Original Article

Reference values for spirometry in Chinese aged 4–80 years

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Background: Although there are over 1.34 billion Chinese in the world, nationwide spirometric reference values for Chinese are unavailable, which is usually based on Caucasian conversion. The aim of this study was to establish spirometric reference values for Chinese with a national wide sample.

Methods: We enrolled healthy non-smokers in 24 centers in Northeast, North, Northwest, Southwest, South, East and Central China from January 2007 to June 2010. Spirometry was performed according to American Thoracic Society and European Respiratory Society guidelines. Reference equations were established using the Lambda-Mu-Sigma (LMS) method for forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV_1), forced vital capacity (FVC), FEV_1/FVC, peak expiratory flow (PEF) and maximal midexpiratory flow (MMEF). Popular Caucasian reference values adjusted with ethnic conversion factors were validated with Chinese measured spirometry data. The present study also compared with other published Chinese equations for spirometry.

Results: A total of 7,115 eligible individuals aged 4 to 80 years (50.9% females) were recruited. Reference equations against age and height by gender were established, including predicted values and lower limits of normal (LLNs). Validated with Chinese data, the mean percentage differences of Caucasian reference values adjusted with ethnic conversion factors were –10.2% to 1.8%, and the percentages of total subjects under LLNs were 0.1% to 8.9%. Compared with this study, the percentage differences of previous Chinese studies ranged from –17.8% to 11.4%, which were found to significantly overestimate or underestimate lung function.

Conclusions: This study established new reference values for better interpretation of spirometry in Chinese aged 4 to 80 years, while Caucasian references with adjustment were inappropriate for Chinese.

Keywords: Lung function; spirometry; predicted values; lower limits of normal (LLNs); Lambda-Mu-Sigma (LMS) method; Chinese

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Introduction

Spirometry has been widely used for diagnosing respiratory diseases, quantifying disease severity, and assessing disease prognosis (1,2). Accurate interpretation of spirometry requires appropriate reference values derived from its own ancestry population (3), including lower limits of normal (LLNs), which could be helpful for assessment of abnormal pulmonary function in patients with pulmonary diseases.

There are over 40 million overseas Chinese (4) and 1.3 billion mainland Chinese (5) in the world (about 22% of the global population), indicating the huge medical demand (6). Embarrassingly, standardized nationwide spirometric reference values for Chinese were unavailable.

In 2012, Global Lung Function Initiative (3) recommended multi-ethnic reference values for African-Americans, Southeast Asians (SEA-GLI2012) and Northeast Asians (NEA-GLI2012), which were largely established with Caucasian data and adjusted with fixed ethnic conversion factors in the whole age range. In addition, other Caucasian reference values adjusted with fixed ethnic conversion factors were also applied in China (7,8), such as European Committee of Steel and Coal equations adjusted for Chinese with the suggestion of Zheng *et al.* (Chinese-ECSC1993) (9,10), and the third national health and nutrition examination surveys equations adjusted with 0.88 times for Asian-American (Asian-NHANESIII 0.88) (11,12). Given the dynamic changes of gene, economic, environment, nutrition and *et al.*, it remains unknown whether those fixed ethnic conversion factors reliably reflect the difference of spirometry between Caucasians and Chinese.

Although several spirometric reference values for Chinese have been published (13-22), the major disadvantages in these studies limited the nationwide use, including small samples, limited age ranges, small local regions, as well as different study protocols and quality control. Without LLNs for nationwide Chinese, a fixed 0.7 of forced expiratory volume in 1 second to forced vital capacity (FEV_1/FVC) instead of LLNs was frequently applied for the diagnosis of "airflow limitation" in previous studies (7,23,24), leading possible underdiagnosis in younger subjects and over diagnosis in elderly. Moreover, In the nationwide questionnaire surveys on clinical application of pulmonary function testing conducted in 2002 (25) and 2012 (unpublished data), the majority (78.6% and 77.8%, respectively) of hospitals in China were unaware of where the reference values were derived from and used the default reference values in spirometers only. Even in the same region, different hospitals used various references. These could lead to improper assessment of pulmonary function and treatment effects.

Consequently, it is essential to establish ethnic reference values for spirometry in Chinese with a large sample size and wide age range, and validate whether fixed ethnic conversion factors reflect the differences between Caucasian and Chinese in the whole age range.

Methods

Study design

This cross-sectional study was conducted with the uniform study protocol, between January 2007 and December 2010, at 24 collaborative centers across China. Approval was obtained from local ethics committee. Written informed consent was obtained from participants or their guardians (when participants were under 18 years of age). All centers selected are in the region that lived with a big amount of population, among them, majority are Han people, and minority groups (non-Han) were excluded in the present study.

Subjects

Adult participants were recruited in health screening department of each center, while children participants were recruited in kindergartens, elementary and middle schools that closed to centers, in which all children in the same class were selected. The occupation of participants included preschool children, students, teachers, farmers, workers, office staffs, retirees, etc. The key inclusion criteria were: (I) life-long non-smokers; (II) no symptoms and history of chronic cardiopulmonary diseases (chronic bronchitis, asthma, lung cancer, pulmonary fibrosis, pulmonary tuberculosis, chronic heart diseases, etc.); (III) no abnormal findings on physical examination; (IV) written informed consent was obtained. The key exclusion criteria were: (I) upper or lower respiratory infection within 4 weeks; (II) long-term exposure to harmful gas or particles; (III) using β-blocker for treatment; (IV) pregnant women, epileptic; (V) other diseases or surgeries potentially affecting lung function. Health questionnaires about medical history and personal characters were provided to the participants and children's parents prior to spirometry. Age was calculated with the date of examination and the definite birthday. Standing height was recorded to the nearest 0.5 cm without shoes. Weight was measured to the nearest 0.5 kg with

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light-weight clothing.

Spirometry

Spirometers all met the instrument standardization of American Thoracic Society and European Respiratory Society (ATS-ERS) (26). Technicians were full-time staffs for spirometry in centers, and well-trained to follow the procedures and criteria recommended by ATS-ERS statements (26,27). Prior to spirometry, calibration check was undertaken daily with a 3-L syringe, and confirming that the variations were within limits, e.g., ±3% (90 mL). With correction of sitting postures, subjects attached the nose clip or manual occlusion of the nares, placed mouthpiece in the mouth and closed their lips around the mouthpiece. Then they were encouraged to inhale completely and rapidly with a pause of <1 second at total lung capacity, and exhaled maximally until no more air could be expelled while maintaining an upright posture. Acceptable maneuvers included: (I) free from artefacts (cough during the first second of exhalation; glottis closure that influenced on the measurement; early termination or cut-off; effort that was not maximal; gas leakage or obstructed mouthpiece); (II) good starts (extrapolated volume less than 5% of FVC or 0.15 L, whichever is greater); (III) satisfactory exhalation (a plateau in the volume-time curve or forced expiratory time of ≥3 seconds in children aged <10 years, ≥6 seconds in subjects aged >10 years or if the subject cannot or should not continue to exhale). Manoeuvers were repeated for 3 to 8 times in each subject until three acceptable and repeatable spirograms were obtained. For both FVC and FEV_1, the acceptable difference was within 150 mL between the largest and second largest values. The largest FVC, FEV_1 and peak expiratory flow (PEF) were selected within the best three maneuvers, while maximal midexpiratory flow (MMEF) were taken from the maneuver with the largest sum of FVC and FEV_1. Spirometry was performed between 8:00 am and 12:00 am.

Data collection

Health questionnaires and original spirometry reports of participants after preliminary screening and physical examination were collected in each center and sent to the First Affiliated Hospital of Guangzhou Medical University for centering quality control, which was conducted by two well-trained physicians in accordance with ATS-ERS criteria (26,27). If they had inconsistent conclusions with the same report, consultancy with a third senior physician would make the final decision. All data were double input and checked with Epidata 3.0 (Odense, Denmark). Data that yielded z-scores <–5.0 or >5.0 were identified as outliers and excluded (3).

Statistical analysis

Spirometric reference equations for the whole subjects were derived using Lambda-Mu-Sigma (LMS) method (28,29) using Generalized Additive Models of Location Scale package (GAMLSS version 4.3-1) in the statistical software R (version 3.1.2; http://www.r-project.org). The spirometry data were modeled with age and standing height as explanatory variables. Using the Box-Cox-Cole-Green distribution, the best model was estimated by exploring whether log transformations of dependent and independent variables were required. Considering of unnecessary over-fitting, the optimal degrees of freedom for the cubic spline curve were chosen by selecting the model with the smallest Schwarz Bayesian Criterion. In addition, the goodness of fit was judged from inspection of normal Q-Q plots, worm plots, the distribution of residuals as a function of age and predicted value, and from density plots of residuals. In keeping with Cole *et al.*, log transformation of all the indices provided the best fit to the data. Thus, the reference equations were established as a function of age and height in males and females, including skewness (location, L), mean (M) and coefficient of variation (scatter, S). M indicates the predicted value as follows: $M = \exp[a + b \times \ln(\text{height in cm}) + c \times \ln(\text{age in year}) + \text{M-spline}]$, where a, b, and c are coefficients, and M-spline is an age-specific contribution from the spline function. Likewise, LLN was calculated as follows: $\text{LLN (5th percentage)} = \exp[\ln(M) + \ln(1 - 1.645 \times L \times S)/L]$. Z-scores were calculated as (observed-predicted)/SD, where SD was calculated as (predicted-LLN)/1.645.

