

**Supplementary Table 1.** Results of linear mixed-effects models for determinants of vitamin C plasma concentrations after excluding model-specific outliers <sup>a,b</sup>.

	Model 2 ( <i>n</i> = 396, 2762 records)		Model 3 ( <i>n</i> = 396, 2766 records)		Model 4 ( <i>n</i> = 297, 1804 records)		Model 5 ( <i>n</i> = 226, 1990 records)	
	CE	[95% CI]						
Intercept	7.5×10 <sup>+1</sup> ***	[7.3×10 <sup>+1</sup> , 7.8×10 <sup>+1</sup> ]	7.5×10 <sup>+1</sup> ***	[7.2×10 <sup>+1</sup> , 7.7×10 <sup>+1</sup> ]	7.5×10 <sup>+1</sup> ***	[7.3×10 <sup>+1</sup> , 7.8×10 <sup>+1</sup> ]	7.5×10 <sup>+1</sup> ***	[7.2×10 <sup>+1</sup> , 7.9×10 <sup>+1</sup> ]
Age (years)	-1.3×10 <sup>-2</sup>	[-1.2×10 <sup>-1</sup> , 9.4×10 <sup>-2</sup> ]	-3.9×10 <sup>-2</sup>	[-1.7×10 <sup>-1</sup> , 9.5×10 <sup>-2</sup> ]	-1.0×10 <sup>-2</sup>	[-1.4×10 <sup>-1</sup> , 1.2×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	6.0×10 <sup>-3</sup>	[-1.1×10 <sup>-1</sup> , 1.2×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]
Age <sup>2</sup> (years)	2.2×10 <sup>-3</sup>	[-7.7×10 <sup>-3</sup> , 1.2×10 <sup>-2</sup> ]	2.0×10 <sup>-3</sup>	[-7.9×10 <sup>-3</sup> , 1.2×10 <sup>-2</sup> ]	-4.0×10 <sup>-3</sup>	[-1.6×10 <sup>-2</sup> , 8.4×10 <sup>-3</sup> ]	4.2×10 <sup>-3</sup>	[-6.6×10 <sup>-3</sup> , 1.5×10 <sup>-2</sup> ]
Male sex	-4.3×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-5.0×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 4.1×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]	-4.9×10 <sup>+0</sup>	[-1.1×10 <sup>+1</sup> , 7.3×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	-2.0×10 <sup>+0</sup>	[-6.9×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 3.0×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]	-5.5×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-6.1×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 5.0×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]
FFM (kg)	-4.7×10 <sup>-1</sup> ***	[-6.9×10 <sup>-1</sup> , -2.4×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	-6.8×10 <sup>-1</sup> ***	[-9.6×10 <sup>-1</sup> , -4.0×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	-3.8×10 <sup>-1</sup> *	[-6.4×10 <sup>-1</sup> , -1.3×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	-4.6×10 <sup>-1</sup> **	[-7.2×10 <sup>-1</sup> , -2.0×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]
Current/past smoking	-3.0×10 <sup>+0</sup>	[-5.7×10 <sup>+0</sup> , -2.0×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	-3.4×10 <sup>+0</sup>	[-6.2×10 <sup>+0</sup> , -6.0×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	-2.3×10 <sup>+0</sup>	[-5.2×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 6.3×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	-1.9×10 <sup>+0</sup>	[-5.4×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 1.5×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]
PAI	6.0×10 <sup>+0</sup> *	[2.4×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 9.6×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]	6.4×10 <sup>+0</sup> **	[2.8×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 1.0×10 <sup>+1</sup> ]	9.9×10 <sup>+0</sup> ***	[5.4×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 1.4×10 <sup>+1</sup> ]	5.7×10 <sup>+0</sup> ‡	[1.5×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 1.0×10 <sup>+1</sup> ]
Vitamin C intake (mg/d)	1.4×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[1.7×10 <sup>-2</sup> , 2.6×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	1.1×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-3.9×10 <sup>-2</sup> , 2.6×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	1.5×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-1.9×10 <sup>-3</sup> , 3.0×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	1.1×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-3.4×10 <sup>-2</sup> , 2.6×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]
