Florence, Italy

Tunde Salako¹⁴⁷, Naoharu Iwai¹⁴⁸, Yoshikuni Kita¹⁴⁹, Toshio Ogihara¹⁵⁰, Takayoshi Ohkubo^{149, 151}, Tomonori Okamura¹⁴⁸, Hirotsugu Ueshima¹⁵², Satoshi Umemura¹⁵³, Susana Eyheramendy¹⁵⁴, Thomas Meitinger^{155, 156}, H.-Erich Wichmann^{157, 158, 159}, Yoon Shin Cho⁴⁴, Hyung-Lae Kim⁴⁴, Jong-Young Lee⁴⁴, James Scott¹⁶⁰, Joban S. Sehmi^{160, 41}, Weihua Zhang¹⁸, Bo Hedblad³⁹, Peter Nilsson³⁹, George Davey Smith⁶², Andrew Wong⁶⁷, Narisu Narisu¹²⁴, Alena Stan áková⁵³, Leslie J. Raffel¹⁶¹, Jie Yao¹⁶¹, Sekar Kathiresan^{162, 27}, Chris O'Donnell^{163, 27, 9}, Stephen M. Schwartz¹³⁴, M. Arfan Ikram^{13, 15}, W. T. Longstreth Jr.¹⁶⁴, Thomas H. Mosley¹⁶⁵, Sudha Seshadri¹⁶⁶, Nick R.G. Shrine¹², Louise V. Wain¹², Mario A. Morken¹²⁴, Amy J. Swift¹²⁴, Jaana Laitinen¹⁶⁷, Inga Prokopenko^{51, 168}, Paavo Zitting¹⁶⁹, Jackie A. Cooper⁶⁹, Steve E. Humphries⁶⁹, John Danesh⁴⁸, Asif Rasheed¹⁷⁰, Anuj Goel³², Anders Hamsten¹⁷¹, Hugh Watkins³², Stephan J.L. Bakker¹⁷², Wiek H. van Gilst⁴⁵, Charles S. Janipalli⁴⁷, K. Radha Mani⁴⁷, Chittaranjan S. Yajnik¹¹², Albert Hofman¹³, Francesco U.S. Mattace-Raso^{13, 14}, Ben A. Oostra¹⁷³, Ayse Demirkan¹³, Aaron Isaacs¹³, Fernando Rivadeneira^{13, 14}, Edward G Lakatta¹⁷⁴, Marco Orru^{175, 176}, Angelo Scuteri¹⁷⁴, Mika Ala-Korpela^{177, 178, 179}, Antti J Kangas¹⁷⁷, Leo-Pekka Lyytikäinen⁵⁸, Pasi Soininen^{177, 178}, Taru Tukiainen^{180, 181, 177}, Peter Würtz^{177, 18, 180}, Rick Twee-Hee Ong^{56, 57, 182}, Marcus Dörr¹⁸³, Heyo K. Kroemer¹⁸⁴,

¹⁴⁶Tropical Medicine Research Institute, University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston, Jamaica

¹⁴⁷University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

¹⁴⁸Department of Genomic Medicine, and Department of Preventive Cardiology, National Cerebral and Cardiovascular Research Center, Suita, 565-8565, Japan

¹⁴⁹Department of Health Science, Shiga University of Medical Science, Otsu, 520-2192, Japan

¹⁵⁰Department of Geriatric Medicine, Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine, Suita, 565-0871, Japan

¹⁵¹Tohoku University Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicine, Sendai, 980-8578, Japan

¹⁵²Lifestyle-related Disease Prevention Center, Shiga University of Medical Science, Otsu, 520-2192, Japan

¹⁵³Department of Medical Science and Cardiorenal Medicine, Yokohama City University School of Medicine, Yokohama, 236-0004, Japan

¹⁵⁴Department of Statistics, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Vicuña Mackena 4860, Santiago, Chile

¹⁵⁵Institute of Human Genetics, Helmholtz Zentrum Munich, German Research Centre for Environmental Health, 85764 Neuherberg, Germany

¹⁵⁶Institute of Human Genetics, Klinikum rechts der Isar, Technical University of Munich, 81675 Munich, Germany

¹⁵⁷Institute of Epidemiology, Helmholtz Zentrum Munich, German Research Centre for Environmental Health, 85764 Neuherberg, Germany

¹⁵⁸Chair of Epidemiology, Institute of Medical Informatics, Biometry and Epidemiology, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, 81377 Munich, Germany

¹⁵⁹Klinikum Grosshadern, 81377 Munich, Germany

¹⁶⁰National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London, London, UK, W12 0HS, UK

¹⁶¹Medical Genetics Institute, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA

¹⁶²Medical Population Genetics, Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, 5 Cambridge Center, Cambridge MA 02142, USA

¹⁶³National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and its Framingham Heart Study, 73 Mount Wayte Ave., Suite #2, Framingham, MA 01702, USA

¹⁶⁴Department of Neurology and Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle, USA

¹⁶⁵Department of Medicine (Geriatrics), University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS, USA

¹⁶⁶Department of Neurology, Boston University School of Medicine, USA

¹⁶⁷Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Aapistie 1, 90220 Oulu, Finland

¹⁶⁸Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, University of Oxford, UK

¹⁶⁹Lapland Central Hospital, Department of Psychiatry, Box 8041, 96101 Rovaniemi, Finland

¹⁷⁰Center for Non-Communicable Diseases Karachi, Pakistan

¹⁷¹Atherosclerosis Research Unit, Department of Medicine, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden

¹⁷²Department of Internal Medicine, University Medical Center Groningen, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

¹⁷³Department of Medical Genetics, Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

¹⁷⁴Gerontology Research Center, National Institute on Aging, Baltimore, MD 21224, USA

¹⁷⁵Istituto di Neurogenetica e Neurofarmacologia, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Cittadella Universitaria di Monserrato, Monserrato, Cagliari, Italy

¹⁷⁶Unita' Operativa Semplice Cardiologia, Divisione di Medicina, Presidio Ospedaliero Santa Barbara, Iglesias, Italy

¹⁷⁷Computational Medicine Research Group, Institute of Clinical Medicine, University of Oulu and Biocenter Oulu, 90014 University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland

¹⁷⁸NMR Metabonomics Laboratory, Department of Biosciences, University of Eastern Finland, 70211 Kuopio, Finland

¹⁷⁹Department of Internal Medicine and Biocenter Oulu, Clinical Research Center, 90014 University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland

¹⁸⁰Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland FIMM, 00014 University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland

¹⁸¹Department of Biomedical Engineering and Computational Science, School of Science and Technology, Aalto University, 00076 Aalto, Espoo, Finland

Uwe Völker²⁰, Henry Völzke¹⁸⁵, Pilar Galan¹⁸⁶, Serge Hercberg¹⁸⁶, Mark Lathrop²⁴, Diana Zelenika²⁴, Panos Deloukas¹¹⁹, Massimo Mangino²⁸, Tim D. Spector²⁸, Guangju Zhai²⁸, James F. Meschia¹⁸⁷, Michael A. Nalls⁸³, Pankaj Sharma¹⁸⁸, Janos Terzic¹⁸⁹, M. J. Kranthi Kumar⁴⁷, Matthew Denniff⁷¹, Ewa Zukowska-Szczechowska¹⁹⁰, Lynne E. Wagenknecht⁷⁹, F. Gerald R. Fowkes¹⁹¹, Fadi J. Charchar¹⁹², Peter E.H. Schwarz¹⁹³, Caroline Hayward⁷⁰, Xiuqing Guo¹⁶¹, Charles Rotimi⁷⁴, Michiel L. Bots⁶³, Eva Brand¹⁹⁴, Nilesh J. Samani^{71, 72}, Ozren Polasek¹⁹⁵, Philippa J. Talmud⁶⁹, Fredrik Nyberg^{68, 196}, Diana Kuh⁶⁷, Maris Laan²⁵, Kristian Hveem⁶⁶, Lyle J. Palmer^{197, 198}, Yvonne T. van der Schouw⁶³, Juan P. Casas¹⁹⁹, Karen L. Mohlke⁶¹, Paolo Vineis^{200, 60}, Olli Raitakari²⁰¹, Santhi K. Ganesh²⁰², Tien Y. Wong^{203, 204}, E Shyong Tai^{205, 57, 206}, Richard S. Cooper⁵⁴, Markku Laakso⁵³, Dabeeru C. Rao²⁰⁷, Tamara B. Harris²², Richard W. Morris²⁰⁸, Anna F. Dominiczak²⁰⁹, Mika Kivimaki²¹⁰, Michael G. Marmot²¹⁰, Tetsuro Miki⁴⁹, Danish Saleheen^{170, 48}, Giriraj R. Chandak⁴⁷, Josef Coresh²¹¹, Gerjan Navis²¹², Veikko Salomaa¹²⁵, Bok-Ghee Han⁴⁴, Xiaofeng Zhu⁹⁴, Jaspal S. Kooner^{160, 41}, Olle Melander³⁹, Paul M Ridker^{8, 213, 9}, Stefania Bandinelli²¹⁴, Ulf B. Gyllenstein³⁷, Alan F. Wright⁷⁰, James F. Wilson³⁴, Luigi Ferrucci³³, Martin Farrall³², Jaakko Tuomilehto^{215, 216, 217, 218}, Peter P. Pramstaller^{30, 219}, Roberto Elosua^{29, 220}, Nicole Soranzo^{119, 28}, Eric J.G. Sijbrands^{13, 14},

¹⁸²NUS Graduate School for Integrative Sciences & Engineering (NGS) Centre for Life Sciences (CeLS), Singapore, 117456, Singapore

¹⁸³Department of Internal Medicine B, Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-University Greifswald, 17487 Greifswald, Germany

¹⁸⁴Institute of Pharmacology, Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-University Greifswald, 17487 Greifswald, Germany

¹⁸⁵Institute for Community Medicine, Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-University Greifswald, 17487 Greifswald, Germany

¹⁸⁶U557 Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale, U1125 Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Université Paris 13, Bobigny, France

¹⁸⁷Department of Neurology, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL, USA

¹⁸⁸Imperial College Cerebrovascular Unit (ICCRU), Imperial College, London, W6 8RF, UK

¹⁸⁹Faculty of Medicine, University of Split, Croatia

¹⁹⁰Department of Internal Medicine, Diabetology, and Nephrology, Medical University of Silesia, 41-800, Zabrze, Poland

¹⁹¹Public Health Sciences section, Division of Community Health Sciences, University of Edinburgh, Medical School, Teviot Place, Edinburgh, EH8 9AG, UK

¹⁹²School of Science and Engineering, University of Ballarat, 3353 Ballarat, Australia

¹⁹³Prevention and Care of Diabetes, Department of Medicine III, Medical Faculty Carl Gustav Carus at the Technical University of Dresden, 01307 Dresden, Germany

¹⁹⁴University Hospital Münster, Internal Medicine D, Münster, Germany

¹⁹⁵Department of Medical Statistics, Epidemiology and Medical Informatics, Andrija Stampar School of Public Health, University of Zagreb, Croatia

¹⁹⁶AstraZeneca R&D, 431 83 Mölndal, Sweden

¹⁹⁷Genetic Epidemiology & Biostatistics Platform, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, Toronto

¹⁹⁸Samuel Lunenfeld Institute for Medical Research, University of Toronto, Canada

¹⁹⁹Faculty of Epidemiology and Population Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK

²⁰⁰Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Imperial College, Norfolk Place London W2 1PG, UK

²⁰¹Research Centre of Applied and Preventive Cardiovascular Medicine, University of Turku and the Department of Clinical Physiology, Turku University Hospital, Turku, 20521, Finland

²⁰²Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, University of Michigan Medical Center, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA

²⁰³Singapore Eye Research Institute, Singapore, 168751, Singapore

²⁰⁴Department of Ophthalmology, National University of Singapore, Singapore, 119074, Singapore

²⁰⁵Department of Medicine, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, Singapore, 119074, Singapore

²⁰⁶Duke-National University of Singapore Graduate Medical School, Singapore, 169857, Singapore

²⁰⁷Division of Biostatistics, Washington University School of Medicine, Saint Louis, MO, 63110, USA

²⁰⁸Department of Primary Care & Population Health, UCL, London, UK, NW3 2PF, UK

²⁰⁹BHF Glasgow Cardiovascular Research Centre, University of Glasgow, 126 University Place, Glasgow, G12 8TA, UK

²¹⁰Epidemiology Public Health, UCL, London, UK, WC1E 6BT, UK

²¹¹Departments of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore MD, USA

²¹²Division of Nephrology, Department of Internal Medicine, University Medical Center Groningen, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

²¹³Division of Cardiology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, 900 Commonwealth Avenue East, Boston MA 02215, USA

²¹⁴Geriatric Rehabilitation Unit, Azienda Sanitaria Firenze (ASF), Florence, Italy

²¹⁵National Institute for Health and Welfare, Diabetes Prevention Unit, 00271 Helsinki, Finland

²¹⁶Hjelt Institute, Department of Public Health, University of Helsinki, 00014 Helsinki, Finland

²¹⁷South Ostrobothnia Central Hospital, 60220 Seinäjoki, Finland

²¹⁸Red RECAVA Grupo RD06/0014/0015, Hospital Universitario La Paz, 28046 Madrid, Spain

David Altshuler^{221, 115}, Ruth J.F. Loos²³, Alan R. Shuldiner^{26, 222}, Christian Gieger¹⁵⁷, Pierre Meneton²²³, Andre G. Uitterlinden^{13, 14, 15}, Nicholas J. Wareham²³, Vilmundur Gudnason^{10, 11}, Jerome I. Rotter¹⁶¹, Rainer Rettig²²⁴, Manuela Uda¹⁷⁵, David P. Strachan⁵⁰, Jacqueline C.M. Witteman^{13, 15}, Anna-Liisa Hartikainen²²⁵, Jacques S. Beckmann^{105, 226}, Eric Boerwinkle²²⁷, Ramachandran S. Vasani^{6, 228}, Michael Boehnke³¹, Martin G. Larson^{6, 229}, Marjo-Riitta Järvelin^{18, 230, 231, 232, 233}, Bruce M. Psaty^{21, 135*}, Gonçalo R Abecasis^{19*}, Aravinda Chakravarti^{1*#}, Paul Elliott^{18, 233*}, Cornelia M. van Duijn^{13, 234*}, Christopher Newton-Cheh^{27, 115*#}, Daniel Levy^{6, 16, 7*#}, Mark J. Caulfield^{4*#}, Toby Johnson^{4*}

²¹⁹Department of Neurology, General Central Hospital, 39100 Bolzano, Italy

²²⁰CIBER Epidemiología y Salud Pública, 08003 Barcelona

²²¹Department of Medicine and Department of Genetics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts 02115, USA

²²²Geriatric Research and Education Clinical Center, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Baltimore, MD, USA

²²³U872 Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale, Centre de Recherche des Cordeliers, Paris, France

²²⁴Institute of Physiology, Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-University Greifswald, 17487 Greifswald, Germany

²²⁵Institute of Clinical Medicine/Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Oulu, Finland

²²⁶Service of Medical Genetics, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois, 1011 Lausanne, Switzerland

²²⁷Human Genetics Center, 1200 Hermann Pressler, Suite E447 Houston, TX 77030, USA

²²⁸Division of Epidemiology and Prevention, Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA, USA

²²⁹Department of Mathematics, Boston University, Boston, MA, USA

²³⁰Institute of Health Sciences, University of Oulu, BOX 5000, 90014 University of Oulu, Finland

²³¹Biocenter Oulu, University of Oulu, BOX 5000, 90014 University of Oulu, Finland

²³²National Institute for Health and Welfare, Box 310, 90101 Oulu, Finland

²³³MRC-HPA Centre for Environment and Health, School of Public Health, Imperial College London, Norfolk Place, London W2

¹PG, UK

²³⁴Centre of Medical Systems Biology (CMSB 1-2), NGI Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

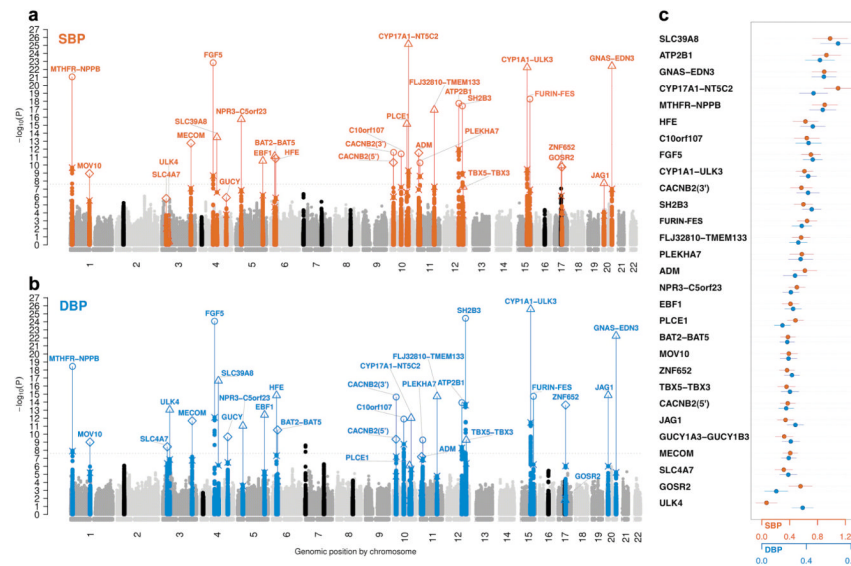


Fig. 1. Genome-wide $-\log_{10} P$ -value plots and effects for significant loci. Genome-wide $-\log_{10} P$ -value plots are shown for systolic (SBP: panel a) and diastolic (DBP: panel b). SNPs within loci reaching genome-wide significance are labeled in red for SBP and blue for DBP (± 2.5 Mb of lowest P -value) and lowest P -values in the initial genome-wide analysis as well as the results of analysis including validation data are labeled separately. The lowest P -values in the initial GWAS are denoted as an X. The range of different sample sizes in the final meta-analysis including the validation data are indicated as: circle (96–140k), triangle (>140 –180k), and diamond (>180 –220k). SNPs near unconfirmed loci are in black. The horizontal dotted line is $P=2.5 \times 10^{-8}$. Panel c shows the effect size estimates and 95% confidence bars per BP-increasing allele of the 29 significant variants for SBP (red) and DBP (blue). Effect sizes are expressed in mmHg/allele. GUCY = *GUCY1A3-GUCY1B3*.

Table 1

Summary association results for 29 BP SNPs

Summary association statistics, based on combined discovery and follow-up data, for 29 independent SNPs in individuals of European ancestry are shown. New genome-wide significant findings (17 SNPs) are presented in the top half of the table, data on 12 previously published signals are presented in the lower half.

