

**Appendix 1 (as supplied by the authors): Characteristics of study population in tertiles of resting heart rate**

Characteristics	Tertiles of HR (beats/minute)			p-value
	Low	Middle	High	
	(34-60) n=1649	(61-70) n=1742	(71-117) n=1651	
Heart rate, beats/minute, mean (SD)	54.3 (4.7)	65.3 (2.8)	79.3 (7.6)	
<b>Socio-demographics</b>				
Age, years, mean (SD)	75.1 (3.3)	75.3 (3.3)	75.4 (3.4)	0.01
Female, n (%)	706 (42.8)	928 (53.3)	985 (59.7)	<0.001
Age left school, years, mean (SD)	15.2 (2.1)	15.2 (2.1)	15.1 (1.9)	0.37
<b>Cardiovascular risk factors</b>				
History of hypertension, n (%)	1046 (63.4)	1056 (60.6)	1025 (62.1)	0.24
History of stroke or TIA, n (%)	184 (11.2)	187 (10.7)	181 (11.0)	0.93
History of MI, n (%)	273 (16.6)	189 (10.8)	200 (12.1)	<0.001
History of claudication, n (%)	94 (5.7)	124 (7.1)	118 (7.1)	0.16
History of diabetes mellitus, n (%)	115 (7.0)	180 (10.3)	222 (13.4)	<0.001
Current smoking, n (%)	361 (21.9)	499 (28.6)	474 (28.7)	<0.001
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup> , mean (SD)	26.8 (3.9)	26.7 (4.1)	27.1 (4.5)	0.02
<b>Medications</b>				
Beta-blockers, n (%)	786 (47.7)	363 (20.8)	171 (10.4)	<0.001
Calcium channel blockers, n (%)	432 (26.2)	415 (23.8)	428 (25.9)	0.22
Statins, n (%)	843 (51.1)	867 (49.8)	794 (48.1)	0.22

Abbreviations: HR: Heart Rate; SD: Standard Deviation; n: Number; TIA: Transient Ischemic Attack; MI: Myocardial Infarction; BMI: Body Mass Index.