Supplementary Material

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Geographical catchment area of study recruitment in London and Maastricht

Patients with acute myocarditis were recruited between 17th June 2016 – 18th June 2018 from regional and tertiary medical centres across 9 London boroughs in North West London. The total population of this region was recorded as 2.3 million people in all age groups by the Office of National Statistics in 2018. Patients with acute myocarditis were recruited from 2 Dutch provinces in the Netherlands over a similar period with a regional population of 3.6 million people according to national statistics.

Supplementary Figure 1. Maps of London (UK) and Maastricht (Netherlands) showing the study recruitment catchment areas (highlighted in yellow) with a population of 2.3 million in North West London and 3.6 million in 2 Dutch provinces

Burden of myocarditis admissions across North West London in 2017 and 2018

The numbers of acute myocarditis admissions across the London boroughs were extracted from the Global Burden of Disease 2019 subnational dataset in order to assess; (i) regional differences in disease prevalence, and (ii) temporal differences between the two main years of study recruitment.

Supplementary Figure 2. Heat map showing number of admissions due to acute myocarditis divided into four equal groups across all boroughs in London between ages 15-69 years in the 2017 and 2018 calendar years based on the Global Burden of Disease 2019 dataset. * Data on the City was not available due to the small resident population (~8000 people).

Based on these analyses, admissions due to myocarditis were greatest in the North West of London and there was no significant change in the number or the regional distribution of cases across the two years of study recruitment. This regional difference was not attributed to population density and may relate to other confounding factors.

Supplementary Figure 3. Heat map showing population density divided into four equal groups across all boroughs in London 9 years in the 2018 calendar years based on the Office of National Statistics (ONS) Data.

Further exploration of the age distribution of cases across all 33 boroughs demonstrated a peak incidence between 30-34 years, which also remained stable in both years of recruitment. This matched what was observed within our recruited myocarditis cohort, again suggesting it was representative of the cases seen across London. However, data on sex distribution was

not available from GBD data and hence further exploration using NHS Digital hospital episode statistics admitted patient care data.

Supplementary Figure 4. Bar chart to show age distribution of patients with acute myocarditis in 2017 and 2018 across all 33 boroughs of London from GBD 2019

CMR Protocol

T2-weighted sequences with short-tau inversion recovery (T2-STIR) were acquired to evaluate the presence of myocardial oedema. Gadolinium contrast agent (0.1mmol/kg) of either Magnevist or Gadovist (Bayer) was used with inversion-recovery gradient echo sequences to evaluate the presence of late gadolinium enhancement. For both sequences, images were repeated in two separate phase-encoding directions in multiple orthogonal views to exclude artefacts. Left ventricular volumes, ejection fraction, and mass were measured using dedicated software (CMRtools) and indexed to body surface area. Blood pool thresholding was used to delineate and exclude the papillary muscles from ventricular volumes. CMR was deemed positive for myocarditis when myocardial oedema and midwall/subepicardial LGE were both present. The presence of early gadolinium enhancement provided supporting information but the ratio with skeletal muscle was not routinely assessed. Healthy volunteers did not receive gadolinium contrast.

DNA extraction and Targeted sequencing in London

DNA extraction was performed from whole blood (single 0.5mL cryovial) using an automated platform (EZ1 Advanced XL, Qiagen). DNA quantity and quality was assessed using nanodrop (Thermo Scientific). For library preparation, specific hybridisation capture probes were used to target and enrich the selected genes implicated in cardiac conditions using the TruSight Cardio kit (Illumina). This included 169 genes associated with inherited cardiac conditions. The biotin/streptavidin pull down method was used, where rapid capture oligos specifically bound to DNA of the target genes were captured with streptavidin coated magnetic beads and then amplified with 12 cycles of PCR with indexing primers. Following elution from the magnetic beads, the targeted DNA sequencing library was then amplified ('solid-phase bridge amplification') again for 16hours on the Illumina flow cell to generate clusters of primed DNA. Sequencing was performed on the Illumina NextSeq platform generating 100-150bp reads. Healthy volunteer samples were prepared and sequenced using the same approach.

Bioinformatics and Quality Control

Variants were annotated and filtered using a well-validated bioinformatics pipeline. In brief, NGS reads underwent quality control per sample before being aligned against a reference human genome (hg19) using the Burrows-Wheeler Aligner algorithm (BWA-0.7.17). Aligned reads were pre-processed to identify any duplicates and recalibrate quality scores using the genome analysis toolkit (GATK version 4.1.9.0). The GATK HaplotypeCaller was used for variant calling, followed by joint-genotyping and variant filtering using GATK best practices. The Ensembl Variant Effects Predictor (VEP version 103) was used for annotation of genomic consequence. The annotated multi-sample VCF was taken forward for quality control and burden testing analysis. The frequencies of rare variants were evaluated in cases against healthy controls using minor allele frequency $<$ 1.0e⁻⁴ and population data in gnomAD with stringent filtering of population allele frequencies (using Popmax filtering AF (95% confidence)).

Supplementary Table 1. DCM and ACM genes included in the pre-specified in the primary analysis. Variant classes are also listed.

The genes assessed in this study are those with a demonstrated excess of rare variation in DCM and ACM clinical cohorts over reference databases with definitive or strong evidence of disease association for the variant classes listed above.

*Titin truncating variants (TTN-tv) were only included if identified in constitutively expressed exons with percentage spliced in (PSI) >0.9.

Evaluation of variant quality by Ti/Tv ratio

The mean Ti/Tv ratios for the myocarditis and healthy volunteer's cohorts were 2.85 and 2.81, respectively (p=not significant). These fall within the expected ranges using GATK.

Supplementary Figure 6. Bee swarm plot showing transition-to-transversion ratio of myocarditis cases (mean 2.85) and healthy controls (mean 2.81). [HC = Haplotype Caller]

Evaluation of depth of sequencing coverage

All samples in the myocarditis cohort were covered at read depth $\geq 30x$ and 96.5% were covered at ≥50x indicating the accuracy of genome alignment algorithms. The median coverage was approximately 700x in both cohorts on our platform.

Supplementary Table 2. Summary of median coverage depth in myocarditis cases vs HVols.

		Bases $> = 10x$	Bases 20x	Bases $>=30x$	Bases $>=50x$	
Myocarditis	Median	99.98	99.94	99.88	99.69	
	1st quartile	99.94	99.88	99.78	99.48	
	3rd quartile	99.99	99.96	99.93	99.86	
H vols	Median	99.97	99.93	99.89	99.74	
	1st quartile	99.95	99.89	99.80	99.48	
	3rd quartile	99.99	99.96	99.93	99.84	

Supplementary Figure 7. Bee swarm plot showing all individual healthy control (cohort 2) and myocarditis (cohort 1) samples with read depth $>= 20x$ (left) and mean coverage (right).

Genetic ethnicity of myocarditis cases and healthy volunteers

In addition to self-reported ethnicity, we calculated the genetic ethnicity of myocarditis cases and healthy volunteers using principal component analysis (PCA) of sequencing data and compared this with an open-access reference dataset, HapMap3.

Sensitivity analysis confirmed that ethnicity did not influence the key findings, as the genetic variants assigned as likely pathogenic or pathogenic in the London cohort were all reported in Caucasian individuals with the exception of a single Afro-Caribbean patient with a truncating variant in *TTN*.

Supplementary Figure 8. Principal component analyses (PCA) on the Hardy-Weinbergnormalized genotype call matrix of all European-ancestry myocarditis cases (cohort 1) and healthy volunteers (cohort 2) compared with Europeans in HapMap confirming good agreement between self-reported ethnicity and HapMap (Panels A-D represent the relationships between the top 5 principal components).

Myocarditis Cohort in Maastricht – Genetic Sequencing Method

The pre-specified DCM-associated genes were analyzed using NGS, either with whole exome sequencing (WES - SureSelectXT Human All Exon V4+UTRs target capture coupled with Illumina Hiseq2000 sequencing), or with a panel of 47 genes captured using single molecule Molecular Inversion Probe (smMIP) enrichment followed by multiplexed analysis on an Illuimna NextSeq 500 System $48,49$. In both cases the same 47 DCM-associated genes were initially interrogated. All variants identified were validated with Sanger sequencing. Variants were classified by standard terminology in 5 different classes: pathogenic, likely pathogenic, variant of clinical unknown significance (VUS), likely benign or benign. Classification of variants was based on the score of in silico prediction software scores (SIFT, MutationTaster, PolyPhen-2, PhyloP, Align-GVGD), the frequency in reference population databases (ExAC, gnomAD, 1000 genomes, ESP projects) and previously published variations in NCBI's ClinVar and HGMD. Both pathogenic and likely pathogenic mutations were classified as pathogenic variants. All others were considered as non-pathogenic based on the current knowledge. Titin variants were only considered pathogenic in case of truncating variants in the late I-band or A-band region with percentage spliced in $(PSI) > 99\%$.⁵⁰

Detailed Cohort Demographics

Supplementary Table 3. Baseline demographics of all acute myocarditis patients in cohort 1 (London) at the time of study recruitment

Detailed Genetic Findings

Supplementary Figure 9. Excess burden of rare variants in London myocarditis cases (cohort 1) vs healthy controls (cohort 2) in the key ACM and DCM genes. In aggregate, truncating variants in ACM genes were significantly enriched in myocarditis cases [truncating variants present in 3% cases vs 0% controls, ∆+3%, odds ratio 8.2 (confidence interval 2.4-28.3), Pfisher< 0.001]. Of these, *DSP* truncating variants were the most significant (OR 27.8; 95% CI 1.4-557.6; Pfisher=0.006; indicated as ** below). Truncating variants in DCM genes were not significantly enriched in myocarditis cases.

