Association of hypertriglyceridemic waist phenotype with renal function impairment: a cross-sectional study in a population of Chinese adults

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Abstract

**Background:** The hypertriglyceridemic waist (HTGW) phenotype has been suggested as a risk factor for chronic kidney disease (CKD), but evidence on relationship of triglyceride waist phenotypes with estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) status and severity is limited. Our aim was to explore the association of triglyceride waist phenotypes with reduced eGFR and various decreased eGFR stages among Chinese adults.

**Methods:** A population-based, cross-sectional study was conducted among Chinese participants aged 20-74 years during June 2016 to December 2017 in Shanghai, China. An eGFR value below 60 mL/min/1.73 m$^2$ was defined as Decreased eGFR. The HTGW phenotype was defined as a triglycerides (TG) level ≥1.7 mmol/L and a waist circumference (WC) ≥90 cm for men and ≥80 cm for women. We examined the association of triglyceride waist phenotypes with decreased eGFR risk using the weighted logistic regression models.

**Results:** A total of 31,296 adults were included in this study. Compared with normal TG level/normal WC (NTNW) phenotype, normal TG level/enlarged WC (NTGW), elevated TG level/normal WC (HTNW), elevated TG level/enlarged WC (HTGW) were associated with the increased risk of decreased eGFR, with an multivariable-adjusted ORs (95% CI) of 1.77 (1.42-2.20), 1.48 (1.16-1.90), and 2.30 (1.80-2.93), respectively. These positive associations between triglyceride waist phenotypes and decreased eGFR risk remained across almost all the subgroups, including sex, age, BMI, T2DM, and hypertension. NTGW, HTNW, and HTGW phenotype were consistently positively associated with the risk of mildly and moderately decreased eGFR, but not with severely decreased eGFR risk.

**Conclusions:** HTGW was consistently associated with the increased risk of decreased eGFR and various decreased eGFR stages except for severely decreased eGFR. The findings imply that HTGW may be an important risk factor for renal dysfunction or an indicator for prevention and control aiming to reduce renal function decline.

**Introduction**

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) remains a main cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide, with an increasing prevalence and incidence. One of the characteristics for CKD is decline of kidney function,
which is assessed by estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR), a best and most commonly used marker [1]. The global prevalence of CKD and decreased eGFR (eGFR <60 mL/min/1.73 m²) in general population was 14.3% and 9.8%, respectively in 2016 [2]. It has been shown the overall prevalence of CKD was 10.8% and of decreased eGFR was 1.7% in the general population among Chinese adults in 2010 [3]. Recent rapid increase in the case of diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular diseases (CVD) will contribute to the growth in prevalence of CKD, eventually leading to higher burden of CKD and a bigger threat to public health in less developed regions. Patients with kidney function decline were more likely to increase the risk of cardiovascular events [4], and die due to CVD [5].

The hypertriglyceridemic waist (HTGW) phenotype is defined by the simultaneous presence of elevated serum triglycerides (TG) level and increased waist circumference (WC). It was first proposed by Lemieux et al. [6], was found to be an indicator of atherosclerosis and an effective tool to identify men who were at high risk of coronary artery disease (CAD). As compared with elevated TG or enlarged WC used alone, this simple marker is superior for evaluating excess visceral adiposity, and also a useful clinical tool to identify those with higher risk of abnormal metabolism [7]. Because assessment of HTGW is relatively inexpensive and easy to acquire, a growing number studies has shown HTGW phenotype was associated with the increased risk of CVD [8], CAD [9], hypertension [10], prediabetes [11], and type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) [12], as well as hyperuricemia [13]. However, existing evidence as to the association of HTGW with CKD remains controversial. Several studies have reported that HTGW phenotype was associated with an increased risk of CKD in the population aged more than 40 years old [14], or in an elderly population (aged 60 years or older) [15], or in a relatively lean population (BMI <24 kg/m²) [16]. In a cross-sectional study, Ramezankhani et al. [17] found a positive association of HTGW with CKD only in women but not in men; while no significant association between HTGW and CKD was observed in the prospective study. A recent cross-sectional study have demonstrated that HTGW was related to CKD risk in women group but not in men group among adults aged 18 to 75 years [18]. While another cross-sectional study in elder participants reached opposite conclusions [15]. Limited evidence suggested increased risk of decline
renal function with HTGW [19], and previous studies was limited by the lack of stratified analyses. Furthermore, no study has reported the relationship of HTGW with the various stages of decreased eGFR, which could represent the progression of CKD.

