

# THE LANCET

## Healthy Longevity

### Supplementary appendix

This appendix formed part of the original submission and has been peer reviewed.  
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Supplement to: Bramante CT, Ingraham NE, Murray TA, et al. Metformin and risk of mortality in patients hospitalised with COVID-19: a retrospective cohort analysis. *Lancet Healthy Longev* 2020; published online Dec 3. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2666-7568\(20\)30033-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2666-7568(20)30033-7).

## Supplementary Tables:

**eTable 0.** Association between home metformin use and mortality in unadjusted and adjusted analyses in patients with type 2 diabetes or obesity, hospitalized for Covid-19 (confirmed or presumed).<sup>a</sup>

<b>Primary analyses, overall population</b>	<b>Odds Ratio (95% CI)</b>
Unadjusted	0.802 (0.701, 0.917)
Logistic regression with full covariate list (Table 1)	0.911 (0.784, 1.060)
Logistic regression with Lasso selection variables <sup>b</sup>	0.904 (0.782, 1.045)
Mixed Effects Model <sup>b</sup>	0.898 (0.777, 1.038)
<b>Subgroup analysis in females</b>	
Logistic regression <sup>b</sup>	0.792 (0.640, 0.979)
With disease-medication interaction terms <sup>d</sup>	0.788 (0.637, 0.975)
Mixed Effects Model <sup>b</sup>	0.780 (0.631, 0.965)
With disease-medication interaction terms <sup>d</sup>	0.780 (0.631, 0.965)

<sup>a</sup>In patients with >6 months continuous coverage in 2019 and 90 days of metformin use.

<sup>b</sup>Adjusted for variables selected by Lasso: age, sex (in overall, not in subgroups by sex), comorbidities (hypertension, tobacco use, venous thromboembolism, neutropenia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic kidney disease, alcohol abuse, HIV, asthma, inflammatory bowel disease, dementia, charlson comorbidity index, and the diabetes complications and severity index); and medications (ursodiol, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEi), angiotensin receptor blockers (ARB), steroids, ivermectin, beta2agonists, mast cell stabilizers, allopurinol, azathioprine, mycophenolate mofetil), and state. <sup>c</sup>Matched on the same variables as the Logistic, Mixed effects, and Cox models.

<sup>d</sup>Hypertension with ACEi, ARB use; Asthma with beta2-agonist use

**eTable 1.** Associations between mortality and demographic and clinical characteristics by logistic regression model.<sup>a</sup>

<b>Demographic characteristics</b>	<b>Odds Ratio (95% CI)</b>
Age under 56	Reference group
Age 56-65 years	1.241 (0.829, 1.867)
Age 66-75 years	1.980 (1.370, 2.866)
Age 76-85 years	2.567 (1.775, 3.711)
Age > 85 years	3.042 (2.070, 4.470)
Male sex (female as reference group)	1.428 (1.210, 1.686)
<b>Pre-existing Conditions</b>	
Charlson comorbidity index	1.023 (0.990, 1.057)
DCSI	0.981 (0.938, 1.0249)
Venous Thromboembolism	0.647 (0.435, 0.964)
Essential HTN (no HTN, no ACE/ARB is ref)	1.108 (0.905, 1.356)
With ACEi	1.004 (0.807, 1.248)
With ARB	1.293 (1.040, 1.607)
With ACEi and ARB	0.722 (0.386, 1.370)
ACEi use, with no HTN	0.878 (0.671, 1.150)
ARB use, with no HTN	1.145 (0.873, 1.502)
Asthma (no asthma, no beta2agonist is ref)	1.242 (0.565, 2.730)
With beta2agonist	0.582 (0.373, 0.908)
Beta2agonist, no asthma	1.117 (0.942, 1.325)
Asthma (dichotomous variable)	0.620 (0.421, 0.912)
Neutropenia	2.061 (0.643, 6.605)
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	1.136 (0.926, 1.393)
Chronic kidney disease	1.143 (0.935, 1.408)
Alcohol abuse	0.632 (0.292, 1.371)
Human immunodeficiency virus	1.511 (0.618, 3.707)
Inflammatory bowel disease	0.318 (0.094, 1.325)
Dementia	1.195 (0.996, 1.434)
<b>Home Medications</b>	
Bile acid	2.032 (0.543, 7.614)
Steroids	1.120 (0.952, 1.318)
Ivermectin	1.415 (0.697, 2.870)
Mast cell stabilizer	0.661 (0.344, 1.272)
Allopurinol	1.513 (1.224, 1.870)
Azathioprine & Mycophenolate mofetil	3.307 (1.764, 6.201)

<sup>a</sup>Adjusted for variables in the table and state in which the hospitalization occurred

Abbreviations: DCSI=diabetes complications severity index; HTN=hypertension; ACEi = Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors; ARB=angiotensin 2 receptor blocker

**eTable 2.** Associations between mortality and demographic and clinical characteristics by mixed-effects analysis.<sup>a</sup>

<b>Demographic characteristics</b>	<b>Odds Ratio (95% CI)</b>
Age under 56	Reference group
Age 56-65 years	1.276 (0.857, 1.900)
Age 66-75 years	2.050 (1.426, 2.947)
Age 76-85 years	2.667 (1.856, 3.832)
Age > 85 years	3.190 (2.183, 4.661)
Male sex (female as reference group)	1.428 (1.210, 1.686)
<b>Pre-existing Conditions</b>	
Charlson comorbidity index	1.021 (0.988, 1.055)
DCSI	0.979 (0.937, 1.0230)
Venous Thromboembolism	0.656 (0.441, 0.975)
Essential HTN (no HTN, no ACE/ARB is ref)	1.113 (0.910, 1.360)
With ACEi	0.995 (0.802, 1.236)
With ARB	1.307 (1.054, 1.622)
With ACEi and ARB	0.718 (0.379, 1.360)
ACEi use, with no HTN	0.864 (0.661, 1.129)
ARB use, with no HTN	1.135 (0.867, 1.486)
Asthma (no asthma, no beta2agonist is ref)	1.250 (0.571, 2.737)
With Beta2agonist	0.586 (0.377, 0.913)
Beta2agonist, no asthma	1.116 (0.942, 1.321)
Asthma (dichotomous variable)	0.624 (0.424, 0.916)
Neutropenia	2.121 (0.665, 6.773)
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	1.116 (0.912, 1.367)
Chronic kidney disease	1.136 (0.930, 1.3870)
Alcohol abuse	0.638 (0.295, 1.380)
Human immunodeficiency virus	1.499 (0.621, 3.622)
Inflammatory bowel disease	0.315 (0.093, 1.322)
Dementia	1.198 (0.999, 1.436)
<b>Home Medications</b>	
Bile acid	2.039 (0.546, 7.613)
Steroids	1.122 (0.955, 1.320)
Ivermectin	1.448 (0.720, 2.13)
Mast cell stabilizer	0.685 (0.357, 1.313)
Allopurinol	1.516 (1.229, 1.872)
Azathioprine & Mycophenolate mofetil	3.267 (1.753, 6.087)

<sup>a</sup>Adjusted for variables in the table and state in which the hospitalization occurred

Abbreviations: DCSI=diabetes complications severity index; HTN=hypertension;

ACEi= Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors; ARB=angiotensin 2 receptor blocker

**eTable 3.** Associations between mortality and demographic and clinical characteristics by Cox proportional-hazards, shared frailty model.<sup>a</sup>

<b>Demographic characteristics</b>	<b>Hazard Ratio (95% CI)</b>
Age < 56 years	Reference group
Age 56-65 years	1.259 (0.868, 1.827)
Age 66-75 years	1.895 (1.351, 2.659)
Age 76-85 years	2.426 (1.731, 3.399)
Age > 85 years	2.850 (2.009, 4.043)
Male sex (female as reference group)	1.464 (1.301, 1.648)
<b>Pre-existing Conditions</b>	
Charlson comorbidity index	1.022 (0.993, 1.051)
DCSI	0.937 (0.937, 1.011)
Venous Thromboembolism	0.699 (0.490, 0.996)
Essential HTN (no HTN is reference group)	1.087 (0.913, 1.293)
With ACEi	0.984 (0.814, 1.190)
With ARB	1.218 (1.011, 1.466)
With ACEi and ARB	0.769 (0.429, 1.379)
ACEi use, with no HTN	0.847 (0.667, 1.076)
ARB use, with no HTN	1.110 (0.877, 1.404)
Asthma (no asthma, no beta2agonist is ref)	1.146 (0.591, 2.22)
Asthma with beta2agonist	0.612 (0.408, 0.918)
Beta2agonist, no asthma	1.085 (0.937, 1.257)
Asthma, dichotomous variable	0.652 (0.461, 0.924)
Tobacco use	1.11e <sup>13</sup> (0, 0)
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	1.119 (0.938, 1.336)
Chronic kidney disease	1.113 (0.938, 1.320)
Alcohol abuse	0.724 (0.360, 1.457)
Human immunodeficiency virus	1.173 (0.571, 2.417)
Inflammatory bowel disease	0.335 (0.108, 1.057)
Dementia	1.172 (1.005, 1.368)
<b>Home Medications</b>	
Bile acid	1.921 (0.708, 5.211)
Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors	0.869 (0.757, 0.997)
Angiotensin 2 receptor blockers	1.091 (0.952, 1.249)
Steroids	1.094 (0.951, 1.259)
Ivermectin	1.444 (0.809, 2.576)
Beta 2 agonist	1.066 (0.921, 1.233)
Mast cell stabilizer	0.674 (0.370, 1.227)
Allopurinol	1.384 (1.161, 1.649)
Azathioprine & Mycophenolate mofetil	2.485 (1.542, 4.004)

<sup>a</sup>Adjusted for the variables in this table and state in which the hospitalization occurred.

Abbreviations: DCSI=diabetes complications severity index. HTN=hypertension; ACEi=Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors; ARB=angiotensin 2 receptor blocker

**eTable 4.** Association between persons with home TNF $\alpha$  use (n=38) and mortality in persons hospitalized for Covid-19 (confirmed or presumed).<sup>a</sup>

Cox proportional-hazards, HR, stratified model <sup>b</sup>	0.361 (0.0894, 1.414)
Cox proportional-hazards, HR, shared frailty model <sup>b</sup>	0.350 (0.087, 1.415)
Propensity Matched Model, <sup>c</sup> caliper 0.2	0.483 (0.082, 2.844)
Log-Rank test, p-value	0.31
Propensity Matched Model <sup>d</sup> , caliper 0.2	0.193 (0.038, 0.983)
Log-Rank test, p-value	0.03

<sup>a</sup>In patients with at least 6 months of continuous coverage in 2019 and 90 days of metformin use.

<sup>b</sup>Adjusted for variables selected by Lasso: age, sex (in overall, not in subgroups by sex), comorbidities (hypertension, tobacco use, venous thromboembolism, neutropenia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic kidney disease, alcohol abuse, HIV, asthma, inflammatory bowel disease, dementia, charlson comorbidity index, and the diabetes complications and severity index); and medications (ursodiol, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEi), angiotensin receptor blockers (ARB), steroids, ivermectin, beta2agonists, mast cell stabilizers, allopurinol, azathioprine, mycophenolate mofetil), and state. <sup>c</sup>Matched on the same variables as the Logistic, Mixed effects, and Cox models.

<sup>d</sup>Matched on only for age, sex, charlson co-morbidity index, systemic lupus erythematosus, rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease.

**eTable 5.** E-values for the associations between metformin use and mortality in persons hospitalized with Covid-19<sup>a</sup>