Locus	Index SNP	Chr	Position	CA/NCA	CAF	nsSNP	eSNP	SBP			DBP			HTN	
								Beta	P-value	Effect in EA/SA/A	Beta	P-value	Effect in EA/SA/A	Beta	P-value
<i>MOV10</i>	rs2932538	1	113,018,066	G/A	0.75	Y(p)	Y(p)	0.388	1.2×10^{-9}	+/+/-	0.24	9.9×10^{-10}	+/+*/-	0.049	2.9×10^{-7}
<i>SAC4A7</i>	rs13082711	3	27,512,913	T/C	0.78	Y(p)	Y(p)	-0.315	1.5×10^{-6}	-/-/+	-0.238	3.8×10^{-9}	-/-/+	-0.035	3.6×10^{-4}
<i>MECOM</i>	rs419076	3	170,583,580	T/C	0.47	-	-	0.409	1.8×10^{-13}	+/+/+	0.241	2.1×10^{-12}	+/+/-	0.031	3.1×10^{-4}
<i>SLC39A8</i>	rs13107325	4	103,407,732	T/C	0.05	Y	Y(+)	-0.981	3.3×10^{-14}	?/+/+	-0.684	2.3×10^{-17}	?/+/+	-0.105	4.9×10^{-7}
<i>GUCY1A3-GUCY1B3</i>	rs13139571	4	156,864,963	C/A	0.76	-	-	0.321	1.2×10^{-6}	+/-/+	0.26	2.2×10^{-10}	+/-/+	0.042	2.5×10^{-5}
<i>APR3-C5orf23</i>	rs1173771	5	32,850,785	G/A	0.6	-	-	0.504	1.8×10^{-16}	+*/+/*	0.261	9.1×10^{-12}	+*/+/-	0.062	3.2×10^{-10}
<i>EBF1</i>	rs11953630	5	157,777,980	T/C	0.37	-	-	-0.412	3.0×10^{-11}	+/+/*	-0.281	3.8×10^{-13}	+/+/*	-0.052	1.7×10^{-7}
<i>HFE</i>	rs1799945	6	26,199,158	G/C	0.14	Y	-	0.627	7.7×10^{-12}	+/+/-	0.457	1.5×10^{-15}	+/+/-	0.095	1.8×10^{-10}
<i>BAT2-BATS</i>	rs805303	6	31,724,345	G/A	0.61	Y(p)	Y(+)	0.376	1.5×10^{-11}	-/-/?	0.228	3.0×10^{-11}	-/-/+	0.054	1.1×10^{-10}
<i>CACNB2(5')</i>	rs4373814	10	18,459,978	G/C	0.55	-	-	-0.373	4.8×10^{-11}	+/+/-	-0.218	4.4×10^{-10}	-/+/-	-0.046	8.5×10^{-8}
<i>PLCE1</i>	rs932764	10	95,885,930	G/A	0.44	-	-	0.484	7.1×10^{-16}	+/+/-	0.185	8.1×10^{-7}	+/+/-	0.055	9.4×10^{-9}
<i>ADM</i>	rs7129220	11	10,307,114	G/A	0.89	-	-	-0.619	3.0×10^{-12}	?/-/+	-0.299	6.4×10^{-8}	?/-/+	-0.044	1.1×10^{-3}
<i>FLJ32810-TMEM133</i>	rs633185	11	100,098,748	G/C	0.28	-	-	-0.565	1.2×10^{-17}	+*/+/*	-0.328	2.0×10^{-15}	+*/+/-	-0.07	5.4×10^{-11}
<i>FURIN-FES</i>	rs2521501	15	89,238,392	T/A	0.31	-	Y(-)	0.65	5.2×10^{-19}	+*/+/*	0.359	1.9×10^{-15}	+*/+/*	0.059	7.0×10^{-7}
<i>GOSR2</i>	rs17608766	17	42,368,270	T/C	0.86	-	Y(+)	-0.556	1.1×10^{-10}	+/-/+	-0.129	0.017	+/-/+	-0.025	0.08

Locus	Index SNP	Chr	Position	CA/NCA	CAF	nsSNP	SBP			DBP			HTN		
							Beta	P-value	Effect in EA/SA/A	Beta	P-value	Effect in EA/SA/A	Beta	P-value	
<i>JAG1</i>	rs1327235	20	10,917,030	G/A	0.46	-	-	0.34	1.9×10^{-8}	+*/+/+	0.302	1.4×10^{-15}	+*/+/+	0.034	4.6×10^{-4}
<i>GNAS-EDN3</i>	rs6015450	20	57,184,512	G/A	0.12	Y(p)	-	0.896	3.9×10^{-23}	?/+/+	0.557	5.6×10^{-23}	?/+/+	0.11	4.2×10^{-14}
<i>MTHFR-NPPB</i>	rs17367504	1	11,785,365	G/A	0.15	-	Y(-/r)	-0.903	8.7×10^{-22}	+*/+/+	-0.547	3.5×10^{-19}	+*/+/+	-0.103	2.3×10^{-10}
<i>ULK4</i>	rs3774372	3	41,852,418	T/C	0.83	Y	Y(r/p)	-0.067	0.39	-*/-/+	-0.367	9.0×10^{-14}	+*/+/+	-0.017	0.18
<i>GGF5</i>	rs1458038	4	81,383,747	T/C	0.29	-	-	0.706	1.5×10^{-23}	+*/+/+	0.457	8.5×10^{-25}	+*/+/+	0.072	1.9×10^{-7}
<i>CACNB2(3')</i>	rs1813353	10	18,747,454	T/C	0.68	-	-	0.569	2.6×10^{-12}	+*/+/+	0.415	2.3×10^{-15}	+*/+/+	0.078	6.2×10^{-10}
<i>BTBD9</i>	rs4590817	10	63,137,559	G/C	0.84	-	Y(t)	0.646	4.0×10^{-12}	-*/-/+	0.419	1.3×10^{-12}	-*/-/+	0.096	9.8×10^{-9}
<i>CYP17A1-NT5C2</i>	rs11191548	10	104,836,168	T/C	0.91	-	Y(-)	1.095	6.9×10^{-26}	+*/+/+	0.464	9.4×10^{-13}	+*/+/+	0.097	1.4×10^{-5}
<i>ELKHA7</i>	rs381815	11	16,858,844	T/C	0.26	-	-	0.575	5.3×10^{-11}	+*/+/+	0.348	5.3×10^{-10}	+*/+/+	0.062	3.4×10^{-6}
<i>PTP2B1</i>	rs17249754	12	88,584,717	G/A	0.84	-	-	0.928	1.8×10^{-18}	+*/+/+	0.522	1.2×10^{-14}	+*/+/+	0.126	1.1×10^{-14}
<i>SH2B3</i>	rs3184504	12	110,368,991	T/C	0.47	Y	Y(+)	0.598	3.8×10^{-18}	-*/-/+	0.448	3.6×10^{-25}	-*/-/+	0.056	2.6×10^{-6}
<i>TBX5-TBX3</i>	rs10850411	12	113,872,179	T/C	0.7	-	-	0.354	5.4×10^{-8}	-*/-/+	0.253	5.4×10^{-10}	-*/-/+	0.045	5.2×10^{-6}
<i>CYP11A1-ULK3</i>	rs1378942	15	72,864,420	C/A	0.35	-	Y(+)	0.613	5.7×10^{-23}	+*/+/+	0.416	2.7×10^{-26}	+*/+/+	0.073	1.0×10^{-8}
<i>ZNF652</i>	rs12940887	17	44,757,806	T/C	0.38	-	Y(-)	0.362	1.8×10^{-10}	+*/-/+	0.27	2.3×10^{-14}	+*/-/+	0.046	1.2×10^{-7}

Y indicates the BP index SNP is a nsSNP, Y(p) indicates a proxy SNP, Y(+): indicates BP index SNP for a transcript; Y(-): indicates BP index SNP is an eSNP but not strongest known eSNP for any transcript, Y(r): indicates BP index SNP is strongest known eSNP in a regional SNP-RTPCR experiment, Y(p): indicates a proxy SNP ($r^2 > 0.8$) to BP SNP is an eSNP but not the strongest known eSNP. Observed effect directions in East Asian (EA), South Asian (SA), and African (A) ancestry individuals are coded + or - if concordant or discordant with directions in European ancestry results;

* denotes significance controlling the FDR at 5% over 58 tests per ancestry (Supplementary Tables 5 and 12). Effect size estimates (beta) correspond to mmHg per coded allele for SBP and DBP and ln(odds) per coded allele for HTN.

CA = coded allele; NCA = non-coded allele; CAF = coded allele frequency; ? denotes missing data. Genomic positions use NCBI Build 36 coordinates.