Using data from the physical examination and the electronic medical record system, we aimed to examine the association of HTGW and three other triglyceride waist phenotypes with the risk of decreased eGFR in overall and subgroup population among Chinese adults. Additionally, we explored whether these phenotypes were associated with different stages of eGFR, including mildly, moderately, and severely decreased eGFR.

Methods
Study population

This population-based, cross-sectional study was conducted in Community Health Centers of Songjiang District, Shanghai, China during June 2016 and December 2017. Details of sample methods in this study have been described elsewhere [20]. Briefly, we used a multistage, stratified, clustered sampling method to collect health related data from 31 neighborhood committees and 16 administrative villages in 4 study community sites, including Zhongshan, Xinqiao, Sheshan, and Maogang. Exclusion criteria were as follows: unable or unwilling to provide a written informed consent form; pregnancy; previously diagnosed critical illness, including cancer, stroke, coronary artery diseases, cirrhosis, chronic hepatitis, cardiorespiratory failure, and hyper-or hypothyroidism; or have got organ transplantation or on dialysis therapy. For the present analysis, a total of 37,670 adults aged 20 to 74 years who were natives of Shanghai municipality or those have lived in Shanghai for at least 5 years were enrolled in the present study. Among these, we excluded participants who violated the inclusion criteria (n=4,271), and who had no serum creatinine (Scr) measurement (n=264) or miss data for a physical examination or a questionnaire survey, or laboratory measurements (n=1,839). The final analysis included 31,296 participants (Fig. 1). The study protocol was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Fudan University, School of Public Health (IRB#2016-04-0586) and complied with the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. Informed written consents were obtained from all participants before data collection.
Data collection

Trained interviewers used a structured questionnaire through face-to-face interviews or extracting from electronic medical records to obtain data on all study participants. Information about sociodemographic characteristics (age, sex, marital status, educational level, and working status), medical histories (such as self-reported history of T2DM, hypertension, and cancer), and lifestyle factors (smoking status, alcohol consumption, and physical activity) was collected. We used the International Physical Activity Questionnaire to assess the physical activity. Smoking status was defined as >1 cigarette per day and lasting >6 months, and alcohol consumption was defined as alcohol intake at least 3 times per week and lasting for at least half a year. Smoking status and alcohol consumption have been classified as never, former, or current.

Anthropometrical data were obtained from all participants, including height, weight, and waist circumference (WC), and were measured in duplicate when participants were wearing light clothing without shoes. The mean values of these measurements were calculated for further analysis. Body mass index (BMI) was defined as body weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared (kg/m²). Blood pressure (BP) was consecutively measured three times using an electronic sphygmomanometer, and the mean values were used for analysis.

Laboratory measurement

Prior to the investigation, all participants were asked to fasting overnight for at least 8 hours, and fasting venous blood specimens were collected to perform laboratory measurements in DiAn medical laboratory center. Serum total cholesterol, TG, high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, and low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol levels were measured using an automatic biochemical analyzer (Roche Cobas C501). Fasting plasma glucose (FPG) level was measured by glycokinase method using Roche P800 biochemical analyzer. Scr level was measured using enzymatic methods by Roche C702 automatic biochemical analyzer. HbA1c level was determined using high pressure liquid chromatography (TOSOH G8 automatic biochemical analyzer).
Kidney function assessment

The estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) was calculated using the Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration (CKD-EPI) equation for Chinese population [21]:

\[
\text{eGFR} = \frac{\text{Scr}}{k} + \alpha \times \min(\frac{\text{Scr}}{k}, 1) + \max(\frac{\text{Scr}}{k}, 1)
\]

where Scr is the serum creatinine (mg/dl), \(k\) is 0.7 for females and 0.9 for males, \(\alpha\) is -0.329 for females and -0.411 for males, min indicates the minimum of \(\text{Scr}/k\) or 1, and max indicates the maximum of \(\text{Scr}/k\) or 1.

Decreased eGFR was defined as an eGFR value below 60 mL/min/1.73 m\(^2\). The CKD classification was in accordance with the National Kidney Foundation [1], and we classified GFR stages into 4 categories as follows: normal eGFR, \(\geq 90\) mL/min/1.73 m\(^2\); mildly decreased eGFR, 60-89 mL/min/1.73 m\(^2\); moderately decreased eGFR, 30-59 mL/min/1.73 m\(^2\); and severely decreased eGFR, 15-29 mL/min/1.73 m\(^2\). In addition, eGFR was evaluated using the Modification of Diet in Renal Disease (MDRD) Study Equation for Chinese population [22] in a sensitivity analysis:

