## Supplementary Table 2. Characteristics of the study population by quartiles of ALT level at baseline, the ARIC study, visit 2, 1990–1992

| Characteristic | Total | ALT (Q1) | ALT (Q2) | ALT (Q3) | ALT (Q4) | P  
|----------------|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------
| Number (%)     | 12,588| 3,404 (27.0) | 3,159 (25.1) | 3,108 (24.7) | 2,917 (23.2) |      
| ALT range (U/L) |       | <13     | 13–16    | 17–22    | ≥23      |      
| Male           |       | <11     | 11–13    | 14–17    | ≥18      |      
| Age (yr)       | 56.9±5.7 | 57.1±5.9 | 57.1±5.7 | 56.9±5.7 | 56.3±5.5 | <0.001 
| Black (%)      | 24     | 26       | 25.1     | 23.3     | 21.3     | <0.001 
| Female (%)     | 56.3   | 59.4     | 56.8     | 51.8     | 56.8     | <0.001 
| BMI (kg/m²)    | 28.0±5.4 | 26.7±5.3 | 27.5±5.2 | 28.4±5.2 | 29.7±5.4 | <0.001 
| Obesity (%)    | 29.1   | 20.1     | 25.5     | 31.4     | 41.2     | <0.001 
| Estrogen (%)   | 25.9   | 27.7     | 27.6     | 23.7     | 24.1     | <0.001 
| Aspirin (%)    | 50.6   | 49.1     | 49.5     | 51.5     | 52.7     | 0.012  
| SBP (mm Hg)    | 121.2±18.5 | 120.1±19.5 | 120.2±18.5 | 121.2±17.8 | 123.5±18.0 | <0.001 
| DBP (mm Hg)    | 72.1±10.2 | 70.9±10.5 | 71.4±10.1 | 72.4±9.9  | 73.9±10.1 | <0.001 
| Hypertension (%)| 39.4 | 36.8 | 37.8 | 39.3 | 44.1 | <0.001 
| Antihypertensive med use (%) | 32 | 29.6 | 30.7 | 32.2 | 35.7 | <0.001 
| HDL-C (mg/dL)  | 47.0 (37.0–59.0) | 50.0 (40.0–62.0) | 48.0 (39.0–61.0) | 45.0 (37.0–57.0) | 44.0 (35.0–55.0) | <0.001 
| LDL-C (mg/dL)  | 131.0 (108.8–155.4) | 127.6 (105.8–152.2) | 131.0 (108.8–155.6) | 132.0 (110.0–156.6) | 133.5 (111.0–157.4) | <0.001 
| Triglycerides (mg/dL), median | 114.0 (82.0–162.0) | 103.0 (76.0–144.0) | 109.0 (79.0–152.0) | 115.0 (83.0–167.0) | 133.0 (94.5–192.0) | <0.001 
| Total cholesterol (mg/dL), median | 207.0 (183.0–233.0) | 203.0 (180.0–228.0) | 207.0 (184.0–231.0) | 208.0 (184.0–233.0) | 211.0 (187.0–238.0) | <0.001 
| Lipid lowering med use, % | 6.3 | 4.5 | 6.2 | 7.5 | 7.1 | <0.001 
| Diabetes (self-report, meds, FG), % | 15.6 | 11.1 | 12.7 | 16.2 | 23.5 | <0.001 
| Prevalent CHD, % | 5.4 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 5.4 | 4.7 | 0.184  
| Smoking status, %<0.001 |       |       |       |       |       |      
| Current        | 21.9  | 28.9    | 22.7    | 19.5    | 15.2    |      
| Former         | 37.8  | 33.7    | 37.5    | 38.4    | 42.3    |      
| Never          | 40.3  | 37.3    | 39.8    | 42.1    | 42.4    |      
| Drinking status, %0.176 |       |       |       |       |       |      
| Current        | 57    | 55.9    | 56.2    | 57.9    | 57.9    |      
| Former         | 20.6  | 21.7    | 21.5    | 19.4    | 19.7    |      
| Never          | 22.4  | 22.4    | 22.3    | 22.7    | 22.4    |      
| AST (U/L)      | 20.0 (17.0–23.0) | 17.0 (15.0–19.0) | 19.0 (16.0–21.0) | 21.0 (18.0–23.0) | 25.0 (21.0–30.0) | <0.001 
| ALT (U/L)      | 14.0 (11.0–19.0) | 9.0 (7.0–10.0) | 13.0 (12.0–14.0) | 17.0 (15.0–19.0) | 25.0 (21.0–31.0) | <0.001 
| GGT (U/L)      | 21.0 (14.0–33.0) | 16.0 (12.0–23.0) | 19.0 (13.0–27.0) | 23.0 (16.0–34.0) | 33.0 (22.0–54.0) | <0.001 

Values are presented as number (%), mean±standard deviation, or median (interquartile range). The ARIC study population, visit 2, 1990–1992; end of follow-up December 31, 2016. ALT, alanine aminotransferase; ARIC, Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities; BMI, body mass index; SBP, systolic blood pressure; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; HDL-C, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDL-C, low density lipoprotein cholesterol; FG, fasting glucose; CHD, coronary heart disease; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; GGT, gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase.