Supplementary Note for 'Association analysis in over 329,000 individuals identifies 116

independent variants influencing neuroticism'

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Supplementary Note

UK Biobank Sample

The sample was drawn from an open resource, UK Biobank, established to study determinants of disease in middle-aged and older adults². Recruitment to the study occurred between 2006 and 2010 targeting both urban and rural community-dwelling individuals with a broad range of socio-economic circumstances. This resulted in 502,655 participants assessed at baseline on a range of cognitive and other psychological measures, physical functioning, physical and mental health, lifestyle variables, and biological samples (including blood, urine, and saliva). Restricting the sample to only those with White British ancestry and high quality genotyping, the genome-wide association analysis was performed on 329,821 participants (152,710 male) aged 39-73 years (mean 56.9, SD 8.0 years). Ethical approval for UK Biobank was received from the Research Ethics Committee (REC reference 11/NW/0382).

Independent replication of the top association signals was sought from the 23andMe and the Genetics of Personality Consortium (GPC-2) meta-analysis of genome-wide association results for neuroticism ³. The meta-analysis sample included 59,225 unrelated

individuals with European ancestry from the US consumer genomics company, 23andMe, and 63,661 individuals with European ancestry from 29 European, Australian and US cohorts forming the GPC-2. GWA results for 10,037,522 SNPs were available for look-up.

Neuroticism Measurement in UK Biobank

A 12-item scale (Eysenck Personality Questionnaire-Revised (EPQ-R) Short Form) was used to measure the personality trait of Neuroticism¹. This required binary responses (1yes; 0 –no) to the following items: 1) Does your mood often go up and down?; 2) Do you ever feel 'just miserable' for no reason?; 3) Are you an irritable person?; 4) Are your feelings easily hurt?; 5) Do you often feel 'fed-up'?; 6) Would you call yourself a nervous person?; 7) Are you a worrier?; 8) Would you call yourself tense or 'highly strung'?; 9) Do you worry too long after an embarrassing experience?; 10) Do you suffer from 'nerves'?; 11) Do you often feel lonely?; and 12) Are you often troubled by feelings of guilt? Scores from this neuroticism scale show high internal consistency and concurrent validity ^{1,4}; importantly, genetic correlations between the short and long EPQ forms exceed 0.90 and, between the EPQ and more widely-used scales, such as the NEO Personality Inventory, are upwards of 0.82⁵.

Imputation of Neuroticism Data in UK Biobank

There were 501,278 individuals with neuroticism data in the UK Biobank sample. Of these, 99,604 provided 'Do not Know' or 'Prefer not to Answer' for between 1 and 12 neuroticism items. 'Do not Know' responses were more frequent than 'Prefer not to Answer', and there was variation in the endorsement of these between items (see Table S1). No single item had more than 5% of these non-usable responses (3.9% in the genotyped sample). Individuals who had more than four 'Do not Know' or 'Prefer not to Answer' responses were set to missing (n = 4683; 0 in the genotyped sample), because their overall score was considered unreliable. The remaining missing items (affecting 94,921 cases; 59,762 cases in the genotyped sample) were imputed by a logistic regression multiple imputation procedure including sex and age as predictors using the mice package in R⁶. A total neuroticism score was then calculated by summing the responses to the 12 items, with a Yes response scoring 1, and a No response scoring 0. In comparison with the subsample of complete data, the median of the imputed neuroticism variable was the same (4), but the mean was slightly higher (4.12 ± 3.27 vs 4.28 ± 3.28). Age and sex (0 = female, 1 = male) correlations were .02 and -.15,

respectively. The positive skew of neuroticism scores in the UK Biobank was comparable to a Scottish study of 21,340 individuals (aged 18 to 99 years) measured on the same scale and reported a similar mean and variability: $3.9 (\pm 3.2)^7$. Other scales of neuroticism (e.g., IPIP Big Five Factor markers, NEO Five Factor Inventory) show more normal distributions of scores in UK samples, yet they correlate strongly (upwards of .80) with the EPQ-R Short Form ⁴. In the GWA sample, neuroticism was residualized for the effects of age, sex, assessment centre, genotype batch, array, and 40 genetic principal components. This residual score (mean 0, SD = 3.21) correlated 0.98 with the raw imputed neuroticism score; the distribution of scores is shown in Supplementary Figure 1.

Neuroticism Measurement in the Replication Cohorts

23andMe

Neuroticism was measured using a web-based version of the Big Five Inventory (BFI) ^{8,9}. This test includes 8 neuroticism questions (five scored positively and three scored negatively), each of which had five possible answers (Strongly disagree, disagree a little, neither agree nor disagree, agree a little, or strongly agree) and were scored from 0 to 4. A total of N = 59,206 took this test and had genetic data available for analysis.

The Genetics of Personality Consortium (GPC)

Neuroticism was measured in the GPC-2¹⁰ by harmonising the measures used across the 9 inventories (NEO Personality Inventory—PI-R, FFI, FFI-30—, Eysenck Personality Questionnaire—EPQ-R, JEPQ, EPI—, the International Personality Item Pool inventory, all item data for harm avoidance from the Cloninger's Tridimensional Personality Questionnaire, and all item data for negative emotionality from the Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire) and 29 cohorts (from Europe, the United States, and Australia) using Item Response Theory. This prevented neuroticism scores being affected by differences in each inventory, as well as the number of items used in each inventory. The final sample size for neuroticism was 63,661.

Genotyping and Imputation

UK Biobank

Full details of the UK Biobank genotyping procedure can be found elsewhere ¹¹. In short, two custom genotyping arrays were used to genotype 49,950 participants (UK BiLEVE Axiom Array) and 438,427 participants (UK Biobank Axiom Array) ^{11,12}. Genotype data (805,426 markers) were available for 488,377 individuals, with imputation to the HRC reference panel (39,131,578 autosomal SNPs) available for 487,442 individuals in this study ¹¹. Allele frequency checks ¹³ against the HRC ¹⁴ and 1000G ¹⁵ site lists were run and any variants with minor allele frequencies (MAF) that differed more than +/- 0.2 from the reference sets were removed.

Downstream quality control steps for the present study involved excluding (1) those with non-British ancestry based on self-report and a principal components analysis, (2)

extreme scores based on heterozygosity and missingness, (3) individuals with neither XX nor XY sex chromosomes, (4) individuals whose reported sex was inconsistent with genetically inferred sex, and (5) individuals with >10 putative third degree relatives from the kinship table. This left 408,095 individuals. Related individuals were removed based on a genetic relationship threshold of 0.025 ascertained using GCTA-GREML on 131,790 reportedly-related participants ¹⁶. After implementing these steps, the sample size was 332,050, with neuroticism data available for 329,821 individuals. The following GWA quality control thresholds were applied: minor allele frequency > 0.0005 (i.e., a minimum allele count of 164, comparable with a previous GWA of neuroticism in a subsample of UK Biobank ¹⁷), imputation quality score > 0.1, and inclusion of bi-allelic SNPs only; this resulted in 18,485,882 analysed autosomal SNPs. For the gene-based analysis, only common (MAF > 1%) SNPs were used.

23andMe

Summary GWA results for neuroticism were provided by 23andMe for data imputed to the 1000 Genomes Project phase 1 version 3 reference panel ¹⁸. Details of the genotyping procedure, quality control parameters, genotype imputation and association analysis can be found in Lo and colleagues ³. SNPs were filtered by Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium (P < 10^{-20}), call rate < 95%, and allele frequencies different to those found in the European 1000 Genomes Project reference panel. Following the removal of SNPs on chromosomes X and Y, and on mitochondria, a total of 13,341,935 SNPs were retained. Additional quality control was applied to the current study where a MAF of 0.5% was applied and only SNPs with an average imputation r^2 of > .5 across all batches of results were included. This resulted in a final sample size of 9,763,840 autosomal SNPs.

Genetics of Personality Consortium (GPC-2)

Genotyping was performed on the cohorts of the GPC-2 10,19 using an Illumina or an Affymetrix platform. Genotype data underwent quality control within each cohort separately. Quality control consisted of checks for deviation from European ancestry, inconsistencies regarding sex, Mendelian errors, genome-wide homozygosity, checks on relatedness, as well as minor allele frequencies, SNP call rates, sample call rate, and Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium. The genotype data in the GPC-2 were imputed using the reference panel from 1000 Genomes Project phase 1 version 3 10,19,20 . Following imputation, additional quality control was performed with poorly-imputed SNPs being removed ($r^2 < 0.4$) along with those with a low MAF (< sqrt(5/N)).

Data Sources for LDSC

GWA summary statistics for performing LDSC with UK Biobank neuroticism GWA results are shown in Supplementary Table 11 (extracted from a table originally published in *Translational Psychiatry*, ²¹ and updated here with further psychiatric, mental and physical health traits).

Replicating SNPs previously identified for Neuroticism

The two SNPs—rs6981523 and rs9611519—previously identified for neuroticism in 23andMe ³ were similarly significant in our larger sample, with respective p-values of 4.7×10^{-22} and 1.17×10^{-10} and consistent direction of allelic effect. SNP rs35855737, significant in the GPC-2 GWA of neuroticism ²², was not significant, P = .069. Previous association of SNPs within the 8p23.1 inversion region was even stronger in our study, with the lead SNPs, rs2572431 ²³ and rs12682352 ¹⁷, showing respective p-values of 1.33×10^{-18} and 1.11×10^{-24} . The 8p23.1 locus was previously cited as important in developmental neuropsychiatric disorders ²⁴ which may be relevant for personality traits, which emerge early in life, and could therefore be influenced by genes that are expressed during development.

Replicating SNPs previously identified for MDD

Neuroticism may be a more tractable trait for the genetic study of major depressive disorder, which is affected by noise in diagnosis and other factors (e.g., lifestyle, socio-demographic factors and co-morbidity) that influence clinical status. Of the 44 recently discovered SNP variants for major depressive disorder ²⁵, 36 were available in our GWA: 5

were significant at a genome-wide level, 4 at a suggestive level, and a further 18 at a nominal .05 alpha level (See Supplementary Table 4). Further, the genes in which three of our top replicated SNPs resided were highlighted among the MDD results: *CACNA1E* from their gene-based tests, *LINC00461* from their SNP association results, and *CELF4* from their pathway analysis ²⁵. Given our estimate of a .69 genetic correlation between neuroticism and MDD (consistent with ²⁵), then this partial overlap between our results is expected. Overlapping genetic findings from both neuroticism and MDD studies are likely to be the most reliable candidates to take forward in MDD research.

Relation of Replicated Genetic Loci to Inversions on Chromosomes 8 and 17

The 8p23.1 locus has been linked to an inversion polymorphism (based partly on a subsample of UK Biobank), so we used the lead tagging SNP (rs13270267) of this inversion already established in UK Biobank ²³ to evaluate whether our 5 replicated loci were independent of this inversion. We found that only rs10097870 was in high LD ($r^2 = .98$) with the tag SNP (and this was one of the 20 SNPs showing the strongest correlation with the inversion principal component ²³); the other four replicated loci in the extended inversion

region showed r² ranging between .15 and .43 (see Supplementary Fig. 5) suggesting that the inversion—previously associated with neuroticism—may not fully explain these signals. However, given the complex nature of LD within inversion regions we will cautiously treat this as a single locus in line with previous findings ²³. Our replicated chromosome 17 locus is not in the region of the previously associated inversion with neuroticism ²³; although its tag SNP, rs79959255, was in high LD (r² = .89) with our second strongest independent SNP, rs77804065, which was nominally significant in 23andMe.

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Supplementary Figure 1. Distribution of age-, sex-, assessment centre-, genotype batch-,

array-, and 40 genetic principal components-residualized neuroticism scores in the

GWA sample of 329,821 individuals.



Histogram for Neuroticism in the GWAS Sample

Neuroticism Residual Scores

Supplementary Figure 2. Quantile-quantile plot for the GWA of neuroticism in UK





Supplementary Figure 3. Regional association plots of UK Biobank results for a) the entire MHC region on chromosome 6, b) the *C4* gene region previously associated with schizophrenia ²⁶, c) region surrounding rs2021722, the primary marker associated with schizophrenia ²⁷, and d) region surrounding rs115507122, the primary marker associated with MDD ²⁵.



Supplementary Figure 4. Pie charts of the diverse protein classes (60 class hits), biological processes (106 process hits) and molecular

functions (47 function hits) of the 69 genes located in the region of the 15 replicated loci associated with neuroticism. Classification is

based on PANTHER Version 12.0 (http://pantherdb.org/) and is presented for descriptive purpose.



Supplementary Figure 5. Linkage disequilibrium (r²) among 5 replicated loci on

chromosome 8 and with inversion tagging SNP, rs13270267, estimated in the Great



British subpopulation from 1000G (http://analysistools.nci.nih.gov/LDlink/.).

Supplementary Table 1. Eysenck Personality Questionnaire-Revised Short Form (EPQ-

R-S) neuroticism scale ¹ items, their associated UK Biobank data-field, and number of

imputed	'Do not Know	v' and 'Prefer	not to Answer'	responses.
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		UK	Do not	Prefer
		Biobank	Know	not to
		data-field		Answer
1	Does your mood often go up and down?	1920	12448	965
			(2.5%)	(0.19%)
2	Do you ever feel 'just miserable' for no	1930	8459	1033
	reason?		(1.69%)	(0.21%)
3	Are you an irritable person?	1940	22362	1267
			(4.46%)	(0.25%)
4	Are your feelings easily hurt?	1950	14365	1064
			(2.87%)	(0.21%)
5	Do you often feel 'fed-up'?	1960	10288	1378
			(2.05%)	(0.27%)
6	Would you call yourself a nervous person?	1970	13233	794
			(2.64%)	(0.16%)
7	Are you a worrier?	1980	12955	1027
			(2.58%)	(0.20%)
8	Would you call yourself tense or 'highly	1990	17951	980
	strung'?		(3.58%)	(0.19%)
9	Do you worry too long after an embarrassing	2000	20447	993

	experience?		(4.08%)	(0.20%)
10	Do you suffer from 'nerves'?	2010	18687	1043
			(3.73%)	(0.21%)
11	Do you often feel lonely?	2020	7534	1435
			(1.50%)	(0.29%)
12	Are you often troubled by feelings of guilt?	2030	12860	1636
			(2.56%)	(0.33%)

Supplementary Table 2. Genome-wide significant (P < 5 x 10^{-8}) and suggestive (P < 1 x

10⁻⁵) SNP association results for the GWA of neuroticism in UK Biobank. [see Online

Excel file]

Supplementary Table 3. Genome-wide significant ($p < 5 \ge 10^{-8}$) 1000G SNP association

results for the GWA of neuroticism in UK Biobank with gene annotation. [see Online

Excel file]

Supplementary Table 4. Look-up of 44 major depressive disorder significant SNPs from

Wray et al (2017) in UK Biobank neuroticism GWA. [see Online Excel file]

Supplementary Table 5. One hundred and sixteen independent genome-wide significant

 $(p < 5 \ x \ 10^{-8})$ SNPs associated with neuroticism in UK Biobank and the extent of their

LD across genes. Replication p-value in 23andMe and GPC is also shown (those significant at P<.00045 are in bold). [see Online Excel file]

Supplementary Table 6. Genome-wide significant (p < 5 x 10-8) SNP association results for the GWA of neuroticism in UK Biobank and their effect size and significance in the meta-analysis of 23andMe and GPC cohorts, and in the meta-analysis of UK Biobank and the replication cohorts. [see Online Excel file]

Supplementary Table 7. PsyGeNET (v2.0) lookups for the 69 genes located in the region of the 15 replicated loci associated with neuroticism. Four genes were found in this genetic association database which covers eight classes of psychiatric disorder. [see Online Excel file]

Supplementary Table 8. GTEx results (indicating the gene regulated, associated pvalue, tissue type) for the the 15 replicated SNPs associated with neuroticism. Brain expressed genes are shown in bold. [see Online Excel file]

Supplementary Table 9. The most affected genes regulated by each of the 15 replicated SNPs in each brain region as identified by searching the brain eQTL database

BRAINEAC (<u>http://www.braineac.org/</u>). [see Online Excel file]

Supplementary Table 10. Significant gene-based results ($P < 2.77 \times 10^{-6}$) for neuroticism

in UK Biobank. [see Online Excel file]

Supplementary Table 11. Sources of GWA results from consortia investigating psychiatric

disease, mental and physical health.

