**Table S1:** Univariate analysis ($\chi^2$-test) showing the association of blood pressure categories (normal/pre-hypertension / hypertension) with the risk factors among Bangladeshi rural adults, $n = 11145$

| Risk factors                  | Categories of risk factors | High blood pressure (BP) categories (%) | $\chi^2$-value | P-value |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------|---------|
|                             |                           | Normal* Pre-HTN† HTN‡                  |                |         |
| Age                         | ≥ 40 years                 | 38.6 24.9 36.5                          | 1108.1         | < 0.001 |
|                             | < 40 years                 | 64.4 25.9 9.7                           |                |         |
| Gender                      | Women                      | 49.0 23.6 27.4                          | 45.7           | < 0.001 |
|                             | Men                        | 48.5 28.7 22.8                          |                |         |
| Education                   | Literate                   | 51.9 25.4 2.7                           | 114.8          | < 0.001 |
|                             | Illiterate                 | 43.3 25.3 31.5                          |                |         |
| Family history of HTN       | Present                    | 44.8 26.8 28.4                          | 26.8           | < 0.001 |
|                             | Absent                     | 50.3 24.8 24.9                          |                |         |
| Tobacco use                 | Yes                        | 47.4 24.4 28.2                          | 18.2           | < 0.001 |
|                             | No                         | 49.6 25.8 24.5                          |                |         |
| Alcohol intake (once in life)| Yes                       | 57.1 30.0 12.9                          | 6.2            | 0.05    |
|                             | No                         | 48.8 25.3 24.5                          |                |         |
| Inadequate fruit/vegetable intake | Yes              | 49.3 24.5 26.2                          | 8.4            | 0.02    |
|                             | No                         | 47.7 27.1 25.2                          |                |         |
| Fast food intake            | Yes                        | 52.7 28.2 19.1                          | 121.8          | < 0.001 |
|                             | No                         | 47.1 24.0 28.9                          |                |         |
| Sweetened beverage intake  | Yes                        | 52.3 27.0 20.7                          | 90.5           | < 0.001 |
|                             | No                         | 46.8 24.3 28.9                          |                |         |
| Added salt intake           | Yes                        | 51.8 26.0 22.2                          | 137.9          | < 0.001 |
|                             | No                         | 43.8 24.1 32.1                          |                |         |
| Physical activity           | Inactive                   | 40.7 26.1 33.3                          | 86.3           | < 0.001 |
|                             | Active                     | 50.6 25.2 24.2                          |                |         |
| Central obesity             | Present                    | 44.5 25.9 29.6                          | 322.1          | < 0.001 |
|                             | Absent                     | 62.1 23.5 14.3                          |                |         |
| Generalized obesity         | Present                    | 23.0 30.9 46.0                          | 124.1          | < 0.001 |
|                             | Absent                     | 49.8 25.1 25.1                          |                |         |
| Diabetes                    | Present                    | 22.5 23.9 53.5                          | 492.0          | < 0.001 |
|                             | Absent                     | 51.5 25.5 23.1                          |                |         |

* Systolic blood pressure < 120 mmHg and diastolic blood pressure < 80 mmHg
† Systolic blood pressure 120 – 139 mmHg or diastolic blood pressure 80 – 89 mmHg
‡ Systolic blood pressure ≥ 140 mmHg and/ diastolic blood pressure ≥ 90 mmHg