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# GENOMIC PREDICTION OF ALCOHOL-RELATED MORBIDITIES AND MORTALITY

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25/09/2019

The logo for FIMM (Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland) features the letters 'FIMM' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letter 'i' is stylized, with a white dot above it and a vertical stem that curves into a double helix structure, resembling a DNA molecule. The background is a dark teal color with a pattern of white dots and lines that create a sense of depth and perspective, suggesting a tunnel or a molecular structure.

**Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland**  
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*Building a bridge from discovery to medicine*

- › Drinking of alcohol (the most harmful of all abused substances) → global morbidity and mortality
- › Alcohol-related behavior:
  - strongly affected by genetic factors
  - heritability of alcohol consumption in twin studies has ranged between ~0.35 and ~0.65 (weighted average 0.37)
- › Modern large-scale genomic study settings → opportunities to study the heritable component of alcohol-related behavior and harms



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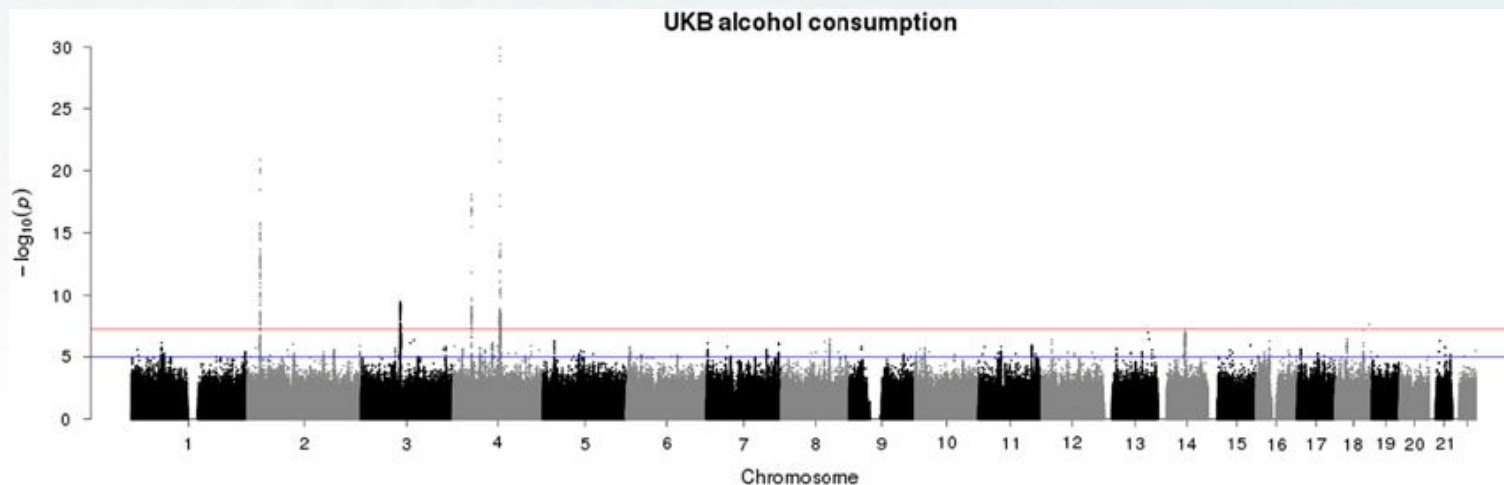
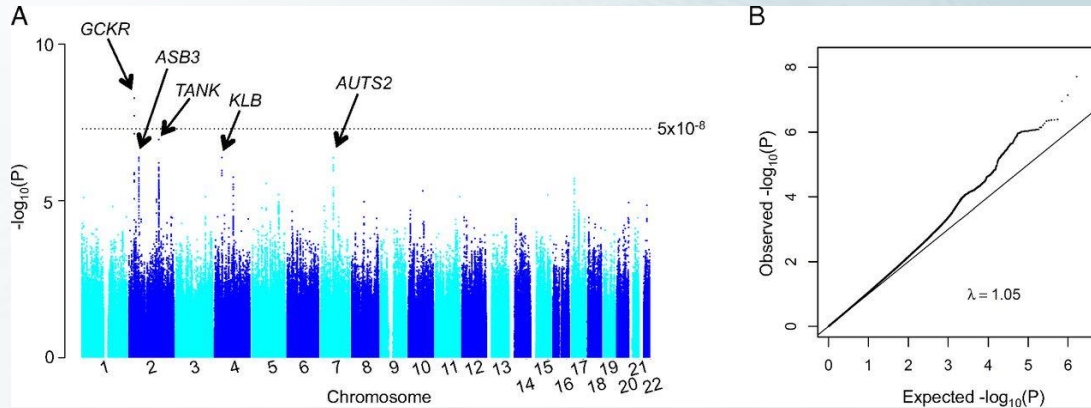
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# Large scale GWASes: multiple loci associated with alcohol consumption





Articles

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## Genome-Wide Association Study Meta-Analysis of the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) in Two Population-Based Cohorts

Sandra Sanchez-Roige, Ph.D., Abraham A. Palmer, Ph.D., Pierre Fontanillas, Ph.D., Sarah L. Elson, Ph.D., the 23andMe Research Team, the Substance Use Disorder Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium, Mark J. Adams, ... [Show all Authors](#) ▾

**Published Online:** 19 Oct 2018 | <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ajp.2018.18040369>

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nature  
neuroscience

Article | Published: 26 November 2018

### Transancestral GWAS of alcohol dependence reveals common genetic underpinnings with psychiatric disorders


Raymond K. Walters, Renato Polimanti, [...] Arpana Agrawal 

*Nature Neuroscience* **21**, 1656–1669 (2018) | [Download Citation](#) ↓  
6820 Accesses | 31 Citations | 284 Altmetric | [Metrics](#) >>

#### New Results

[Comment on this paper](#)

### Meta-analysis of problematic alcohol use in 435,563 individuals identifies 29 risk variants and yields insights into biology, pleiotropy and causality

Hang Zhou, Julia M. Sealock, Sandra Sanchez-Roige, Toni-Kim Clarke, Daniel Levey, Zhongshan Cheng, Boyang Li, Renato Polimanti, Rachel L. Kember, Rachel Vickers Smith, Johan H. Thygesen, Marsha Y. Morgan, Stephen R. Atkinson, Mark R. Thursz, Mette Nyegaard, Manuel Mattheisen, Anders D. Børglum, Emma C. Johnson, the VA Million Veteran Program, Amy C. Justice, Abraham A. Palmer, Andrew McQuillin, Lea K. Davis, Howard J. Edenberg, Arpana Agrawal, Henry R. Kranzler,  Joel Gelernter

**doi:** <https://doi.org/10.1101/738088>

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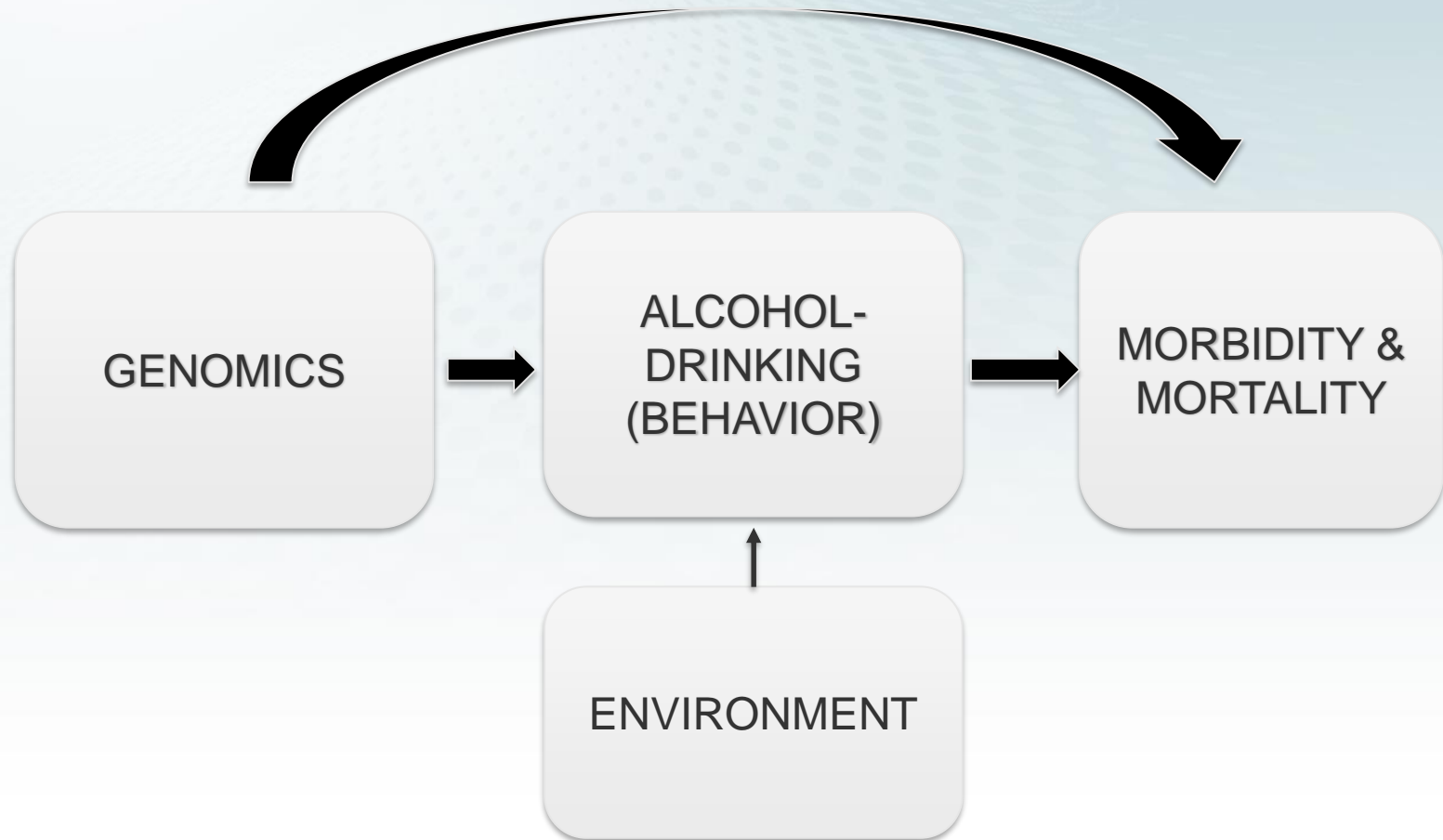
[Metrics](#)

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# AIMS

- › 1) To build polygenic risk score (PRS) derived from alcohol consumption to predict alcohol-related major health events
- › 2) To study if the PRS predict events over self-reported alcohol consumption measures?

# AIMS



New Results

[Comment on this paper](#)

## Polygenic risk score of alcohol consumption predicts alcohol-related morbidity and all-cause mortality

 Tuomo Kiiskinen,  Nina J. Mars,  Teemu Palviainen,  Jukka Koskela,  Pietari Ripatti,  Joel T. Rämö, Sanni Ruotsalainen, FinnGen, GSCAN Consortium,  Aarno Palotie,  Pamela A.F. Madden, Richard J. Rose,  Jaakko Kaprio,  Veikko Salomaa,  Pia Mäkelä,  Aki S. Havulinna,  Samuli Ripatti

**doi:** <https://doi.org/10.1101/652396>

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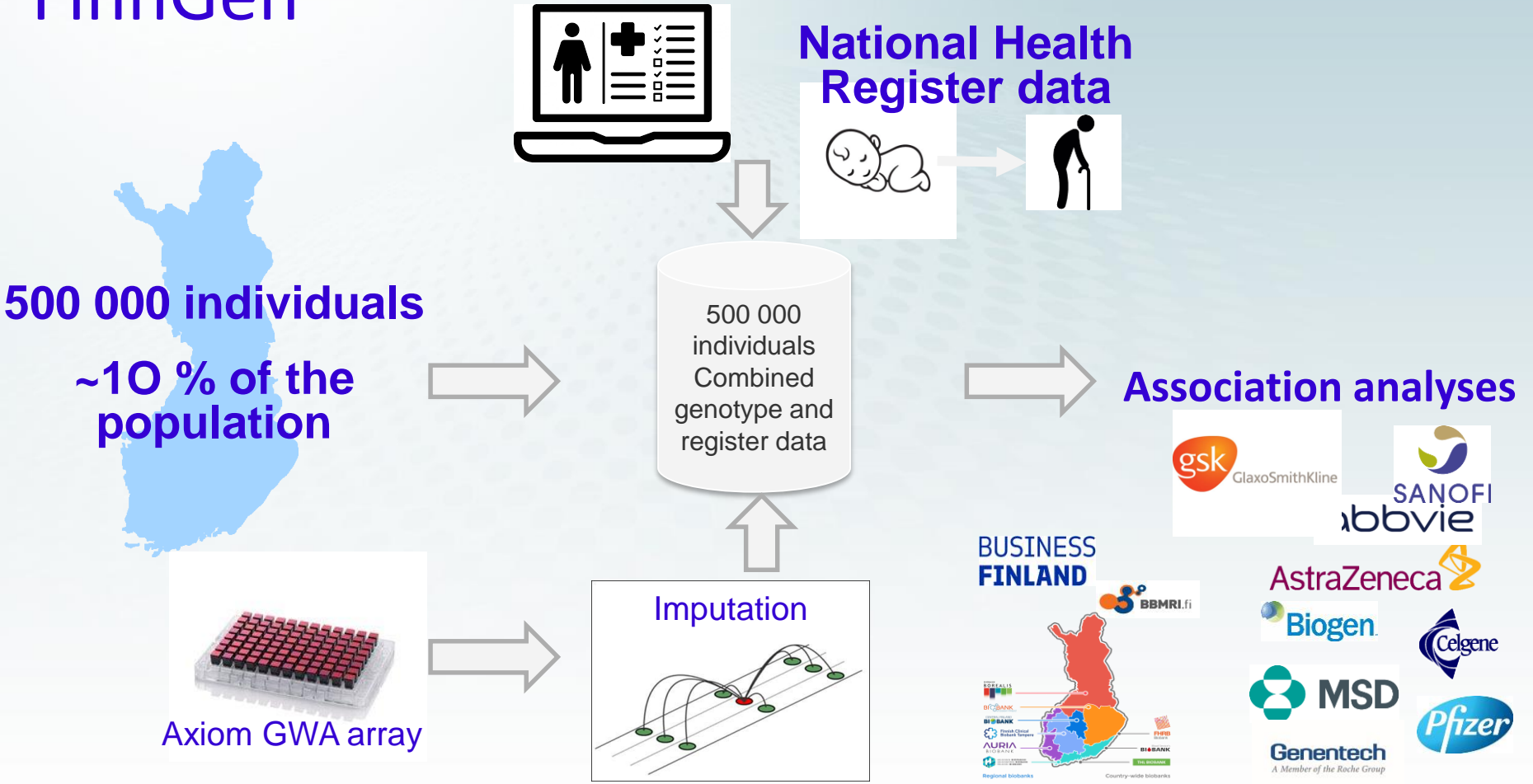
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# MATERIALS & METHODS

- › 1) Datasets:
  - FinnGen R2 (n=96,499)
  - Prospective cohorts (FINRISK, Health 2000, Twin Cohort, n total = 36,499)
- › 2) Summary statistics - GWAS meta-analysis of alcohol consumption (GSCAN consortium, n = 527,282 after exclusion of all Finnish samples)
- › 3) A genome-wide PRS for alcohol consumption using LDpred (1.1 million genetic variants/SNPs )
- › 4) Comprehensive longitudinal nationwide EHR-data
- › 5) 21 alcohol-related disease endpoints linked to the cohort baseline data

# FinnGen





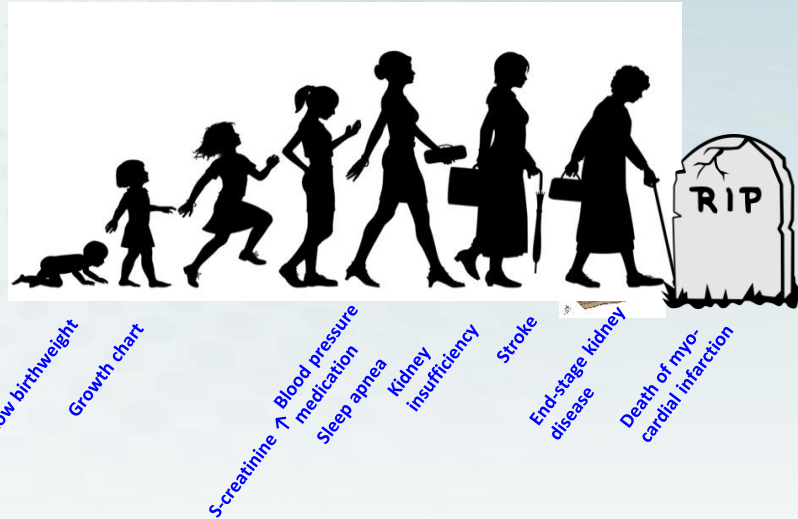
## Moving from single time point case collections to a comprehensive view of health and disease



120360-1234

Linkage with person numbers to:

Medical Birth Register
Register of Prescription Medicines
National Health Register diagnoses / procedures (ICD codes)
Causes of Death Register
Cancer Register
Clinical Laboratory databases via Biobanks



The Nationwide electronic registers provide a unique possibility for data mining  
Reconstruction of major life-time events instead of a single-point snapshot

# GSCAN GWAS

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nature  
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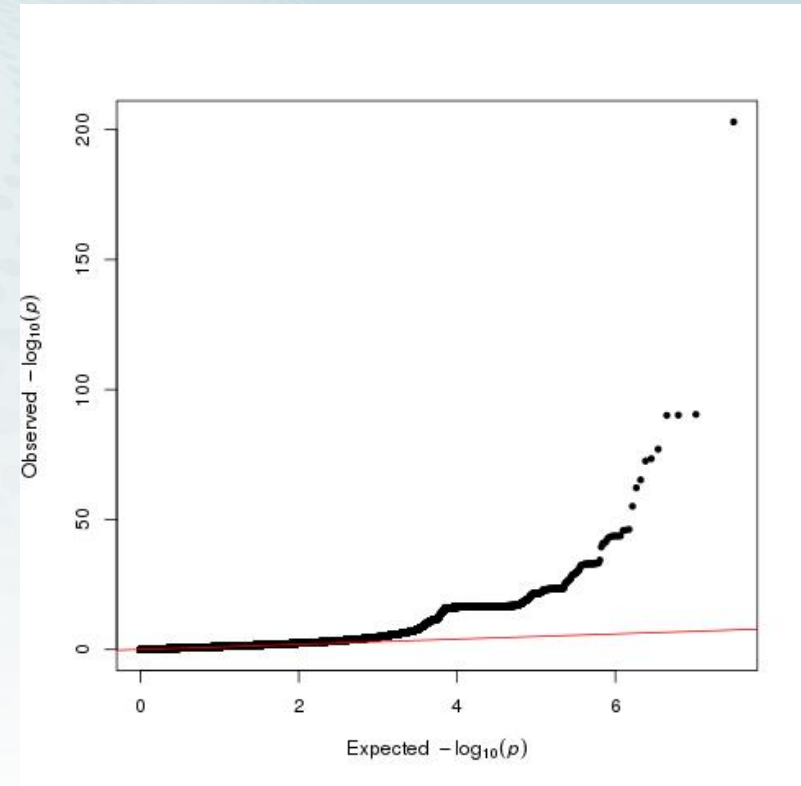
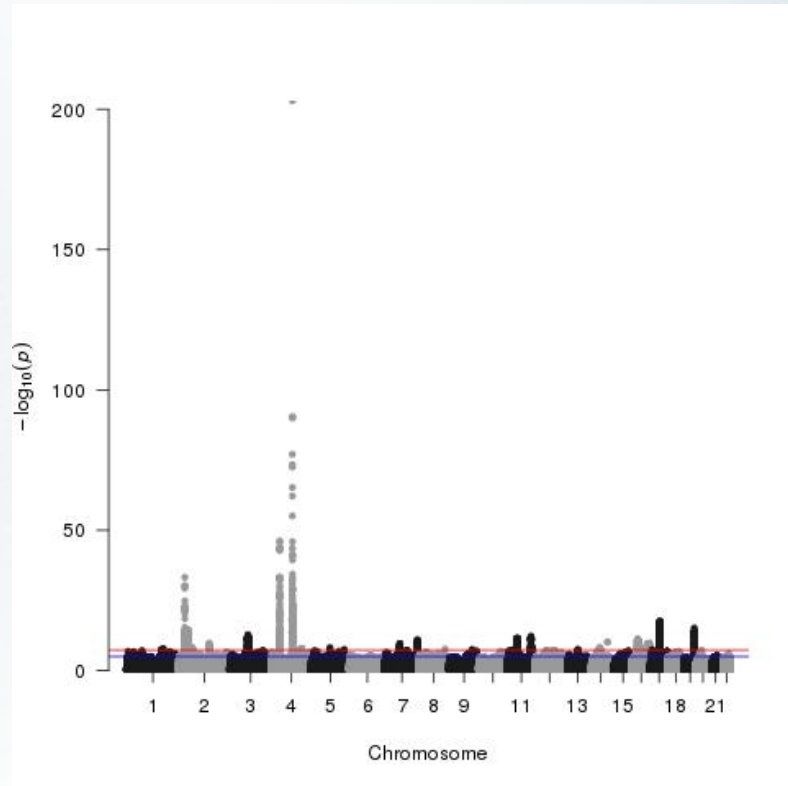
Letter | Published: 14 January 2019

## Association studies of up to 1.2 million individuals yield new insights into the genetic etiology of tobacco and alcohol use