Definitions of triglyceride waist phenotype, T2DM, and hypertension

Participants were classified into four groups according to the following cut-off points [12]: (1) NTNW, normal serum TG level (<1.7 mmol/L) and normal WC (<90 cm for men and <80 cm for women); (2) NTGW, normal serum TG level and enlarged WC (\(\geq 90\) cm for men and \(\geq 80\) cm for women); (3) HTNW, elevated serum TG level (\(\geq 1.7\) mmol/L) and normal WC; (4) HTGW, elevated serum TG level and enlarged WC. In the sensitivity analyses, HTGW phenotype was also defined as elevated serum TG level (\(\geq 2.0\) mmol/L) along with enlarged WC (\(\geq 90\) cm for men and \(\geq 85\) cm for women) [7], or a TG level \(\geq 2.0\) mmol/L and WC \(\geq 90\) cm for men or a TG level \(\geq 1.5\) mmol/L and WC \(\geq 85\) cm for women [23].

The definition of T2DM was in accordance with the American Diabetes Association criteria [24]: FPG level \(\geq 7.0\) mmol/L, HbA1c concentration \(\geq 6.5\)%, or previously diagnosed type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM). The diagnosis of hypertension was according to the Seventh Joint National Committee Report on Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure guidelines (JNC-7) [25]: systolic BP
≥140 mmHg, diastolic BP ≥90 mmHg, or previously diagnosed hypertension.

Statistical analysis

We accounted for a complex sample survey design, and the results were weighted in the present study. Continuous variables were presented as means ± standard deviation (SD) or median with interquartile ranges. Categorical variables were expressed as number and percentage. We compared the differences between decreased eGFR and non-decreased eGFR using student’s t test or Mann-Whitney U test for comparisons of continuous data and \( \chi^2 \) test for categorical data. We used weighted logistic regression models to determine the association of triglyceride waist phenotypes and decreased eGFR, and odd ratios (ORs) and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were calculated, with NTNW as the reference group. Multiple models were adjusted for age, sex (men vs. women), marital status (married vs. unmarried/divorced/widowed), educational level (0-6, 7-12, and >12 years), working status (retired vs. not retired), smoking status (never, former, and current), alcohol consumption (never, former, and current), physical activity, BMI, systolic BP, HDL cholesterol, and FPG.

In the sensitivity analyses, we repeated the analyses and estimated GFR by the use of the MDRD equation or redefined the triglyceride waist phenotypes on the basis of the previous recommended criteria. We performed stratified analyses and potential effect modifications by sex, age (<60 years, ≥60 years), BMI (<24 kg/m\(^2\), ≥24 kg/m\(^2\)), and presence or absence of T2DM or hypertension. In addition, we investigated the associations of four phenotype groups with the severity of decreased eGFR, including mildly, moderately, and severely decreased eGFR with using weighted multinomial logistic regression models, respectively by treating the normal eGFR group as the control group, and the same confounding factors as above were adjusted for the analyses.

All analyses were performed using SAS 9.4 version (Institute Inc., Cary, NC, USA). \( P \) values of less than 0.05 (two-sided) were considered to be statistically significance.

Results

Baseline characteristics of subjects with or without decreased eGFR
Baseline characteristics of the study participants based on decreased eGFR status were shown in Table 1. Among 31,296 participants, the mean age of the study participants was 55.64 ± 11.35 years, 12,702 (40.59%) of them were men, 4,247 (13.57%) had T2DM, 15,881 (50.74%) had hypertension. As expected, participants with decreased eGFR were more likely to have HTGW phenotype than those without decreased eGFR. Subjects with decreased eGFR had higher Scr, BMI, WC, BP, total cholesterol, TG, LDL cholesterol, and FPG levels, and a lower eGFR level in comparison with those in non-decreased eGFR subjects. In addition, less education, a higher proportion in past smokers and past drinkers were observed in decreased eGFR group than in non-decreased eGFR group. No significant differences in HDL cholesterol, marital status and physical activity were observed between the two groups.

Association of triglyceride waist phenotypes with decreased eGFR

Table 2 showed the ORs and 95% CIs for the association of decreased eGFR with triglyceride waist phenotypes. Compared with the NTNW phenotype, NTGW, HTNW, and HTGW phenotype were associated with a higher risk of decreased eGFR after adjusting for age, sex, marital status, educational level, working status, smoking status, alcohol consumption, physical activity, BMI, systolic BP, HDL cholesterol, and FPG. The multivariable-adjusted ORs associated with NTGW, HTNW, and HTGW phenotype were 1.77 (95% CI, 1.42-2.20, P < 0.001), 1.48 (95% CI, 1.16-1.90, P =0.002), and 2.30 (95% CI, 1.80-2.93, P < 0.001), respectively for decreased eGFR risk. We also did three sensitivity analyses to assess the robustness of our results, and found similar results in all sensitivity analyses (Table 2-3).

We further examined the association of triglyceride waist phenotypes with decreased eGFR in different subgroups of sex, age, BMI, T2DM, and hypertension in Table 4. The positive associations between NTGW, HTNW, and HTGW phenotype and the risk of decreased eGFR remained consistent across almost all the subgroups. The strongest positive association of HTGW phenotype with decreased eGFR was found in the subgroup of presence of T2DM (OR 2.95, 95% CI 1.61-5.39). There was no significant interaction effect was observed between the triglyceride waist phenotypes and all
Association of different triglyceride waist phenotypes with mildly, moderately, and severely decreased eGFR

The multivariable-adjusted ORs for mildly, moderately, and severely decreased eGFR according to triglyceride waist phenotypes were present in Table 5. The number of participants with normal eGFR, mildly decreased eGFR, moderately decreased eGFR, and severely decreased eGFR were 19,538, 10,929, 785, and 30, respectively. After adjusting for potential confounders, HTNW and HTGW phenotype were positively associated with mildly decreased eGFR risk, whereas no significant association of NTGW with mildly decreased eGFR was found. Risk of moderately decreased eGFR was higher for subjects with NTGW, HTNW, and HTGW phenotype as compared with subjects with NTNW phenotype, which was consistent with the results of primary analyses among overall subjects. No significant association was found between NTGW, HTNW, and HTGW phenotype and the risk of severely decreased eGFR.

Discussion

In this large population-based, cross-sectional study, we explored the association of triglyceride waist phenotypes with decreased eGFR (<60 mL/min/1.73 m²) in the overall population and across a variety of subgroups. We found that HTGW phenotype was associated an increased risk of decreased eGFR; in addition, HTGW phenotype was significantly associated with the progression of renal function decline except for severely decreased eGFR. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study to examine the association of HTGW phenotype with different stages of renal function in Chinese adults.

HTGW phenotype was found to have a similar predictive power with metabolic syndrome (MetS), and may be more easily applicable than MetS [26]. A recent cross-sectional study showed the HTGW phenotype, but not the common indexes, including WC, waist-to-hip ratio, and waist-to-height ratio was associated with a higher risk of CKD [16]. The relationship between triglyceride waist phenotypes and CKD has been extensively reported in many cross-sectional studies. However, most studies were conducted in with a limited sample size [14-18] and showed inconsistent findings. In a middle aged or...
older population, compared with NTNW phenotype, NTGW/HTNW and HTGW phenotype were associated with higher risk of CKD [14]. The results regarding association of triglyceride waist phenotypes with CKD in the cross-sectional study and prospective study were not identical [17]. The reasons for the conflicting results might be likely to be due to the difference of population characteristics, the number of participants, inclusion of confounding factors, and methods of eGFR calculation.

The decline in eGFR was related with the increased risk of mortality and end-stage renal disease (ESRD) [27]. Only a few studies have determined the association of decreased eGFR risk with triglyceride waist phenotypes [19], and shown that HTGW was associated with abnormal renal function among both Chinese and Australian subjects. In the present large Chinese population, we also observed the similar findings in overall and all stratified population; NTGW and HTNW phenotype were also associated with an increased risk of reduced eGFR. In the stratified analyses, the independent positive association of NTGW, HTNW, and HTGW phenotype with reduced eGFR risk still persisted across almost all subgroups; a strongest association between HTGW phenotype and decreased eGFR risk was found in the subgroup of presence of T2DM, suggesting the predictive power of HTGW for decreased eGFR might be better for T2DM patients. Additionally, compared with NTGW or HTNW phenotype, HTGW phenotype was a more stable and stronger risk factor for renal function decline. Thus, our data provide the important evidence that HTGW phenotype might play an important role in the development of renal function impairment.

The corresponding studies on the role of triglyceride waist phenotypes on the development of kidney dysfunction remain scarce. Most studies were performed to examined the association of HTGW phenotype with CKD risk, but not involved in its progression. In the present study, we found that NTGW, HTNW, and HTGW phenotype were independently associated with mildly decreased eGFR, or moderately decreased eGFR risk, except for the NTGW-mildly decreased eGFR association; whereas no significant association between any phenotype and severely decreased eGFR was found. Underlying mechanisms of these associations are still unknown, the null association of triglyceride waist phenotypes with severely decreased eGFR may due to the small number of subjects. Thus, our
findings suggested HTGW phenotype may be an independent risk factor for the development of renal function impairment, prevention and control of HTGW may be an effective measure to attenuate the risk of the progression of renal function decline. HTGW was closely related to visceral obesity, which may result in the fat accumulation in kidney [28,29]. Excess accumulation of fat on kidney, which is related to oxidative stress and inflammation response, may impair the kidney and contribute to an unfavorable renal hemodynamic profile [30]. The CKD patients had a lower activity of lipoprotein lipase and hepatic TG lipase, which was more likely to develop hypertriglyceridemia, subsequently augment renal impairment [31,32]. Further elucidation on the mechanism for the role of HTGW on renal function or CKD is still warranted.

The strengths of the present study include the inclusion of a large-scale population based on a population-based study, enrollment of participants living in both urban and rural areas, and the extensive adjustment for potential confounders, including demographic, lifestyle, anthropometric, and clinical factors. Several potential limitations of our study also should be considered. Firstly, the causal relationship could not be determined due to the nature of cross-sectional study design in our analyses. Secondly, all study participants were from only one district of Shanghai, China, and the generalizability of our results may be limited. Further studies should be conducted in more diverse regions. Thirdly, although many covariates were adjusted for in our analyses, the present study still lacked data on medication treatment, dietary, and genetic factors, and so on. Lastly, despite the overall relatively large sample size, few participants were in the subpopulations, especially for severely decreased eGFR, which result in wide CIs for the effect estimates and inaccurate results.

Conclusions
In conclusion, HTGW phenotype was significantly associated with an increased risk of decreased eGFR in the overall study population, and remained consistent across all subgroups, which suggested HTGW phenotype may be a stable risk factor for the decline of kidney function. We also found HTGW phenotype was significantly associated with higher risks of mildly and moderately decreased eGFR, but not with severely decreased eGFR risk. The findings underscore the importance of preventing and
controlling the HTGW phenotype, which may reduce the risk of kidney function decline or even for the progression of CKD.

**Abbreviations**

BMI: Body mass index; BP: Blood pressure; CAD: Coronary artery disease; CIs: Confidence intervals; CKD: Chronic kidney disease; CKD-EPI: Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration; CVD: Cardiovascular diseases; eGFR: Estimated glomerular filtration rate; ESRD: End-stage renal disease; FPG: Fasting plasma glucose; HDL: High-density lipoprotein; HTGW: Hypertriglyceridemic waist; HTNW: Elevated TG level/normal WC; LDL: Low-density lipoprotein; MDRD: Modification of Diet in Renal Disease; MetS: Metabolic syndrome; NTGW: Normal TG level/enlarged WC; NTNW: Normal TG level/normal WC; ORs: Odd ratios; Scr: Serum creatinine; TG: Triglycerides; T2DM: Type 2 diabetes mellitus; WC: Waist circumference

**Declarations**

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**Author contributions**

YQ, QZ, and NW conceived and designed the study. YY, RW, YZ, and SC contributed to the data analysis and interpretation. MZ, XL, and YQ contributed to data acquisition and the manuscript draft. YG, YJ, and GZ supervised the study and revised the manuscript. All authors approved the final version of the manuscript to be submitted.

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Availability of data and materials

The dataset used and analyzed during the current study is available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

Ethics approval and consent to participate

The study protocol was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Fudan University, School of Public Health (IRB#2016-04-0586) and complied with the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. Informed written consents were obtained from all participants before data collection.

Consent for publication

Not Applicable.

Competing interests

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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Tables

Table 1 Characteristics of study participants by decreased eGFR
| Variables                                      | Total     | Decreased eGFR | Non-decreased |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|
| Men/Women                                     | 12,702/18,594 | 350/479        | 12,352/18,115 |
| Age, years                                    | 55.64 ± 11.35 | 64.10 ± 7.23  | 55.41 ± 11.36 |
| Serum creatinine, mg/dl                       | 0.80 ± 0.24  | 1.40 ± 0.96   | 0.78 ± 0.16   |
| eGFR, ml/min/1.73 m²                          | 92.75 ± 15.33 | 50.95 ± 10.13 | 93.88 ± 13.77 |
| Body mass index, kg/m²                        | 24.35 ± 3.34  | 25.40 ± 3.25  | 24.32 ± 3.34  |
| Systolic blood pressure, mmHg                 | 133.29 ± 19.37 | 144.40 ± 20.91 | 133.00 ± 19.23 | 4.94 ± 0.93  |
| Diastolic blood pressure, mmHg                | 80.05 ± 10.52 | 81.95 ± 10.85 | 80.00 ± 10.51 |
| Total cholesterol, mmol/L                     | 4.94 ± 0.93  | 5.19 ± 1.00   | 4.94 ± 0.93   |
| Triglycerides, mmol/L                         | 1.35 (0.98-1.92) | 1.39 ± 0.40   | 1.34 (0.97-1.91) |
| LDL cholesterol, mmol/L                       | 2.78 ± 0.83   | 2.97 ± 0.92   | 2.78 ± 0.83   |
| Fasting glucose, mmol/L                       | 4.72 (4.26-5.36)| 4.82 (4.35-5.52)| 4.72 (4.25-5.36) |
| Marital status, n (%)                         | Married    | 29,137 (93.10) | 768 (92.64)  | 28,369 (93.11) |
| Educational level, years                      | ≤ 6         | 14,068 (44.95) | 538 (64.90)  | 13,530 (44.41) |
| Working status, n (%)                         | Not retired | 13,667 (43.67) | 149 (17.97)  | 13,518 (44.37) |
| Smoking status, n (%)                         | Never       | 23,917 (76.42) | 645 (77.80)  | 23,272 (76.38) |
| Alcohol consumption, n (%)                    | Never       | 27,064 (86.48) | 724 (87.33)  | 26,340 (86.45) |
| Physical activity, MET-min/week               | 2351.42 ± 591.27 | 2372.90 ± 593.80 | 2350.80 ± 591.21 |
| Type 2 diabetes mellitus, n (%)               | 4,247 (13.57) | 167 (20.14)   | 4,080 (13.39) |
| Hypertension, n (%)                           | 15,881 (50.74) | 634 (76.48)   | 15,247 (50.04) |
| Hypertriglyceridemic waist phenotype, n (%)   | NTNWa      | 13,905 (44.43) | 213 (25.69)  | 13,692 (44.94) |
| NTGWa                                         | 7,179 (3.00)  | 273 (32.93)   | 6,924 (20.91) |
| HTNW                                         | 4,806 (15.36) | 109 (13.15)   | 4,697 (15.42) |
| HTGWa                                         | 5,388 (17.22) | 234 (28.23)   | 5,154 (16.92) |

Data are presented as mean ± SD, median (interquartile range), or number (%).

a p < 0.05 between decreased eGFR and non-decreased eGFR.

eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; HDL, high-density lipoprotein; LDL, low-density lipoprotein;

MET, metabolic equivalent task; NWNT, normal triglyceride level (<1.7 mmol/L) and normal waist circumference (<90 cm for men and <80 cm for women); NTGW, normal triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference (≥90 cm for men and ≥80 cm for women); HTNW, elevated triglyceride level (≥1.7 mmol/L) and normal waist circumference; HTGW, elevated triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference.

Table 2 Odds ratios for decreased eGFR according to triglyceride level and waist circumference.
| Variables                  | Cases/Participants | Model 1\(^a\)   |   | Model 2\(^b\)   |   | Model 3\(^c\)   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---|------------------|---|------------------|
|                           |                   | OR (95% CI) P    |   | OR (95% CI) P    |   | OR (95% CI) P    |
| Decreased eGFR            |                   | 1.00             |   | 1.00             |   | 1.00             |
| NTNW                      | 213/13,905        | 1.94 (1.60-2.35) | <0.001 | 1.94 (1.60-2.34) | <0.001 | 1.77             |
| HTNW                      | 109/4,806         | 1.55 (1.22-1.96) | <0.001 | 1.55 (1.23-1.96) | <0.001 | 1.48             |
| HTGW                      | 234/5,388         | 2.54 (2.09-3.09) | <0.001 | 2.55 (2.09-3.10) | <0.001 | 2.30             |
| P-trend                   | <0.001            | <0.001           |   | <0.001           |   | <0.001           |
| Decreased eGFR\(_{MDRD}\) |                   | 1.00             |   | 1.00             |   | 1.00             |
| NTNW                      | 351/13,905        | 1.81 (1.56-2.11) | <0.001 | 1.82 (1.56-2.12) | <0.001 | 1.79             |
| HTNW                      | 150/4,806         | 1.24 (1.02-1.51) | 0.029 | 1.24 (1.02-1.51) | 0.029 | 1.22             |
| HTGW                      | 316/5,388         | 2.07 (1.77-2.43) | <0.001 | 2.09 (1.78-2.45) | <0.001 | 2.07             |
| P-trend                   | <0.001            | <0.001           |   | <0.001           |   | <0.001           |

\(^a\)Adjusted for age and sex.

\(^b\)Adjusted for model 1 covariates plus marital status, educational level, working status, smoking status, alcohol consumption, and physical activity.

\(^c\)Adjusted for model 2 covariates plus body mass index, systolic blood pressure, high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, and fasting glucose.

eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval; MDRD, Modification of Diet in Renal Disease; NWNT, normal triglyceride level (<1.7 mmol/L) and normal waist circumference (<90 cm for men and <80 cm for women); NTGW, normal triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference (≥90 cm for men and ≥80 cm for women); HTNW, elevated triglyceride level (≥1.7 mmol/L) and normal waist circumference; HTGW, elevated triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference.

Table 3 Odds ratios for decreased eGFR at different levels of triglyceride level and waist circumference

| Variables                  | Cases/Participants | Model 1\(^a\)   |   | Model 2\(^b\)   |   | Model 3\(^c\)   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---|------------------|---|------------------|
|                           |                   | OR (95% CI) P    |   | OR (95% CI) P    |   | OR (95% CI) P    |
| Definition 1              |                   | 1.00             |   | 1.00             |   | 1.00             |
| NTNW1                     | 317/18,318        | 1.80 (1.52-2.14) | <0.001 | 1.80 (1.51-2.14) | <0.001 | 1.69 (1.38-2.07) |
| NTGW1                     | 250/5,808         | 1.52 (1.22-1.90) | <0.001 | 1.52 (1.21-1.90) | <0.001 | 1.48 (1.16-1.88) |
| HTNW1                     | 107/4,228         | 2.78 (2.28-3.40) | <0.001 | 2.80 (2.29-3.41) | <0.001 | 2.64 (2.07-3.38) |
| HTGW1                     | 155/2,942         | <0.001           |   | <0.001           |   | <0.001           |
| P-trend                   |                   | 1.00             |   | 1.00             |   | 1.00             |
| Definition 2              |                   | 1.89 (1.56-2.28) | <0.001 | 1.88 (1.55-2.27) | <0.001 | 1.76 (1.42-2.20) |
| NTNW2                     | 269/16,019        | 1.50 (1.22-1.84) | <0.001 | 1.49 (2.21-1.83) | <0.001 | 1.44 (1.15-1.79) |
| NTGW2                     | 196/4,548         | 2.57 (2.12-3.11) | <0.001 | 2.58 (2.13-3.12) | <0.001 | 2.38 (1.87-3.02) |
| HTNW2                     | 155/6,527         | <0.001           |   | <0.001           |   | <0.001           |
| HTGW2                     | 209/4,202         | 1.00             |   | 1.00             |   | 1.00             |
| P-trend                   |                   | 1.76 (1.42-2.20) | <0.001 | 1.76 (1.42-2.20) | <0.001 | 1.76 (1.42-2.20) |

\(^a\)Adjusted for age and sex.

\(^b\)Adjusted for model 1 covariates plus marital status, educational level, working status, smoking status, alcohol consumption, and physical activity.
status, alcohol consumption, and physical activity.

Adjusted for model 2 covariates plus body mass index, systolic blood pressure, high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, and fasting glucose.

eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval; NWNT1, normal triglyceride level (<2.0 mmol/L) and normal waist circumference (<90 cm for men and <85 cm for women); NTGW1, normal triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference (≥90 cm for men and ≥85 cm for women); HTNW1, elevated triglyceride level (≥2.0 mmol/L) and normal waist circumference; HTGW1, elevated triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference; NWNT2, normal triglyceride level (<2.0 mmol/L for men and <1.5 mmol/L for women) and normal waist circumference (<90 cm for men and <85 cm for women); NTGW2, normal triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference (≥90 cm for men and ≥85 cm for women); HTNW2, elevated triglyceride level (≥2.0 mmol/L for men and ≥1.5 mmol/L for women) and normal waist circumference; HTGW2, elevated triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference.

Table 4 Odds ratios for decreased eGFR according to triglyceride level and waist circumference by various subpopulations

| Subpopulation                      | Cases/Participants | NTNW | NTGW          | HTNW          | HTGW          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Sex groups                        |                    |      |               |               |               |
| Men                               | 350/12,702         | 1.00 | 1.70 (1.21-2.38) | 1.60 (1.16-2.21) | 2.18 (1.49-3.1) |
| Women                             | 479/18,594         | 1.00 | 1.81 (1.35-2.42) | 1.30 (0.86-1.94) | 2.45 (1.77-3.3) |
| Age, years                        |                    |      |               |               |               |
| <60                                | 197/18,111         | 1.00 | 2.20 (1.41-3.43) | 1.60 (1.01-2.51) | 2.37 (1.46-3.8) |
| ≥60                                | 632/13,185         | 1.00 | 1.86 (1.45-2.38) | 1.39 (1.04-1.87) | 2.40 (1.82-3.1) |
| BMI, kg/m²                         |                    |      |               |               |               |
| <24                                | 288/14,965         | 1.00 | 2.10 (1.51-2.93) | 1.42 (1.01-2.01) | 1.97 (1.23-3.1) |
| ≥24                                | 541/16,331         | 1.00 | 1.80 (1.34-2.41) | 1.59 (1.09-2.32) | 2.49 (1.83-3.3) |
| Presence of T2DM                   |                    |      |               |               |               |
| No                                 | 662/27,049         | 1.00 | 1.65 (1.30-2.10) | 1.50 (1.15-1.97) | 2.31 (1.77-3.0) |
| Yes                                | 167/4,247          | 1.00 | 2.97 (1.68-5.24) | 1.60 (0.84-3.06) | 2.95 (1.61-5.3) |
| Presence of hypertension           |                    |      |               |               |               |
| No                                 | 195/15,415         | 1.00 | 1.59 (1.05-2.41) | 1.10 (0.66-1.83) | 1.99 (1.21-3.2) |
| Yes                                | 634/15,881         | 1.00 | 1.85 (1.43-2.39) | 1.67 (1.25-2.23) | 2.45 (1.85-3.2) |