Supplementary Table 4. Odds ratios and Fisher's Exact test results testing for significance of the excess of rare truncating variation in myocarditis cases (cohort 1) versus controls in ACM genes (Fisher's Exact test 2-sided level of significance = 0.05, with Bonferroni correction for 5 tests = 0.01). For cells with zero values, 0.5 was added to all cells before calculating the odds ratio (highlighted in green).

	Variant	Cases	Cases -	Controls	Controls	Case	Control	Odds	CI	CI	Fishers
Gene	Class	+ve	ve	+ve	$-ve$	freq	freq	ratio	lower	upper	exact
DSC ₂	Truncating	0	230		1051	0.000	0.002	1.1	0.1	25.4	1.000
DSG ₂	Truncating	1	229		1052	0.004	0.001	4.6	0.3	73.7	0.327
DSP	Truncating	3	227	0	1053	0.013	0.000	27.8	1.4	557.6	0.006
JUP	Truncating	1	229	0	1053	0.004	0.000	9.2	0.3	275.0	0.179
PKP ₂	Truncating	2	228		1052	0.009	0.001	9.2	0.8	102.2	0.085
All	Truncating		223	4	1049	0.031	0.004	8.2	2.4	28.4	0.001
All (except DSP)	Truncating	4	226	4	1049	0.018	0.004	4.6	1.2	18.7	0.039

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Supplementary Table 5. Odds ratios and Fisher's Exact test results testing for significance of the excess of rare truncating variation in myocarditis cases (cohort 1) versus controls in DCM genes (Fisher's Exact test 2-sided level of significance = 0.05, with Bonferroni correction for 11 tests = 0.005). For cells with zero values, 0.5 was added to all cells before calculating the odds ratio (highlighted in green).

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Supplementary Table 6. Odds ratios and Fisher's Exact test results testing for significance of the excess of rare variation in myocarditis cases (cohort 1) versus gnomAD controls in ACM genes (Fisher's Exact test 2-sided level of significance = 0.05, with Bonferroni correction for 5 tests $= 0.01$). For cells with zero values, 0.5 was added to all cells before calculating the odds ratio (highlighted in green).

Supplementary Figure 10. All protein-altering variants in the London cohort according to prospective or retrospective recruitment. In aggregate, the prospective case frequency of DCM-tv was 0.008 and ACM-tv was 0.025, versus retrospective case frequencies of 0.026 and 0.035, respectively (p=ns).

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Supplementary Table 7. All rare variants and protein consequences identified in the London cohort of myocarditis cohort (n=230)

 $1,2,3$ Three cases were identified with two rare protein-altering variants as indicated above.

Supplementary Table 8. All rare variants and protein consequences identified in the Maastricht cohort of myocarditis patients (n=106).

¹⁻⁸ Eight cases identified with two rare variants; * Protein consequence of *TNNC1* splice variant predicted using RNA sequencing (r.203_317del leading to p.Gly68Glufs*12)

Supplementary Figure 11. Histopathology and immunopathology of acute lymphocytic myocarditis in a patient found to have a rare truncating variant in *DSP*. Images are taken at 100 microns and demonstrate staining for (A) haematoxylin-eosin for nuclear and cytoplasmic components, (B) CD45 for lymphocytes, (C) CD68 for macrophages, and (D) Sirius red for collagen and fibrosis.

Supplementary Figure 12. All protein-altering variants in ACM and DCM genes found in the London myocarditis cohort assigned as variants of unknown significance (VUS) or likely pathogenic (LP) based on ACMG criteria applied through a semi-automated computational decision-support tool (CardioClassifier).

Supplementary Table 9. Clinical characteristics and outcomes of acute myocarditis cases with and without protein-altering variants in DCM- or ACM-associated genes across both cohorts (unadjusted analyses)

Additional Phenotypic Data

Supplementary Figure 13. DSP frameshift c.6393del (London)

Supplementary Figure 14. DSP Frameshift c.4423del (London)

Supplementary Figure 15. DSP Frameshift c.4307_4308del (London)

Supplementary Figure 16. DSP Nonsense c.5056C>T (Maastricht)

Supplementary Figure 17. Boxplot to show serial change in LVEDVi in our prospective London myocarditis cohort (n=114) across the three study time points. No significant difference was observed in any LV parameter.