Mengzhen Liu, Yu Jiang, [...] Scott Vrieze 

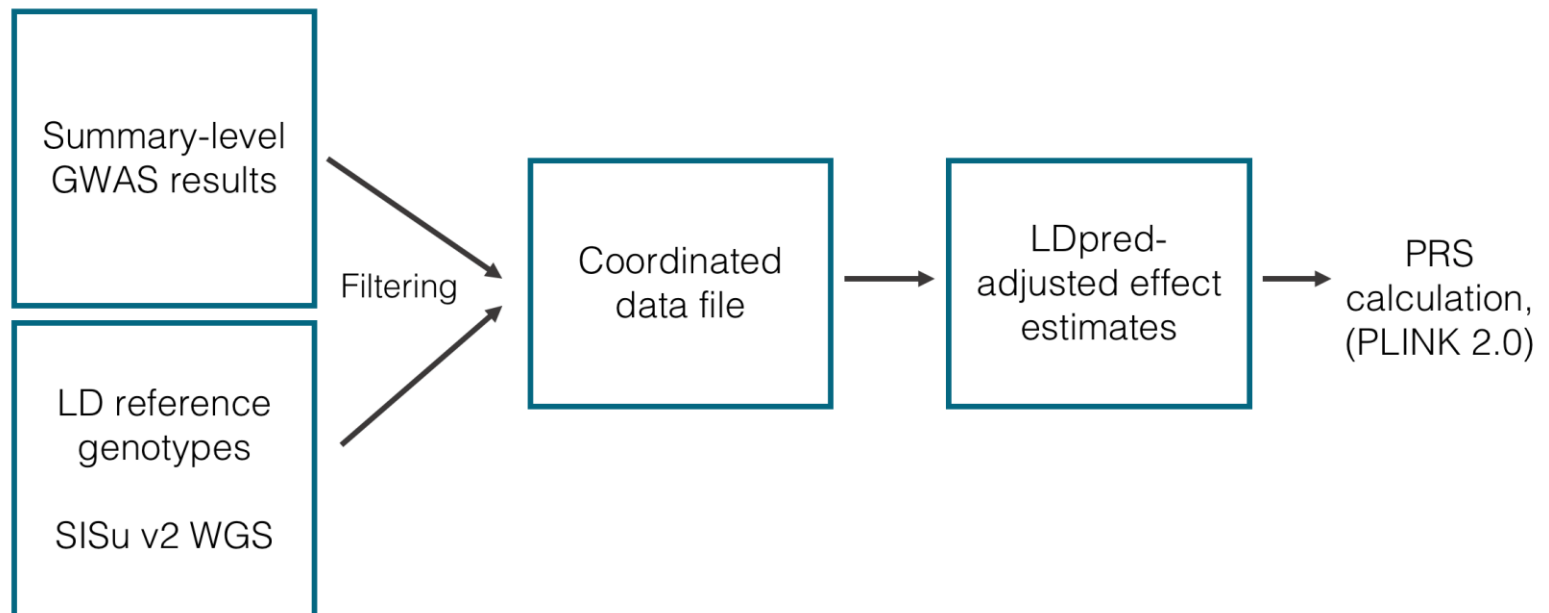
*Nature Genetics* **51**, 237–244 (2019) | [Download Citation](#) ↓

# GSCAN Drinks Per Week GWAS results



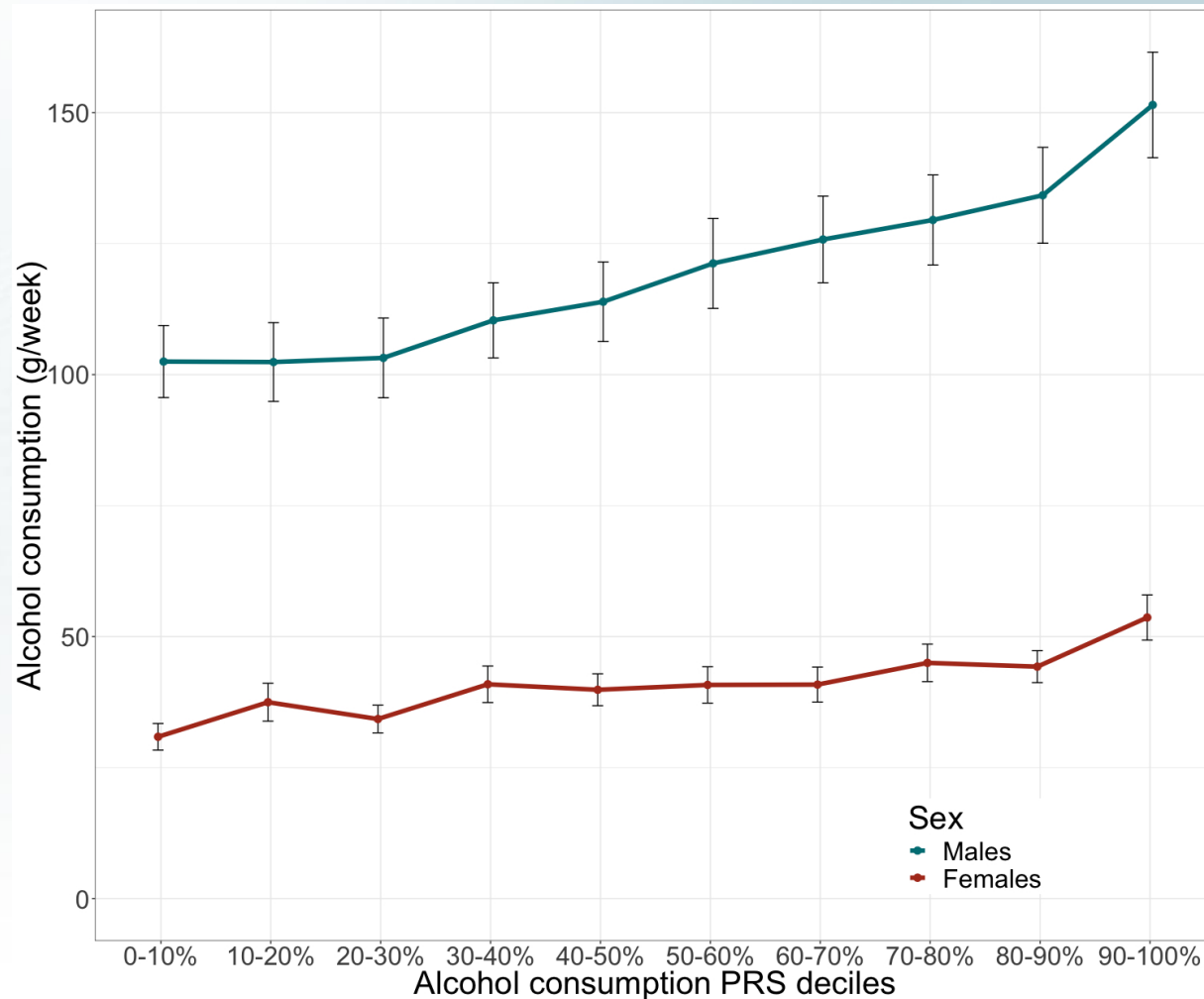
# LDpred PRS

## LDpred

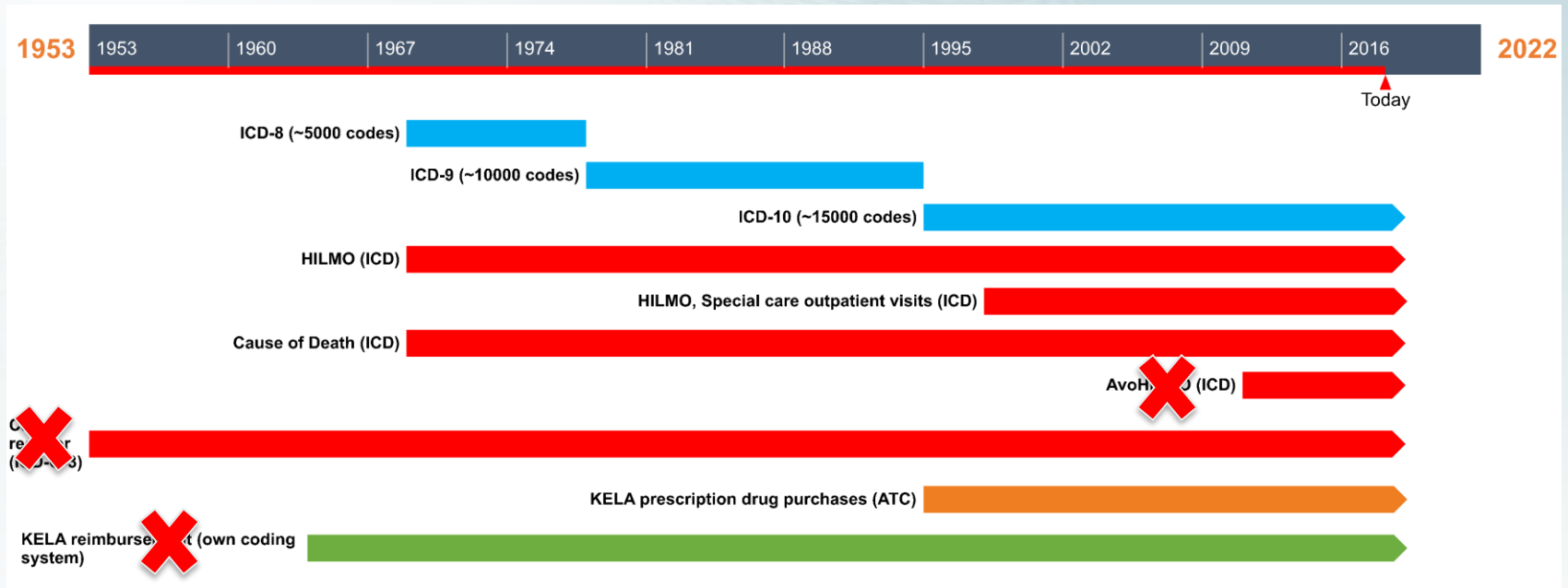




# PRS ~ Alcohol consumption



# Nationwide registries

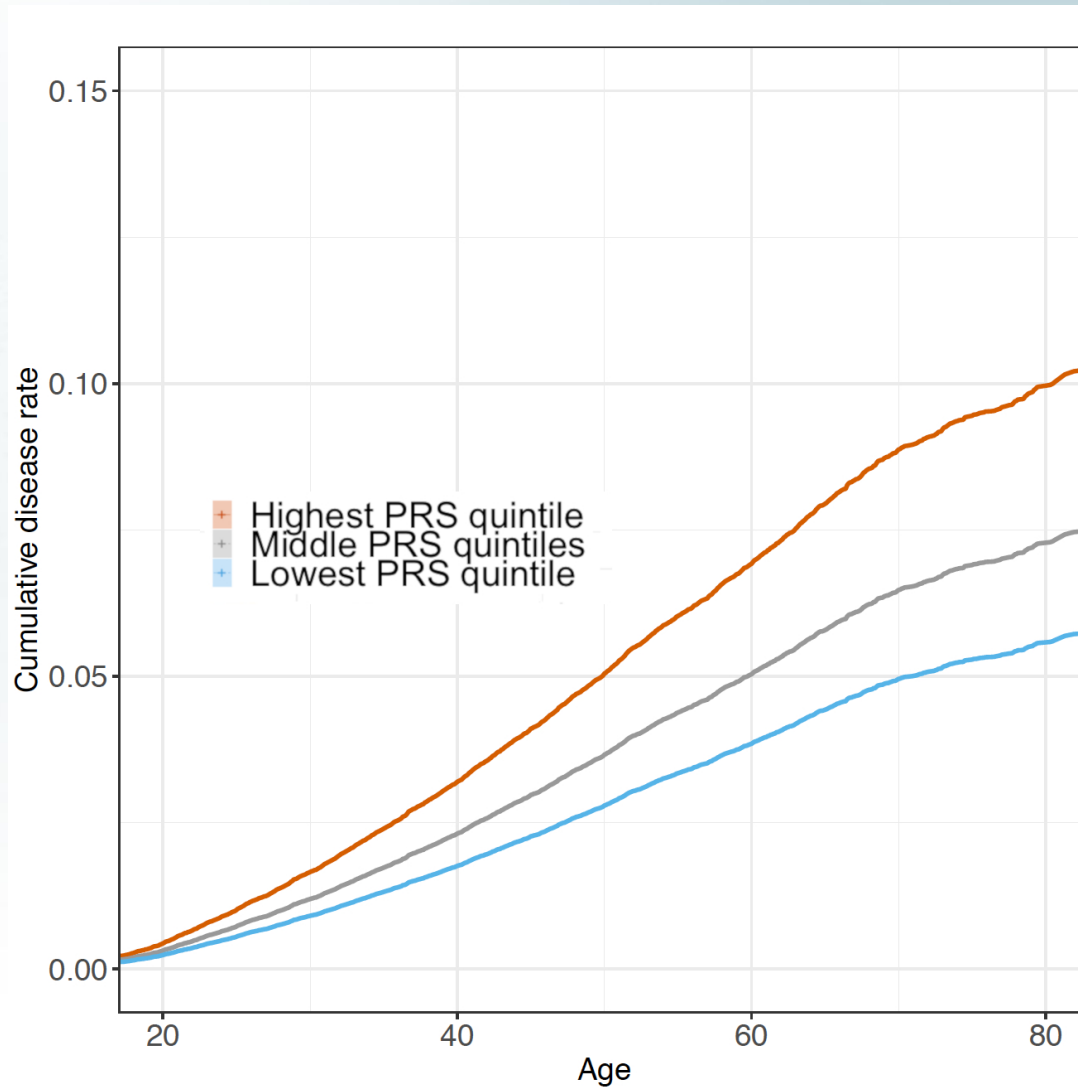


# The endpoints

## › Definitions of alcohol-related morbidities endpoints (ICD-10| ICD-9 | ICD-8)

- › 1. Acute alcohol intoxication (F10.0)\*, 2. Alcohol intoxication (-|305A) 3. Mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol, excluding acute intoxication (F10.1-9 | 291,303 | 291,303) 4. Degeneration of nervous system due to alcohol (G31.2) 5. Epileptic seizures related to alcohol (G40.51) 6. Alcohol induced polyneuropathy (G62.1 | 3575A) 7. Alcoholic myopathy (G72.1) 8. Alcoholic cardiomyopathy (I42.6 | 4255) 9. Alcoholic gastritis (K29.3 | 5353A) 10. Alcoholic liver disease (K70 | 5710-3 | 5710) 11. Alcohol-induced acute pancreatitis (K85.2 | 5770D-F) 12. Alcohol-induced chronic pancreatitis (K86.0 | 5771C-D) 13. Maternal care for (suspected) damage to fetus from alcohol (O35.4) 14. Fetus and newborn affected by maternal use of alcohol (P04.3 | 7607A) 15. Fetal alcohol syndrome (dysmorphic) (Q860) 16. Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol (X45) 17. Guidance and medical advice to a person with alcohol abuse (Z71.4) 18. Alcohol-induced pseudo-Cushing syndrome (E24.4) 19. Toxic effect of ethanol (T51.0| 9800|9800) 20. Toxic effect of unspecified or other (than ethanol) alcohols (T51.1-9 | 9801-9|9801-9) 21. Use of disulfiram, acamprosate or naltrexone (prescription drug purchases with ATC-codes N07BB01, N07BB02 or N07BB04)

# Highest vs lowest 20 %



# PRS ~ Alcohol-related morbidities

	Morbidity (alco)	Mortality (alco)	Mortality (all-cause)
<b>FinnGen</b>	Cases=911	Cases=335	Cases=4,125
<b>Basic model with age and sex</b>	HR=1.26 [1.18-1.34],	HR=1.26 [1.13-1.53]	HR=1.11 [1.07-1.14]
<b>Model with alcohol consumption</b>	HR=1.15 [1.08-1.22]	HR=1.13 [1.01-1.26],	HR=1.07 [1.01-1.13]
<b>Fully adjusted model</b>	HR=1.15 [1.08-1.22]	HR=1.11 [0.97-1.24]	HR=1.09 [1.06-1.12]