All models adjusted for age, sex, marital status, educational level, working status, smoking status, alcohol consumption, physical activity, body mass index, systolic blood pressure, high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, and fasting glucose.

eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; BMI, body mass index; T2DM, type 2 diabetes mellitus;

NWNT, normal triglyceride level (<1.7 mmol/L) and normal waist circumference (<90 cm for men and
<80 cm for women); NTGW, normal triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference (≥90 cm for men and ≥80 cm for women); HTNW, elevated triglyceride level (≥1.7 mmol/L) and normal waist circumference; HTGW, elevated triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference.

Table 5 Odds ratios for mildly, moderately, and severely decreased eGFR according to triglyceride level and waist circumference

| Mildly decreased eGFR | Number of participants | NTNW | NTGW | P value | HTNW | P value | HTGW |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------|------|---------|------|---------|------|
| Model 1<sup>a</sup>   |                        | 1.00 | 1.13 (1.05-1.20) | < 0.001 | 1.16 (1.08-1.26) | < 0.001 | 1.27 (1.1 |
| Model 2<sup>b</sup>   |                        | 1.00 | 1.14 (1.06-1.21) | < 0.001 | 1.17 (1.08-1.26) | < 0.001 | 1.28 (1.1 |
| Model 3<sup>c</sup>   |                        | 1.00 | 1.04 (0.96-1.13) | 0.328    | 1.11 (1.02-1.20) | 0.013    | 1.14 (1.1 |

| Moderately decreased eGFR | Number of participants | NTNW | NTGW | P value | HTNW | P value | HTGW |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------|------|---------|------|---------|------|
| Model 1<sup>a</sup>       |                        | 1.00 | 2.03 (1.65-2.48) | < 0.001 | 1.62 (1.26-2.08) | < 0.001 | 2.94 (2.3 |
| Model 2<sup>b</sup>       |                        | 1.00 | 2.02 (1.65-2.48) | < 0.001 | 1.61 (1.25-2.07) | < 0.001 | 2.95 (2.3 |
| Model 3<sup>c</sup>       |                        | 1.00 | 1.74 (1.37-2.19) | < 0.001 | 1.52 (1.16-1.98) | < 0.001 | 2.49 (1.5 |

| Severely decreased eGFR  | Number of participants | NTNW | NTGW | P value | HTNW | P value | HTGW |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------|------|---------|------|---------|------|
| Model 1<sup>a</sup>     |                        | 1.00 | 1.96 (0.71-5.41) | 0.192    | 2.95 (0.98-8.84) | 0.054    | 2.42 (0.8 |
| Model 2<sup>b</sup>     |                        | 1.00 | 1.97 (0.72-5.43) | 0.188    | 2.85 (0.95-8.58) | 0.062    | 2.36 (0.7 |
| Model 3<sup>c</sup>     |                        | 1.00 | 1.39 (0.44-4.37) | 0.576    | 1.55 (0.46-5.22) | 0.476    | 1.13 (0.3 |

<sup>a</sup>Adjusted for age and sex.

<sup>b</sup>Adjusted for model 1 covariates plus marital status, educational level, working status, smoking status, alcohol consumption, and physical activity.

<sup>c</sup>Adjusted for model 2 covariates plus body mass index, systolic blood pressure, high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, and fasting glucose.

eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; NWNT, normal triglyceride level (<1.7 mmol/L) and normal waist circumference (<90 cm for men and <80 cm for women); NTGW, normal triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference (≥90 cm for men and ≥80 cm for women); HTNW, elevated triglyceride level (≥1.7 mmol/L) and normal waist circumference; HTGW, elevated triglyceride level and enlarged waist circumference.

Figures
Figure 1
Flowchart of the study population.