Similarly, a best fit of standing height for age was derived from the data of males and females with GAMLSS. In the validation analysis, the predicted values of this study and NEA-GLI2012, SEA-GLI2012, Chinese-ECSC1993, and Asian-NHANESIII 0.88 were compared with the measured data of spirometry; if the average z-score that yielded ±0.4 (30) or the percentage difference that yielded ±5.0%, the equations would not be considered as appropriate for Chinese. In addition, the new reference equations of this study were compared with other previous published reference equations derived from Chinese using assumptive anthropometric characters.

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Figure 1 The 24 collaborative centers in China.

Results

Subjects

Figure 1 illustrates 24 collaborative centers in China. After preliminary screening of questionnaire and physical examination in each center, spirometry was performed with a total of 7,715 individuals initially. The numbers of exclusion and reasons are listed in *Figure 2*. No data yielded a z-score of <–5.0 or >5.0. Quality assurance data of 7,115 individuals (50.9% females; 4 to 80 years old and 95.0 to 190.0 cm in height) was collected. The general geographic characterization is shown in *Table 1*. The distributions of age for males and females are demonstrated in *Figure 3*, where the intervals of age are 2 years in children (until 14 years of age in China).

Reference equations established for spirometry

The reference equations and look-up tables for FVC, FEV_1, FEV_1/FVC, PEF and MMEF are presented as files in supplementary material (*Tables S1-S3*). There were nearly linear relationships between age, height and spirometric indices in adult data and children data taken separately, such as the measured FEV_1 in *Figure 4*. The best fitting models required log transformations of spirometric indices, height and age in the whole data. The age-specific predicted values and LLNs are shown in *Figure 5*. The LLNs of FEV_1/FVC were less than 0.70 in males above 56 years of age and in females above 60 years of age.

Validation of the popular Caucasian equations adjusted with fixed ethnic conversion factors

In *Table 2*, SEA-GLI2012 underestimated the FVC and FEV_1 of the present study with the mean z-score ranged from 0.64 to 0.85 (–10.0% to –7.2%), while those measured values below LLNs (%< LLN) were 0.1% to 1.0%. Although the mean percentage differences of FVC and FEV_1 between NEA-GLI2012 and the present study were –2.4% to 1.2%, the z-scores against age were beyond +0.4 in children, especially in male children (*Figure 6*). Across the whole age in *Figure 7*, SEA-GLI2012 and NEA-GLI2012 overestimated the % < LLN of FEV_1/FVC at most age range. In addition, Chinese-ECSC1993 and Asian-NHANESIII 0.88 also underestimated FVC and FEV_1 of Chinese (–8.8% to –3.9%, and –10.2% to –7.3%, respectively), while those %< LLN were 0.2% to 1.4% and 0.1% to 0.9%, respectively.

Comparisons with previous reference values derived from Chinese

For FEV_1 and FVC of adults aged 20, 40, and 60 years in *Table 3*, the percentage differences between this study and previous studies were –2.0% to 12.9% in Wu *et al.* (20),

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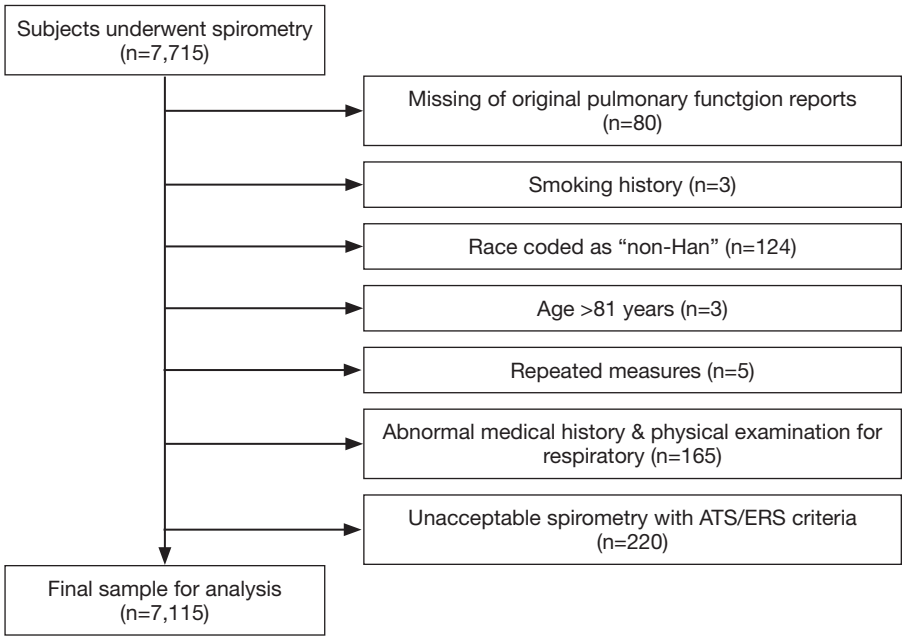

Figure 2 Flowchart of subjects' exclusion after quality check. ATS, American Thoracic Society; ERS, European Respiratory Society.

Table 1 The general geographic characterization of the present study

Administrative regions	Number	Ethnicity	Gender (females, %)	Age range (years)	Height range (cm)
Northeast China	747	Han	56.6	15–80	142.0–188.0
Northern China	813	Han	49.9	5–79	105.5–187.0
Central China	411	Han	47.9	14–79	146.0–188.0
East China	1,635	Han	49.8	5–80	103.5–186.0
Southern China	1,393	Han	48.3	4–76	95.0–190.0
Northwest China	1,339	Han	52.4	5–80	105.0–183.0
Southwest China	777	Han	52.4	4–77	101.0–184.0
Total	7,115	Han	50.9	4–80	95.0–190.0

–13.2% to –4.6% in Ip *et al.* (16), –9.2% to 3.1% in Pan *et al.* (17), respectively. For FEV_1 and FVC of children aged 6, 10, and 14 years in *Table 4*, the percentage differences were –17.8% to –12.1% in Ma *et al.* (21), –7.0 to –0.9% in Ip *et al.* (15), respectively.

Discussion

Predicted values and LLNs for spirometry in Chinese aged 4 to 80 years were established with 7,115 non-smoking health subjects in 24 collaborative centers. The present study demonstrated that Caucasian reference values adjusted with fixed ethnic conversion factors were inappropriate for Chinese in the whole age range. Compared with this study, the previous Chinese studies were found to significantly overestimate or underestimate lung function measurements for Chinese.

This study showed that SEA-GLI2012 and NEA-GLI2012 significantly underestimated or overestimated the FEV_1, FVC, and FEV_1/FVC for Chinese, not matter

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in percentage differences, z-scores or %<LLNs. To our knowledge, SEA-GLI2012 and NEA-GLI2012 included Chinese, Koreans and Thais, while Chinese were from Hong Kong (15,16), Taiwan (17), Shenzhen (13) and Northeast China (20) only, whom were insufficient to reflect the whole Chinese population. Furthermore, pooling data from those studies between 1990 and 2009 might cause the bias with different study protocols and secular trends for lung function. In addition, GLI2012 did not include PEF, an important index, which could help the management of asthma (2) and screening of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) (31). The present study also demonstrated that Chinese-ECSC1993 and Asian-NHANESIII 0.88 underestimated Chinese in FVC and FEV_1, while the adjustment of FEV_1/FVC, PEF and MMEF were not available in these equations. In the above reference equations, as well as GLI2012, fixed correction factors were used to adjust ethnic differences, which were not be proper for all ages.

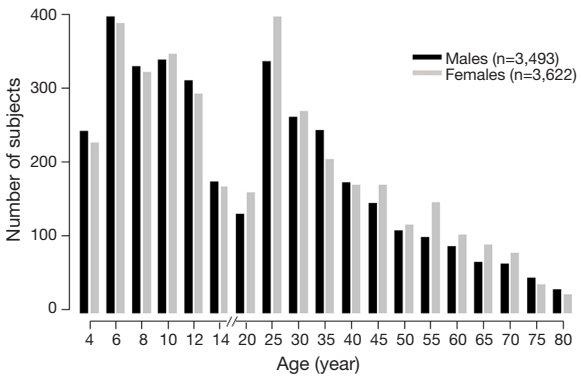

Figure 3 Age distribution in the final sample (n=7,115). The intervals of age are 2 years in children (until 14 years of age in China) and 5 years in other age ranges.

This study compared with the previous studies for Chinese. Ip *et al.* (16) and Pan *et al.* (17) significantly underestimated the FVC and FEV_1 of adults (up to −13.2%), while Wu *et al.* (20) significantly overestimated the FVC and FEV_1 of female adults (up to 11.4%). In the other hand, Ma *et al.* (21) and Ip *et al.* (15) both underestimated the FVC and FEV_1 of children (up to −17.8%). Moreover, the reference values of FEV_1/FVC for children were rarely reported in the previous studies, and this issue should be paid attention in clinical practice. Anyway, the momentous changes of economy, life styles, nutritional status, and living environment have been observed in recent decades, which might impact significantly on pulmonary function (16,32).

What we taken critical concern is the fact that there are no local contemporary reference values in most regions of Chinese, except for Caucasian reference values adjusted with ethnic conversion factors, while it could be impractical to establish reference for each region. With huge medical service demands (6), it is essential and urgent to establish a unique representing reference for Chinese, which is not only conducive for the government and Centers for Disease Control to make the policies, and take actions for the management and prevention of respiratory diseases, but also good for assessment of individuals. In addition, increasing domestic and international multi-center clinical trials have been conducted, in which unified reference equations for spirometry are compulsory.

