

Supplementary Table 2. Characteristics of the study population by quartiles of ALT level at baseline, the ARIC study, visit 2, 1990–1992

Characteristic	Total	ALT (Q1)	ALT (Q2)	ALT (Q3)	ALT (Q4)	P
Number (%)	12,588	3,404 (27.0)	3,159 (25.1)	3,108 (24.7)	2,917 (23.2)	
ALT range (U/L)						
Male		<13	13–16	17–22	≥23	
Female		<11	11–13	14–17	≥18	
Age (yr)	56.9±5.7	57.1±5.9	57.1±5.7	56.9±5.7	56.3±5.5	<0.001
Black (%)	24	26	25.1	23.3	21.3	<0.001
Female (%)	56.3	59.4	56.8	51.8	56.8	<0.001
BMI (kg/m ²)	28.0±5.4	26.7±5.3	27.5±5.2	28.4±5.2	29.7±5.4	<0.001
Obesity (%)	29.1	20.1	25.5	31.4	41.2	<0.001
Estrogen (%)	25.9	27.7	27.6	23.7	24.1	<0.001
Aspirin (%)	50.6	49.1	49.5	51.5	52.7	0.012
SBP (mm Hg)	121.2±18.5	120.1±19.5	120.2±18.5	121.2±17.8	123.5±18.0	<0.001
DBP (mm Hg)	72.1±10.2	70.9±10.5	71.4±10.1	72.4±9.9	73.9±10.1	<0.001
Hypertension (%)	39.4	36.8	37.8	39.3	44.1	<0.001
Antihypertensive med use (%)	32	29.6	30.7	32.2	35.7	<0.001
HDL-C (mg/dL)	47.0 (37.0–59.0)	50.0 (40.0–62.0)	48.0 (39.0–61.0)	45.0 (37.0–57.0)	44.0 (35.0–55.0)	<0.001
LDL-C (mg/dL)	131.0 (108.8–155.4)	127.6 (105.8–152.2)	131.0 (108.8–155.6)	132.0 (110.0–156.6)	133.5 (111.0–157.4)	<0.001
Triglycerides (mg/dL), median	114.0 (82.0–162.0)	103.0 (76.0–144.0)	109.0 (79.0–152.0)	115.0 (83.0–167.0)	133.0 (94.5–192.0)	<0.001
Total cholesterol (mg/dL), median	207.0 (183.0–233.0)	203.0 (180.0–228.0)	207.0 (184.0–231.0)	208.0 (184.0–233.0)	211.0 (187.0–238.0)	<0.001
Lipid lowering med use, %	6.3	4.5	6.2	7.5	7.1	<0.001
Diabetes (self-report, meds, FG), %	15.6	11.1	12.7	16.2	23.5	<0.001
Prevalent CHD, %	5.4	5.8	5.7	5.4	4.7	0.184
Smoking status, %						<0.001
Current	21.9	28.9	22.7	19.5	15.2	
Former	37.8	33.7	37.5	38.4	42.3	
Never	40.3	37.3	39.8	42.1	42.4	
Drinking status, %						0.176
Current	57	55.9	56.2	57.9	57.9	
Former	20.6	21.7	21.5	19.4	19.7	
Never	22.4	22.4	22.3	22.7	22.4	
AST (U/L)	20.0 (17.0–23.0)	17.0 (15.0–19.0)	19.0 (16.0–21.0)	21.0 (18.0–23.0)	25.0 (21.0–30.0)	<0.001
ALT (U/L)	14.0 (11.0–19.0)	9.0 (7.0–10.0)	13.0 (12.0–14.0)	17.0 (15.0–19.0)	25.0 (21.0–31.0)	<0.001
GGT (U/L)	21.0 (14.0–33.0)	16.0 (12.0–23.0)	19.0 (13.0–27.0)	23.0 (16.0–34.0)	33.0 (22.0–54.0)	<0.001

Values are presented as number (%), mean±standard deviation, or median (interquartile range). The ARIC study population, visit 2, 1990–1992; end of follow-up December 31, 2016.

ALT, alanine aminotransferase; ARIC, Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities; BMI, body mass index; SBP, systolic blood pressure; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; HDL-C, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDL-C, low density lipoprotein cholesterol; FG, fasting glucose; CHD, coronary heart disease; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; GGT, gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase.