Table 1S. Baseline characteristics according to mean HbA1c type 2 diabetes mellitus

|                                | new | strict control | lenient control | p-value (all) |
|--------------------------------|-----|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| n                              | 58  | 64             | 55              |               |
| Age (years)                    | 71±11| 70±9           | 69±10           | 0.626         |
| Female, n (%)                  | 24 (41.4) | 15 (23.4) | 13 (23.6) | 0.050         |
| Body Mass Index (kg/m²)        | 28±5 | 28±4           | 29±4            | 0.071         |
| HbA₁c (mmol/mol)               | 44 (41, 48) | 46 (42, 51) | 62 (55, 66) | <0.001        |
| Diabetes duration (years)      | < 1 | 8 (2, 15.5) | 16 (10, 28) |               |
| Triglycerides (mmol/L)         | 1.6 (1.1, 2.3) | 1.7 (1.1, 2.4) | 1.9 (1.3, 2.4) | 0.614         |
| HDL-C (mmol/L)                 | 1.3 (1.1, 1.6) | 1.2 (1.1, 1.5) | 1.2 (1.0, 1.4) | 0.214         |
| LDL-C (mmol/L)                 | 2.7 (2.2, 3.4) | 2.3 (1.8, 2.9) | 2.5 (2.0, 3.0) | 0.010         |
| C-reactive Protein (nmol/L)    | 37.1 (17.1, 70.5) | 24.8 (9.5, 50.5) | 31.4 (15.2, 58.1) | 0.057         |
| eGFR (ml/min/1.73 m²)          | 64.6±18.2 | 70.4±19.5 | 66.4±18.4 | 0.268         |
| Hypertension, n (%)            | 56 (96.6) | 62 (96.9) | 53 (96.4) | 0.747         |
| RAAS blockage, n (%)           | 48 (82.8) | 51 (79.7) | 48 (87.3) | 0.545         |
| Statin use, n (%)              | 45 (77.6) | 51 (79.7) | 49 (89.1) | 0.239         |
| Smoking - active, n (%)        | 15 (25.9) | 18 (28.1) | 13 (23.6) |               |
| - quit, n (%)                  | 28 (48.3) | 35 (54.7) | 31 (56.4) | 0.781         |
| - never, n (%)                 | 15 (25.9) | 11 (17.2) | 11 (20.0) |               |
| Carotid artery disease, n (%)  | 24 (41.4) | 28 (43.8) | 25 (45.5) | 0.908         |
| Stroke, n (%)                  | 6 (10.3) | 6 (9.4) | 9 (16.4) | 0.456         |
| Coronary artery disease, n (%) | 22 (37.9) | 26 (40.6) | 21 (38.2) | 0.944         |
| Myocardial infarction, n (%)   | 13 (22.4) | 13 (20.3) | 10 (18.2) | 0.856         |

Data are mean ± SD or median (25,75 percentile) or n (%). Type 2 diabetes mellitus; type 2 diabetes mellitus; new – diagnosis within one year, - strict control HbA1c < 7% (53 mmol/mol), - lenient control ≥ 7% (53 mmol/mol). * p-value for type 2 diabetes mellitus subgroup. eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate according to CKD-EPI equation; HbA₁c, glycated hemoglobin A₁c; HDL-C, high density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDL-C, low density lipoprotein cholesterol; RAAS, renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system; Differences were analyzed by Students' T-Test, ANOVA, Chi-Square Test or Kruskal-Wallis Test as appropriate. An alpha-level of p<0.05 (two-tailed) was considered statistically significant.