Without LLNs of FEV_1/FVC, a fixed ratio 0.70 of FEV_1/FVC was widely used in clinical practice and

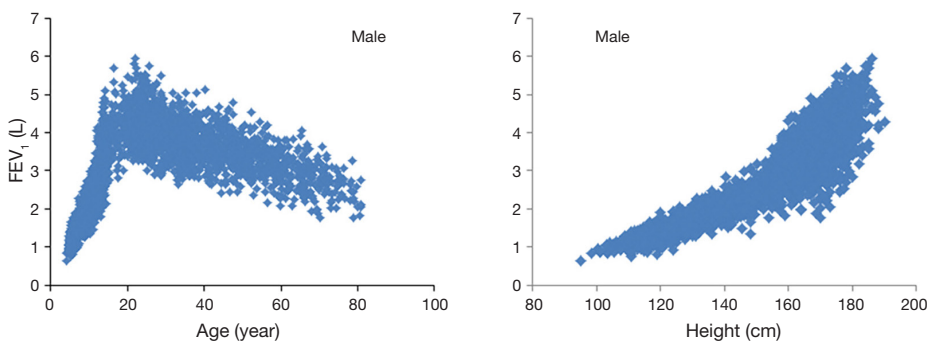

Figure 4 The measured FEV_1 against age and height in males. FEV_1, forced expiratory volume in 1 s; FVC, forced vital capacity; SEA-GLI2012 and NEA-GLI2012, multi-ethnic Global Lung Initiative 2012 equations for Southeast and Northeast Asian; Chinese-ECSC1993, European Committee of Steel and Coal equations adjusted for Chinese; Asian-NHANESIII 0.88, the third National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys equations adjusted with 0.88 times for Asian-American.

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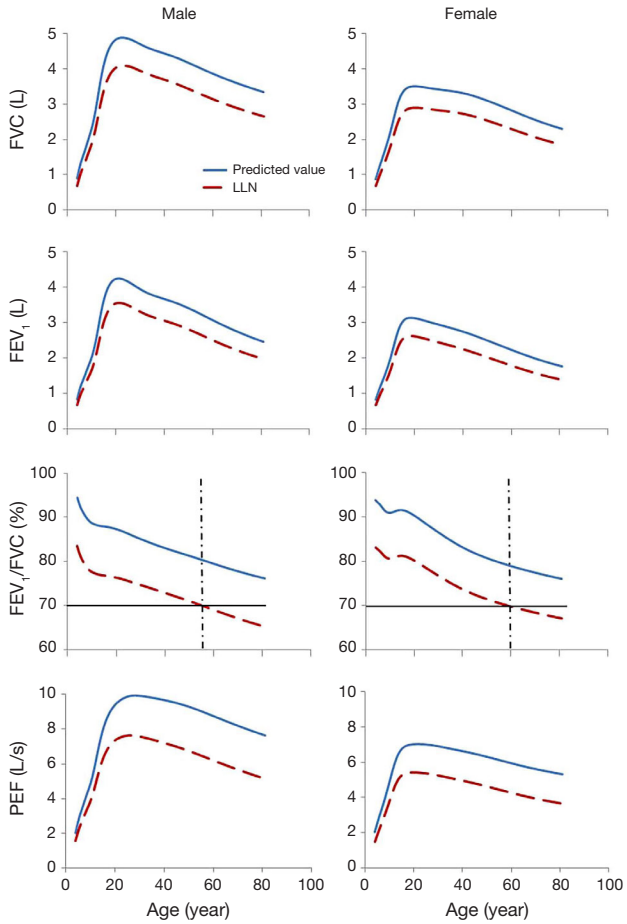

Figure 5 Predicted values and LLNs in males and females for FVC, FEV_1, FEV_1/FVC%, PEF, respectively. Graphs were generated using mean height for age in the present study. LLNs, lower limits of normal; FEV_1, forced expiratory volume in 1 second; FVC, forced vital capacity; PEF, peak expiratory flow.

epidemiological research in China (7,23), while this fixed FEV_1/FVC particularly went against the studies of early COPD due to possible underdiagnosis in younger subjects and over diagnosis in elderly. Although our study protocol for intervention in Chinese patients with early COPD has been published (24), the accuracy of diagnosis for COPD with the fixed 0.7 of FEV_1/FVC is still questioned. Instead, LLNs were suggested to provide more accurate diagnosis in Caucasians (33). The controversy that whether the LLN or the fixed 0.7 is better for clinical practice still needs further longitudinal study to clarify. Undoubtedly, the present study provides the LLNs of spirometric indices for Chinese, an important reference for clinical practice.

There are some limitations in the present study. We did not record the influences of pulmonary function, such as economic conditions, residential environment, nutrition, etc. Because of the frequent immigrant in the life, it is hard to clearly definite which one from the rural/urban area, not in our study either. The present study enrolled the Han people only, but Han accounts for 91.51% of the total population in China (5). Han can be considered as a representative of Chinese, owing to no available prediction equations of lung function for minority groups, as well as, the living environment and ancestor of non-Han that are close to those of Han. Considering of the difficulty for recruiting the healthy non-smokers aged >80 years, the subjects within such age range were excluded. However, the reference values for Chinese aged 4 to 80 years met the most demands of clinical practice. Because the healthy participants were enrolled from healthy screening department, we just recorded those who met the inclusion/exclusion criteria and completed the spirometry. Therefore, these issues will be concerned in future studies.

Conclusions

In conclusion, the present study established new reference values including LLNs for better interpretation of spirometry in Chinese. Spirometric reference values between different races (such as Caucasian and Chinese) might not be adjusted with fixed ethnic conversion factors for all ages.

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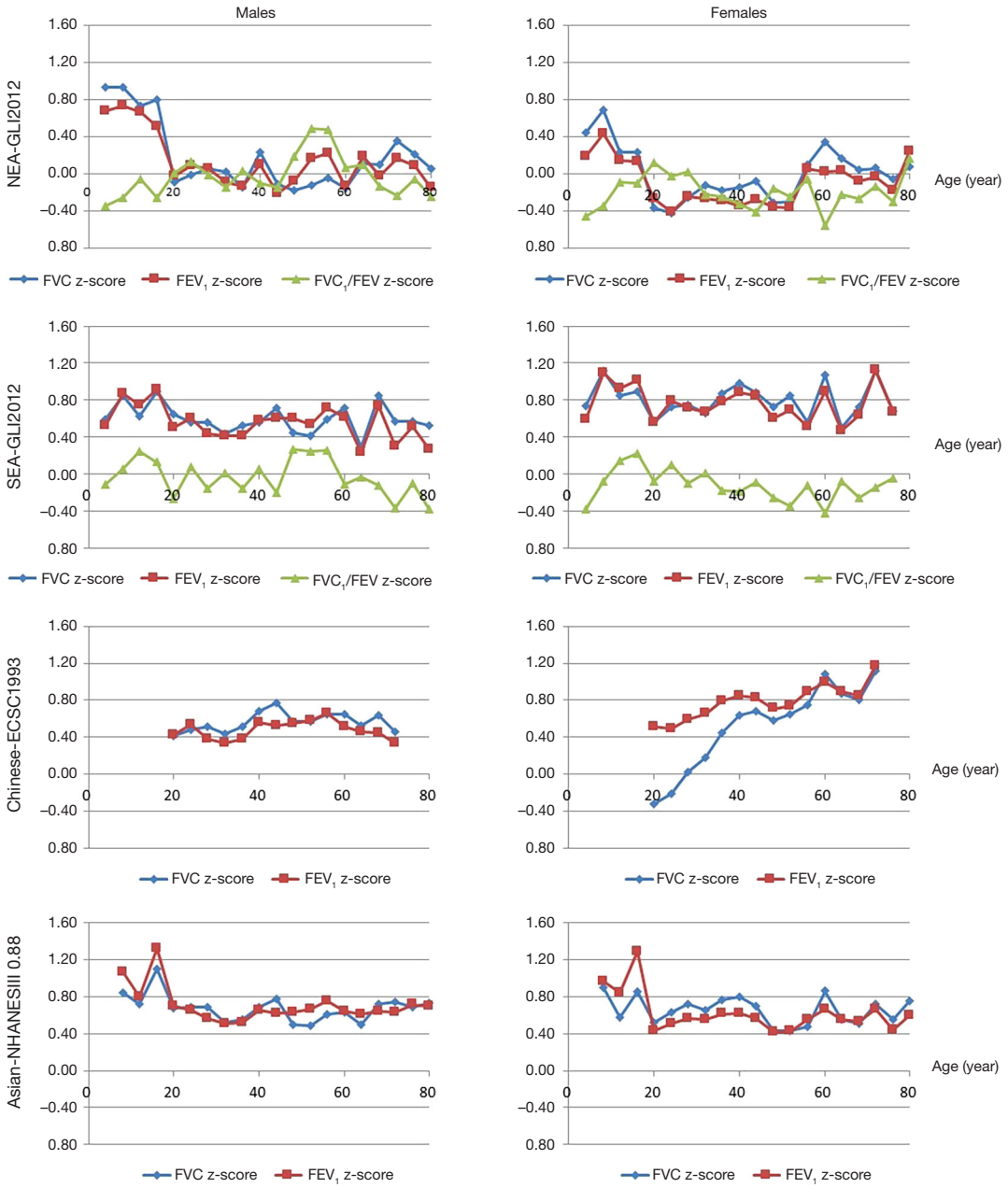

Figure 6 The z-score of the measured values across the whole age in forced vital capacity (FVC, blue line), forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV_1, red line) and FEV_1/FVC (green line). The intervals of age are 5 years. SEA-GLI2012 and NEA-GLI2012, multi-ethnic Global Lung Initiative 2012 equations for Southeast and Northeast Asian; Chinese-ECSC1993, European Committee of Steel and Coal equations adjusted for Chinese; Asian-NHANESIII 0.88, the third National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys equations adjusted with 0.88 times for Asian-American; FVC, forced vital capacity; FEV_1, forced expiratory volume in 1 second.

