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Diabetes and COVID-19 testing, positivity, and mortality: A population-wide study in Northern Italy

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ABSTRACT

AIMS: To assess if patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM2) are: a) at excess risk of undergoing testing, contracting, and dying from SARS-CoV-2 infection compared to the general population; b) whether cardiovascular diseases (CAVDs) contribute to COVID-19-related death; and c) what is the effect of DM2 duration and control on COVID-19-related death.

METHODS: This population-based study involved all 449,440 adult residents of the Reggio Emilia province, Italy. DM2 patients were divided in groups by COVID testing, presence of CAVDs and COVID death. Several mediation analyses were performed.

RESULTS: Patients with DM2 had an increased likelihood of being tested (Odds ratio, OR 1.27 95 %CI 1.23–1.30), testing positive (OR 1.21 95 %CI 1.16–1.26) and dying from COVID-19 (OR 1.75 95 %CI 1.54–2.00). COVID-19-related death was almost three times higher among obese vs non-obese patients with DM2 (OR 4.3 vs 1.6, respectively). For COVID-19 death, CAVDs mediated a) just 5.1 % of the total effect of DM2, b) 40 % of the effect of DM2 duration, and c) did not mediate the effect of glycemic control.

CONCLUSIONS: For COVID-19-related deaths in DM2 patients, the effect is mostly direct, obesity amplifies it, DM2 control and duration are important predictors, while CAVDs only slightly mediates it.

1. Introduction

Ever since Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), caused by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Corona Virus 2 (SARS COV 2), has been declared a public health emergency of international concern at the beginning of 2020 [1], it continues to impact the health, economy, and quality of life of individuals and societies globally. Risk factors for severe COVID-19 disease and mortality were one of the main research targets to achieve clinical and public health decision making, such as triage of hospitalized patients or tailoring vaccination strategies. Diabetes mellitus (DM), hypertension, cancer, and respiratory and kidney diseases have been identified, together with age, obesity, and impaired immune status, as major factors contributing to an increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and death [2]. DM appeared to be
the most frequent comorbidity, after hypertension, in patients with severe illness [2,3], and the predominant underlying comorbidity amongst the COVID-19 non-survivors [4,5].

Although subsequent meta-analyses supported these results [6–12], the association between cardiometabolic risk factors and COVID-19 adverse outcomes in observational hospital-based studies are based on the prevalence of DM among hospitalized patients, which can lead to collider bias [13]. In fact, in studies that considered all patients with COVID-19, irrespective of the disease severity or hospitalization, the prevalence of DM was similar to the DM prevalence in the general population in the corresponding age group [14,15]. It is therefore important to consider the entire general population and to estimate first whether people with DM have an increased likelihood of being tested with respect to the general population.

The role of obesity, diabetes therapy and glucose control and cardiovascular diseases (CAVDs) in adverse COVID-19 outcomes is still unknown. Thus, there are several important questions still unanswered regarding this complex association: whether diabetes type 1 (DM1) and type 2 (DM2) increase the risk of COVID-19 death and if so, is that related in the previous five years; or the local Cancer Registry (period set up the diabetes registry have been described previously [16].

Data on SARS-CoV-2 tests, as well as hospital, clinical, and pharmaceutical data were retrieved from the provincial diabetes registry. The methods applied to data linkage was performed according to the unique identification number assigned to each resident, linking general population data, the diabetes registry, the cancer registry, local administrative databases, data on SARS-CoV-2 tests, as well as hospital, clinical, and pharmaceutical data.

Date of SARS-CoV-2 tests and death were retrieved from the COVID-19 Surveillance Registry, coordinated by the Italian National Institute of Health, and implemented in each Local Health Authority. The whole list of cases tested for SARS-CoV-2 (positive and negative) from February 26, 2020, up to August 10, 2021, was linked to the resident population. DM status, together with the most recent value of BMI and glycated haemoglobin A1c (HbA1c), diabetic drugs and duration of diabetes was retrieved from the provincial diabetes registry. The methods applied to set up the diabetes registry have been described previously [16].

Cancer was defined through linkage with two sources: hospital admissions in the previous five years; or the local Cancer Registry (period 2015–2019), which registers all new cancer diagnoses occurring in people residing in the Reggio Emilia Province.

Information on recent comorbidities, such as CAVDs (Ischemic cardiopathy, heart failure, arrhythmias, vascular diseases, and cerebrovascular diseases), hypertension, dementia, chronic kidney failure and obesity were collected from hospital discharge databases (2015–2019). Charlson comorbidity index (CCI) was calculated based on hospital admissions in the previous ten years and it is used to evaluate the impact of comorbidity on selected outcomes [17]. Our CCI is a measure that incorporates 17 different comorbidity diseases, each of which was weighted according to its potential impact on mortality.

The highest value of triglycerides was retrieved from the laboratory information system. The most recent HbA1c concentration in the period between January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2019, was used as a measure of glycaemic control.

2.2. Outcomes

Outcomes of interest were: (a) being tested for SARS-CoV-2 (at least one PCR test performed); (b) resulting positive for SARS-CoV-2 in a PCR test (definition for COVID-19 cases as adopted by the Italian Ministry of Health); (c) death within 45 days from the COVID-19 diagnosis (first positive swab) and before the double negative swab result (two consecutive negative swabs even with a one-day distance). Reinfections and reinfection-related deaths were not included in the analysis.

2.4. Statistical analysis

Categorical variables are reported as proportions and continuous variables, such as lipid profile variables, are reported as median and interquartile ranges. BMI and triglycerides were categorized based on quartiles. Logistic regression models were used to estimate the associations between each putative risk factor and the outcome, first by univariable model and then by adjusting for age and sex. Odds Ratios (OR) with 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) were calculated.

A direct acyclic graph (DAG) was created in order to identify a bias-minimized model of the associations between diabetes and COVID-19-related death (Supplementary figure).

Among people with a positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR test, we investigated the possible modification effect of CAVDs and DM2 on death. An interaction term was added to the model and the odds ratios for each of the two levels of diabetes (DM2/no diabetes) and odds ratios for each of the two levels of the main comorbidities (yes/no) were calculated.

Furthermore, several mediation analyses were conducted to assess the potential role of the presence of CAVDs as a mediator (intermediate factor) in the association between DM2 and death in people with COVID-19 and between glycaemic control and death and between diabetes duration and death in people with COVID-19 and DM2. The R package “medflex” and Statsa’s “paramed” command were used. The percentage mediated was calculated as (NDE*(NIE−1))/NDE*NIE" with NDE is a natural direct effect (the difference between the value of the counterfactual outcome if the individual had DM2 and the value of the counterfactual outcome if the same individual did not have DM2, with the mediator assuming whatever value it would have taken at the reference value when the exposure (DM2) was not present) and NIE is a natural indirect effect (the contrast, having set the exposure to having DM2, between the value of the counterfactual outcome if the mediator assumed whatever value it would have taken at a reference level of the exposure) [18,19].

Stata/IC 16.1 (Stata Corporation, College Station, Texas 77,845 USA) software and R software were used for all analyses.

3. Ethics

The study was approved by the “Area Vasta Emilia Nord” (AVEN)
Ethics Committee, 07/04/2020, n°2020/0045199.

4. Patient consent

In accordance with the Italian privacy law, no patient or parental consent is required for large retrospective population-based studies approved by the competent Ethics Committee if data are published only in aggregated form.

5. Results

There were 449,440 inhabitants of the Reggio Emilia Province (people over 18 years of age) included in the study. Of them, 32,494 had a diagnosis of DM, out of whom 29,825 had DM2. In total, 158,563 (35.3 %) residents had at least one swab performed, 37,100 (8.2 %) had at least one positive test for SARS-CoV-2 and 1,163 (0.3 %) died with a diagnosis of COVID-19. Almost one third of deceased people had DM2 (27.3 %) or hypertension (26.4 %), while only 0.2 % had DM1 (Table 1). While testing and positivity rates were similar among patients with DM1 and DM2 (42.6 % vs 37.3 % and 8.3 % vs 8.6 %, respectively), mortality was higher among patients with DM2 (1.1 % vs 0.2 %).

In multivariable analysis, both DM1 and DM2 were associated with a higher risk of death (Table 2). The presence of comorbidities, all comorbidities separately (cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease-COPD, cancer, kidney failure), and triglycerides (>156 mg/dL) were associated with death following SARS-CoV-2 positivity. These characteristics were also associated with being tested for and being positive for SARS-CoV-2 (Supplementary Table S1).

Neither comorbidities nor obesity and triglycerides showed significant interaction in predicting mortality in positive patients, i.e., once SARS-CoV-2 is contracted (Table 3). However, obese patients with DM2 had an almost three times higher risk of COVID-19-related death compared to non-obese patients with DM2 (OR 4.3 vs 1.6).

Mediation analysis showed that most of the effect that DM2 manifested on the death from COVID-19 is explained through the direct effect (OR 1.59 95 %CI 1.36–1.85), although there is some significant indirect effect through CAVDs (OR 1.02 95 %CI 1.018–1.022) (Table 4). Overall, 51.0 % of the total effect of DM2 on odds of dying from COVID-19 was mediated through CAVDs.

The effects of the DM2 duration, glycaemic control, DM treatment, and BMI on being tested for, contracting, and dying from COVID-19 were analysed in the subgroup of individuals with DM2. Description of this subgroup concerning clinical variables and primary outcomes are presented in Supplementary Table 2. Patients with HBA1c over 8 % were at a higher risk of all three outcomes (Supplementary Table S3). The duration of DM2 was also significantly associated with all three outcomes, although with a small point estimate.

The presence of all comorbidities separately and CCI were predictors of death among positive patients with DM type 2 (Table S5). Furthermore, triglycerides, BMI (≥32.9), insulin therapy, and HBA1c over 8 % were associated with death following SARS-CoV-2 positivity.

There was a negligible correlation between DM2 duration and DM2 control (Spearman’s ρ = 0.23, p < 0.001) so they were considered as two distinct indicators of DM2 severity and two distinct exposures in the mediation analysis. CAVDs mediated 40 % of the association between DM2 duration and risk of death due to COVID-19, however with very small point estimates (NIE OR 1.002 95 %CI 0.999–1.004) (Supplementary table S4). Uncontrolled DM2 (defined by HBA1c over 8 %), although with little precision and possibly due to chance, conferred risk for death mainly through the indirect effect (NIE OR 1.01 95 %CI 0.952–1.072) (Supplementary Table S5).

6. Discussion

In this population-based study, including almost half a million inhabitants of the Reggio Emilia Province, in Northern Italy, an almost twofold risk of death was observed among patients with DM2 compared to the general population, together with an increased risk of being tested and testing positive for COVID-19. COVID-19-related death was almost three times higher among obese vs non-obese patients with DM2. We found no interaction between DM2 and CAVDs. However, the presence of CAVDs accounted for a small indirect effect (5.1 %) of DM2 on COVID-19 death. In addition, CAVDs were responsible for a great part of effect of DM2 duration on COVID-19 death but did not mediate the association between glycaemic control and COVID-19 death.

Our results are in line with two large-scale national studies, in the UK and South Africa, which examined the risk of COVID-19 adverse outcomes among the general population rather than in a population infected with SARS-CoV-2 [20,21]. They showed increased risks associated with obesity and most comorbidities, including DM (with a higher

### Table 1

| Variables | Population | Tested for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 | Positive for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 | Deaths |
|-----------|------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------|
| N (%)     | N (%)      | N (%)                                | N (%)                                  |        |
| Age, mean (sd) | 52 (18.9) | 51 (19.4) | 50 (19.1) | 82 (10.3) |
| Female sex | 230,006    | 84,602 (53.4) | 19,160 (51.6) | 527 (45.3) |
| Foreigners | 57,319     | 16,454 (10.4) | 3,961 (10.7) | 19 (1.6) |
| Diabetes (no) | 416,964   | 146,377 (92.8) | 34,294 (92.4) | 831 (71.5) |
| Type 1     | 1,191 (0.3) | 508 (0.3) | 100 (0.3) | 5 (0.2) |
| Type 2     | 29,825     | 11,117 (7.0) | 2,570 (6.9) | 371 (27.3) |
| Other      | 208 (0.1) | 81 (0.1) | 15 (0.0) | 1 (0.1) |
| Not defined | 1,270 (0.3) | 480 (0.3) | 121 (0.3) | 12 (1.0) |

| Comorbidity Index | N (%) |
|-------------------|-------|
| COPD              | 11,149 (7.0) |
| Ischemic cardiopathy | 2,108 (5.7) |
| Dementia          | 414 (1.1) |
| Chronic kidney failure | 270 (0.7) |
| Cancer            | 2,108 (5.7) |
| Hypertension      | 1,650 (4.5) |
| Obesity           | 292 (0.8) |
| Heart failure     | 595 (1.6) |
| Arrhythmias       | 799 (2.2) |
| Vascular diseases | 271 (0.7) |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 776 (2.1) |
| Max triglycerides (mg/dl, mean (sd))^ | 132 (105.8) |

COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

^ 186,790 (41.6%) missing.
risk associated with elevated HbA1c). A Swedish study with complete population coverage identified DM2 and obesity as major determinants of mortality irrespective of age, sex, and kidney failure [22].

The effect of DM1 on COVID-19 prognosis is not consistent in the literature. While in some population cohort studies both DM1 and DM2 were associated with a higher risk of COVID-19 mortality [23], other populations, with a high prevalence of DM1, did not find a significant effect of DM1 on COVID-19 mortality [24]. Even though it may be due to chance, in our study DM1 was associated with being tested, testing positive and dying from COVID-19 when adjusted for age and sex. In-depth population-based analyses are needed to confirm the role of DM1 and its complications on the risk of severe COVID-19.

Results of our mediation analysis suggest that the presence of CAVDs only slightly mediates the effect of DM2 on COVID-19-related death. The presence of obesity, on the other hand, increased the risk of death in patients with DM2 compared to those without obesity. All this suggests that while obesity and DM2 might have an overlapping effect on death, the presence of CAVDs is more likely to be an additional independent predictor of death. This is the first study to our knowledge that explored possible pathways of this association, so there are no studies with which our results can be compared. However, the general knowledge is that the chronic low-grade inflammatory state ongoing in subjects with obesity and DM2 could intensify the inflammatory response to SARS-CoV-2 infection precipitating the cytokine storm that consequently leads to pneumonia, acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), and multiorgan failure observed in severe COVID-19 cases [25]. Obesity, DM2, and CAVDs commonly coexist in the same individuals, and it is likely that they share the same mechanisms that cause damage and vascular remodelling, increasing the risk of COVID-19 death [26].

In our study, diabetes control (HBA1c over 8 %), DM2 duration, and treatment of DM2 with insulin were significantly associated with being tested for, contracting, and dying from COVID-19. Similarly, a population-based study from the Piedmont region in Italy reported a relative risk of 1.26 in patients with DM2 and HBA1c over 8 % [27]. A large population-based study of all patients diagnosed with DM1 and DM2 in the UK showed that patients with an HBA1c over 7.6 % had a 22 % higher risk of COVID-19-related mortality than patients with HBA1c below 6.5–7 % [28]. An Israeli cohort study found that lowering HBA1c from 8.0 % to 6.0 % was associated with a 29.0 % decreased risk of developing severe COVID-19 [29]. However, a recent meta-analysis of 22 studies found no association between HBA1c and risk of COVID-19-related death or severity of COVID-19 [10].

Mediation analysis, based on the suggested associations from the DAG, showed that in CAVDs did not mediate the effect of DM2 control on death, but it mediated a great part of the effect of DM2 duration on death, although it had a small point estimate. This is somewhat expected given that DM2 duration is strongly associated with the risk of macrovascular events, microvascular events, and all-cause mortality [30]; on the one hand, poor glycaemic control is considered an important

