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## A Genome-wide Pleiotropy Scan for Prostate Cancer Risk

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## Abstract

**Background**—No single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) specific for aggressive prostate cancer have been identified in genome-wide association studies (GWAS).

**Objective**—To test if SNPs associated with other traits may also affect the risk of aggressive prostate cancer.

**Design, setting, and participants**—SNPs implicated in any phenotype other than prostate cancer ( $p < 10^{-7}$ ) were identified through the catalog of published GWAS and tested in 2891 aggressive prostate cancer cases and 4592 controls from the Breast and Prostate Cancer Cohort Consortium (BPC3). The 40 most significant SNPs were followed up in 4872 aggressive prostate cancer cases and 24 534 controls from the Prostate Cancer Association Group to Investigate Cancer Associated Alterations in the Genome (PRACTICAL) consortium.

**Outcome measurements and statistical analysis**—Odds ratios (ORs) and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) for aggressive prostate cancer were estimated.

**Results and limitations**—A total of 4666 SNPs were evaluated by the BPC3. Two signals were seen in regions already reported for prostate cancer risk. rs7014346 at 8q24.21 was marginally associated with aggressive prostate cancer in the BPC3 trial ( $p = 1.6 \times 10^{-6}$ ), whereas after meta-analysis by PRACTICAL the summary OR was 1.21 (95% CI 1.16–1.27;  $p = 3.22 \times 10^{-18}$ ). rs9900242 at 17q24.3 was also marginally associated with aggressive disease in the meta-analysis (OR 0.90, 95% CI 0.86–0.94;  $p = 2.5 \times 10^{-6}$ ). Neither of these SNPs remained statistically significant when conditioning on correlated known prostate cancer SNPs. The meta-analysis by BPC3 and PRACTICAL identified a third promising signal, marked by rs16844874 at 2q34, independent of known prostate cancer loci (OR 1.12, 95% CI 1.06–1.19;  $p = 4.67 \times 10^{-5}$ ); it has been shown that SNPs correlated with this signal affect glycine concentrations. The main limitation is the heterogeneity in the definition of aggressive prostate cancer between BPC3 and PRACTICAL.

**Conclusions**—We did not identify new SNPs for aggressive prostate cancer. However, rs16844874 may provide preliminary genetic evidence on the role of the glycine pathway in prostate cancer etiology.

**Patient summary**—We evaluated whether genetic variants associated with several traits are linked to the risk of aggressive prostate cancer. No new such variants were identified.

## Keywords

Aggressive prostate cancer; Genome-wide association study; Pleiotropy; Single-nucleotide polymorphism; Glycine

## 1. Introduction

Prostate cancer is a clinically heterogeneous disease entity ranging from microscopic, well-differentiated indolent tumors to aggressive disease; the latter comprises 10–20% of all tumors and can lead to considerable morbidity and mortality [1]. This clinical heterogeneity may reflect underlying heterogeneity in disease etiology and has implications for screening, treatment, and prognosis. Many genetic risk factors have been robustly associated with the disease through genome-wide association studies (GWAS). Currently, almost 100 loci, explaining ~30% of the genetic variance of the disease, have been discovered and replicated through GWAS and replication studies [2].

Recent GWAS have identified SNPs possibly associated with aggressive prostate cancer [3], but none of these SNPs show specificity only for the aggressive phenotype [2]. The paucity of loci uniquely associated with aggressive disease may be because of low study power arising from insufficient sample sizes [3], heterogeneity and misclassification of the definitions of disease aggressiveness, and a high proportion of false-negative findings in current GWAS [4,5], especially with regard to low-frequency variants and variants conferring a small increase in risk [6,7]. Protection against the large number of false-positive findings has led to adoption of strict thresholds of statistical significance (eg,  $p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$ ), which in turn increase the number of false-negative results that may be noteworthy but are not explored further in replication efforts [8].

One approach to discover additional noteworthy loci is to evaluate SNPs that have been robustly associated with other human traits through GWAS and large-scale meta-analyses thereof [9,10]. This genome-wide pleiotropy scan approach has previously yielded novel associations for risk of pancreatic adenocarcinoma [11] and endometrial [12] and colorectal cancer [13]. The hypothesized pleiotropic effects (when a genetic locus is associated with multiple phenotypes or phenotypic traits) [14] are especially meaningful in cancer. For example, the *TERT* locus at 5p15.33 has been associated with more than ten different conditions, including bladder [15], prostate, [16] and other cancers [17], as well as nonmalignant [18] diseases.

Therefore, we aimed to identify new loci associated with risk of aggressive prostate cancer by estimating the associations for loci previously associated with other complex traits in GWAS.

## 2. Materials and methods

### 2.1. Study design and populations

We applied a two-stage design. In the first stage, data from the GWAS on aggressive prostate cancer from the Breast and Prostate Cancer Cohort Consortium (BPC3) were used to examine whether previously GWAS-identified SNPs associated with other traits were also associated with the risk of aggressive prostate cancer. In the second stage, replication of the 40 most significant SNPs from the first stage was performed using data from the Prostate Cancer Association Group to Investigate Cancer Associated Alterations in the Genome (PRACTICAL) consortium, and the results for the two consortia were combined through meta-analysis.

For the first stage, we used data from 2891 cases with aggressive prostate cancer and 4592 matched controls on age, ethnicity, and in some cohorts, the region of recruitment, who have been previously genotyped in the seven large and well-established cohorts of BPC3 (Supplementary text) [19]. All subjects included in the current analysis were of European ancestry. Aggressive prostate cancer was defined as having either high histologic grade (Gleason score  $\geq 8$ ) or extraprostatic extension (stage C/D). The specimens used to determine the Gleason grading included surgical specimens from radical prostatectomy or autopsy as well as from diagnostic biopsy (either needle biopsy or transurethral resection of the prostate). When multiple Gleason scores were available, we used the surgical value.

The study population, genotyping methods, and quality control criteria applied in the PRACTICAL consortium at the replication stage have been described in detail elsewhere [3,20]. In brief, the total sample size consisted of 23 631 prostate cancer cases, 4872 (21%) of whom had aggressive prostate cancer, and 24 534 disease-free control subjects. All individuals were of European ancestry. Aggressive disease was defined as Gleason score  $\geq 8$ , prostate-specific antigen (PSA)  $>100$  ng/ml, a disease stage of distant (outside the pelvis), or death from prostate cancer.

## 2.2. Selection of SNPs

We used the Catalog of Published Genome-Wide Association Studies hosted by the National Human Genome Research Institute [9] as of June 26, 2013 to select eligible SNPs. The catalog is a regularly updated online database that lists genetic associations from published GWAS that have  $p < 10^{-5}$ . We included only SNPs that have previously been associated with any complex disease or trait at  $p = 10^{-7}$  or lower, excluding those associated with prostate cancer. Empirical evidence suggests that the widely adopted level of genome-wide significance at  $5 \times 10^{-8}$  is strict and that associations with  $p < 10^{-7}$  are likely to represent true signals [21]. We included only associations that pertained to SNPs and excluded copy number and structural variants. Haplotypes of SNPs were broken down to the individual SNPs whenever possible. We also excluded associations for which the corresponding  $p$  values were not reported in the catalog and could not be estimated using the data reported in the original GWAS publications. In addition, we excluded catalog entries that could not be mapped to an rs-numbered SNP after reviewing the original publications.

For SNPs that had not been directly genotyped in BPC3, we used the SNP Annotation and Proxy (SNAP) tool [22] to identify proxies in high linkage disequilibrium (LD; ie,  $r^2 > 0.9$ ).

## 2.3. Statistical analysis

In the BPC3 GWAS, the association between each SNP and aggressive prostate cancer was examined using logistic regression to estimate the per-allele odds ratio (OR) and the corresponding 95% confidence interval (CI) after adjusting for the second principal component of genetic covariance, as explained previously [19]. For SNPs that were present in four or more BPC3 cohorts, fixed-effects meta-analysis was used to estimate the summary per-allele OR.

In the PRACTICAL GWAS, per-allele ORs and corresponding 95% CIs were estimated using logistic regression after adjusting for principal components, as explained in detail previously [20]. Fixed-effects meta-analysis was used to combine the effect estimates from the individual studies. To clarify whether SNPs reaching significance thresholds in regions previously associated with prostate cancer are independent signals, we performed conditional analyses.

The top 40 SNPs from BPC3 with the lowest  $p$  values were followed up for replication in PRACTICAL. Results from the two consortia were combined using random-effects meta-analysis, which is more powerful than fixed-effect meta-analysis when the aim is to replicate an association [10]. Between-study heterogeneity was evaluated using Cochran's Q statistic and was quantified with the  $I^2$  metric [23]. We evaluated the statistical significance of the pleiotropy scan results at the genome-wide level using  $p = 10^{-7}$  [21].

In a secondary analysis, we performed a cross-phenotype association analysis in the replication stage. To determine whether any SNPs from the discovery stage are specific for the risk of aggressive prostate cancer, we examined their association with overall prostate cancer in the BPC3, PRACTICAL, and combined data sets.

### 3. Results

As of June 26, 2013, the GWAS catalog listed a total of 13 613 associations, of which 4438 pertained to SNPs eligible for our analyses (Supplementary Fig. 1). As described in the Supplementary text, these corresponded to a total of 5003 SNPs that were tested in BPC3, of which 337 SNPs were duplicates, resulting in a final set of 4666 SNPs.

#### 3.1. Association of SNPs with aggressive prostate cancer

A total of 265 SNPs either directly genotyped (140 catalog SNPs and 87 proxy SNPs) or imputed (34 HapMap-imputed SNPs and four SNPs imputed from 1000 Genomes) had nominally significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) associations with aggressive prostate cancer in BPC3, but none of them reached the genome-wide significance level of  $p = 10^{-7}$  (Fig. 1 and Supplementary Table 1). Table 1 shows the 40 SNPs with the lowest  $p$  values in BPC3 that were followed up in PRACTICAL. After meta-analysis with PRACTICAL, ten SNPs were nominally significant ( $p < 0.05$ ), and five (rs7014346, rs10505477, rs10069690, rs2315008, and rs4809330) also reached genome-wide significance at  $p = 1 \times 10^{-7}$  (Table 1).