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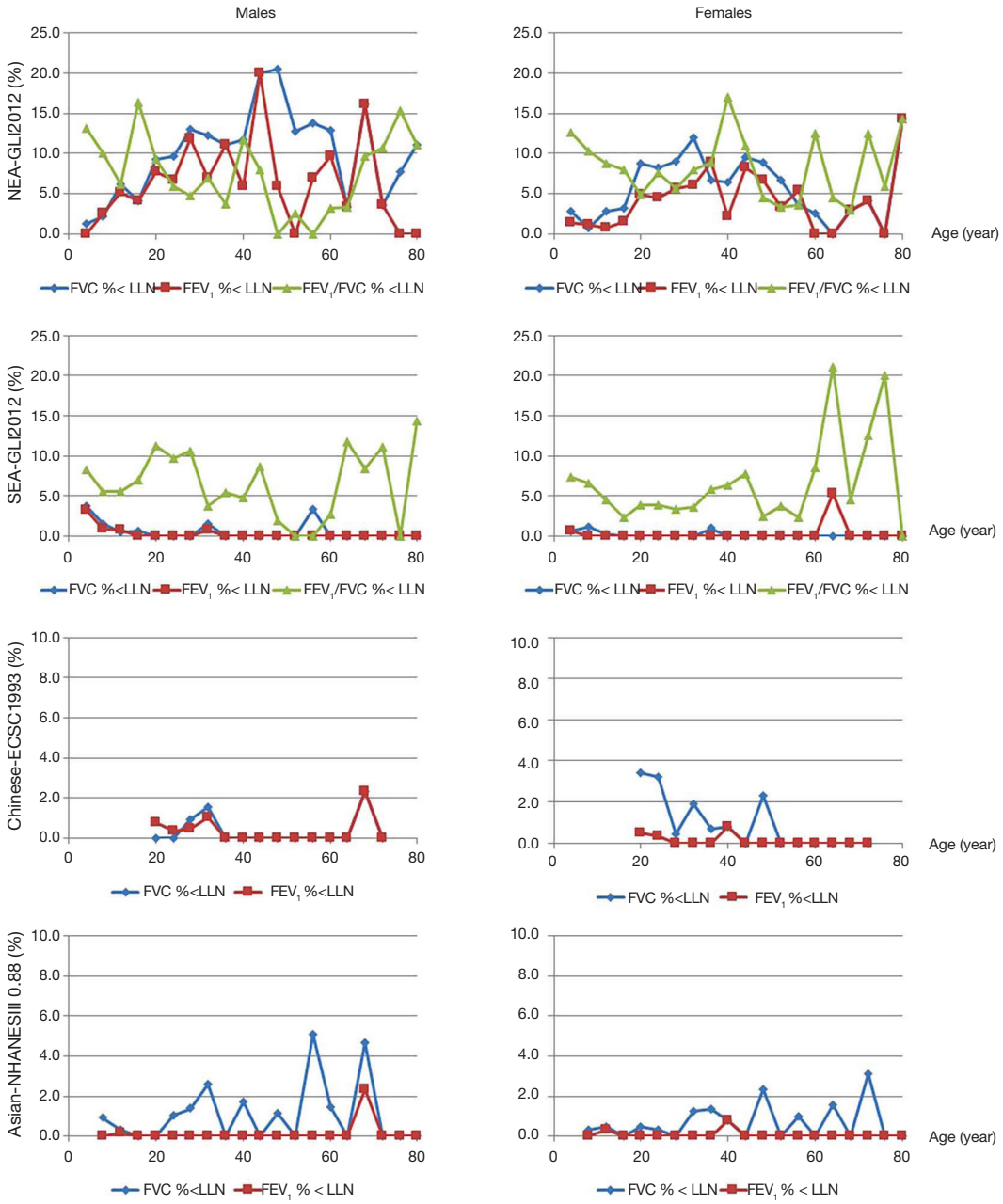

Figure 7 The percentage of the measured values below lower limits of normal (%< LLNs) across the whole age in FVC (blue line), FEV_1 (red line) and FEV_1/FVC (green line). The intervals of age are 5 years. SEA-GLI2012 and NEA-GLI2012: multi-ethnic Global Lung Initiative 2012 equations for Southeast and Northeast Asian; Chinese-ECSC1993: European Committee of Steel and Coal equations adjusted for Chinese; Asian-NHANESIII 0.88: the third National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys equations adjusted with 0.88 times for Asian-American. LLNs, lower limits of normal; FVC, forced vital capacity; FEV_1, forced expiratory volume in 1 second.

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Table 2 Validation of SEA-GLI2012, NEA-GLI2012, Chinese-ECSC1993 and Asian-NHANESIII 0.88

Reference	Age	FVC (L)				FEV_1 (L)				FEV_1/FVC			
		Δ	Δ%	Z-score	LLN%	Δ	Δ%	Z-score	LLN%	Δ	Δ%	Z-score	LLN%
Males													
The present study	4–80	−0.01	−0.3	0.00±1.00	5.1	−0.00	−0.3	0.00±1.00	4.8	0.00	0.3	−0.00±1.00	4.6
SEA-GLI2012	4–80	−0.24	−7.2	0.64±1.04	1.0	−0.21	−7.2	0.66±1.00	0.6	−0.00	−0.0	0.07±1.05	5.6
NEA-GLI2012	4–80	−0.08	−2.3	0.45±1.45	7.4	−0.06	−1.9	0.34±1.36	5.7	0.01	1.1	−0.12±1.16	8.8
Chinese-ECSC1993	18–70	−0.31	−6.8	0.54±0.88	0.4	−0.23	−6.0	0.47±0.84	0.4	NA	NA	NA	NA
Asian-NHANESIII 0.88	8–80	−0.29	−7.6	0.67±1.00	0.9	−0.33	−10.2	0.71±0.80	0.1	NA	NA	NA	NA
Females													
The present study	4–80	−0.01	−0.4	0.00±1.00	4.6	−0.00	−0.3	0.00±1.00	4.6	0.00	0.3	0.00±1.00	5.2
SEA-GLI2012	4–80	−0.26	−10.0	0.85±1.00	0.4	−0.23	−9.6	0.85±0.97	0.1	0.01	0.6	−0.03±0.97	4.6
NEA-GLI2012	4–80	−0.00	−0.1	0.10±1.08	4.7	0.03	1.2	−0.03±0.93	3.2	0.02	1.8	−0.22±1.07	8.9
Chinese-ECSC1993	18–70	−0.13	−3.9	0.30±0.97	1.4	−0.24	−8.8	0.69±0.90	0.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
Asian-NHANESIII 0.88	8–80	−0.22	−7.3	0.62±0.98	0.5	−0.24	−9.1	0.65±0.82	0.1	NA	NA	NA	NA

The predicted values were calculated with age and height from the present sample data. FVC, forced vital capacity; FEV_1, forced expiratory volume in 1 second; SEA-GLI2012 and NEA-GLI2012, multi-ethnic Global Lung Initiative 2012 equations for Southeast and Northeast Asian; Chinese-ECSC1993, European Committee of Steel and Coal equations adjusted for Chinese; Asian-NHANESIII 0.88, the third National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys equations adjusted with 0.88 times for Asian-American; Δ%, percentage differences compared with measured values; LLN%, percentage of individuals whose measure value below lower limit of normal; NA, not available.

Table 3 Comparisons with other previous reference values derived from Chinese adults

Reference	FVC (L)			FEV_1 (L)			FEV_1/FVC%		
	20 years	40 years	60 years	20 years	40 years	60 years	20 years	40 years	60 years
Males									
The present study	4.64	4.48	3.98	4.09	3.71	3.16	87.4	83.0	79.5
Wu *et al.* (20)	4.94 (6.4)	4.45 (−0.6)	3.97 (−0.2)	4.11 (0.5)	3.63 (−2.0)	3.15 (0.2)	84.5 (−3.3)	81.4 (−1.9)	78.3 (−1.5)
Ip *et al.* (16)	4.43 (−4.6)	4.04 (−9.9)	3.66 (−8.0)	3.85 (−5.7)	3.34 (−9.8)	2.83 (−10.1)	89.1 (1.9)	83.2 (0.2)	77.2 (−2.8)
Pan *et al.* (17)	4.75 (2.4)	4.26 (−5.0)	3.77 (−5.2)	4.21 (3.1)	3.58 (−3.4)	2.95 (−6.5)	89.9 (2.9)	84.3 (1.6)	78.7 (−0.9)
Females									
The present study	3.42	3.39	2.96	3.08	2.80	2.33	90.4	83.1	78.8
Wu *et al.* (20)	3.84 (11.4)	3.51 (3.7)	3.18 (7.7)	3.34 (8.7)	2.98 (6.5)	2.63 (12.9)	86.6 (−4.2)	84.2 (1.3)	81.8 (3.8)
Ip *et al.* (16)	3.24 (−6.1)	2.94 (−13.2)	2.64 (−10.7)	2.85 (−7.4)	2.45 (−12.5)	2.05 (−11.7)	89.8 (−0.7)	83.5 (0.5)	77.3 (−1.9)
Pan *et al.* (17)	3.42 (−0.7)	3.07 (−9.2)	2.73 (−7.7)	3.08 (0.0)	2.62 (−6.4)	2.17 (−6.6)	91.2 (0.9)	85.4 (2.8)	79.5 (0.9)

Data are presented as predicted values in male adults with 170 cm in height and 65 kg in weight, while in female adults with 160 cm in height and 55 kg in weight (% difference compared with the present study). FVC, forced vital capacity; FEV_1, forced expiratory volume in 1 second.

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Table 4 Comparisons with previous reference equations derived from Chinese in children

Reference	FVC (L)			FEV_1 (L)			FEV_1/FVC%		
	6 years	10 years	14 years	6 years	10 years	14 years	6 years	10 years	14 years
Males									
The present study	1.43	2.32	3.78	1.29	2.03	3.32	91.5	88.6	87.9
Ma *et al.* (21)	NA	1.92 (–17.1)	3.11 (–17.8)	NA	1.76 (–12.9)	2.92 (–12.1)	NA	NA	NA
Ip *et al.* (15)	NA	2.22 (–4.5)	3.54 (–6.3)	NA	1.99 (–1.8)	3.18 (–4.2)	NA	NA	NA
Females									
The present study	1.33	2.22	3.15	1.22	1.99	2.89	92.5	90.8	91.6
Ma *et al.* (21)	NA	1.84 (–17.1)	2.64 (–16.9)	NA	1.64 (–17.5)	2.40 (–17.0)	NA	NA	NA
Ip *et al.* (15)	NA	2.14 (–3.5)	2.95 (–7.0)	NA	1.97 (–0.9)	2.72 (–5.7)	NA	NA	NA

Data are presented as predicted values in children (% difference compared with the present study). Because of the growth in children, the mean height and weight for age were obtained in the present study. The data of height and weight were 117 cm and 21 kg, 140 cm and 34 kg, 164 cm and 54 kg, at 6, 10 and 14 years old of male children, respectively. The data of height and weight were 117 cm and 20 kg, 141 cm and 32 kg, 158 cm and 48 kg, at 6, 10 and 14 years old of female children, respectively. FVC, forced vital capacity; FEV_1, forced expiratory volume in 1 second; NA, not available.

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Footnote

Conflicts of Interest: The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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Descriptive Statistics

Table No. 1 (Cases when Sex = 1)			
Age	Mean	Std. Deviation	Analysis N
17	16.000	.0000	1,000
18	16.000	.0000	1,000
19	16.000	.0000	1,000
20	16.000	.0000	1,000
21	16.000	.0000	1,000
22	16.000	.0000	1,000
23	16.000	.0000	1,000
24	16.000	.0000	1,000
25	16.000	.0000	1,000
26	16.000	.0000	1,000
27	16.000	.0000	1,000
28	16.000	.0000	1,000
29	16.000	.0000	1,000
30	16.000	.0000	1,000
31	16.000	.0000	1,000
32	16.000	.0000	1,000
33	16.000	.0000	1,000
34	16.000	.0000	1,000
35	16.000	.0000	1,000
36	16.000	.0000	1,000
37	16.000	.0000	1,000
38	16.000	.0000	1,000
39	16.000	.0000	1,000
40	16.000	.0000	1,000
41	16.000	.0000	1,000
42	16.000	.0000	1,000
43	16.000	.0000	1,000
44	16.000	.0000	1,000
45	16.000	.0000	1,000
46	16.000	.0000	1,000
47	16.000	.0000	1,000
48	16.000	.0000	1,000
49	16.000	.0000	1,000
50	16.000	.0000	1,000
51	16.000	.0000	1,000
52	16.000	.0000	1,000
53	16.000	.0000	1,000
54	16.000	.0000	1,000
55	16.000	.0000	1,000
56	16.000	.0000	1,000
57	16.000	.0000	1,000
58	16.000	.0000	1,000
59	16.000	.0000	1,000
60	16.000	.0000	1,000
61	16.000	.0000	1,000
62	16.000	.0000	1,000
63	16.000	.0000	1,000
64	16.000	.0000	1,000
65	16.000	.0000	1,000
66	16.000	.0000	1,000
67	16.000	.0000	1,000
68	16.000	.0000	1,000
69	16.000	.0000	1,000
70	16.000	.0000	1,000
71	16.000	.0000	1,000
72	16.000	.0000	1,000
73	16.000	.0000	1,000
74	16.000	.0000	1,000
75	16.000	.0000	1,000
76	16.000	.0000	1,000
77	16.000	.0000	1,000
78	16.000	.0000	1,000
79	16.000	.0000	1,000
80	16.000	.0000	1,000
81	16.000	.0000	1,000
82	16.000	.0000	1,000
83	16.000	.0000	1,000
84	16.000	.0000	1,000
85	16.000	.0000	1,000
86	16.000	.0000	1,000
87	16.000	.0000	1,000
88	16.000	.0000	1,000
89	16.000	.0000	1,000
90	16.000	.0000	1,000
91	16.000	.0000	1,000
92	16.000	.0000	1,000
93	16.000	.0000	1,000
94	16.000	.0000	1,000
95	16.000	.0000	1,000
96	16.000	.0000	1,000
97	16.000	.0000	1,000
98	16.000	.0000	1,000
99	16.000	.0000	1,000
100	16.000	.0000	1,000
Total	16.000	.0000	100,000

Table No. 2 (Cases when Sex = 2)			
Age	Mean	Std. Deviation	Analysis N
17	17.000	.0000	1,000
18	17.000	.0000	1,000
19	17.000	.0000	1,000
20	17.000	.0000	1,000
21	17.000	.0000	1,000
22	17.000	.0000	1,000
23	17.000	.0000	1,000
24	17.000	.0000	1,000
25	17.000	.0000	1,000
26	17.000	.0000	1,000
27	17.000	.0000	1,000
28	17.000	.0000	1,000
29	17.000	.0000	1,000
30	17.000	.0000	1,000
31	17.000	.0000	1,000
32	17.000	.0000	1,000
33	17.000	.0000	1,000
34	17.000	.0000	1,000
35	17.000	.0000	1,000
36	17.000	.0000	1,000
37	17.000	.0000	1,000
38	17.000	.0000	1,000
39	17.000	.0000	1,000
40	17.000	.0000	1,000
41	17.000	.0000	1,000
42	17.000	.0000	1,000
43	17.000	.0000	1,000
44	17.000	.0000	1,000
45	17.000	.0000	1,000
46	17.000	.0000	1,000
47	17.000	.0000	1,000
48	17.000	.0000	1,000
49	17.000	.0000	1,000
50	17.000	.0000	1,000
51	17.000	.0000	1,000
52	17.000	.0000	1,000
53	17.000	.0000	1,000
54	17.000	.0000	1,000
55	17.000	.0000	1,000
56	17.000	.0000	1,000
57	17.000	.0000	1,000
58	17.000	.0000	1,000
59	17.000	.0000	1,000
60	17.000	.0000	1,000
61	17.000	.0000	1,000
62	17.000	.0000	1,000
63	17.000	.0000	1,000
64	17.000	.0000	1,000
65	17.000	.0000	1,000
66	17.000	.0000	1,000
67	17.000	.0000	1,000
68	17.000	.0000	1,000
69	17.000	.0000	1,000
70	17.000	.0000	1,000
71	17.000	.0000	1,000
72	17.000	.0000	1,000
73	17.000	.0000	1,000
74	17.000	.0000	1,000
75	17.000	.0000	1,000
76	17.000	.0000	1,000
77	17.000	.0000	1,000
78	17.000	.0000	1,000
79	17.000	.0000	1,000
80	17.000	.0000	1,000
81	17.000	.0000	1,000
82	17.000	.0000	1,000
83	17.000	.0000	1,000
84	17.000	.0000	1,000
85	17.000	.0000	1,000
86	17.000	.0000	1,000
87	17.000	.0000	1,000
88	17.000	.0000	1,000
89	17.000	.0000	1,000
90	17.000	.0000	1,000
91	17.000	.0000	1,000
92	17.000	.0000	1,000
93	17.000	.0000	1,000
94	17.000	.0000	1,000
95	17.000	.0000	1,000
96	17.000	.0000	1,000
97	17.000	.0000	1,000
98	17.000	.0000	1,000
99	17.000	.0000	1,000
100	17.000	.0000	1,000
Total	17.000	.0000	100,000

Table No. 3 (Cases when Sex = 3)			
Age	Mean	Std. Deviation	Analysis N
17	16.500	.5000	2,000
18	16.500	.5000	2,000
19	16.500	.5000	2,000
20	16.500	.5000	2,000
21	16.500	.5000	2,000
22	16.500	.5000	2,000
23	16.500	.5000	2,000
24	16.500	.5000	2,000
25	16.500	.5000	2,000
26	16.500	.5000	2,000
27	16.500	.5000	2,000
28	16.500	.5000	2,000
29	16.500	.5000	2,000
30	16.500	.5000	2,000
31	16.500	.5000	2,000
32	16.500	.5000	2,000
33	16.500	.5000	2,000
34	16.500	.5000	2,000
35	16.500	.5000	2,000
36	16.500	.5000	2,000
37	16.500	.5000	2,000
38	16.500	.5000	2,000
39	16.500	.5000	2,000
40	16.500	.5000	2,000
41	16.500	.5000	2,000
42	16.500	.5000	2,000
43	16.500	.5000	2,000
44	16.500	.5000	2,000
45	16.500	.5000	2,000
46	16.500	.5000	2,000
47	16.500	.5000	2,000
48	16.500	.5000	2,000
49	16.500	.5000	2,000
50	16.500	.5000	2,000
51	16.500	.5000	2,000
52	16.500	.5000	2,000
53	16.500	.5000	2,000
54	16.500	.5000	2,000
55	16.500	.5000	2,000
56	16.500	.5000	2,000
57	16.500	.5000	2,000
58	16.500	.5000	2,000
59	16.500	.5000	2,000
60	16.500	.5000	2,000
61	16.500	.5000	2,000
62	16.500	.5000	2,000
63	16.500	.5000	2,000
64	16.500	.5000	2,000
65	16.500	.5000	2,000
66	16.500	.5000	2,000
67	16.500	.5000	2,000
68	16.500	.5000	2,000
69	16.500	.5000	2,000
70	16.500	.5000	2,000
71	16.500	.5000	2,000
72	16.500	.5000	2,000
73	16.500	.5000	2,000
74	16.500	.5000	2,000
75	16.500	.5000	2,000
76	16.500	.5000	2,000
77	16.500	.5000	2,000
78	16.500	.5000	2,000
79	16.500	.5000	2,000
80	16.500	.5000	2,000
81	16.500	.5000	2,000
82	16.500	.5000	2,000
83	16.500	.5000	2,000
84	16.500	.5000	2,000
85	16.500	.5000	2,000
86	16.500	.5000	2,000
87	16.500	.5000	2,000
88	16.500	.5000	2,000
89	16.500	.5000	2,000
90	16.500	.5000	2,000
91	16.500	.5000	2,000
92	16.500	.5000	2,000
93	16.500	.5000	2,000
94	16.500	.5000	2,000
95	16.500	.5000	2,000
96	16.500	.5000	2,000
97	16.500	.5000	2,000
98	16.500	.5000	2,000
99	16.500	.5000	2,000
100	16.500	.5000	2,000
Total	16.500	.5000	200,000

Table S1. (continued)

Participant	Visit	Variable	Value
0-10	0-0.5	0.5Hz	1.000
0-10	0-0.5	0.75Hz	1.000
0-10	0-0.5	1.0Hz	1.000
0-10	0-0.5	1.25Hz	1.000
0-10	0-0.5

Table of contents

1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4

Table 1: Results (Part 1 of 1)

Index	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
1	0.1	0.2	0.3
2	0.4	0.5	0.6
3	0.7	0.8	0.9
4	1.0	1.1	1.2
5	1.3	1.4	1.5
6	1.6	1.7	1.8
7	1.9	2.0	2.1
8	2.2	2.3	2.4
9	2.5	2.6	2.7
10	2.8	2.9	3.0
11	3.1	3.2	3.3
12	3.4	3.5	3.6
13	3.7	3.8	3.9
14	4.0	4.1	4.2
15	4.3	4.4	4.5
16	4.6	4.7	4.8
17	4.9	5.0	5.1
18	5.2	5.3	5.4
19	5.5	5.6	5.7
20	5.8	5.9	6.0
21	6.1	6.2	6.3
22	6.4	6.5	6.6
23	6.7	6.8	6.9
24	7.0	7.1	7.2
25	7.3	7.4	7.5
26	7.6	7.7	7.8
27	7.9	8.0	8.1
28	8.2	8.3	8.4
29	8.5	8.6	8.7
30	8.8	8.9	9.0
31	9.1	9.2	9.3
32	9.4	9.5	9.6
33	9.7	9.8	9.9
34	10.0	10.1	10.2
35	10.3	10.4	10.5
36	10.6	10.7	10.8
37	10.9	11.0	11.1
38	11.2	11.3	11.4
39	11.5	11.6	11.7
40	11.8	11.9	12.0
41	12.1	12.2	12.3
42	12.4	12.5	12.6
43	12.7	12.8	12.9
44	13.0	13.1	13.2
45	13.3	13.4	13.5
46	13.6	13.7	13.8
47	13.9	14.0	14.1
48	14.2	14.3	14.4
49	14.5	14.6	14.7
50	14.8	14.9	15.0
51	15.1	15.2	15.3
52	15.4	15.5	15.6
53	15.7	15.8	15.9
54	16.0	16.1	16.2
55	16.3	16.4	16.5
56	16.6	16.7	16.8
57	16.9	17.0	17.1
58	17.2	17.3	17.4
59	17.5	17.6	17.7
60	17.8	17.9	18.0
61	18.1	18.2	18.3
62	18.4	18.5	18.6
63	18.7	18.8	18.9
64	19.0	19.1	19.2
65	19.3	19.4	19.5
66	19.6	19.7	19.8
67	19.9	20.0	20.1
68	20.2	20.3	20.4
69	20.5	20.6	20.7
70	20.8	20.9	21.0
71	21.1	21.2	21.3
72	21.4	21.5	21.6
73	21.7	21.8	21.9
74	22.0	22.1	22.2
75	22.3	22.4	22.5
76	22.6	22.7	22.8
77	22.9	23.0	23.1
78	23.2	23.3	23.4
79	23.5	23.6	23.7
80	23.8	23.9	24.0
81	24.1	24.2	24.3
82	24.4	24.5	24.6
83	24.7	24.8	24.9
84	25.0	25.1	25.2
85	25.3	25.4	25.5
86	25.6	25.7	25.8
87	25.9	26.0	26.1
88	26.2	26.3	26.4
89	26.5	26.6	26.7
90	26.8	26.9	27.0
91	27.1	27.2	27.3
92	27.4	27.5	27.6
93	27.7	27.8	27.9
94	28.0	28.1	28.2
95	28.3	28.4	28.5
96	28.6	28.7	28.8
97	28.9	29.0	29.1
98	29.2	29.3	29.4
99	29.5	29.6	29.7
100	29.8	29.9	30.0
101	30.1	30.2	30.3
102	30.4	30.5	30.6
103	30.7	30.8	30.9
104	31.0	31.1	31.2
105	31.3	31.4	31.5
106	31.6	31.7	31.8
107	31.9	32.0	32.1
108	32.2	32.3	32.4
109	32.5	32.6	32.7
110	32.8	32.9	33.0
111	33.1	33.2	33.3
112	33.4	33.5	33.6
113	33.7	33.8	33.9
114	34.0	34.1	34.2
115	34.3	34.4	34.5
116	34.6	34.7	34.8
117	34.9	35.0	35.1
118	35.2	35.3	35.4
119	35.5	35.6	35.7
120	35.8	35.9	36.0
121	36.1	36.2	36.3
122	36.4	36.5	36.6
123	36.7	36.8	36.9
124	37.0	37.1	37.2
125	37.3	37.4	37.5
126	37.6	37.7	37.8
127	37.9	38.0	38.1
128	38.2	38.3	38.4
129	38.5	38.6	38.7
130	38.8	38.9	39.0
131	39.1	39.2	39.3
132	39.4	39.5	39.6
133	39.7	39.8	39.9
134	40.0	40.1	40.2
135	40.3	40.4	40.5
136	40.6	40.7	40.8
137	40.9	41.0	41.1
138	41.2	41.3	41.4
139	41.5	41.6	41.7
140	41.8	41.9	42.0
141	42.1	42.2	42.3
142	42.4	42.5	42.6
143	42.7	42.8	42.9
144	43.0	43.1	43.2
145	43.3	43.4	43.5
146	43.6	43.7	43.8
147	43.9	44.0	44.1
148	44.2	44.3	44.4
149	44.5	44.6	44.7
150	44.8	44.9	45.0
151	45.1	45.2	45.3
152	45.4	45.5	45.6
153	45.7	45.8	45.9
154	46.0	46.1	46.2
155	46.3	46.4	46.5
156	46.6	46.7	46.8
157	46.9	47.0	47.1
158	47.2	47.3	47.4
159	47.5	47.6	47.7
160	47.8	47.9	48.0
161	48.1	48.2	48.3
162	48.4	48.5	48.6
163	48.7	48.8	48.9
164	49.0	49.1	49.2
165	49.3	49.4	49.5
166	49.6	49.7	49.8
167	49.9	50.0	50.1
168	50.2	50.3	50.4
169	50.5	50.6	50.7
170	50.8	50.9	51.0
171	51.1	51.2	51.3
172	51.4	51.5	51.6
173	51.7	51.8	51.9
174	52.0	52.1	52.2
175	52.3	52.4	52.5
176	52.6	52.7	52.8
177	52.9	53.0	53.1
178	53.2	53.3	53.4
179	53.5	53.6	53.7
180	53.8	53.9	54.0
181	54.1	54.2	54.3
182	54.4	54.5	54.6
183	54.7	54.8	54.9
184	55.0	55.1	55.2
185	55.3	55.4	55.5
186	55.6	55.7	55.8
187	55.9	56.0	56.1
188	56.2	56.3	56.4
189	56.5	56.6	56.7
190	56.8	56.9	57.0
191	57.1	57.2	57.3
192	57.4	57.5	57.6
193	57.7	57.8	57.9
194	58.0	58.1	58.2
195	58.3	58.4	58.5
196	58.6	58.7	58.8
197	58.9	59.0	59.1
198	59.2	59.3	59.4
199	59.5	59.6	59.7
200	59.8	59.9	60.0
201	60.1	60.2	60.3
202	60.4	60.5	60.6
203	60.7	60.8	60.9
204	61.0	61.1	61.2
205	61.3	61.4	61.5
206	61.6	61.7	61.8
207	61.9	62.0	62.1
208	62.2	62.3	62.4
209	62.5	62.6	62.7
210	62.8	62.9	63.0
211	63.1	63.2	63.3
212	63.4	63.5	63.6
213	63.7	63.8	63.9
214	64.0	64.1	64.2
215	64.3	64.4	64.5
216	64.6	64.7	64.8
217	64.9	65.0	65.1
218	65.2	65.3	65.4
219	65.5	65.6	65.7
220	65.8	65.9	66.0
221	66.1	66.2	66.3
222	66.4	66.5	66.6
223	66.7	66.8	66.9
224	67.0	67.1	67.2
225	67.3	67.4	67.5
226	67.6	67.7	67.8
227	67.9	68.0	68.1
228	68.2	68.3	68.4
229	68.5	68.6	68.7
230	68.8	68.9	69.0
231	69.1	69.2	69.3
232	69.4	69.5	69.6
233	69.7	69.8	69.9
234	70.0	70.1	70.2
235	70.3	70.4	70.5
236	70.6	70.7	70.8
237	70.9	71.0	71.1
238	71.2	71.3	71.4
239	71.5	71.6	71.7
240	71.8	71.9	72.0
241	72.1	72.2	72.3
242	72.4	72.5	72.6
243	72.7	72.8	72.9
244	73.0	73.1	73.2
245	73.3	73.4	73.5
246	73.6	73.7	73.8
247	73.9	74.0	74.1
248	74.2	74.3	74.4
249	74.5	74.6	74.7
250	74.8	74.9	75.0
251	75.1	75.2	75.3
252	75.4	75.5	75.6
253	75.7	75.8	75.9
254	76.0	76.1	76.2
255	76.3	76.4	76.5
256	76.6	76.7	76.8
257	76.9	77.0	77.1
258	77.2	77.3	77.4
259	77.5	77.6	77.7
260	77.8	77.9	78.0
261	78.1	78.2	78.3
262	78.4	78.5	78.6
263	78.7	78.8	78.9
264	79.0	79.1	79.2
265	79.3	79.4	79.5
266	79.6	79.7	79.8
267	79.9	80.0	80.1
268	80.2	80.3	80.4
269	80.5	80.6	80.7
270	80.8	80.9	81.0
271	81.1	81.2	81.3
272	81.4	81.5	81.6
273	81.7	81.8	81.9
274	82.0	82.1	82.2
275	82.3	82.4	82.5
276	82.6	82.7	82.8
277	82.9	83.0	83.1
278	83.2	83.3	83.4
279	83.5	83.6	83.7
280	83.8	83.9	84.0
281	84.1	84.2	84.3
282	84.4	84.5	84.6
283	84.7	84.8	84.9
284	85.0	85.1	85.2
285	85.3	85.4	85.5
286	85.6	85.7	85.8
287	85.9	86.0	86.1
288	86.2	86.3	86.4
289	86.5	86.6	86.7
290	86.8	86.9	87.0
291	87.1	87.2	87.3
292	87.4	87.5	87.6
293	87.7	87.8	87.9
294	88.0	88.1	88.2
295	88.3	88.4	88.5
296	88.6	88.7	88.8
297	88.9	89.0	89.1
298	89.2	89.3	89.4
299	89.5	89.6	89.7
300	89.8	89.9	90.0
301	90.1	90.2	90.3
302	90.4	90.5	90.6
303	90.7	90.8	90.9
304	91.0	91.1	91.2
305	91.3	91.4	91.5
306	91.6	91.7	91.8
307	91.9	92.0	92.1
308	92.2	92.3	92.4
309	92.5	92.6	92.7
310	92.8	92.9	93.0
311	93.1	93.2	93.3
312	93.4	93.5	93.6
313	93.7	93.8	93.9
314	94.0	94.1	94.2
315	94.3	94.4	94.5
316	94.6	94.7	94.8
317	94.9	95.0	95.1
318	95.2	95.3	95.4
319	95.5	95.6	95.7
320	95.8	95.9	96.0
321	96.1	96.2	96.3
322	96.4	96.5	96.6
323	96.7	96.8	96.9
324	97.0	97.1	97.2
325	97.3	97.4	97.5
326	97.6	97.7	97.8
327	97.9	98.0	98.1
328	98.2	98.3	98.4
329	98.5	98.6	98.7
330	98.8	98.9	99.0
331	99.1	99.2	99.3
332	99.4	99.5	99.6
333	99.7	99.8	99.9
334	100.0	100.1	100.2
335	100.3	100.4	100.5
336	100.6	100.7	100.8
337	100.9	101.0	101.1
338	101.2	101.3	101.4
339	101.5	101.6	101.7
340	101.8	101.9	102.0
341	102.1	102.2	102.3
342	102.4	102.5	102.6
343	102.7	102.8	102.9
344	103.0	103.1	103.2
345	103.3	103.4	103.5
346	103.6	103.7	103.8
347	103.9	104.0	104.1
348	104.2	104.3	104.4
349	104.5	104.6	104.7
350	104.8	104.9	105.0
351	105.1	105.2	105.3
352	105.4	105.5	105.6
353	105.7	105.8	105.9
354	106.0	106.1	106.2
355	106.3	106.4	106.5
356	106.6	106.7	106.8
357	106.9	107.0	107.1
358	107.2	107.3	107.4
359	107.5	107.6	107.7
360	107.8	107.9	108.0
361	108.1	108.2	108.3
362	108.4	108.5	108.6
363	108.7	108.8	108.9
364	109.0	109.1	109.2
365	109.3	109.4	109.5
366	109.6	109.7	109.8
367	109.9	110.0	110.1
368	110.2	110.3	110.4
369	110.5	110.6	110.7
370	110.8	110.9	111.0
371	111.1	111.2	111.3
372	111.4	111.5	111.6
373	111.7	111.8	111.9
374	112.0	112.1	112.2
375	112.3	112.4	112.5
376	112.6	112.7	112.8
377	112.9	113.0	113.1
378	113.2	113.3	113.4
379	113.5	113.6	113.7
380	113.8	113.9	114.0
381	114.1	114.2	114.3
382	114.4	114.5	114.6
383	114.7	114.8	114.9
384	115.0	115.1	115.2
385	115.3	115.4	115.5
386	115.6	115.7	115.8
387	115.9	116.0	116.1
388	116.2	116.3	116.4
389	116.5	116.6	116.7
390	116.8	116.9	117.0
391	117.1	117.2	117.3
392	117.4	117.5	117.6
393	117.7	117.8	117.9
394	118.0	118.1	118.2
395	118.3	118.4	118.5
396	118.6	118.7	118.8
397	118.9	119.0	119.1
398	119.2	119.3	119.4
399	119.5	119.6	119.7
400	119.8	119.9	120.0
401	120.1	120.2	120.3
402	120.4	120.5	120.6
403	120.7	120.8	120.9
404	121.0	121.1	121.2
405	121.3	121.4	121.5
406	121.6	121.7	121.8
407	121.9	122.0	122.1
408	122.2	122.3	122.4
409	122.5	122.6	122.7
410	122.8	122.9	123.0
411	123.1	123.2	123.3
412	123.4	123.5	123.6
413	123.7	123.8	123.9
414	124.0	124.1	124.2
415	124.3	124.4	124.5
416	124.6	124.7	124.8
417	124.9	125.0	125.1
418	125.2	125.3	125.4
419	125.5	125.6	125.7
420	125.8	125.9	126.0
421	126.1	126.2	126.3
422	126.4	126.5	126.6
423	126.7	126.8	126.9
424	127.0	127.1	127.2
425	127.3	127.4	127.5
426	127.6	127.7	127.8
427	127.9	128.0	128.1
428	128.2	128.3	128.4
429	128.5	128.6	128.7
430	128.8	128.9	129.0
431	129.1	129.2	129.3
432	129.4	129.5	129.6
433	129.7	129.8	129.9
434	130.0	130.1	130.2
435	130.3	130.4	130.5
436	130.6	130.7	130.8
437	130.9	131.0	131.1
438	131.2	131.3	131.4
439	131.5	131.6	131.7
440	131.8	131.9	132.0
441	132.1	132.2	132.3
442	132.4	132.5	132.6
443	132.7	132.8	132.9
444	133.0	133.1	133.2
445	133.3	133.4	133.5
446	133.6	133.7	133.8
447	133.9	134.0	134.1
448	134.2	134.3	134.4
449	134.5	134.6	134.7
450	134.8	134.9	135.0
451	135.1	135.2	135.3
452	135.4	135.5	135.6
453	135.7	135.8	135.9
454	136.0	136.1	136.2
455	136.3	136.4	136.5
456	136.6	136.7	136.8
457	136.9	137.0	137.1
458	137.2	137.3	137.4
459	137.5	137.6	137.7
460	137.8	137.9	138.0
461	138.1	138.2	138.3
462	138.4	138.5	138.6
463	138.7	138.8	138.9
464	139.0	139.1	139.2
465	139.3	139.4	139.5
466	139.6	139.7	139.8
467	139.9	140.0	140.1
468	140.2	140.3	140.4
469	140.5	140.6	140.7
470	140.8	140.9	141.0
471	141.1	141.2	141.3
472	141.4	141.5	141.6
473	141.7	141.8	141.9
474	142.0	142.1	142.2
475	142.3	142.4	142.5
476	142.6	142.7	142.8
477	142.9	143.0	143.1
478	143.2	143.3	143.4
479	143.5	143.6	143.7
480	143.8	143.9	144.0
481	144.1	144.2	144.3
482	144.4	144.5	144.6
483	144.7	144.8	144.9
484	145.0	145.1	145.2
485	145.3	145.4	145.5
486	145.6	145.7	145.8
487	145.9	146.0	146.1
488	146.2	146.3	146.4
489	146.5	146.6	146.7
490	146.8	146.9	147.0
491	147.1	147.2	147.3
492	147.4	147.5	147.6
493	147.7	147.8	147.9
494	148.0	148.1	148.2
495	148.3	148.4	148.5
496	148.6	148.7	148.8
497	148.9	149.0	149.1
498	149.2	149.3	149.4
499	149.5	149.6	149.7
500	149.8	149.9	150.0

Table S2 (continued)

Age_cohort	Observed	Expected	z_score
70-74	0.000	0.000	0.000
70-74	0.000	0.000	0.000
70-74	0.000	0.000	0.000

Table S2 (continued)

Age (years)	Stature	Sagittal	Leg Length
17.25	0.000	0.000	0.000
17.5	0.000	0.000	0.000
17.75	0.000	0.000	0.000
18.0	0.000	0.000	0.000
18.25	0.000	0.014	0.000
18.5	0.000	0.014	0.000
18.75	0.000	0.014	0.000
19.0	0.000	0.014	0.000
19.25	0.000	0.014	0.000
19.5	0.000	0.014	0.000
19.75	0.000	0.014	0.000
20.0	0.000	0.014	0.000
20.25	0.000	0.028	0.000
20.5	0.000	0.028	0.000
20.75	0.000	0.028	0.000
21.0	0.000	0.028	0.000
21.25	0.013	0.028	0.000
21.5	0.013	0.028	0.000
21.75	0.013	0.028	0.000
22.0	0.013	0.028	0.000
22.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
22.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
22.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
23.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
23.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
23.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
23.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
24.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
24.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
24.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
24.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
25.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
25.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
25.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
25.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
26.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
26.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
26.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
26.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
27.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
27.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
27.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
27.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
28.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
28.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
28.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
28.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
29.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
29.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
29.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
29.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
30.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
30.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
30.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
30.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
31.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
31.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
31.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
31.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
32.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
32.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
32.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
32.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
33.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
33.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
33.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
33.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
34.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
34.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
34.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
34.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
35.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
35.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
35.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
35.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
36.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
36.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
36.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
36.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
37.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
37.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
37.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
37.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
38.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
38.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
38.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
38.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
39.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
39.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
39.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
39.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
40.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
40.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
40.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
40.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
41.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
41.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
41.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
41.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
42.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
42.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
42.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
42.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
43.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
43.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
43.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
43.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
44.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
44.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
44.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
44.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
45.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
45.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
45.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
45.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
46.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
46.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
46.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
46.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
47.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
47.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
47.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
47.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
48.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
48.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
48.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
48.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
49.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
49.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
49.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
49.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
50.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
50.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
50.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
50.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
51.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
51.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
51.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
51.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
52.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
52.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
52.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
52.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
53.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
53.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
53.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
53.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
54.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
54.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
54.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
54.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
55.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
55.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
55.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
55.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
56.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
56.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
56.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
56.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
57.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
57.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
57.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
57.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
58.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
58.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
58.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
58.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
59.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
59.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
59.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
59.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
60.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
60.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
60.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
60.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
61.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
61.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
61.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
61.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
62.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
62.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
62.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
62.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
63.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
63.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
63.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
63.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
64.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
64.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
64.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
64.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
65.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
65.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
65.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
65.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
66.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
66.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
66.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
66.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
67.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
67.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
67.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
67.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
68.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
68.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
68.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
68.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
69.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
69.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
69.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
69.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
70.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
70.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
70.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
70.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
71.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
71.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
71.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
71.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
72.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
72.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
72.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
72.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
73.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
73.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
73.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
73.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
74.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
74.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
74.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
74.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
75.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
75.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
75.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
75.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
76.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
76.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
76.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
76.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
77.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
77.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
77.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
77.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
78.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
78.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
78.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
78.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
79.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
79.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
79.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
79.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
80.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
80.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
80.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
80.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
81.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
81.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
81.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
81.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
82.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
82.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
82.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
82.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
83.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
83.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
83.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
83.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
84.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
84.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
84.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
84.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
85.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
85.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
85.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
85.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
86.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
86.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
86.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
86.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
87.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
87.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
87.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
87.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
88.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
88.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
88.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
88.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
89.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
89.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
89.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
89.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
90.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
90.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
90.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
90.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
91.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
91.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
91.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
91.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
92.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
92.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
92.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
92.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
93.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
93.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
93.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
93.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
94.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
94.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
94.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
94.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
95.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
95.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
95.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
95.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
96.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
96.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
96.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
96.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
97.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
97.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
97.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
97.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
98.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
98.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
98.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
98.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
99.0	0.027	0.028	0.000
99.25	0.027	0.028	0.000
99.5	0.027	0.028	0.000
99.75	0.027	0.028	0.000
100.0	0.027	0.028	0.000

Table S2 shows the negative SDS. Sexual maturation is assessed by PH1 and corrected for the 100SD. Abbreviations: Pros.

Table S3 Reference equations for males and female

Index	Males	Females
FVC	M = exp [–11.60152 + 2.48807 × ln(– in cm) + 0.08186 × ln (age in year) + Mspline]	M = exp[–10.43245 + 2.24283 × ln(– in cm) + 0.06361 × ln(age in year) + Mspline]
	S = exp[–2.07986 – 0.02848 × ln(age in year) + Sspline]	S = exp[–5.39540 + 0.70141 × ln(– in cm) – 0.08967 × ln(age in year) + Sspline]
	L = 2.1201 – 0.4893 × ln(age in year)	L = 0.4573
	LLN (5th) = exp[ln(M) + ln(1 – 1.645 × L × S)/L]	LLN (5th) = exp[ln(M) + ln(1 – 1.645 × L × S)/L]
FEV_1	M = exp[–10.61669 + 2.27078 × ln(– in cm) + 0.06622 × ln(age in year) + Mspline]	M = exp[–9.69716 + 2.09385 × ln(– in cm) + 0.02006 × ln(age in year) + Mspline]
	S = exp[–2.15233 – 0.02138 × ln(age in year) + Sspline]	S = exp[–2.36300 + 0.05648 × ln(age in year) + Sspline]
	L = 0.5836	L = 0.4662
	LLN (5th) = exp[ln(M) + ln(1 – 1.645 × L × S)/L]	LLN (5th) = exp[ln(M) + ln(1 – 1.645 × L × S)/L]
FEV_1/FVC%	M = exp[5.12465 – 0.11084 × ln(– in cm) – 0.03726 × ln(age in year) + Mspline]	M = exp[5.01251 – 0.07453 × ln(– in cm) – 0.05649 × ln(age in year) + Mspline]
	S = exp[–8.3848 + 1.2030 × ln(– in cm) – 0.1214 × ln(age in year) + Sspline]	S = exp[–3.1856 + 0.1298 × ln(age in year) + Sspline]
	L = 5.2356 – 0.9546 × ln(age in year)	L = 9.601 – 2.177 × ln(age in year) + Lspline
	LLN (5th) = exp[ln(M) + ln(1 – 1.645 × L × S)/L]	LLN (5th) = exp[ln(M) + ln(1 – 1.645 × L × S)/L]
PEF	M = exp[–7.0972 + 1.6544 × ln(– in cm) + 0.2314 × ln(age in year) + Mspline]	M = exp[–6.63189 + 1.61459 × ln(– in cm) + 0.08976 × ln(age in year) + Mspline]
	S = exp[–2.12487 + 0.07994 × ln(age in year) + Sspline]	S = exp[–2.14335 + 0.08554 × ln(age in year) + Sspline]
	L = –0.7302 + 0.4091 × ln(age in year) + Lspline	L = 0.549
	LLN (5th) = exp[ln(M) + ln(1 – 1.645 × L × S)/L]	LLN (5th) = exp[ln(M) + ln(1 – 1.645 × L × S)/L]
MMEF	M = exp[–7.90640 + 1.75688 × ln(– in cm) + 0.04649 × ln(age in year) + Mspline]	M = exp[–7.3652 + 1.7026 × ln(– in cm) – 0.0659 × ln(age in year) + Mspline]
	S = exp[–1.57628 + 0.05703 × ln(age in year) + Sspline]	S = exp[–1.67172 + 0.08597 × ln(age in year) + Sspline]
	L = 0.4376	L = 0.455
	LLN (5th) = exp[ln(M) + ln(1 – 1.645 × L × S)/L]	LLN (5th) = exp[ln(M) + ln(1 – 1.645 × L × S)/L]

Spline is an age-specific contribution from the spline function. FVC, forced vital capacity; FEV_1, forced expiratory volume in 1 second; PEF, peak expiratory flow; MMEF, maximal midexpiratory flow; LLN, lower limit of normal; M, indicates the predicted value; S, indicates scatter, the coefficient of variation; L, indicates location, the skewness.