### Table 2
Multivariable logistic regression among positive cases, adjusted for sex and age.

| Variables                        | Death | OR   | 95 % CI     |
|---------------------------------|-------|------|-------------|
| Foreigners                      | 0.847 | 0.524–1.370 |
| Diabetes (no)                   | 1     |      |             |
| Type 1                          | 1.584 | 0.347–7.232 |
| Type 2                          | 1.699 | 1.460–1.976 |
| Other                           | 0.981 | 0.808–1.887 |
| Not defined                     | 0.971 | 0.510–1.847 |
| Charlson Comorbidity Index (0)  | 1     |      |             |
| Charlon index 1                 | 1.805 | 1.499–2.172 |
| Heart failure                   | 2.052 | 1.667–2.526 |
| Amyloid disease                 | 3.040 | 2.398–3.853 |
| COPD                            | 2.197 | 1.679–2.874 |
| Ischemic cardiopathy            | 1.543 | 1.238–1.924 |
| Dementia                        | 1.329 | 1.039–1.698 |
| Chronic kidney failure          | 2.985 | 2.203–4.045 |
| Cancer                          | 1.534 | 1.273–1.849 |
| Hypertension                    | 1.794 | 1.533–2.099 |
| Obesity                         | 3.472 | 2.212–5.449 |
| Heart failure                   | 1.909 | 1.544–2.361 |
| Arrhythmias                     | 1.646 | 1.348–2.010 |
| Vascular diseases               | 2.018 | 1.447–2.812 |
| Cerebrovascular disease         | 1.582 | 1.290–1.941 |
| Max triglycerides (≥78)         | 1     |      |             |
| 79–109                          | 1.19  | 0.92–1.55 |
| 110–156                         | 1.32  | 1.03–1.70 |
| ≥157                            | 1.80  | 1.41–2.31 |
| missing                         | 1.01  | 0.77–1.34 |
| Smoothing (not defined)         | 1.22  | 1.13–1.30 |

* Trend is evaluated using continuous exposure variables, excluding missing values.
* Triglycerides were categorized based on quartiles.

### Table 3
The odds ratio for each level of diabetes and of the main comorbidities among positive cases, logistic models are adjusted for sex and age (excluding diabetes type 1, other or not defined).

| Variables                        | Deaths | OR   | 95 % CI     |
|---------------------------------|--------|------|-------------|
| DM2/all cardiovascular diseases  |        | 1.89 | 1.58–2.25   |
| DM2/ischemic cardiopathy        |        | 1.73 | 1.43–2.09   |
| DM2/vascular diseases           |        | 1.49 | 1.14–1.94   |
| DM2/cerebrovascular diseases    |        | 1.37 | 1.06–1.76   |
| DM2/hypertension                |        | 1.54 | 1.00–2.36   |
| DM2/heart failure               |        | 0.93 | 0.46–1.87   |
| DM2/arrhythmias                 |        | 1.47 | 0.99–2.18   |
| DM2/obesity                     |        | 1.44 | 0.55–3.74   |
| DM2/triglycerides (quartiles)   |        | 1.40 | 1.44–12.81  |

Table 4
Total, direct and indirect (through CAVDs) effects of the DM2 on COVID-19 death among SARS-CoV-2 positive people.

|                  | OR  | 95 % CI     |
|------------------|-----|-------------|
| NDE              | 1.591 | 1.365–1.854 |
| NIE              | 1.018 | 1.011–1.024 |
| Total effect     | 1.619 | 1.390–1.886 |

NDE, natural direct effect; NIE, natural indirect effect.

a Model adjusted for sex and age (n = 36864).
b Model adjusted for sex, age, and triglycerides (n = 22257).
Moreover, being positive for SARS-CoV-2 from PCR does not represent all positive people, especially in the general population [13]. Among patients with DM type 2 positive for SARS-CoV-2, adjusted for sex and age.

