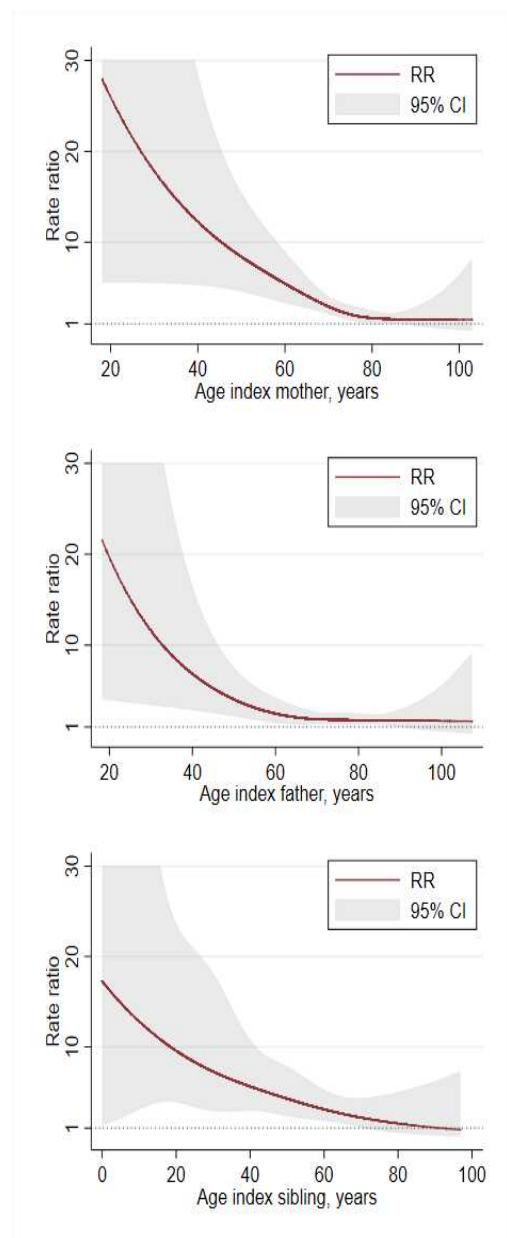


First-degree relatives to an atrioventricular block (AVB) patient carry an increased risk of AVB with the risk being strongly inversely associated with the age of the index case at pacemaker implantation. This indicates a genetic component in the development of AVB in families with an early onset disease.



Adjusted rate ratio of atrioventricular block for first-degree relatives as function of age of index relative. RR, rate ratio CI, confidence interval.