Health Trait	Consortium/Cohor t	URL	Reference	No. of individuals in GWAS	
ADHD	Psychiatric Genetics Consortium (PGC)	https://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/ downloads	Demontis, D et al. (2017). Discovery Of The First Genome- Wide Significant Risk Loci For ADHD. <i>bioRxiv</i> .	19,099 cases 34,194 controls	
Alzheimer's disease	International Genomics of Alzheimer's Project (IGAP)	http://www.pasteur- lille.fr/en/recherche/u744/igap/i gap_download.php	Lambert et al. (2013) Nat Genet; 45: 1452-1458.	17,008 cases, 37,154 controls	
Anorexia nervosa	Genetic Consortium for Anorexia Nervosa (GCAN)	http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/d ownloads	http://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/d Boraska et al. (2014) Molecular ownloads psychiatry 19(10): 1085-1094.		
Bipolar disorder	Psychiatric Genetics Consortium (PGC)	https://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/ downloads	Psychiatric GWAS Consortium Bipolar Disorder Working Group. (2011) Nat Genet; 43: 977-983.	7,481 cases, 9,250 controls	
BMI	GIANT	http://www.broadinstitute.org/c ollaboration/giant/index.php/GI ANT_consortium_data_files	Locke et al. (2015) Nature; 518: 197-206.	339,224	
Coronary artery disease	CARDIoGRAM	http://www.cardiogramplusc4d.or g/downloads/	Schunkert et al. (2011) Nat Genet; 43: 333-338.	22,233 cases, 64762 controls	
Depressive symptoms	Social Science Genetic Association Consortium	https://www.thessgac.org/data	Okbay et al. (2016) Nat Genet 48, 624–633	161,460	
Educational attainment	Social Science Genetic Association Consortium	https://www.thessgac.org/data	Okbay et al. (2016) Nature 533, 539–542	217,568	
HbA1c	MAGIC consortium	https://www.magicinvestigators.o rg/downloads/	s://www.magicinvestigators.o Soranzo et al. Diabetes 2010; 59: lownloads/ 3229-3239		
HDL/LDL cholesterol/tri glycerides	Global Lipids Consortium	http://csg.sph.umich.edu//abecasis /public/lipids2013/	Willer et al. Nat Genet 2013; 45: 1274-1283	188,577	
Major depressive disorder (ICD-10)	UK Biobank	NA	Howard et al (2017) Biorxiv doi: 10.1101/168732	8,276 cases, 209,308 controls	
Neuroticism	Genetics of Personality Consortium	http://www.tweelingenregister.or De Moor et al. (2015) JAMA g/GPC/ Psychiatry, 72(7): 642-650.		63,661	
Neuroticism (Smith 2016)	UK Biobank	NA	Smith et al (2016) Molecular Psychiatry, 21(6): 749–757.	91,370	
Rheumatoid arthritis	NA	ftp://ftp.broadinstitute.org/pub/rh eumatoid_arthritis/Stahl_etal_201 0NG	Stahl et al (2010) Nat Genet 42, 508–514	5,539 cases, 20,169 controls	

Schizophreni a	Psychiatric Genetics Consortium (PGC)	https://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/do wnloads	Schizophrenia Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium. Nature 2014; 511: 421-427.	36,989 cases, 113,075 controls
Self-rated health	UK Biobank	http://www.psy.ed.ac.uk/ccace/do wnloads/Harris2016_IJE_self_rat ed_health.zip	Harris et al (2016) International Journal of Epidemiology doi:10.1093/ije/dyw219	111,749
Smoking status	TAG	https://www.med.unc.edu/pgc/file s/resultfiles/tag.evrsmk.tbl.gz	Furberg et al Nature Genetics 2010; 42: 441-447	74,053
Subjective wellbeing	Social Science Genetic Association Consortium	https://www.thessgac.org/data	Okbay et al. (2016) Nat Genet 48, 624–633	298,420
Tiredness	UK Biobank	http://www.psy.ed.ac.uk/ccace/do wnloads/Deary2017_Mol_Psych_ tiredness.zip	Deary et al (2017) Molecular Psychiatry doi:10.1038/mp.2017.5	108,976
Type 2 diabetes	DIAGRAM	http://diagram- consortium.org/downloads.html	Morris et al. Nat Genet 2012; 44: 981-990. PMID: 22885922	12,171 cases, 56,862 controls
Waist-hip ratio	GIANT	http://portals.broadinstitute.org/co llaboration/giant/index.php/GIAN T_consortium_data_files#GWAS _Anthropometric_2015_Waist	Shungin D et al. (2015). Nature 518: 187-196.	224,459

