Appendix 3 (as supplied by the authors): Meta-regression results on Adj R^2

Factor	All-cause mortality			Cardiovascular mortality		
	60-80 bpm	>80 bpm	10 bpm increment	60-80 bpm	>80 bpm	10 bpm increment
Follow-up duration	-0.85%	25.77%	6.08%	-12.61%	7.07%	9.51%
Sample size	13.54%	-5.00%	-3.69%	12.81%	-8.32%	0.59%
Mean age	1.98%	-5.50%	11.07%	-18.08%	4.03%	-4.89%
Country	-2.61%	-3.17%	15.42%	-14.44%	-5.28%	16.45%
Excluding CVD at baseline	3.72%	8.91%	-2.58%	-8.19%	1.69%	4.19%
Sex	-8.21%	-5.36%	5.21%	-8.12%	-8.08%	-3.89%
RHR assessment	-9.09%	-3.53%	23.13%	-18.91%	-9.12%	12.78%
Resting period	-8.25%	9.98%	-3.78%	18.62%	9.36%	-5.16%
Posture	4.35%	7.62%	-4.61%	-6.00%	-0.60%	-5.60%
Adjust for blood pressure	**22.58%**	**14.01%**	-3.78%	**84.16%**	-0.77%	-5.53%
Adjust for smoking	---	-0.93%	-4.25%	**55.80%**	**61.05%**	-5.18%
Adjust for body mass index	-8.69%	-4.28%	0.49%	-19.71%	-8.96%	-5.71%
Adjust for physical activity	-7.35%	-0.60%	0.86%	4.01%	**21.71%**	**24.41%**
Adjust for serum cholesterol/triglycerides	0.76%	-0.94%	-4.11%	-10.65%	-5.62%	---
Adjust for diabetes/blood glucose	35.82%	9.26%	-2.86%	6.50%	1.80%	-4.14%
Adjust for alcohol	-6.95%	-5.34%	-3.47%	-17.18%	-6.00%	-5.56%
Adjust for education/social class	4.07%	2.98%	-0.49%	-15.76%	0.64%	5.83%
Number of covariates adjusted	-7.57%	-4.15%	3.92%	-21.97%	-5.98%	6.13%
Study quality	**31.12%**	**24.85%**	-0.63%	**29.43%**	**24.53%**	5.54%
All factors	**100.00%**	**61.92%**	**37.60%**	**100.00%**	**89.21%**	**44.89%**

"---": all of the studies adjusted for smoking and serum cholesterol/triglycerides, respectively.

Adj R^2= [REML estimate of between-study variance (tau2) did not accounting for the factor - REML estimate of between-study variance (tau2) accounting for the factor]/[REML estimate

Appendix to: Zhang D, Shen Xl, Qi X. Resting heart rate and all-cause and cardiovascular mortality in the general population: a meta-analysis. *CMAJ* 2015. DOI:10.1503/cmaj.150535.

of between-study variance (tau2) did not accounting for the factor]*100%. REML: restricted maximum likelihood.

When the between-study variance explained (Adj R^2) by one factor is less than the between-study variance caused by chance, the corresponding value of Adj R^2 will be negative (less than 0). The results were obtained with the Stata module “metareg”.

Appendix to: Zhang D, Shen Xl, Qi X. Resting heart rate and all-cause and cardiovascular mortality in the general population: a meta-analysis. *CMAJ* 2015. DOI:10.1503/cmaj.150535.