Table 2

Genetic risk score and cardiovascular outcome association results

Association of genetic risk score (using all 29 SNPs at 28 loci, parameterised using the average of SBP and DBP effects [= (SBP effect + DBP effect)/2] from the discovery analysis), tested in results from other GWAS consortia.

Phenotype	Source	Effect		P-value	# SNPs	Contrast top vs. bottom		
		(per SD of genetic risk score)	SE			quintiles	deciles	N case/control or total
Blood pressure phenotypes								
SBP [mmHg]	WGHS	1.645	0.098 (a)	6.5*10 ⁻⁶³	29	4.61	5.77 (a)	23,294
DBP [mmHg]	WGHS	1.057	0.067 (a)	8.4*10 ⁻⁵⁷	29	2.96	3.71 (a)	23,294
Prevalent hypertension	WGHS	0.211	0.018 (b)	3.1*10 ⁻³³	29	1.80	2.09 (b)	5,018/18,276
Prevalent hypertension	BRIGHT	0.287	0.031 (b)	7.7*10 ⁻²¹	29	2.23	2.74 (b)	2,406/1,990
Dichotomous endpoints								
Incident heart failure	CHARGE-HF	0.035	0.021 (c)	0.10	29	1.10	1.13 (c)	2,526/18,400
Incident stroke	NEURO-CHARGE	0.103	0.028 (c)	0.0002	28	1.34	1.44 (c)	1,544/18,058
Prevalent stroke	UK-US Stroke Collaborative Group(SCG)	0.075	0.037 (b)	0.05	29	1.23	1.30 (b)	1,473/1,482
Stroke (combined, incident and prevalent)	CHARGE & SCG	NA	NA	3.3*10 ⁻⁵	NA	NA	NA	3,017/19,540
Prevalent CAD	CARDIoGRAM	0.092	0.010 (b)	1.6*10 ⁻¹⁹	28	1.29	1.38 (b)	22,233/64,726
Prevalent CAD	C4D ProCARDIS	0.132	0.022 (b)	2.2*10 ⁻⁹	29	1.45	1.59 (b)	5,720/4,381
Prevalent CAD	C4D HPS	0.083	0.027 (b)	0.002	29	1.26	1.34 (b)	2,704/2,804
Prevalent CAD (combined)	CARDIoGRAM & C4D	0.100	0.009 (b)	8.1*10 ⁻²⁹	29	1.32	1.42 (b)	30,657/71,911
Prevalent chronic kidney disease	CKDGen	0.014	0.015 (b)	0.35	29	1.04	1.05 (b)	5,807/61,286
Prevalent microalbuminuria	CKDGen	0.008	0.019 (b)	0.68	29	1.02	1.03 (b)	3,698/27,882
Continuous measures of target organ damage								

Phenotype	Source	Effect		P-value	Contrast top vs. bottom		N case/control or total
		(per SD of genetic risk score)	SE		quintiles	deciles	
Blood pressure phenotypes							
Left ventricular mass [g]	EchoGen	0.822	0.317 (a)	0.01	2.30	2.89	12,612 (a)
Left ventricular wall thickness[cm]	EchoGen	0.009	0.002 (a)	6.0*10 ⁻⁶	0.03	0.03	12,612 (a)
Serum creatinine	KidneyGen	-0.001	0.001 (d)	0.24	1.00	1.00	23,812 (d)
eGFR (4 parameter MDRD equation)	CKDGen	-0.0001	0.0009 (d)	0.93	1.00	1.00	67,093 (d)
Urinary albumin/creatinine ratio	CKDGen	0.005	0.007 (d)	0.43	1.01	1.02	31,580 (d)

(a) Units are the unit of phenotypic measurement, either per SD of genetic risk score, or as a difference between top/bottom quintiles or deciles.

(b) Units are ln(odds) per SD of genetic risk score, or odds ratio between top/bottom quintiles or deciles.

(c) Units are ln(hazard) per SD of genetic risk score, or hazard ratio between top/bottom quintiles or deciles.

(d) Units are ln(phenotype) per SD of genetic risk score, or phenotypic ratio between top/bottom quintiles or deciles.