**Supplemental Digital Content 3.** The results of direct and indirect association analyses of CCA cardiovascular risk markers and fitness with animacy perception accuracy and emotion recognition task performance.

|                      | B   | SE  | z     | p      | Lower CI | Upper CI | β   |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-------|--------|----------|----------|-----|
| **Total effects**    |     |     |       |        |          |          |     |
| → Animacy perception | 0.08| 0.03| 2.54  | .01    | 0.02     | 0.15     | .08 |
| → Emotion recognition| 0.11| 0.03| 3.25  | .001   | 0.04     | 0.17     | .20 |
| **Direct effects**   |     |     |       |        |          |          |     |
| → Neural activity    | 0.41| 0.03| 14.96 | < .001 | 0.36     | 0.47     | .41 |
| → Animacy perception | 0.05| 0.04| 1.29  | .20    | -0.02    | 0.12     | .05 |
| → Emotion recognition| 0.06| 0.04| 1.67  | .10    | -0.01    | 0.13     | .11 |
| **Indirect effects** |     |     |       |        |          |          |     |
| → Neural activity → Animacy perception | 0.04| 0.02| 2.47  | .01    | 0.008    | 0.07     | .04 |
| → Neural activity → Emotion recognition | 0.04| 0.02| 2.74  | .006   | 0.01     | 0.07     | .08 |
| → Animacy perception → Emotion recognition | 0.004| 0.004| 1.10  | .27    | -0.002   | 0.01     | .007|
| → Neural activity → Animacy perception → Emotion recognition | 0.003| 0.002| 1.80  | .07    | 0.00     | 0.007    | .006|

*Abbreviations:* SE = standard error; CI = 95% confidence interval.