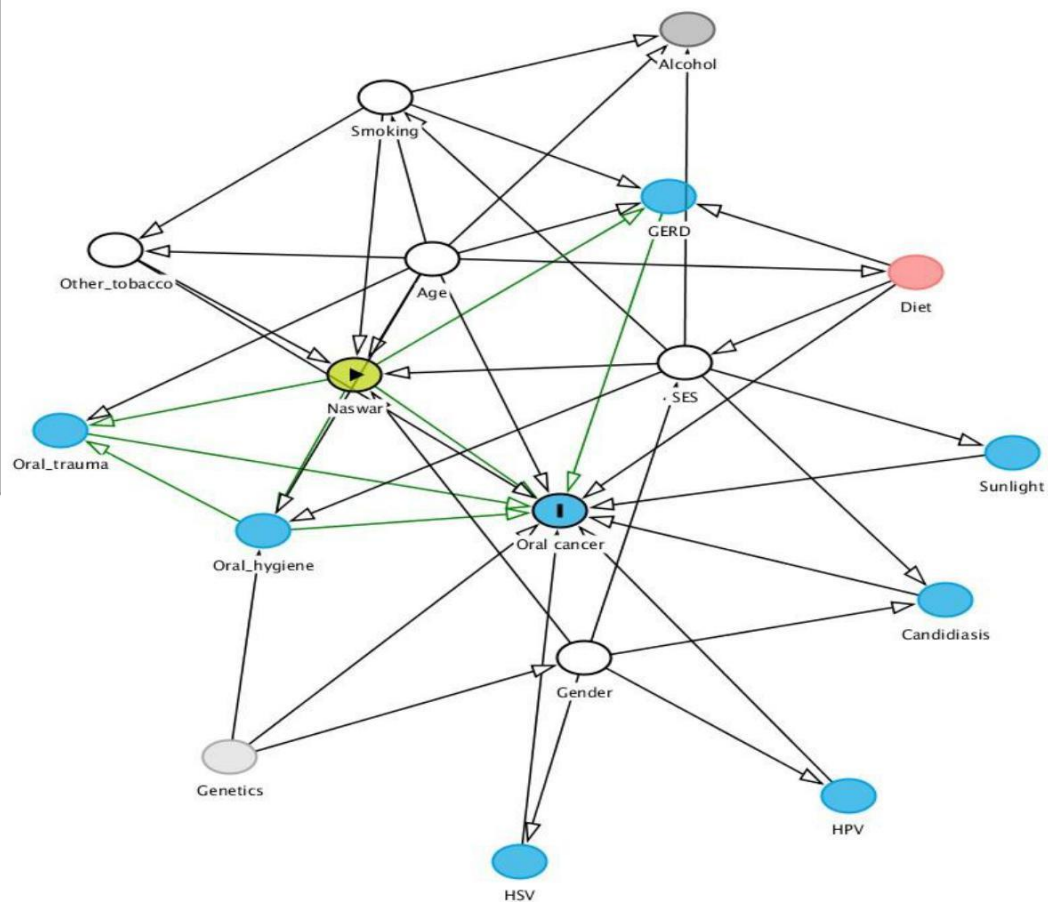












**S1 Fig (a).** Relationship between the study variables before adjustment for the minimal adjustment set.



**S1 Fig (b).** Relationship between the study variables after adjustment for the minimal adjustment set.

### Legend

-  exposure
-  outcome
-  ancestor of exposure
-  ancestor of outcome
-  ancestor of exposure and outcome
-  adjusted variable
-  unobserved (latent)
-  other variable
-  causal path
-  biasing path