<b>Overall population</b>	<b>OR (95% CI)</b>	<b>E value</b>	<b>E value, CI</b>
Unadjusted	0.802 (0.701, 0.917)	1.478	1.259
Logistic regression with full covariate list (Table 1)	0.911 (0.784, 1.060)	1.271	1
Logistic regression with Lasso selection variables <sup>b</sup>	0.904 (0.782, 1.045)	1.285	1
Mixed Effects Model <sup>b</sup>	0.898 (0.777, 1.038)	1.297	1
Cox proportional-hazards, HR, stratified model <sup>b</sup>	0.887 (0.782, 1.008)	1.318	1
Cox proportional-hazards, HR, shared frailty model <sup>b</sup>	0.884 (0.778, 1.003)	1.323	1
Propensity Matched Model, <sup>c</sup> exact matching	0.912 (0.777, 1.071)	1.269	1
Propensity Matched Model, caliper 0.2 <sup>c</sup>	0.898 (0.768, 1.051)	1.297	1
<b>Subanalyses in females</b>			
Logistic regression <sup>b</sup>	0.792 (0.640, 0.979)	1.496	1.115
Mixed Effects Model <sup>b</sup>	0.780 (0.631, 0.965)	1.519	1.153
Cox proportional-hazards, HR, shared frailty model <sup>b</sup>	0.785 (0.650, 0.951)	1.510	1.187
Propensity Matched Model, <sup>c</sup> caliper 0.2	0.759 (0.601, 0.960)	1.560	1.166
<b>Sensitivity analyses in females with Covid-19 confirmed by PCR</b>			
Cox proportional-hazards, HR, shared frailty model <sup>b</sup>	0.808 (0.651, 1.003)	1.466	1
Cox proportional-hazards, HR, shared frailty model <sup>c</sup>	0.790 (0.637, 0.978)	1.500	1.118
Propensity Matched Model, <sup>c</sup>	0.744 (0.565, 0.980)	1.589	1.111
<b>Association between home TNF<math>\alpha</math> use and mortality, n=38 persons hospitalized with Covid-19</b>			
Cox proportional-hazards, HR, stratified model <sup>b</sup>	0.361 (0.0894, 1.414)	2.716	1
Cox proportional-hazards, HR, shared frailty model <sup>b</sup>	0.350 (0.087, 1.415)	2.771	1
Propensity Matched Model, <sup>c</sup> caliper 0.2	0.483 (0.082, 2.844)	2.234	1
Propensity Matched Model, <sup>f</sup> caliper 0.2	0.193 (0.038, 0.983)	3.981	1.102

<sup>a</sup>In patients with >6 months continuous coverage in 2019 and 90 days of metformin use.

<sup>b</sup>Adjusted for variables selected by Lasso: age, sex (in overall, not in subgroups by sex), comorbidities (hypertension, tobacco use, venous thromboembolism, neutropenia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic kidney disease, alcohol abuse, HIV, asthma, inflammatory bowel disease, dementia, charlson comorbidity index, and the diabetes complications and severity index); and medications (ursodiol, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEi), angiotensin receptor blockers (ARB), steroids, ivermectin, beta2agonists, mast cell stabilizers, allopurinol, azathioprine, mycophenolate mofetil), and state. <sup>c</sup> Matched on the same variables as the Logistic, Mixed effects, and Cox models.

<sup>e</sup>Matched on the same variables as the Logistic, Mixed effects, and Cox models.

<sup>e</sup>Matched on the same variables as the Logistic, Mixed effects, and Cox models.

<sup>f</sup>Matched on only for age, sex, charlson co-morbidity index, systemic lupus erythematosus, rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease.

## Supplemental Materials 1.

### Prescription Medications Assessed:

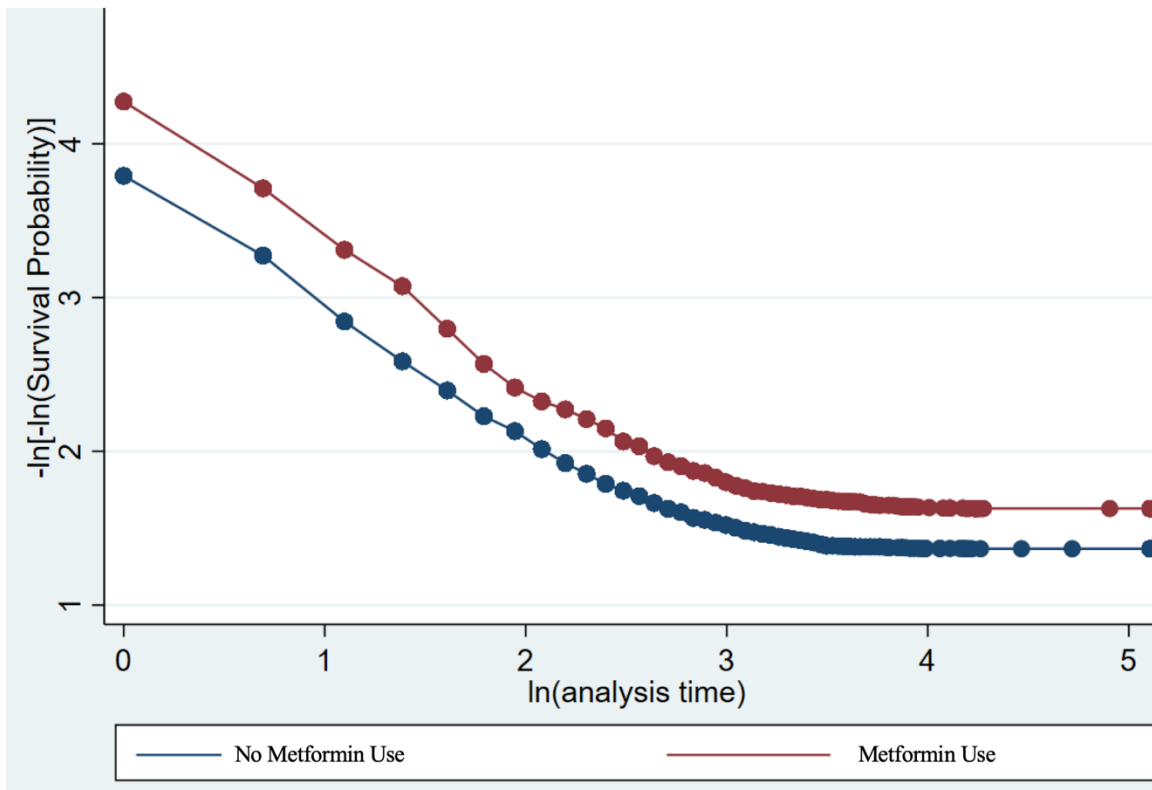
ACE inhibitors; angiotensin receptor blockers; statin; antiplatelet agents (defined as aspirin, clopidogrel, ticagrelor, ticlopidine, and eptifibatide); anticoagulant agents (defined as warfarin, heparin, rivaroxaban, dabigatran, apixaban, enoxaparin, fondaparinux); anti-tumor necrosis factor medications (defined as infliximab, adalimumab, certolizumab, golimumab, etanercept); tenofovir alone; highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART); systemic steroids (defined as prednisone, dexamethasone, or prednisolone); hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine; JAK inhibitors (tofacitinib was the only JAK inhibitor identified with a claim in the database); calcineurin inhibitors (defined as cyclosporine or tacrolimus); mTOR inhibitors (defined as sirolimus or everolimus); insulin, GLP-1 receptor agonists; beta blockers; ivermectin; beta 2 agonists; allopurinol; purine synthesis inhibitors (defined as azathioprine or mycophenolate); anti-viral herpes medications (acyclovir, ganciclovir, and valganciclovir); montelukast sodium; NSAIDs (defined as ibuprofen, naproxen, indomethacin, or celecoxib); diuretics (defined as by furosemide, bumetanide, torsemide, metolazone, or ethacrynic acid); azithromycin; ursodiol; tumor-necrosis alpha inhibitors.

### Comorbidities Assessed:

Type 2 Diabetes (ICD10, e11.0-9); Type 1 Diabetes (ICD10, e10.0-9); Essential Hypertension (ICD10, i10); Tobacco Use (ICD10, z71.6, z72.0); Coronary Artery Disease (ICD10, i25.0-9); Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction (ICD10, i50.30-33)/ Systolic Heart Failure (ICD10, i50.20-23 and i50.40-43); Liver Disease (ICD10, k70.0-k70.9, k71.0-k71.9, k72.0-k72.91, k73.0-k73.9, k74.0-k74.69, k75.0-k75.9, k76.0-k76.9, k77); Class 2 Obesity defined as BMI  $\geq$  35 (ICD10, z68.35-39, z68.40-45, e66.01, e66.2, e66.8, e66.9); Prior venous thromboembolism (ICD10, i27.82, z86.711, z86.718, i82.A, i82.B, i82.C, i82.0-9); Neutropenia (ICD10, d70.0-9); Cancer (ICD10, C00-96); Coagulation Disorder (ICD10, d68.0-9); Heart Valve (ICD10, z95.2, z95.5, z95.9); COPD (ICD10, j41.0, j41.1, j41.8, j43.0-9, j44.0, j44.1, j44.9); Interstitial Lung Disease (ICD10, j84.0-9); Chronic Kidney Disease Stage 3 or 4 (ICD10, n18.3, n18.4); End Stage Renal Disease (ICD10, n18.5, n18.6); Atrial Fibrillation or Flutter (ICD10, i48.0-92); CVA/TIA (ICD10, g45.0-9, g46.0-8, g97.31-32, i60.0-9, i61.0-9, i62.0-9, i63.0-9, i97.81-82); ETOH Abuse (ICD10, f10.0-99, k70.0-9, g62.1, i42.6, k29.2, o35.4, o99.31); HIV (ICD10, b20, b97.35, r75, z21); Asthma (ICD10, j45.2-998); Prior General Flu (ICD10, j10.0-89, j11.0-89); Prior Avian or Swine Flu (ICD10, j09.X1-X9); Inflammatory bowel disease (ICD10, k50.0-919, k51.0-919); Lupus or Rheumatoid Arthritis (ICD10, m06.0-9, m06.0-9); Dementia (ICD10, f03.90, f03.91, f01.5, g30.0-9, g31.0-9).