Vitamin C intake <sup>2</sup> (mg/d)	-7.1×10 <sup>-3</sup>	[-1.4×10 <sup>-2</sup> , -4.0×10 <sup>-4</sup> ]	-8.0×10 <sup>-3</sup>	[-1.5×10 <sup>-2</sup> , -1.3×10 <sup>-3</sup> ]	-8.6×10 <sup>-3</sup>	[-1.7×10 <sup>-2</sup> , -3.2×10 <sup>-4</sup> ]	-5.1×10 <sup>-3</sup>	[-1.3×10 <sup>-2</sup> , 3.4×10 <sup>-3</sup> ]
Use of supplements <sup>c</sup>	3.7×10 <sup>+0</sup> ***	[2.6×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 4.7×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]	3.7×10 <sup>+0</sup> ***	[2.6×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 4.7×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]			3.9×10 <sup>+0</sup> ***	[2.7×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 5.1×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]
Use of lipid-modifying drugs	3.1×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-1.2×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 1.8×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]	2.3×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-1.3×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 1.7×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]	-6.1×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-2.4×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 1.2×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]	5.6×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-1.1×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 2.2×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]
Plasma TOC (μmol/L)	1.5×10 <sup>-1</sup> ***	[9.7×10 <sup>-2</sup> , 1.9×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	1.4×10 <sup>-1</sup> ***	[8.8×10 <sup>-2</sup> , 2.0×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	2.1×10 <sup>-1</sup> ***	[1.4×10 <sup>-1</sup> , 2.8×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	2.0×10 <sup>-1</sup> ***	[1.4×10 <sup>-1</sup> , 2.7×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]
Disease diagnosis <sup>d</sup>	-1.0×10 <sup>+0</sup>	[-3.7×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 1.6×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]	-8.1×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-3.4×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 1.8×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]	-2.2×10 <sup>+0</sup>	[-4.9×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 6.1×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]	-1.5×10 <sup>+0</sup>	[-4.8×10 <sup>+0</sup> , 1.9×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]
I (male sex : age)			-1.8×10 <sup>-2</sup>	[-2.4×10 <sup>-1</sup> , 2.1×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]				
I (male sex : FFM)			6.0×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[1.5×10 <sup>-1</sup> , 1.1×10 <sup>+0</sup> ]				
I (male sex : VC intake)			-7.6×10 <sup>-2</sup>	[-2.7×10 <sup>-1</sup> , 1.2×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]				
I (age : VC intake)			1.1×10 <sup>-2</sup>	[-5.1×10 <sup>-4</sup> , 2.2×10 <sup>-2</sup> ]				
I (smoking : VC intake)			1.5×10 <sup>-1</sup>	[-3.0×10 <sup>-2</sup> , 3.3×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]				
I (male sex : plasma TOC)			4.7×10 <sup>-2</sup>	[-6.6×10 <sup>-2</sup> , 1.6×10 <sup>-1</sup> ]				
I (age : plasma TOC)			1.1×10 <sup>-3</sup>	[-5.7×10 <sup>-3</sup> , 8.0×10 <sup>-3</sup> ]				
R <sup>2</sup> , marginal / conditional	0.125 / 0.686		0.134 / 0.685		0.131 / 0.658		0.139 / 0.681	

CE, coefficient estimate; 95% CI, 95% confidence interval; FFM, fat-free mass; PAI, physical activity index; VC, vitamin C; I (a : b) denotes the interaction effect for a and b. <sup>a</sup> Results are presented as coefficient estimates and 95% confidence intervals; <sup>b</sup> P values after adjusting for multiple testing: <sup>‡</sup>  $p < 0.10$ ; \*  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\*  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ ;

<sup>c</sup> This parameter comprised the use of vitamin C and/or multivitamin supplements; <sup>d</sup> This variable combined the information on the presence of gall bladder/pancreas/chronic liver/inflammatory bowel disease and dyslipidemia.

**Supplementary Table 2.** Results of linear mixed-effects models for determinants of log plasma  $\alpha$ -tocopherol concentrations including serum cholesterol <sup>a,b</sup>.

	Model 2 ( <i>n</i> = 399)		Model 3 ( <i>n</i> = 399)		Model 4 ( <i>n</i> = 289)		Model 5 ( <i>n</i> = 226)	
	CE	[95% CI]						
Intercept	$3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ , $3.6 \times 10^{+0}$ ]	$3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ , $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ]	$3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ , $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ]	$3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ , $3.6 \times 10^{+0}$ ]
Age (years)	$7.9 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $6.3 \times 10^{-3}$ , $9.4 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$8.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $6.7 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.0 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$8.0 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $6.4 \times 10^{-3}$ , $9.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$9.1 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $7.4 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
Age <sup>2</sup> (years)	$-1.5 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-3.0 \times 10^{-4}$ , $-3.1 \times 10^{-6}$ ]	$-1.3 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-2.8 \times 10^{-4}$ , $2.1 \times 10^{-5}$ ]	$-1.8 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-3.3 \times 10^{-4}$ , $-2.4 \times 10^{-5}$ ]	$-1.8 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-3.4 \times 10^{-4}$ , $-1.9 \times 10^{-5}$ ]
Male sex	$-5.5 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ , $-9.3 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$-5.2 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-9.9 \times 10^{-2}$ , $-5.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$-5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-9.5 \times 10^{-2}$ , $-5.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$-8.4 \times 10^{-2}$ *	[ $-1.4 \times 10^{-1}$ , $-2.9 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
FM (kg)	$1.3 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-4.6 \times 10^{-4}$ , $3.1 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.7 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-3.1 \times 10^{-4}$ , $3.8 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$3.5 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-1.5 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$2.0 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-1.9 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.3 \times 10^{-3}$ ]
Current/past smoking	$2.2 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-1.9 \times 10^{-2}$ , $6.3 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$2.4 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-1.7 \times 10^{-2}$ , $6.4 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$1.2 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-2.8 \times 10^{-2}$ , $5.2 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$2.7 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-2.2 \times 10^{-2}$ , $7.7 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
PAI	$2.7 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-2.9 \times 10^{-2}$ , $8.3 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$2.8 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-2.8 \times 10^{-2}$ , $8.4 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$1.4 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-4.3 \times 10^{-2}$ , $7.3 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$8.4 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $2.0 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.5 \times 10^{-1}$ ]
TOC intake (mg/d)	$2.1 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$ , $4.0 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$3.2 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $8.8 \times 10^{-4}$ , $5.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$3.3 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-1.7 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.4 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $2.6 \times 10^{-4}$ , $4.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ]
TOC intake <sup>2</sup> (mg/d)	$-5.8 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-2.0 \times 10^{-4}$ , $8.3 \times 10^{-5}$ ]	$-3.7 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-1.8 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-4}$ ]	$-5.4 \times 10^{-6}$	[ $-1.4 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.3 \times 10^{-4}$ ]	$-1.2 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-2.8 \times 10^{-4}$ , $4.9 \times 10^{-5}$ ]
Use of supplements <sup>c</sup>	$1.2 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ , $1.4 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$1.2 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ , $1.4 \times 10^{-1}$ ]			$1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $8.7 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.3 \times 10^{-1}$ ]
Use of lipid-modifying drugs	$1.7 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-6.2 \times 10^{-3}$ , $4.0 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$1.7 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-5.7 \times 10^{-3}$ , $4.1 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$3.8 \times 10^{-2}$ *	[ $1.4 \times 10^{-2}$ , $6.3 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-1.0 \times 10^{-2}$ , $4.1 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
Plasma vitamin C ( $\mu$ mol/L)	$1.4 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $9.7 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.9 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.4 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $8.3 \times 10^{-4}$ , $2.0 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.0 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $1.2 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.3 \times 10^{-3}$ ]
Disease diagnosis <sup>d</sup>	$6.5 \times 10^{-2}$ *	[ $2.6 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$6.5 \times 10^{-2}$ *	[ $2.6 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$2.9 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-8.1 \times 10^{-3}$ , $6.6 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$5.4 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $6.0 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ ]
Serum cholesterol (mmol/L)	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $9.3 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $9.3 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $9.3 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$9.9 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $8.9 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ]
I (male sex : age)			$-2.0 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.2 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (male sex : FM)			$-1.5 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.6 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.4 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (male sex : TOC intake)			$-1.4 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.0 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (age : TOC intake)			$-7.3 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-2.7 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.2 \times 10^{-4}$ ]				
I (smoking : TOC intake)			$-1.7 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.1 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (male sex : plasma vitamin C)			$2.6 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-7.5 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.3 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (age : plasma vitamin C)			$-2.5 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-8.6 \times 10^{-5}$ , $3.7 \times 10^{-5}$ ]				
R <sup>2</sup> , marginal / conditional	0.302 / 0.719		0.302 / 0.718		0.312 / 0.724		0.342 / 0.734	

CE, coefficient estimate; 95% CI, 95% confidence interval; FM, fat mass; PAI, physical activity index; TOC,  $\alpha$ -tocopherol equivalents; I (a : b) denotes the interaction effect for a and b. <sup>a</sup> Results are presented as coefficient estimates and 95% confidence intervals; <sup>b</sup> *P* values after adjusting for multiple testing: \* *p* < 0.05; \*\*\* *p* < 0.001; <sup>c</sup> This parameter comprised the use of vitamin E and/or multivitamin supplements; <sup>d</sup> This variable combined the information on the presence of gall bladder/pancreas/chronic liver/inflammatory bowel disease and dyslipidemia.

**Supplementary Table 3.** Results of linear mixed-effects models for determinants of log plasma  $\alpha$ -tocopherol concentrations after excluding model-specific outliers <sup>a, b</sup>.

	Model 2 ( <i>n</i> = 392, 2743 records)		Model 3 ( <i>n</i> = 392, 2746 records)		Model 4 ( <i>n</i> = 283, 1749 records)		Model 5 ( <i>n</i> = 226, 1986 records)	
	CE	[95% CI]						
Intercept	$3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ , $3.6 \times 10^{+0}$ ]	$3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ , $3.6 \times 10^{+0}$ ]	$3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ , $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ]	$3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $3.5 \times 10^{+0}$ , $3.6 \times 10^{+0}$ ]
Age (years)	$4.4 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$ , $6.0 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$5.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $3.6 \times 10^{-3}$ , $7.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$5.1 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $3.5 \times 10^{-3}$ , $6.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$5.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $3.9 \times 10^{-3}$ , $7.4 \times 10^{-3}$ ]
Age <sup>2</sup> (years)	$-1.4 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-2.9 \times 10^{-4}$ , $4.2 \times 10^{-7}$ ]	$-1.2 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-2.6 \times 10^{-4}$ , $3.1 \times 10^{-5}$ ]	$-1.6 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-3.2 \times 10^{-4}$ , $-1.2 \times 10^{-5}$ ]	$-1.3 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-2.8 \times 10^{-4}$ , $2.1 \times 10^{-5}$ ]
Male sex	$-1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $-1.7 \times 10^{-1}$ , $-6.1 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ **	[ $-1.6 \times 10^{-1}$ , $-5.3 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $-1.6 \times 10^{-1}$ , $-5.8 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-1.5 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $-2.2 \times 10^{-1}$ , $-8.3 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
FM (kg)	$2.9 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-1.6 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.1 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$4.7 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-1.7 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$4.1 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-1.6 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.4 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$2.7 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-2.0 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ]
Current/past smoking	$3.9 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-7.9 \times 10^{-3}$ , $8.7 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$4.1 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-6.4 \times 10^{-3}$ , $8.8 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-1.8 \times 10^{-2}$ , $7.7 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-9.2 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ]
PAI	$1.9 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-3.2 \times 10^{-2}$ , $6.9 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$1.9 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-3.2 \times 10^{-2}$ , $6.9 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$4.5 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.0 \times 10^{-2}$ , $5.9 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$7.6 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $1.8 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.3 \times 10^{-1}$ ]
TOC intake (mg/d)	$7.3 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-1.0 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.1 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-1.1 \times 10^{-3}$ , $3.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$3.6 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-1.8 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.9 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$7.0 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-1.3 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ]
TOC intake <sup>2</sup> (mg/d)	$-2.7 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-1.5 \times 10^{-4}$ , $9.8 \times 10^{-5}$ ]	$3.4 \times 10^{-7}$	[ $-1.3 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.3 \times 10^{-4}$ ]	$3.0 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-9.9 \times 10^{-5}$ , $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$ ]	$-2.6 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-1.8 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.2 \times 10^{-4}$ ]
Use of supplements <sup>c</sup>	$9.6 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $8.0 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$9.6 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $8.0 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ]			$9.3 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $7.5 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ]
Use of lipid-modifying drugs	$-5.6 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $-7.7 \times 10^{-2}$ , $-3.5 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-5.6 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $-7.6 \times 10^{-2}$ , $-3.5 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-4.2 \times 10^{-2}$ **	[ $-6.4 \times 10^{-2}$ , $-1.8 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-6.6 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $-8.9 \times 10^{-2}$ , $-4.3 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
Plasma vitamin C ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ )	$1.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $1.2 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.1 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $9.9 \times 10^{-4}$ , $2.0 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.4 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $9.5 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.9 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.8 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $1.3 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.3 \times 10^{-3}$ ]
Disease diagnosis <sup>d</sup>	$1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $6.7 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.6 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $6.8 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.6 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$8.1 \times 10^{-2}$ **	[ $3.6 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.2 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$8.9 \times 10^{-2}$ *	[ $3.1 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.5 \times 10^{-1}$ ]
I (male sex : age)			$-3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-6.4 \times 10^{-3}$ , $3.7 \times 10^{-4}$ ]				
I (male sex : FM)			$-1.9 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-4.4 \times 10^{-3}$ , $3.9 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (male sex : TOC intake)			$2.9 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-2.9 \times 10^{-3}$ , $3.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (age : TOC intake)			$-1.3 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-3.1 \times 10^{-4}$ , $5.4 \times 10^{-5}$ ]				
I (smoking : TOC intake)			$-1.3 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-4.4 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (male sex : plasma vitamin C)			$7.2 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-2.2 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (age : plasma vitamin C)			$-8.1 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-1.4 \times 10^{-4}$ , $-2.1 \times 10^{-5}$ ]				
R <sup>2</sup> , marginal / conditional	0.148 / 0.784		0.150 / 0.783		0.127 / 0.777		0.179 / 0.798	

CE, coefficient estimate; 95% CI, 95% confidence interval; FM, fat mass; PAI, physical activity index; TOC,  $\alpha$ -tocopherol equivalents; I (a : b) denotes the interaction effect for a and b. <sup>a</sup> Data are presented as coefficient estimates and 95% confidence intervals; <sup>b</sup> P values after adjusting for multiple testing: \*  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\*  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ ; <sup>c</sup> This parameter comprised the use of vitamin E and/or multivitamin supplements; <sup>d</sup> This variable combined the information on reported diagnoses of gall bladder/pancreas/chronic liver/inflammatory bowel disease and dyslipidemia.

**Supplementary Table 4.** Results of linear mixed-effects models for determinants of the log  $\alpha$ -tocopherol/total cholesterol ratio after excluding model-specific outliers <sup>a,b</sup>.

	Model 2 ( <i>n</i> = 393, 2748 records)		Model 3 ( <i>n</i> = 394, 2751 records)		Model 4 ( <i>n</i> = 285, 1760 records)		Model 5 ( <i>n</i> = 226, 1982 records)	
	CE	[95% CI]	CE	95% CI	CE	[95% CI]	CE	[95% CI]
Intercept	$1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ , $1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ ]	$1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ , $1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ ]	$1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ , $1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ ]	$1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ ***	[ $1.8 \times 10^{+0}$ , $1.9 \times 10^{+0}$ ]
Age (years)	$9.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $8.1 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$9.9 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $8.2 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.2 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$9.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $8.3 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$1.1 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $9.5 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.2 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
Age <sup>2</sup> (years)	$-1.7 \times 10^{-4}$ ‡	[ $-3.1 \times 10^{-4}$ , $-4.0 \times 10^{-5}$ ]	$-1.6 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-3.0 \times 10^{-4}$ , $-2.5 \times 10^{-5}$ ]	$-1.7 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-3.1 \times 10^{-4}$ , $-3.4 \times 10^{-5}$ ]	$-1.6 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-3.0 \times 10^{-4}$ , $-2.0 \times 10^{-5}$ ]
Male sex	$-8.0 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.1 \times 10^{-2}$ , $3.5 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-5.4 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-4.9 \times 10^{-2}$ , $3.8 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$1.6 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-4.3 \times 10^{-2}$ , $4.3 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-2.7 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-8.0 \times 10^{-2}$ , $2.6 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
FM (kg)	$1.2 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-4.2 \times 10^{-4}$ , $2.8 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.7 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-1.6 \times 10^{-4}$ , $3.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$6.6 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-1.0 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.4 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$6.1 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-1.3 \times 10^{-3}$ , $2.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ]
Current/past smoking	$3.8 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-3.5 \times 10^{-2}$ , $4.2 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$5.5 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-3.3 \times 10^{-2}$ , $4.4 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-3.8 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-4.3 \times 10^{-2}$ , $3.5 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$1.3 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-3.5 \times 10^{-2}$ , $6.0 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
PAI	$-2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.1 \times 10^{-2}$ , $4.6 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-2.4 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.1 \times 10^{-2}$ , $4.6 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-6.8 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-6.0 \times 10^{-2}$ , $4.6 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$5.2 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-3.6 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ]
TOC intake (mg/d)	$1.2 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.2 \times 10^{-4}$ , $2.9 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$2.1 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $5.3 \times 10^{-5}$ , $4.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$-1.4 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-2.0 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.8 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-1.8 \times 10^{-4}$ , $3.7 \times 10^{-3}$ ]
TOC intake <sup>2</sup> (mg/d)	$4.2 \times 10^{-6}$	[ $-1.2 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.3 \times 10^{-4}$ ]	$1.2 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-1.1 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.4 \times 10^{-4}$ ]	$5.1 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-7.4 \times 10^{-5}$ , $1.7 \times 10^{-4}$ ]	$-3.8 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-1.8 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-4}$ ]
Use of supplements <sup>c</sup>	$1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $9.4 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.2 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$1.1 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $9.5 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.3 \times 10^{-1}$ ]			$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $8.6 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.2 \times 10^{-1}$ ]
Use of lipid-modifying drugs	$7.9 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $5.9 \times 10^{-2}$ , $9.9 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$7.9 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $6.0 \times 10^{-2}$ , $9.9 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$ ***	[ $7.9 \times 10^{-2}$ , $1.2 \times 10^{-1}$ ]	$7.3 \times 10^{-2}$ ***	[ $5.1 \times 10^{-2}$ , $9.5 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
Plasma vitamin C ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ )	$1.1 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $6.4 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.5 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.1 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $5.7 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.3 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $8.6 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.8 \times 10^{-3}$ ]	$1.2 \times 10^{-3}$ ***	[ $6.9 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ]
Disease diagnosis <sup>d</sup>	$2.2 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-1.4 \times 10^{-2}$ , $5.9 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$2.2 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-1.4 \times 10^{-2}$ , $5.8 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$-2.7 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-3.9 \times 10^{-2}$ , $3.4 \times 10^{-2}$ ]	$2.1 \times 10^{-2}$	[ $-2.5 \times 10^{-2}$ , $6.7 \times 10^{-2}$ ]
I (male sex : age)			$-1.1 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-3.9 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.8 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (male sex : FM)			$-1.7 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.3 \times 10^{-3}$ , $1.9 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (male sex : TOC intake)			$1.4 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-3.0 \times 10^{-3}$ , $3.3 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (age : TOC intake)			$7.2 \times 10^{-6}$	[ $-1.7 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.8 \times 10^{-4}$ ]				
I (smoking : TOC intake)			$-2.4 \times 10^{-3}$	[ $-5.3 \times 10^{-3}$ , $5.5 \times 10^{-4}$ ]				
I (male sex : plasma vitamin C)			$1.7 \times 10^{-4}$	[ $-7.2 \times 10^{-4}$ , $1.1 \times 10^{-3}$ ]				
I (age : plasma vitamin C)			$-4.6 \times 10^{-5}$	[ $-1.0 \times 10^{-4}$ , $9.0 \times 10^{-6}$ ]				
R <sup>2</sup> , marginal / conditional	0.159 / 0.709		0.160 / 0.709		0.165 / 0.704		0.190 / 0.715	

CE, coefficient estimate; 95% CI, 95% confidence interval; FM, fat mass; PAI, physical activity index; TOC,  $\alpha$ -tocopherol equivalents; I (a : b) denotes the interaction effect for a and b. <sup>a</sup> Results are presented as coefficient estimates and 95% confidence intervals; <sup>b</sup> *P* values after adjusting for multiple testing: <sup>‡</sup> *p* < 0.10; \*\*\* *p* < 0.001; <sup>c</sup> This parameter comprised the use of vitamin E and/or multivitamin supplements; <sup>d</sup> This variable combined the information on the presence of gall bladder/pancreas/chronic liver/inflammatory bowel disease and dyslipidemia.