



# American Academy of Insurance Medicine 131<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting October 16, 2023

**Wearable and lifestyle data – fit for  
(insurance) purposes?**

**2023 – Washington, DC**

# Presenters



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PhD

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Setting the scene

01





# Using wearables for

Wellness  
“programs”

Risk  
selection



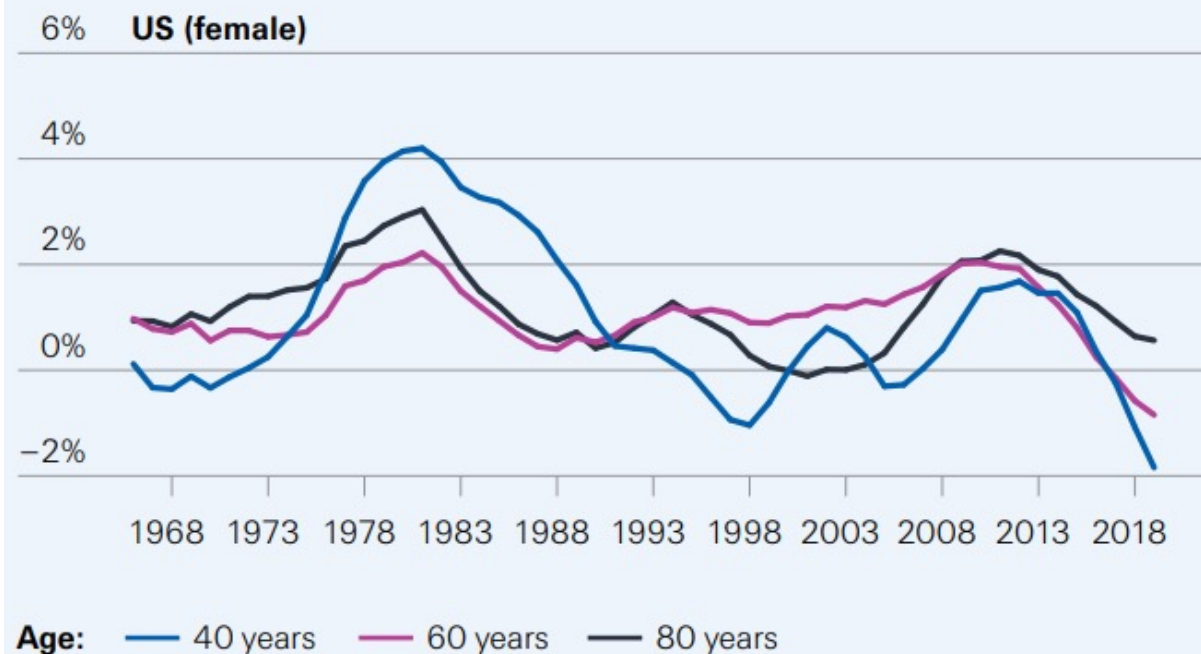
# Using wearables for wellness programs

Lapse  
improvement

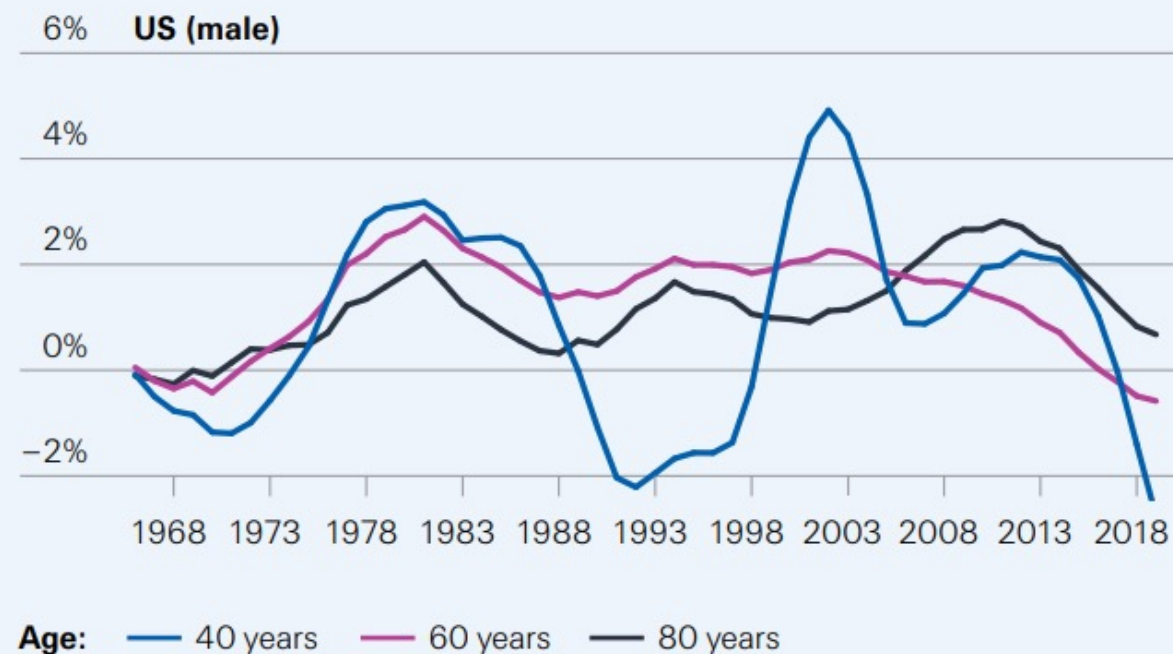
Health  
improvement  
?

# US mortality improvement

Mortality improvements, 8-year moving averages, female (1966–2019)



Mortality improvements, 8-year moving averages, male (1966–2019)



Questions to consider

02





# Using wearable data for risk selection

In **addition**  
to...



In **place**  
of...

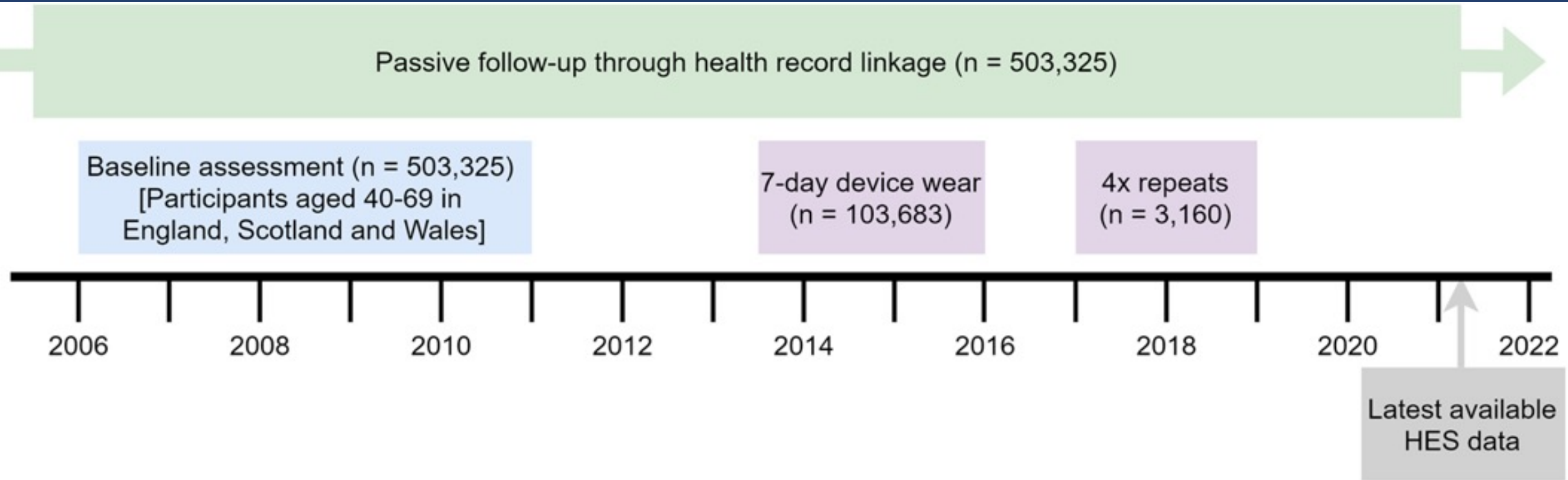


Is there consistency and sustainability of wearable data?

Will the level of activity  
continue?  
How long should data  
collection be for?



# How long to collect wearable data? .... 7 days is ok but more better

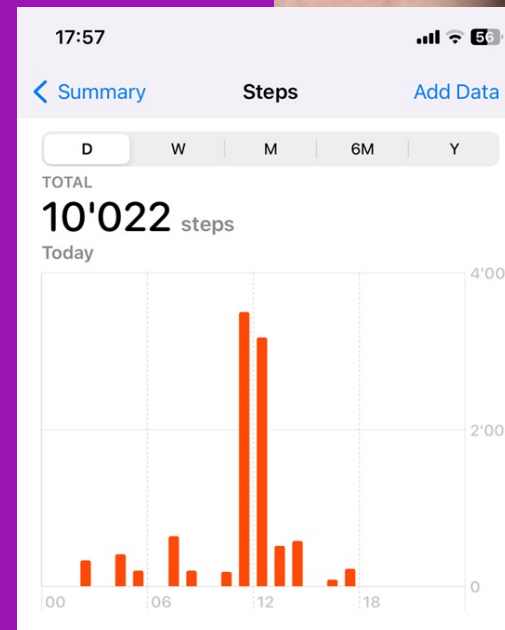


Within person measurement error  $\lambda \approx 0.70$

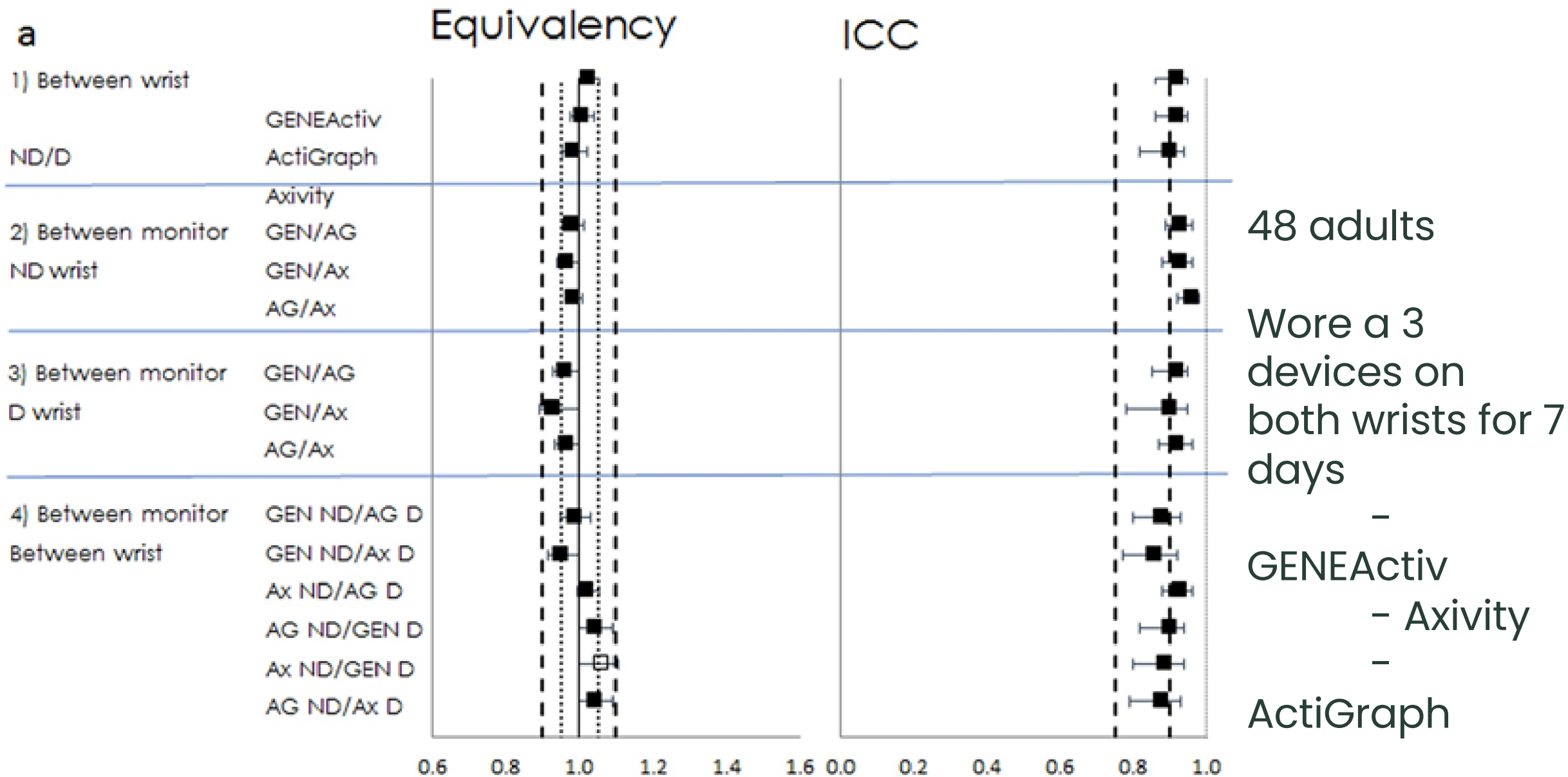


Phone, basic wearable, or high grade sports wearable?

Can one use “any” wearable?



# Should we worry about which wearable?



nature medicine



Article

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-022-02012-w>

## Association of step counts over time with the risk of chronic disease in the *All of Us* Research Program

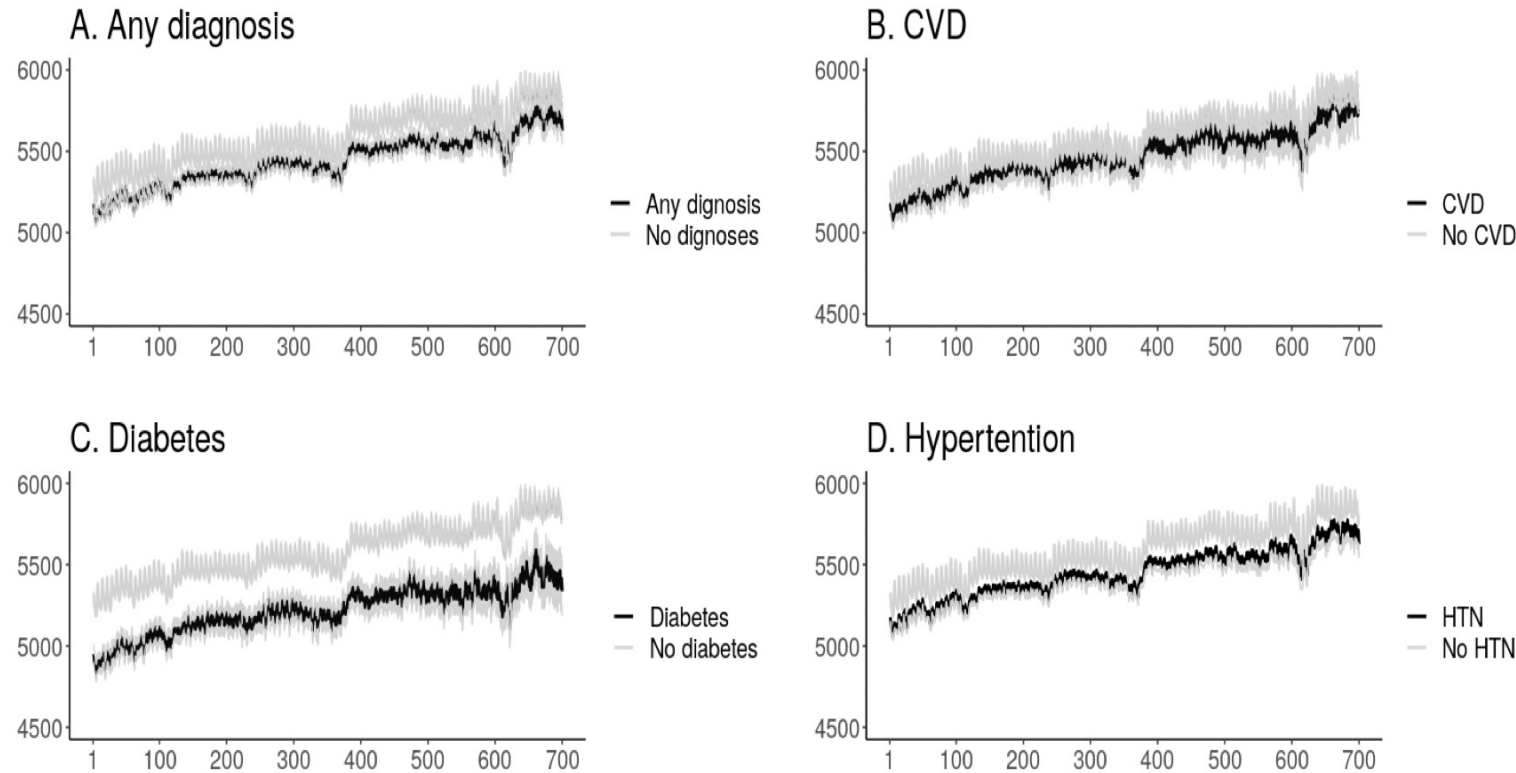
*...Using the electronic health records data from the All of Us Research Program, we show that step count volumes as captured by participants' own Fitbit devices ... **6,042 participants** included in the study ... walked a median of 7,731.3 (5,866.8–9,826.8) steps per day over the **median activity monitoring period of 4.0 (2.2–5.6) years** with a total of 5.9 million person-days of monitoring.*



# Smartphone step count is different



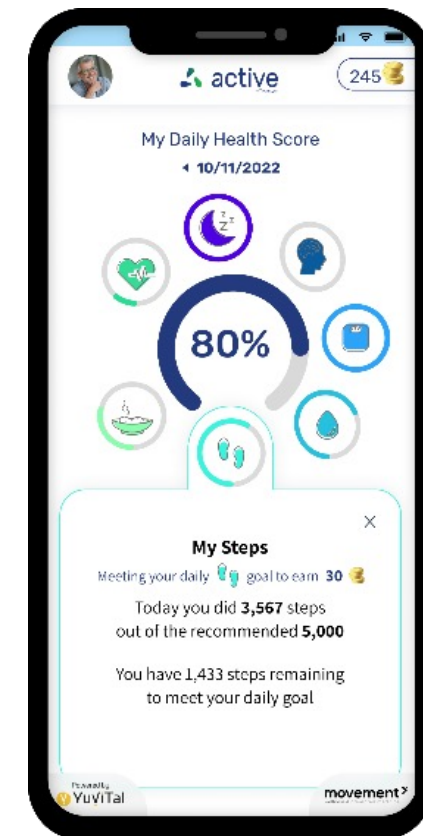
**Figure 5: The average daily steps by chronic conditions**



**n = 622,584**

Consent = ~26 %

Adherence = ?? %

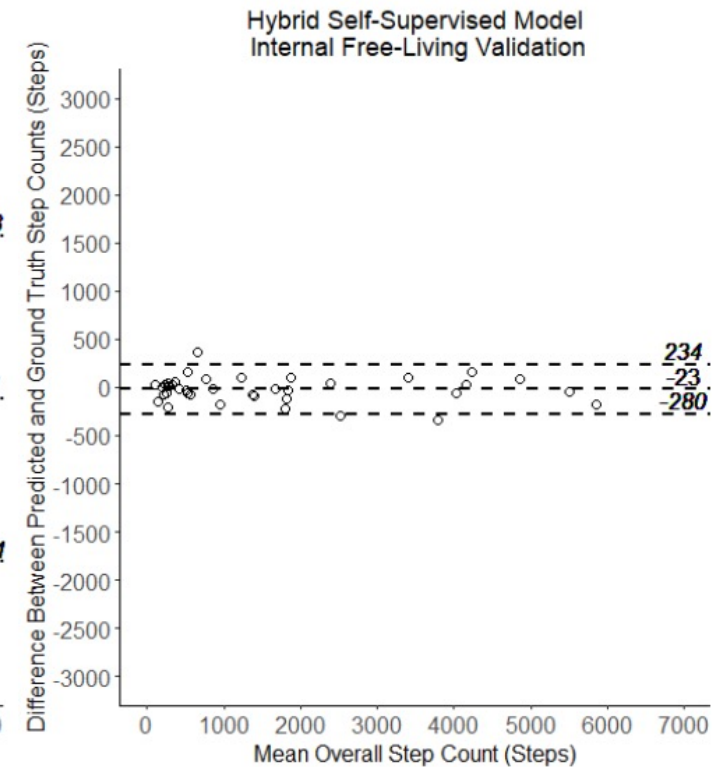
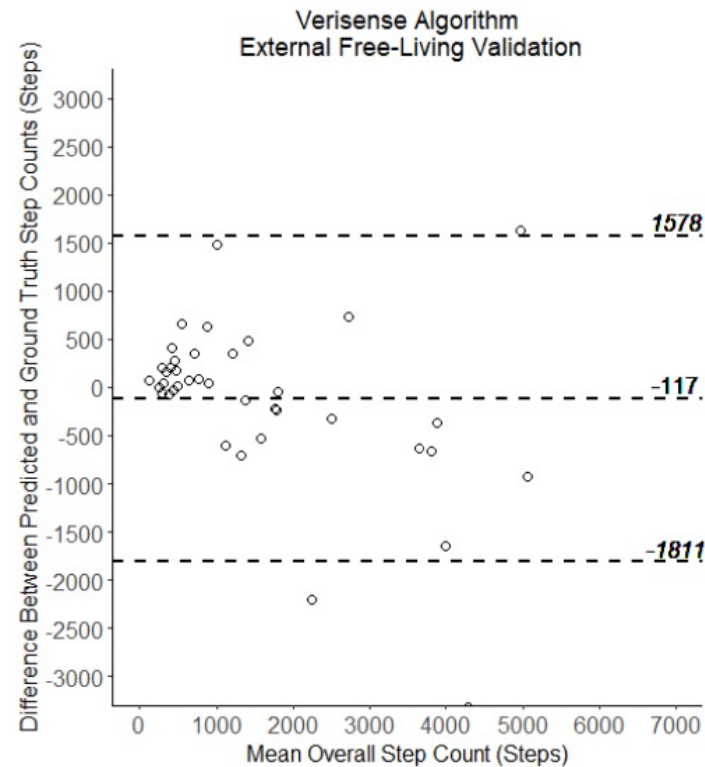


**Figure 5: The average daily steps and Confidence interval (95%) for users with prevalent chronic condition at index date (i.e., cardiovascular disease, diabetes, or hypertension) are presented through the ongoing follow-up.**

# Performance of different methods to measure steps

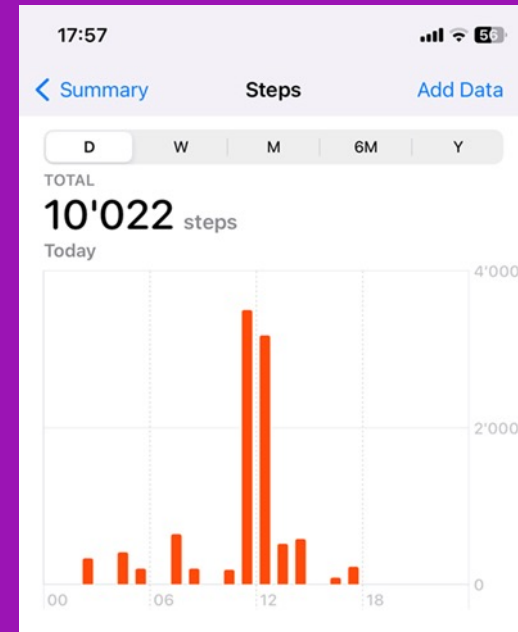


| Internal Validation<br>(Free-Living) | Verisense Model | OxWearables Model |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Mean Bias (%)                        | -7.2%           | -1.3%             |
| Mean Average Percent Error           | 63.5%           | 12.5%             |



# Which is better?

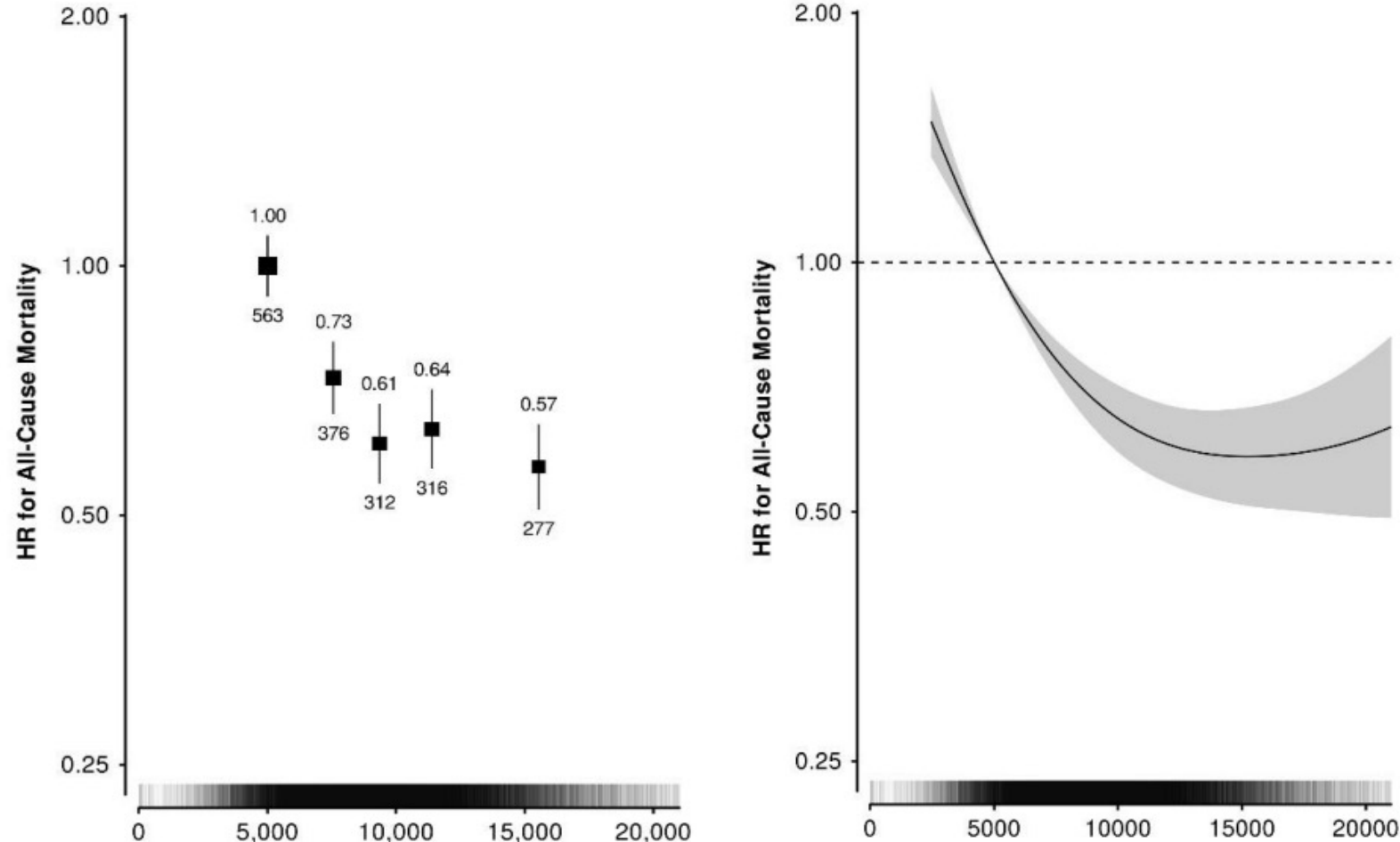
- step count
- granular activity data
- big buckets (6k steps)
- sudden change





# Should we be granular or use large buckets?

*For steps there is a dose-response curve showing that “some is good; more is better” up to a point beyond which the curve plateaus. For those aged 60 years or older, the plateau for all-cause mortality occurs at 6000 to 8000 steps a day; for those younger, 8000 to 10 000 steps a day.*



# Self-reported vs. measured

- can we rely solely on self-reported activity data?



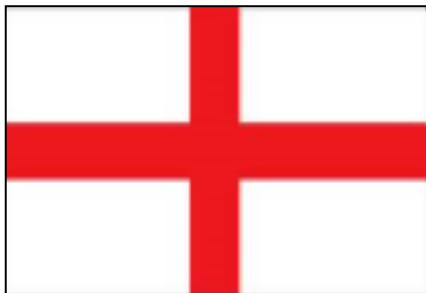
# Can people cheat the system?

% adults meeting physical activity recommendations



**Self report : 50%**

**Device : 5%**



**Self-report : 38%**

**Device : 5%**



# Correlation between self-reported and device-measured activity

|                                         | N Women (%)   | Correlation | 95% Confidence Interval |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Total</b>                            | 42,992        | 0.22        | 0.21, 0.23              |
| <b>Age group at recruitment (years)</b> |               |             |                         |
| <55 years                               | 18,973 (44.1) | 0.26        | 0.25, 0.28              |
| 55+ years                               | 24,019 (55.9) | 0.20        | 0.19, 0.22              |
| <b>Socioeconomic status, fifths</b>     |               |             |                         |
| Top fifth                               | 8,401 (19.5)  | 0.22        | 0.30, 0.24              |
| Bottom fifth                            | 8,744 (20.3)  | 0.22        | 0.30, 0.24              |
| <b>BMI (kg/m<sup>2</sup>)</b>           |               |             |                         |
| <25                                     | 20,255 (47.1) | 0.21        | 0.20, 0.23              |
| 25-29.9                                 | 15,146 (35.2) | 0.18        | 0.17, 0.20              |
| >30                                     | 7,591 (17.7)  | 0.15        | 0.13, 0.17              |
| <b>Smoking status</b>                   |               |             |                         |
| Never                                   | 25,998 (60.5) | 0.21        | 0.20, 0.22              |
| Ever                                    | 16,936 (39.4) | 0.23        | 0.22, 0.25              |

Across all rating groups?

Is the risk reduction  
across “healthy” transfer  
to those with medical  
conditions?



Getting practical

03





# Using wearable data for risk selection in **addition** to traditional risk factors

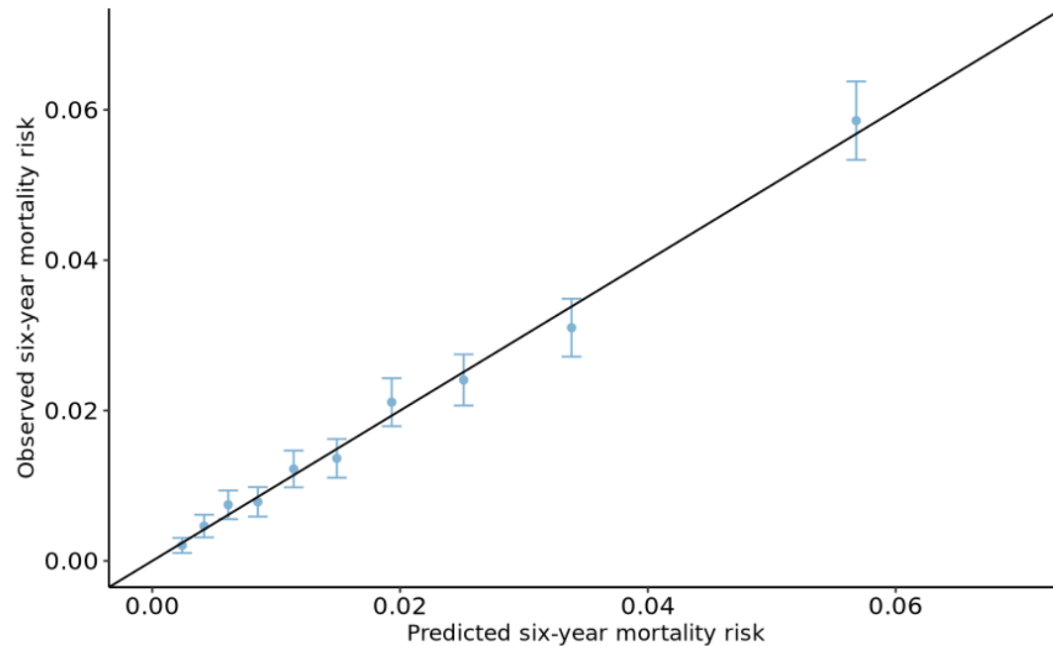
Incremental  
protective  
value?

**Depends** on  
other  
information

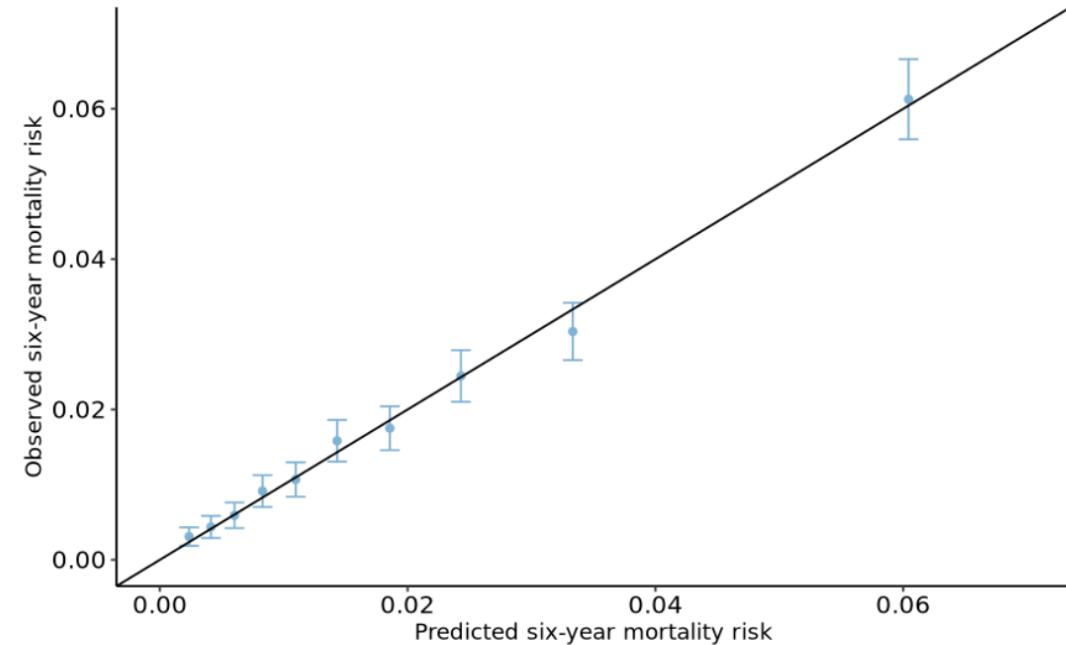


# What is the added value of wearables for risk prediction?

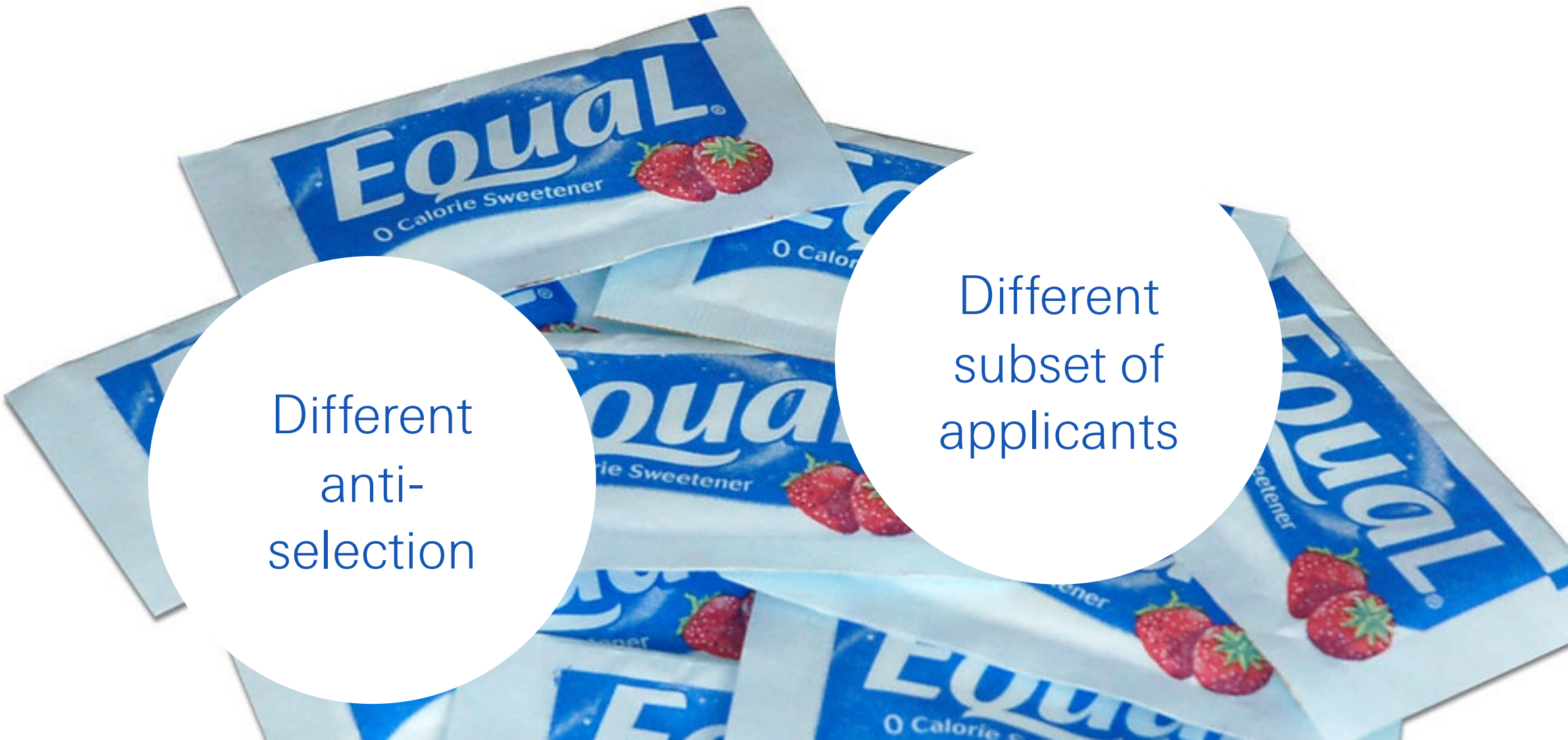
**Age + sex + current smoker  
+ SBP + BMI**



**Age + sex + current smoker  
+ SBP + BMI  
+ Wearables data (steps, sleep)**



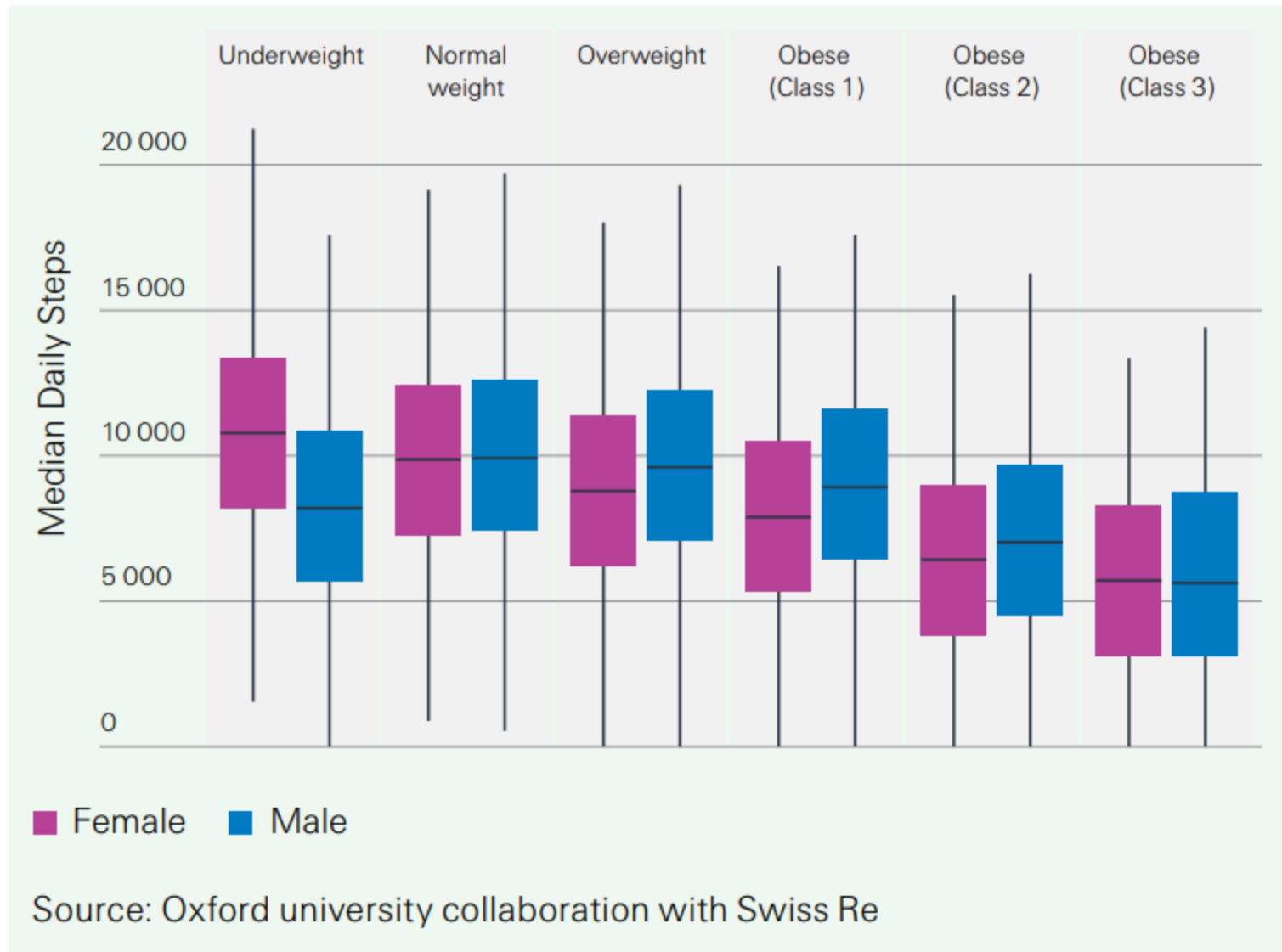
# Using wearable data for risk selection in **place** of traditional risk factors



Different  
anti-  
selection

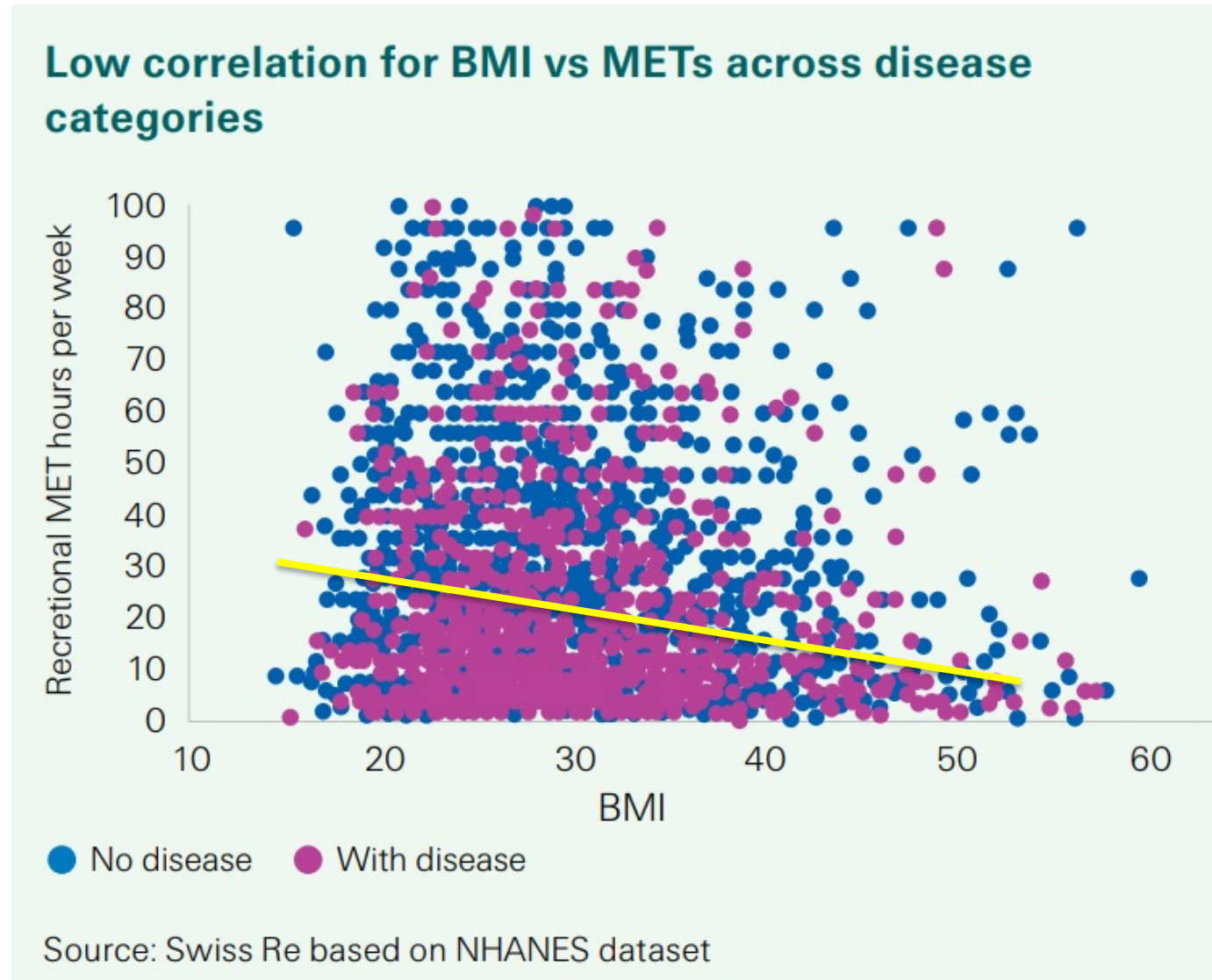
Different  
subset of  
applicants

# Overlaps



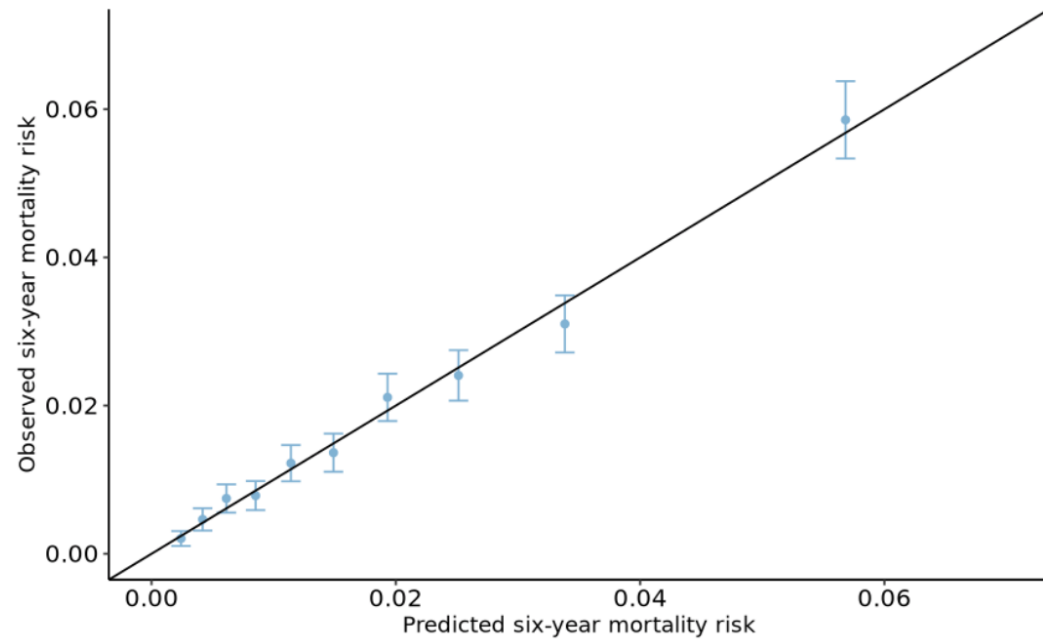


Correlation is often weak (BMI vs METS)