| Variables | Deaths | OR     | 95% CI |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|
| Foreigners | 0.84   | 0.39-1.78|
| Charlson Comorbidity Index (0) | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1.47 | 1.02-2.10 |
| 2 | 2.07 | 1.44-2.98 |
| 3 | 2.52 | 1.67-3.80 |
| COPD | 1.73 | 1.07-2.82 |
| Ischemic cardiopathy | 1.43 | 1.00-2.04 |
| Dementia | 1.13 | 0.72-1.77 |
| Chronic kidney failure | 2.70 | 1.76-4.16 |
| Cancer | 1.65 | 1.16-2.34 |
| Hypertension | 1.63 | 1.23-2.15 |
| Obesity | 3.29 | 1.91-5.66 |
| Heart failure | 1.63 | 1.15-2.33 |
| Arrhythmias | 1.55 | 1.09-2.19 |
| Vascular diseases | 1.37 | 0.77-2.44 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 1.37 | 0.94-2.00 |
| Max triglycerides (≥118) | 1 | 1 |
| 118-159 | 1.26 | 0.87-1.81 |
| 160-224 | 1.65 | 1.14-2.38 |
| >224 | 1.66 | 1.12-2.46 |
| missing | 0.77 | 0.38-1.53 |
| trend | 1.20 | 1.06-1.36 |
| BMI (≥25.9) | 1 | 1 |
| 25.9-29.1 | 1.25 | 0.76-2.05 |
| 29.11-32.9 | 1.03 | 0.61-1.74 |
| >32.9 | 2.38 | 1.42-3.99 |
| Glycated haemoglobin (≥7%) | 1 | 1 |
| 7-8 % | 1.23 | 0.90-1.69 |
| >8 % | 1.40 | 0.97-2.02 |
| Diabetic drugs (only diet) | 1 | 1 |
| Insulin | 2.37 | 1.56-3.59 |
| Oral hypoglycemics | 1.26 | 0.91-1.75 |
| Insulin + oral hypoglycemics | 1.41 | 0.94-2.13 |
| Duration of diabetes (year) | 1.01 | 0.99-1.02 |

COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Data on obesity were collected from the hospital discharge database, i.e., among people hospitalized at least once with obesity as an underlying disease. Data on the most recently BMI were retrieved from the diabetes registry.

6.1. Strengths and limitations

We acknowledge that our study has limitations. Patients living with DM are more vigilant regarding their adherence to prescribed medications during the COVID-19 pandemic, keeping their glucose level controlled or even improving it [33,34]. They are probably more reserved in social contacts and more responsive to minimal signs of infection meaning that they might be less exposed to the virus and test more often compared to the non-diabetic population. However, they have generally increased predisposition to all infections due to compromised immune systems secondary to the metabolic derangements in obesity and DM and chronic low-grade inflammation [25]. Moreover, being positive for SARS-CoV-2 from PCR does not represent all positive people, especially in the general population [13]. The most recent HbA1c concentration, measured on a single occasion in patients with prevalent DM2, may not be representative of an effect of longer-term hyperglycaemia. There might also be a misclassification due to placing undiagnosed DM into the non-diabetic population and underestimating the risk of infection if there is a real association. The data about obesity was recovered from the hospital discharge database, i.e., only among people who were hospitalized at least once with obesity as an underlying disease, and thus does not represent obesity of the entire population. Although a DAG was constructed and an attempt was made to disentangle the effect of DM2, CAVDs, and obesity by checking interaction and performing official mediation analysis, this is hardly sufficient to understand this complex interplay or draw conclusions about causal inference. There might also be some unmeasured confounders, such as smoking and other behaviours (Supplementary Figure).

The major strength of this study is the inclusion of the entire population, not only hospitalizations, thus diminishing selection bias present in most observational hospital-based studies. Furthermore, we had the opportunity to use data from a diabetes registry collecting data on duration and control of the disease.

7. Conclusion

We have confirmed the importance of DM2, obesity, and presence of CAVDs as clinical factors associated with COVID-19 infection and death in a large cohort study in the general population of one Italian province. A complex interplay was observed between these three comorbidities on their effects on COVID-19 death; the presence of CAVDs only slightly mediates the effect of DM2 on COVID-19-related death and the effect of DM2 is similar in the presence and absence of CAVDs while obesity amplifies the effect of DM2 on COVID-19-related death. Both DM2 control (expressed as HbA1c) and DM2 duration are important predictors of COVID-19 infection and death, however, only duration of DM2 evinces its effect on death through an increased risk of CAVDs.

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 Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Data availability

Data are available upon reasonable request. According to Italian law, anonymized data can only be made publicly available if there is no potential for the re-identification of individuals (https://www.garanteprivacy.it). Thus, the data underlying this study are available on request to researchers who meet the criteria for access to confidential data. In order to obtain data, approval must be obtained from the Area Vasta Emilia Nord (AVEN) Ethics Committee, who would then authorize us to provide aggregated or anonymized data. Data access requests...
Appendix A. Supplementary material

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.diabres.2022.110051.