# PREDICTION: FR → H2000

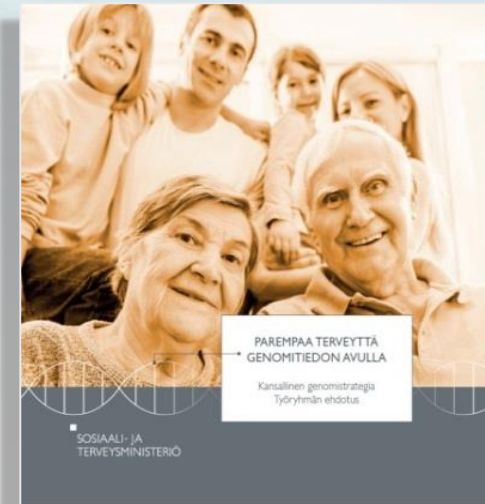
MODEL	C-index improvement by PRS	NRI	IDI
1) Age, sex +PRS	0.02 [0.69 → 0.71] (p = 0.023)	0.29 (p=1.43*10 <sup>-3</sup> )	0.0026 (p=0.0043)
2) Age, Sex, consumption estimate + PRS	0.002 [0.812→0.814] (p=0.30)	0.34 (p = 0.0051 )	0.0024 (p = 0.016)
2) Age, sex, consumption estimate, smoking, marital status, education +PRS	0.0018 [0.847-0.849] (p=0.44)	0.235 (p=0.015)	0.00331 (p=0.048)



# Alcohol use disorder (DSM-IV)

- › Nicotine Addiction Genetics Family cohort (440 cases, 1,140 controls) + FinnTwin16 cohort (273 cases, 320 controls)
- › A meta-analysis of the two cohorts (713 cases) →
- › 20 % increase in the prevalence of AUD per 1 PRS SD (OR = 1.20 [1.11-1.31],  $p = 2.29 \cdot 10^{-5}$ ) in the unadjusted model
- › Adjusting for marital status, education and smoking explained part of the effect (OR=1.14 [1.02-1.28],  $p=0.023$ )
- › Further adjusting with maximal amount of drinks taken explained most of the effect (OR=1.06 [0.94-1.19],  $p=0.35$ )

# HOW TO COMMUNICATE THIS INFORMATION?



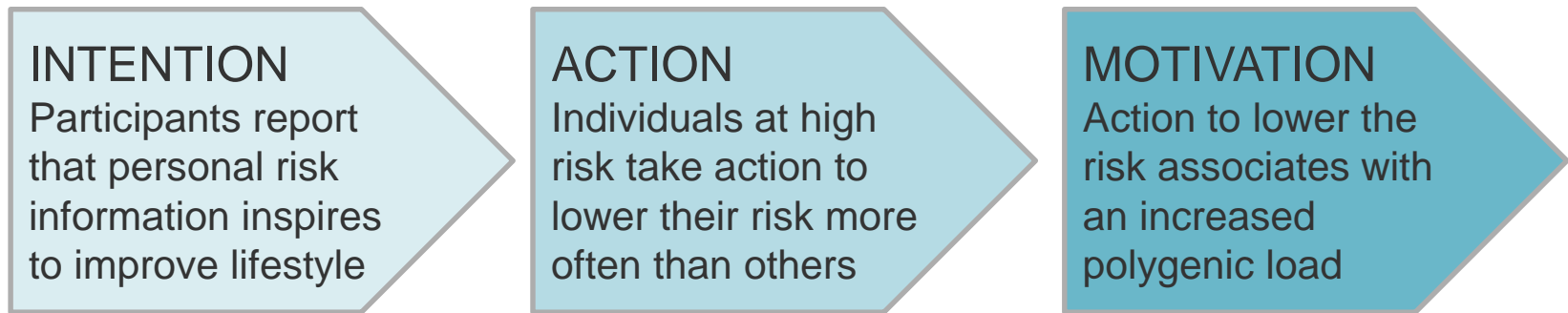
# Genetic Risk and Health Behavior

Based on previous studies

- › Personal disease risk information based on a **few variants with weak effects** does not motivate change in health behavior
- › Genetic information based on **single rare DNA variants with a moderately strong effect** on disease risk often prompts health behaviors such as screening, medication and surgery

# Genomic Risk and Health Behavior

## The GeneRISK –study (n= ~7,343)



Elevated genomic risk + interactive tool for communication  
= motivation for change

# Actions Taken at Follow-up

	CVD-risk > 10% n = 685	CVD-risk < 10% n = 3,996
Sustained weight loss (% of study participants)	15.9 *	12.3
Quit smoking (% of smokers)	14.3	15.3
Seen a physician (%)	20.7 ***	8.3
Any of the above (%)	36.2 ***	20.8

\*p=0.01; \*\*\*p<0.001

Elisabeth Widén

## Attitudes at 1.5 Years of Follow-up (n=5,196)

- › My personal risk information was easy to understand 89%
- › My results were useful 90%
- › My results were unexpected 22%
- › My results were concerning 29%
- › Genetic factors importantly influence my disease risk 97%
- › I can impact on my disease risk through my lifestyle 99%
- › My personal risk information motivates me to take better care of my health 89%
- › Doctors know how to interpret and utilize genome information 75%



# Next steps

- › Larger genomic studies with HUGE sample sizes needed (millions)
- › Better Polygenic Risk Scores (combining genomic information behind different alcohol-related phenotypes)
- › Real-life prospective studies (prediction+diagnosis+prevention)

# CONCLUSIONS

- › Polygenic risk score for alcohol consumption is strongly associated with increased alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harms
- › The PRS predicted alcohol-related major health events over and beyond self-reported baseline alcohol consumption
- › Polygenic risk score shows promise in identifying individuals at high risk for alcohol-related morbidities with improved prediction models
- › Effect of communicating this information to the public need be carefully and comprehensively studied

# THANK YOU

- › Nina Mars, Teemu Palviainen, Jukka Koskela, Joel T. Rämö, Pietari Ripatti, Jaakko Kaprio, Veikko Salomaa, Pia Mäkelä, Aki S. Havulinna, Samuli Ripatti
  - › GSCAN Consortium
  - › Study participants (FinnGen)
- 
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