Supplementary table 2: Baseline characteristics of the study population by cholestanol to cholesterol tertiles

	Cholestanol to cholesterol tertiles			
	1st tertile	2nd tertile	3rd tertile	P*
Number	419	419	419	
Lathosterol : cholesterol, mmol/mol	1.90 (1.41-2.52)	1.56 (1.13-2.19)	1.16 (0.84-1.60)	< 0.001¶
Cholestanol : cholesterol, mmol/mol	1.01 (0.86-1.10)	1.37 (1.28-1.44)	1.82 (1.65-2.12)	
Campesterol : cholesterol, mmol/mol	0.97 (0.70-1.29)	1.20 (0.91-1.58)	1.73 (1.24-2.32)	< 0.001¶
Sitosterol : cholesterol, mmol/mol	0.51 (0.39-0.67)	0.63 (0.47-0.81)	0.85 (0.65-1.19)	< 0.001¶
Cholestanol : lathosterol	0.52 (0.36-0.71)	0.88 (0.59-1.22)	1.59 (1.10-2.48)	< 0.001¶
Campesterol : lathosterol	0.50 (0.31-0.73)	0.74 (0.47-1.22)	1.41 (0.91-2.49)	< 0.001¶
Sitosterol : lathosterol	0.26 (0.17-0.41)	0.38 (0.25-0.62)	0.73 (0.46-1.25)	< 0.001¶
Age, years	63.0 ± 10.6	62.7 ± 10.8	62.7 ± 11.5	< 0.907†
Male gender	273 (65.2)	269 (64.2)	289 (69.0)	0.255‡
Body mass index, kg/m2	28.3 (4.2)	27.1 (4.0)	26.5 (4.1)	< 0.001
Waist circumference, cm	101 ± 12	98 ± 12	96 ± 13	< 0.001
Type 2 diabetes				
No	273 (65.2)	309 (73.7)	305 (72.8)	
Yes, no insulin treatment	131 (31.3)	87 (20.8)	90 (21.5)	0.001
Yes, insulin treatment	15 (3.6)	23 (5.5)	24 (5.7)	0.310
HbA1c, %	6.5 ± 1.5	6.2 ± 1.2	6.1 ± 1.1	< 0.001
Fasting glucose, mg/dl	117 ± 40	111 ± 32	109 ± 34	0.002
Fasting insulin, U/l	10.0 (7.0-15.0)	8.0 (6.0-13.0)	7.0 (5.0-11.0)	< 0.001¶
Systemic hypertension	306 (73.0)	310 (74.0)	288 (68.7)	0.166
Systolic blood pressure, mmHg	141 ± 24	143 ± 23	144 ± 23	0.027§
Diastolic blood pressure, mmHg	81 ± 11	82 ± 11	82 ± 11	0.031§
Total cholesterol, mg/dl	199 ± 35	203 ± 35	201 ± 38	0.411
LDL cholesterol, mg/dl	120 ± 31	124 ± 30	125 ± 36	0.087
HDL cholesterol, mg/dl	40 ± 11	41 ± 11	40 ± 12	0.815
Triglycerides, mg/dl	155 (113-210)	146 (112-205)	125 (95-167)	< 0.001¶
Smoking				
Never	176 (42.0)	175 (41.8)	162 (38.7)	
Past	177 (42.2)	179 (42.7)	165 (39.4)	0.644
Current	66 (15.8)	65 (15.5)	92 (22.0)	0.051
C-reactive protein, mg/l	3.01 (1.24-7.36)	3.23 (1.26-7.83)	3.59 (1.26-9.24)	0.128¶
APOE genotype (419/417/419)				
E3/3	266 (63.6)	267 (63.9)	262 (62.5)	
E2/2, E2/3, E2/4	68 (16.3)	71 (17.0)	72 (17.2)	0.671
E3/4, E4/4	84 (20.1)	80 (19.1)	85 (20.3)	0.879

Values are means ± standard deviations or medians with inter-quartile ranges in the cases of continuous variables; Values represent numbers (percentages) of subjects in the cases of categorical variables; * General linear model or logistic regression, adjusted for age and gender; † General linear model, adjusted for gender only; ‡ Logistic regression, adjusted for age only; § Additionally adjusted for the use of antihypertensive drugs; ¶ General linear model of logarithmically transformed values.