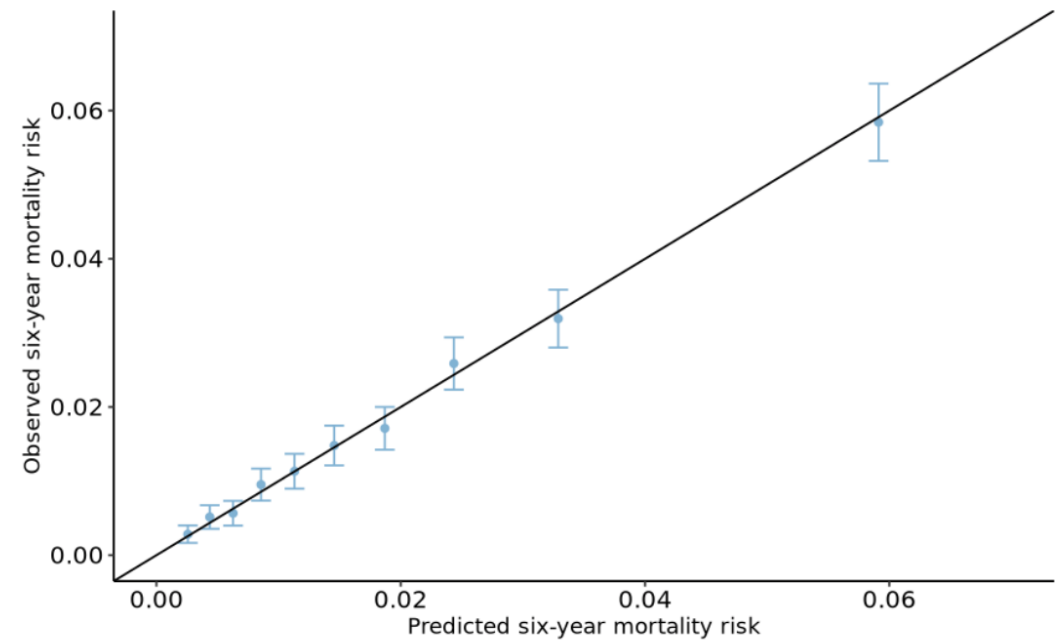


# Can wearables data substitute for existing risk factors?

**Age + sex + current smoker  
+ SBP + BMI**



**Age + sex + current smoker  
+ Wearables data (steps, sleep)**



# Helpful for future risk, but can wearables tell us who has disease NOW?

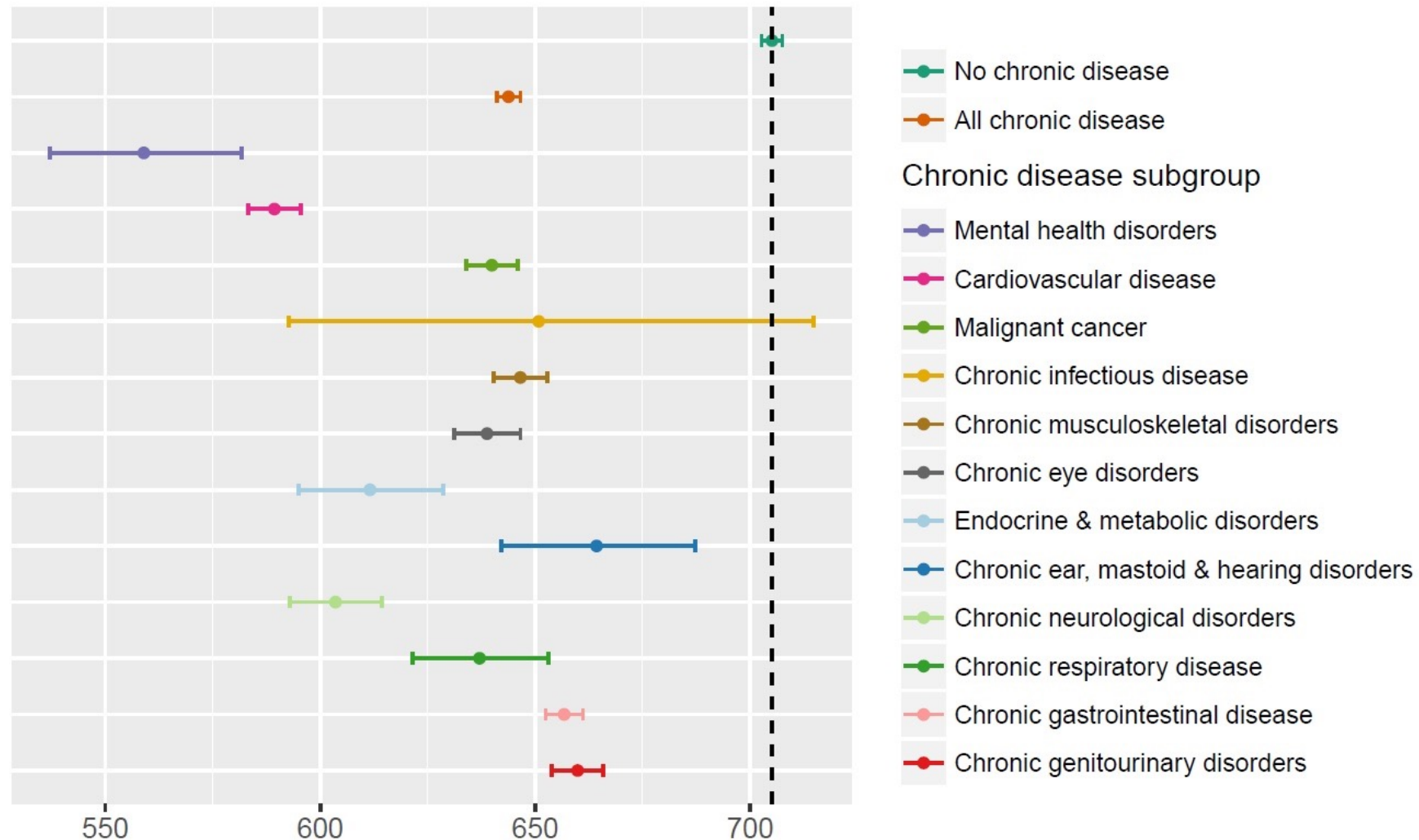


Figure 1. Geometric mean moderate activity in minutes per week for participants with and without chronic diseases

# Using wearable data as part of dynamic risk assessment



Key  
modifiable  
risk factor

Most  
automated  
modifiable  
risk factor



# Discussion and Q&A

# 04





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