Supplementary Table 12. Genetic correlations between neuroticism and 22 health
outcomes. The heritability Z-score and the mean χ^2 indicate the level of power to detect
association where a heritability Z-score of >4 and a mean χ 2 >1.02 being considered well
powered. Significant genetic correlations (FDR p-value threshold =< 0.0037) are

Trait	Genetic correlation	Standard error	P-value	Heritability Z-score	Mean χ2
ADHD	0.22	0.03	1.67×10 ⁻¹⁰	15.15	1.3
Alzheimer's disease	0.12	0.06	0.053	2.11	1.11
Alzheimer's disease (500kb)	0.10	0.05	0.0386	5.39	1.11
Anorexia nervosa	0.18	0.03	6.02×10 ⁻¹¹	18.55	1.05
Bipolar disorder	0.11	0.04	0.0037	10.45	1.19
BMI	-0.01	0.02	0.6342	18.43	1.26
Coronary artery disease	0.08	0.04	0.0524	7.47	1.15
Depressive symptoms	0.82	0.03	4.73×10 ⁻²²³	12.2	1.16
Educational attainment	-0.20	0.02	5.99×10 ⁻²¹	28.63	1.65
HbA1c	0.04	0.05	0.4485	5.36	1.06
HDL cholesterol	-0.01	0.02	0.7921	6.53	1.21
LDL cholesterol	0.03	0.03	0.2393	4.17	1.19
Major depressive disorder	0.69	0.07	1.13×10 ⁻²¹	5.53	1.08
Neuroticism (GPC-2)	1.02	0.09	6.43×10 ⁻²⁷	4.86	1.06
Neuroticism (Smith	1.02	0.02	0	9.17	1.24

highlighted in bold.

2016)

Rheumatoid arthritis	0.02	0.04	0.6152	3.65	1.06
Schizophrenia	0.21	0.03	5.99×10 ⁻¹¹	22.53	1.81
Self-rated health	0.41	0.05	2.95×10 ⁻¹⁹	16.27	1.26
Smoking status	0.11	0.04	0.0029	11.04	1.1
Subjective wellbeing	-0.68	0.03	2.89×10 ⁻⁸⁵	12.2	1.16
Tiredness	0.62	0.03	1.28×10 ⁻⁹⁷	11.2	1.14
Triglycerides	0.04	0.03	0.0937	4.74	1.22
Type 2 diabetes	-0.05	0.05	0.2805	8.98	1.13
Waist-hip ratio	0.05	0.02	0.0427	16.40	1.1

Note: Self-rated health is scored in the direction of higher scores indicating poorer health.

Supplementary Table 13. Associations between polygenic profiles based on neuroticism

in UK Biobank. Significant associations (FDR correct p-value =5.75×10⁻⁶) are shown in

bold.

Phenotypes in Generation Scotland								
Neuroticism					Depression	n status		
Threshold	Beta	95% CI	R^2 %	р	OR	95% CI	$\mathbf{R}^2 \%^*$	Р
0.01	0.187	0.155 - 0.219	1.79	7.22×10 ⁻³¹	1.249	1.134 – 1.375	0.52	6.31×10 ⁻⁶
0.05	0.199	0.171 - 0.227	2.60	3.28×10 ⁻⁴⁴	1.258	1.155 – 1.370	0.71	1.53×10 ⁻⁷
0.1	0.189	0.162 - 0.216	2.55	2.64×10 ⁻⁴³	1.246	1.147 – 1.353	0.71	1.40×10 ⁻⁷
0.5	0.188	0.163 - 0.213	2.79	2.65×10 ⁻⁴⁷	1.252	1.158 – 1.353	0.82	1.53×10 ⁻⁸
1	0.186	0.161 - 0.211	2.75	1.26×10 ⁻⁴⁶	1.245	1.152 – 1.346	0.79	2.80×10 ⁻⁸

* Nagelkerke R²