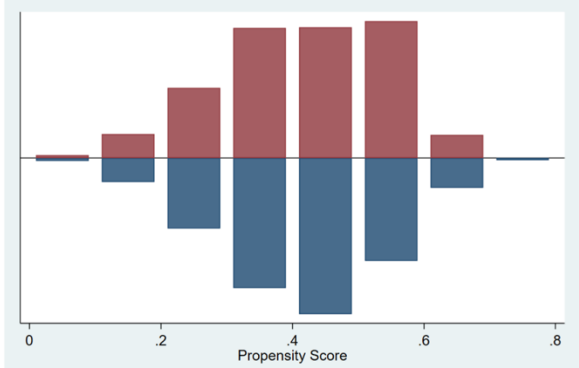


**eFigure 1.** Log log plot assessing the proportionality assumption

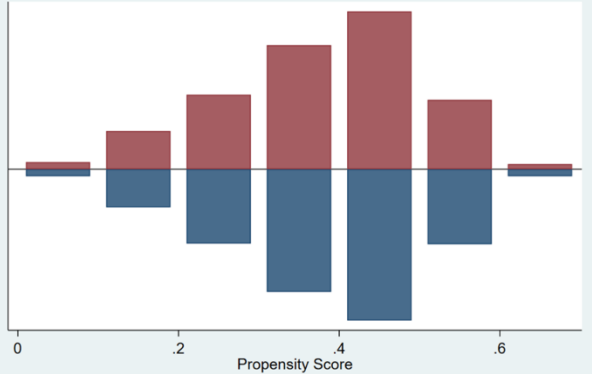


**eFigure 2. Balance of matching with caliper 0.2**

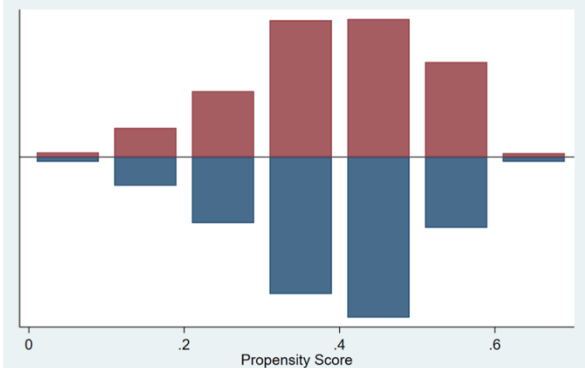
Overall sample of persons with type 2 diabetes and obesity:



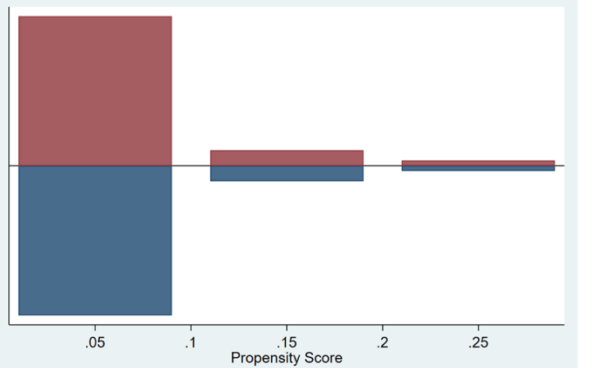
Persons with type 2 diabetes or obesity, males only:



Persons with type 2 diabetes or obesity, females only:



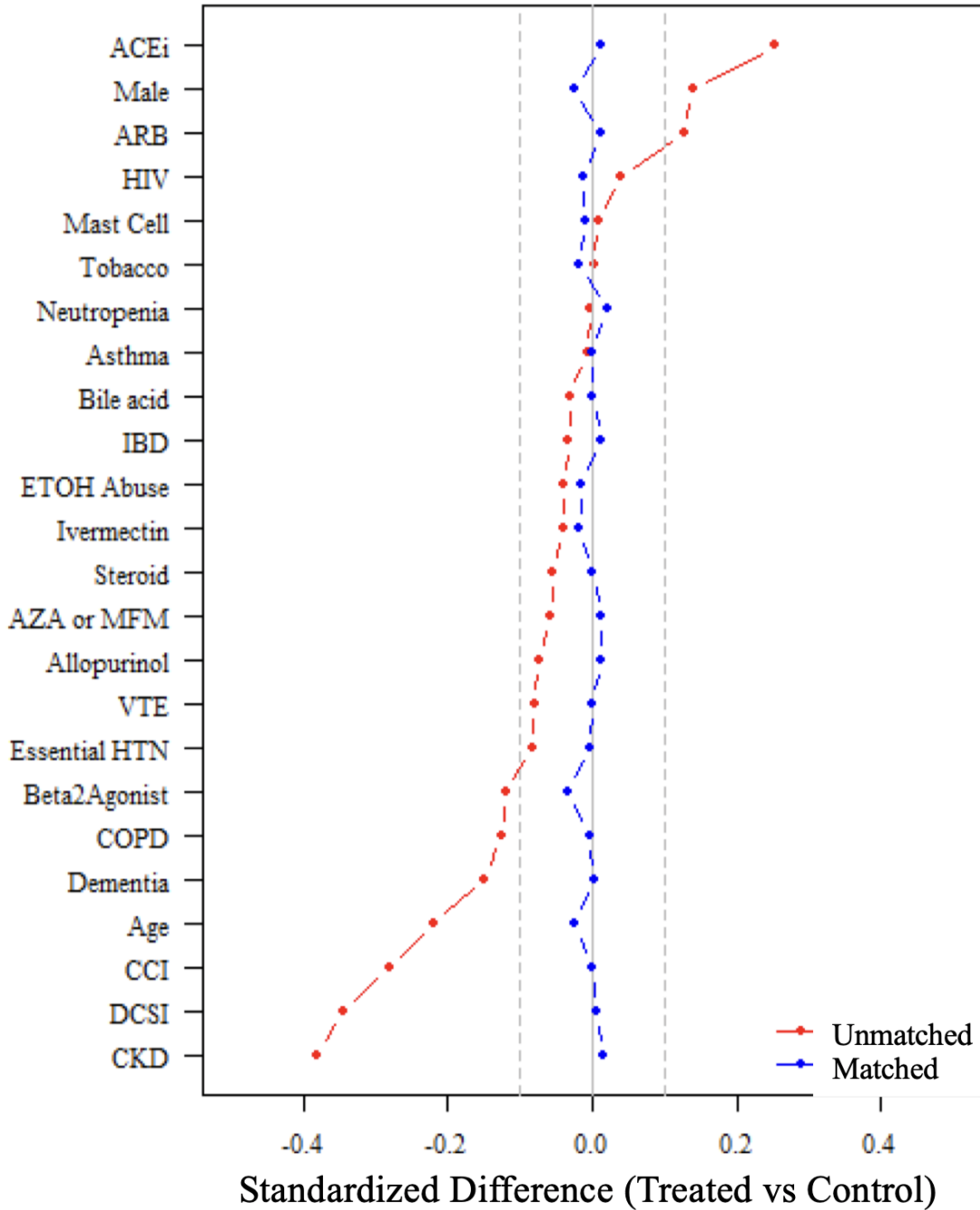
Balance of matching in persons with TNF-alpha:



No Metformin use

Metformin use

**eFigure 3. Propensity matched covariate balance**



**Abbreviations:** ACEi=angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor; ARB=angiotensin 2 receptor blocker; IBD=inflammatory bowel disease; ETOH=alcohol; AZA=azathioprine; MFM=mycophenolate mofetil; VTE=venous thromboembolism; HTN=hypertension; COPD=chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; CCI=charlson comorbidity index; DCSI=diabetes complications and severity index; CKD=chronic kidney disease.

**eFigure 4.** Kaplan Meier curve by TNF-alpha inhibitor use, with propensity matching in persons hospitalized for Covid-19.