Of the 40 SNPs, rs7014346 was the strongest SNP associated with aggressive prostate cancer in BPC3. The OR per copy for the A allele was 1.19 in BPC3 (95% CI 1.11–1.28;  $p = 1.6 \times 10^{-6}$ ), whereas after in silico replication it was 1.22 in PRACTICAL (95% CI 1.16–1.29;  $p = 3.49 \times 10^{-13}$ ). The summary combined OR was 1.21 (95% CI 1.16–1.27;  $p = 3.22 \times 10^{-18}$ ) with no evidence of heterogeneity between BPC3 and PRACTICAL ( $I^2 = 0\%$ ,  $p = 0.64$ ). This SNP, located at 8q24.21, has previously been associated with colorectal cancer [24]. This SNP is correlated ( $r^2 = 0.44$ ,  $D' = 1$ ) with a previously established prostate cancer SNP (rs6983267) [19,25,26], so we performed a conditional analysis to explore whether it represents a novel signal. After conditioning on rs6983267, rs7014346 was no longer associated with aggressive prostate cancer (OR 1.06, 95% CI 0.99–1.13;  $p = 0.07$ ).

Another four SNPs (rs10505477, rs10069690, rs2315008, and rs4809330) were associated with aggressive prostate cancer at  $p < 10^{-7}$  in the meta-analysis. However, for all of these SNPs there was at least one previously established prostate cancer SNP (rs6983267, rs2242652, or rs6062509) in high LD ( $r^2 > 0.80$ ,  $D' = 1$ ).

Another promising SNP, rs9900242 at 17q24.3, did not reach genome-wide significance in PRACTICAL (OR per copy of the A allele 0.90, 95% CI 0.85–0.95;  $p = 1.38 \times 10^{-5}$ ) or BPC3 (OR 0.90, 95% CI 0.84–0.97;  $p = 5.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ). However, the meta-analysis yielded a lower  $p$  value of  $2.5 \times 10^{-6}$  (OR 0.90, 95% CI 0.86–0.94) with no evidence of heterogeneity ( $I^2 = 0\%$ ,  $p = 0.94$ ). This SNP is a proxy ( $r^2 = 0.93$ ,  $D' = 1$ ) for the catalog-indexed rs11654749 at the *KCNJ2-SOX9* locus, which has been implicated in an interaction between smoking and pulmonary function [27], and is also partially correlated ( $r^2 = 0.29$ ,  $D' = 0.68$ ) with a previously reported genome-wide significant prostate cancer SNP (rs1859962) in that region [19,28,29]. To clarify whether the effect of rs9900242 is independent of rs1859962, we performed a conditional analysis in which rs9900242 was no longer associated with aggressive prostate cancer (OR 0.98, 95% CI 0.93–1.04;  $p = 0.61$ ).



Similarly, another SNP (rs16844874) that did not reach statistical significance in BPC3 (OR per copy of the C allele 1.16, 95% CI 1.05–1.29;  $p = 5.44 \times 10^{-3}$ ) or in PRACTICAL (OR 1.12, 95% CI 1.04–1.18;  $p = 2.18 \times 10^{-3}$ ) reached a lower significance level after meta-analysis with a per-allele OR of 1.12 (95% CI 1.06–1.19;  $p = 4.67 \times 10^{-5}$ ) and no evidence of heterogeneity ( $I^2 = 0\%$ ,  $p = 0.46$ ). rs16844874 is independent of previously reported prostate cancer SNPs ( $r^2 < 0.001$  according to the SNAP tool for correlation with all known prostate cancer SNPs) and is a proxy for rs2216405 ( $r^2 = 0.94$ ,  $D' = 1$ ) in *CPSI* that has been previously shown to increase the serum concentrations of glycine and other metabolites [30]. Sarcosine is a glycine derivative recently shown to be associated with prostate cancer [31], so we examined the association between rs16844874 and rs2216405 and circulating sarcosine concentrations in one of the BPC3 studies with available data (Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian Cancer Screening Trial, PLCO). Neither rs16844874 ( $p = 0.72$ ) nor rs2216405 ( $p = 0.74$ ) was associated with the log-transformed concentrations of sarcosine normalized for alanine levels ( $\log[\text{sarcosine}/\text{alanine}]$ ) in linear regression models of 990 prostate cancer cases and 821 control subjects after adjustment for case-control status, age, smoking, and diabetes (Supplementary Table 2). Results were identical when we examined this association only in the controls (data not shown).

### 3.2. Association of SNPs with overall prostate cancer

Of the 40 SNPs with the strongest associations with aggressive prostate cancer in BPC3 that were tested for cross-phenotype associations with overall prostate cancer in BPC3 and PRACTICAL (Supplementary Table 3), eight reached  $p < 10^{-7}$  in the meta-analysis (Table 2). Seven of these SNPs (rs7014346, rs2687720, rs10505477, rs10069690, rs2315008, rs4809330, and rs2048327) are in high LD ( $r^2 > 0.40$ ,  $D' > 0.95$ ) with known prostate cancer SNPs (rs6983267, rs10934853, rs2242652, rs6062509, or rs9364554). The summary per-allele OR for the remaining SNP, rs9900242, was 0.90 per copy of the A allele (95% CI 0.87–0.92;  $p = 7.47 \times 10^{-17}$ ) with no evidence of heterogeneity ( $I^2 = 0\%$ ,  $p = 0.83$ ). However, after conditioning on the moderately correlated known prostate cancer SNP rs1859962 ( $r^2 = 0.29$ ,  $D' = 0.68$ ), rs9900242 was not associated with overall prostate cancer (OR 0.99, 95% CI 0.96–1.03;  $p = 0.70$ ). We found no significant association between rs16844874 and overall prostate cancer risk (summary OR 1.08, 95% CI 0.97–1.21;  $p = 0.17$ ; Supplementary Table 3), but this association was not significantly different from the summary result for aggressive disease ( $p$  heterogeneity 0.57).

## 4. Discussion

Using a genome-wide pleiotropy scan, we tested more than 4600 SNPs previously associated with various complex traits for association with aggressive prostate cancer in approximately 7800 men of Caucasian ancestry and replicated the strongest SNPs in an independent sample of more than 30 000 men. No new associations were identified.

Pleiotropic effects of GWAS-discovered SNPs have been identified in the past and different types of pleiotropy have been described [14]. Biological pleiotropy and pleiotropy mediated through an intermediate phenotype can be particularly useful when documented, because they may offer new insights into biological functions that are common among apparently unrelated phenotypes, increasing current knowledge about disease pathophysiology. They

may also provide functional explanations about associations that have been observed in epidemiological studies [14].

In addition, an SNP in LD with several SNPs, each associated with a different phenotype, may cause spurious pleiotropy [14]. The strongest SNP identified in our study, rs7014346 at 8q24.21, has previously been associated with colorectal cancer risk [24]. This SNP had an OR of 1.19, conferring a small to modest increase in disease risk. This is not uncommon in GWAS, for which the majority of the SNPs discovered have relatively small effect sizes [32]. Such SNPs explain a small percentage of total heritability [33,34], implying that additional factors such as gene-environment interactions and rare variants [7] could explain some of the missing heritability [33]. This is the second SNP in this region for which pleiotropic effects have been discovered; rs6983267 is associated with colorectal and prostate cancer [26,35]. Although the two SNPs are correlated and do not confer independent risks, as documented in a conditional analysis in the current study, rs7014346 has not been reported to be associated with other phenotypes besides colorectal cancer such as rs6983267 has [36]. It is likely that rs7014346 has been a false-negative result so far because of strict genome-wide significance thresholds, which may not always take LD patterns into account [21]; however we cannot exclude the fact it may not have been reported because of its correlation with known prostate cancer SNPs. The 8q24 region contains a large gene desert with SNPs showing pleiotropic effects for various phenotypes including different cancers [37] and cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease [38]. This region harbors the *MYC* proto-oncogene, which seems to have long-range interactions with 8q24 loci that act as enhancers regulating the expression of this gene [39]. Similarly, rs9900242 did not confer independent risk for aggressive prostate cancer in our study from the previously known rs1859962. Detailed fine-mapping of the 8q24 and 17q24.3 regions along with appropriate epidemiological approaches [38] can provide additional evidence on the biological mechanisms underlying the respective phenotypes.

Of interest, rs16844874 was nominally significantly associated with aggressive prostate cancer in our study but did not reach genome-wide significance. Because associations may reach genome-wide significance levels when additional data are combined [8,21], this SNP could potentially constitute a new signal, but it should be followed up in future studies. This SNP is not in LD with known prostate cancer loci, but is highly correlated with SNPs previously implicated in glycine metabolism. Glycine is one of the 20 amino acids that form human proteins, and one of its derivatives, sarcosine, has been implicated in the progression of prostate cancer [40]. Although evidence from functional analyses [41] is inconclusive, a recent prospective epidemiological study showed that elevated serum concentrations of sarcosine were associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer, especially the nonaggressive type [31]; however, a second larger study reported an inverse association with circulating concentrations of glycine and sarcosine [42]. Nevertheless, rs16844874 was not associated with circulating sarcosine concentrations in a subset of our study.

Our study has some limitations that should be acknowledged. First, BPC3 and PRACTICAL used slightly different definitions of aggressive prostate cancer as a result of differences in classifications used by pathologists by study and country and over time. These differences may contribute to heterogeneity of outcomes and disease misclassification, as some patients



diagnosed with aggressive prostate cancer may actually have nonaggressive disease. They can also increase the noise around a true signal, making detection of SNPs specific for aggressive disease challenging. Second, our analysis pertained exclusively to SNPs included in the GWAS catalog, which lists SNPs with  $p < 10^{-5}$  in published reports, and thus we cannot exclude the possibility that some additional SNPs with weaker associations could also represent false-negative findings, although this possibility seems less likely. Third, the total sample size for BPC3 might have insufficient statistical power to detect SNPs with small effect sizes. Nevertheless, for the replication stage, we used data from the PRACTICAL Consortium, which is the largest sample with GWAS data on prostate cancer to date. Finally, we applied a strict significance threshold of  $p = 10^{-7}$  instead of adjusting the  $p$  value for the 4666 tests performed in the discovery stage. This protects our results from false-positive findings. Other approaches such as the false-discovery rate are expected to give similar results with the family-wise error rate (eg, Bonferroni correction) [43].

## 5. Conclusions

Our genome-wide pleiotropy scan for aggressive prostate cancer that interrogated all known SNPs pertaining to complex traits did not identify any new SNPs. Although rs16844874 did not reach genome-wide significance levels, it may warrant follow-up because of its high correlation with SNPs involved in metabolic pathways potentially implicated in prostate cancer. Given the lack of loci specifically associated with aggressive disease, future study designs should focus on identifying SNPs specific for this outcome, which is more clinically relevant. GWAS with larger sample sizes and denser genotyping platforms, as well as sequencing studies, could reveal clinically useful genetic associations. There is evidence that integration of such associations in prognostic studies and clinical translational research may improve the efficacy of targeted prostate cancer screening programs, risk stratification, and treatment [2,44,45].

## Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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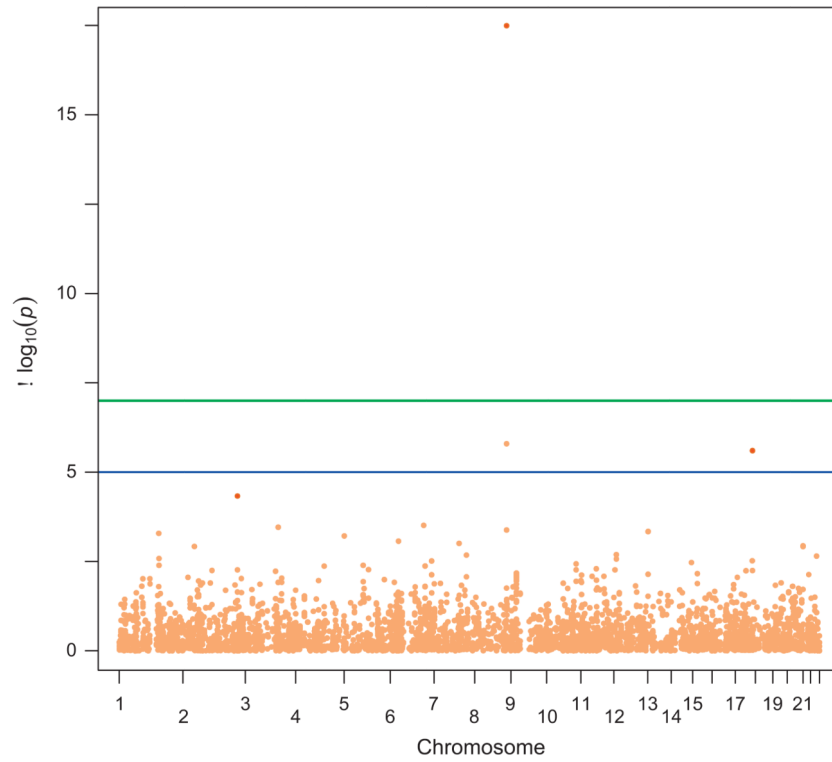
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**Figure 1.** Manhattan plot for the 4666 single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) evaluated in the genome-wide pleiotropy scan. Breast and Prostate Cancer Cohort Consortium (BPC3) results are shown in Light Orange and the meta-analysis results for the three strongest SNPs are shown in orange.

**Table 1**  
**Top 40 SNPs in BPC3 and associations with aggressive prostate cancer in BPC3, PRACTICAL, and random-effects meta-analysis**

SNP	Alleles	Region	Trait in GWAS catalog	BPC3			PRACTICAL			Meta-analysis		
				OR (95% CI)	p value	OR (95% CI)	p value	OR (95% CI)	p value	OR (95% CI)	p value	phet
rs7014346	A vs G	8q24.21	Colorectal cancer	1.19 (1.11–1.28)	$1.60 \times 10^{-6}$	1.22 (1.16–1.29)	$3.49 \times 10^{-13}$	1.21 (1.16–1.27)	$3.22 \times 10^{-18}$	0.64	0	
rs6569648	C vs T	6q23.1	Height	0.86 (0.79–0.93)	$3.08 \times 10^{-4}$	0.97 (0.91–1.04)	$4.16 \times 10^{-1}$	0.92 (0.81–1.04)	0.175	0.02	82.8	
rs2687720 <sup>a</sup>	A vs G	3q21.3	Menarche (age at onset)	1.15 (1.07–1.24)	$3.48 \times 10^{-4}$	1.09 (1.03–1.16)	$4.02 \times 10^{-3}$	1.11 (1.06–1.17)	$6.74 \times 10^{-5}$	0.26	19.8	
rs10505477	C vs T	8q24.21	Colorectal cancer	0.85 (0.77–0.93)	$4.15 \times 10^{-4}$	0.79 (0.75–0.83)	$7.72 \times 10^{-20}$	0.81 (0.76–0.86)	$3.56 \times 10^{-11}$	0.21	35.4	
rs9318086	A vs G	13q12.12	Myopia	1.13 (1.06–1.22)	$4.53 \times 10^{-4}$	1.01 (0.96–1.06)	$7.38 \times 10^{-1}$	1.07 (0.95–1.20)	$2.65 \times 10^{-1}$	<0.01	85.2	
rs753955	T vs C	13q12.12	Lung cancer	1.14 (1.06–1.22)	$4.60 \times 10^{-4}$	1.03 (0.98–1.09)	$2.74 \times 10^{-1}$	1.08 (0.98–1.19)	$1.18 \times 10^{-1}$	0.03	77.9	
rs3180018	A vs G	1q22	Crohn disease	1.16 (1.07–1.25)	$5.15 \times 10^{-4}$	0.99 (0.93–1.05)	$7.47 \times 10^{-1}$	1.07 (0.92–1.24)	$4.02 \times 10^{-1}$	<0.01	88.7	
rs10069690	C vs T	5p15.33	Breast cancer	1.21 (1.08–1.35)	$6.10 \times 10^{-4}$	1.20 (1.13–1.28)	$3.45 \times 10^{-9}$	1.21 (1.14–1.27)	$8.82 \times 10^{-12}$	0.97	0	
rs6910071	G vs A	6p21.32	Rheumatoid arthritis	1.16 (1.06–1.27)	$8.53 \times 10^{-4}$	1.02 (0.96–1.09)	$5.67 \times 10^{-1}$	1.08 (0.95–1.23)	$2.16 \times 10^{-1}$	0.02	81.8	
rs7788750 <sup>d</sup>	T vs C	7q22.1	Ulcerative colitis	1.36 (1.13–1.63)	$9.83 \times 10^{-4}$	0.88 (0.76–1.00)	$5.39 \times 10^{-2}$	1.09 (0.71–1.67)	$7.10 \times 10^{-1}$	<0.01	93.1	
rs2315008	T vs G	20q13.33	Inflammatory bowel disease	0.88 (0.82–0.95)	$1.15 \times 10^{-3}$	0.86 (0.81–0.91)	$1.45 \times 10^{-7}$	0.87 (0.83–0.91)	$7.43 \times 10^{-10}$	0.57	0	
rs6756629	A vs G	2p21	Total and LDL cholesterol	1.26 (1.09–1.44)	$1.20 \times 10^{-3}$	0.96 (0.86–1.07)	$4.49 \times 10^{-1}$	1.09 (0.84–1.42)	$5.07 \times 10^{-1}$	<0.01	89	
rs4809330	A vs G	20q13.33	Crohn disease	0.88 (0.82–0.95)	$1.21 \times 10^{-3}$	0.86 (0.81–0.91)	$1.77 \times 10^{-7}$	0.87 (0.83–0.91)	$9.50 \times 10^{-10}$	0.57	0	
rs3764021	A vs G	12p13.31	Type 1 diabetes	0.89 (0.82–0.95)	$2.04 \times 10^{-3}$	1.02 (0.97–1.07)	$4.91 \times 10^{-1}$	0.95 (0.83–1.09)	$4.91 \times 10^{-1}$	<0.01	88.3	
rs10229583	A vs G	7q32.1	Type 2 diabetes	1.14 (1.05–1.23)	$2.10 \times 10^{-3}$	1.02 (0.96–1.08)	$5.45 \times 10^{-1}$	1.07 (0.96–1.19)	$1.99 \times 10^{-1}$	0.04	77.4	
rs968451	T vs G	22q13.1	Primary biliary cirrhosis	1.15 (1.05–1.26)	$2.24 \times 10^{-3}$	1.02 (0.95–1.09)	$5.82 \times 10^{-1}$	1.08 (0.96–1.21)	$2.10 \times 10^{-1}$	0.04	77.5	
rs12563627 <sup>a</sup>	T vs C	1q22	Inflammatory bowel disease	1.12 (1.04–1.21)	$2.61 \times 10^{-3}$	1.02 (0.96–1.08)	$5.20 \times 10^{-1}$	1.07 (0.97–1.17)	$1.91 \times 10^{-1}$	0.04	75.9	
rs10466829	G vs A	12p13.31	Multiple sclerosis	1.11 (1.04–1.20)	$2.69 \times 10^{-3}$	0.99 (0.94–1.04)	$6.52 \times 10^{-1}$	1.05 (0.93–1.18)	$4.50 \times 10^{-1}$	<0.01	85.7	
rs8079702	G vs A	17q24.3	Primary tooth development (number of teeth)	1.11 (1.04–1.20)	$3.02 \times 10^{-3}$	0.96 (0.91–1.01)	$1.40 \times 10^{-1}$	1.03 (0.89–1.19)	$6.69 \times 10^{-1}$	<0.01	90.6	
rs2048327	G vs A	6q25.3	Coronary heart disease	1.12 (1.04–1.20)	$3.06 \times 10^{-3}$	1.05 (1.00–1.11)	$5.69 \times 10^{-2}$	1.08 (1.02–1.14)	$6.00 \times 10^{-3}$	0.22	33.4	
rs4905994 <sup>d</sup>	T vs C	14q32.2	Platelet counts	1.12 (1.04–1.21)	$3.37 \times 10^{-3}$	0.96 (0.91–1.02)	$1.83 \times 10^{-1}$	1.04 (0.89–1.20)	$6.42 \times 10^{-1}$	<0.01	89.9	
rs7901695	C vs T	10q25.2	Type 2 diabetes	0.89 (0.83–0.96)	$3.67 \times 10^{-3}$	1.00 (0.94–1.06)	$9.89 \times 10^{-1}$	0.95 (0.85–1.06)	$3.39 \times 10^{-1}$	0.02	81.4	
rs3846662	C vs T	5q13.3	Total and LDL cholesterol	0.90 (0.84–0.97)	$4.04 \times 10^{-3}$	1.04 (0.98–1.10)	$1.71 \times 10^{-1}$	0.97 (0.85–1.11)	$6.58 \times 10^{-1}$	<0.01	89.7	

SNP	Alleles	Region	Trait in GWAS catalog	BPC3			PRACTICAL			Meta-analysis		
				OR (95% CI)	p value	OR (95% CI)	p value	OR (95% CI)	p value	OR (95% CI)	p value	phet
rs625658 <sup>a</sup>	A vs C	1q22	Inflammatory bowel disease	1.12 (1.04–1.20)	4.05 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.02 (0.97–1.08)	4.87 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.06 (0.97–1.16)	1.73 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.06	72.1	
rs6569992	A vs G	6q23.3	Red blood cell traits	0.88 (0.80–0.96)	4.24 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.93 (0.87–1.00)	5.68 × 10 <sup>-2</sup>	0.91 (0.86–0.96)	1.00 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.32	100	
rs10033464	T vs G	4q25	Atrial Fibrillation	1.19 (1.06–1.33)	4.25 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.95 (0.87–1.04)	2.69 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.06 (0.85–1.31)	6.07 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	<0.01	88.5	
rs1562990	C vs A	11q12.2	Alzheimer disease	1.11 (1.03–1.19)	5.05 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.02 (0.96–1.07)	5.35 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.06 (0.97–1.15)	1.86 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.06	71.4	
rs4869272 <sup>a</sup>	C vs T	5q15	Fasting glucose-related traits	1.11 (1.03–1.20)	5.33 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.01 (0.95–1.08)	7.49 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.06 (0.96–1.17)	2.34 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.06	71.7	
rs7903146	T vs C	10q25.2	Type 2 diabetes; Fasting glucose-related traits; Fasting insulin-related traits; Proinsulin levels; HbA <sub>1c</sub> levels	0.89 (0.83–0.97)	5.40 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.00 (0.94–1.06)	9.64 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.95 (0.85–1.06)	3.33 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.03	79.3	
rs2970818	T vs A	12p13.32	Phosphorus levels	0.83 (0.73–0.95)	5.42 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.98 (0.89–1.07)	6.26 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.91 (0.77–1.06)	2.31 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.05	75.1	
rs16844874 <sup>a</sup>	C vs T	2q34	Glycine	1.16 (1.05–1.29)	5.44 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.11 (1.04–1.18)	2.18 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.12 (1.06–1.19)	4.67 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.46	0	
rs4374383	A vs G	2q13	Hepatitis C–induced liver fibrosis	1.11 (1.03–1.19)	5.63 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.00 (0.93–1.07)	9.20 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.05 (0.95–1.17)	3.56 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.04	76.7	
rs9900242 <sup>a</sup>	A vs G	17q24.3	Pulmonary function in smokers	0.90 (0.84–0.97)	5.67 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.90 (0.85–0.95)	1.39 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.90 (0.86–0.94)	2.50 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.94	0	
rs9305521	T vs G	17q21.31	Bone mineral density	0.90 (0.84–0.97)	5.42 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.99 (0.94–1.04)	6.26 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.95 (0.87–1.04)	2.35 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.05	74.1	
rs10804533 <sup>a</sup>	T vs C	3q13.32	Menarche (age at onset)	0.91 (0.85–0.97)	5.93 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.04 (0.98–1.09)	1.93 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.97 (0.85–1.11)	6.57 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	<0.01	88.7	
rs10757274	A vs G	9p21.3	Coronary heart disease	0.91 (0.85–0.97)	6.64 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.03 (0.98–1.09)	2.31 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.97 (0.85–1.10)	6.39 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	<0.01	88	
rs16948098	A vs G	15q15.3	Serum albumin level	0.79 (0.66–0.94)	5.42 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.94 (0.81–1.08)	6.26 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.87 (0.73–1.03)	9.80 × 10 <sup>-2</sup>	0.13	56.8	
rs944797	CvsT	9p21.3	Coronary heart disease	1.10(1.03–1.18)	7.01 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.97 (0.92–1.03)	2.89 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.03 (0.91–1.17)	6.11 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	<0.01	87.2	
rs10757278	G vs A	9p21.3	Myocardial infarction	1.11 (1.03–1.19)	5.42 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.98 (0.93–1.03)	6.26 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.04(0.92–1.17)	5.60 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	<0.01	86.2	
rs9510787	G vs A	13q12.12	Nasopharyngeal carcinoma	1.11 (1.03–1.21)	7.18 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.00(0.94–1.07)	9.82 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	1.05 (0.95–1.17)	3.47 × 10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.04	77.5	

BPC3 = Breast and Prostate Cancer Cohort Consortium; HbA<sub>1c</sub> = glycated hemoglobin; LDL = low-density lipoprotein; OR = odds ratio; CI = confidence interval; PRACTICAL = Prostate Cancer Association Group to Investigate Cancer Associated Alterations in the Genome; SNP = single-nucleotide polymorphism; GWAS = genome-wide association studies; phet = *p* value for Cochran's Q statistic for between-study heterogeneity.

Logistic regression was applied in BPC3 and PRACTICAL. Meta-analysis was performed under a random-effects model. All ORs are per-copy of the first allele shown in the Alleles column.

<sup>a</sup>These SNPs are correlated with GWAS catalog-indexed SNPs not found in BPC3 per se as follows: rs9900242 and rs11654749 ( $r^2 = 0.93$ ,  $D' = 1$ ); rs2687720 and rs2687729 ( $r^2 = 1$ ,  $D' = 1$ ), rs10804533 and rs6438424 ( $r^2 = 1$ ,  $D' = 1$ ), rs7788750 and rs7809799 ( $r^2 = 1$ ,  $D' = 1$ ), rs12563627 and rs670523 ( $r^2 = 0.97$ ,  $D' = 1$ ), rs4905994 and rs7149242 ( $r^2 = 0.96$ ,  $D' = 1$ ), rs625658 and rs670523 ( $r^2 = 1$ ,  $D' = 1$ ), rs16844874 and rs2216405 ( $r^2 = 0.94$ ,  $D' = 1$ ), rs4869272 and rs13179048 ( $r^2 = 1$ ,  $D' = 1$ ).



**Table 2**  
**BPC3 SNPs associated with overall prostate cancer at PRACTICAL and meta-analysis**

SNP	Alleles	BPC3			PRACTICAL			Meta-analysis		
		OR (95% CI)	p value	p value	OR (95% CI)	p value	p value	OR (95% CI)	p value	<i>I</i> <sup>2</sup> (%)
rs7014346	A vs G	1.19 (1.11–1.28)	$1.60 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.20 (1.16-1.23)$	$3.21 \times 10^{-34}$	$1.20 (1.17-1.23)$	$3.33 \times 10^{-43}$	0.97	0	
rs2687720	A vs G	1.15 (1.07–1.24)	$3.48 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.11 (1.08-1.15)$	$9.43 \times 10^{-13}$	$1.12 (1.09-1.15)$	$1.92 \times 10^{-15}$	0.44	0	
rs10505477	C vs T	0.85 (0.77–0.93)	$4.15 \times 10^{-4}$	$0.80 (0.78-0.83)$	$5.15 \times 10^{-45}$	$0.81 (0.78-0.83)$	$5.26 \times 10^{-42}$	0.30	6.70	
rs10069690	C vs T	1.21 (1.08–1.35)	$6.10 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.15 (1.12-1.19)$	$1.61 \times 10^{-19}$	$1.16 (1.12-1.19)$	$3.14 \times 10^{-22}$	0.43	0	
rs2315008	T vs G	0.88 (0.82–0.95)	$1.15 \times 10^{-3}$	$0.90 (0.87-0.93)$	$4.31 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.90 (0.87-0.92)$	$2.25 \times 10^{-15}$	0.63	0	
rs4809330	A vs G	0.88 (0.82–0.95)	$1.21 \times 10^{-3}$	$0.90 (0.87-0.93)$	$6.20 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.90 (0.87-0.92)$	$3.39 \times 10^{-15}$	0.63	0	
rs2048327	G vs A	1.12 (1.04–1.20)	$3.06 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.10 (1.07-1.13)$	$5.67 \times 10^{-12}$	$1.10 (1.08-1.13)$	$6.89 \times 10^{-14}$	0.74	0	
rs9900242	A vs G	0.90 (0.84–0.97)	$5.67 \times 10^{-3}$	$0.90 (0.87-0.92)$	$3.55 \times 10^{-15}$	$0.90 (0.87-0.92)$	$7.47 \times 10^{-17}$	0.83	0	

BPC3 = Breast and Prostate Cancer Cohort Consortium; OR = odds ratio; PRACTICAL = Prostate Cancer Association Group to Investigate Cancer Associated Alterations in the Genome; SNP = single-nucleotide polymorphism; *p*het = *p* value for Cochran's Q statistic for between-study heterogeneity.

Logistic regression was applied in BPC3 and PRACTICAL Meta-analysis was performed under a random-effects model. All ORs are per-copy of the first allele shown in the Alleles column.