**Online supplementary material 4.** Methods used for sensitivity analyses

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Affected variable** | **First author** | **Main analysis method** | **Sensitivity analysis method** | **Journal field** |
| **Exposure** | Fan et al. (1) | Adjusting for using medication | Restricting to individuals free of a condition | Cardiology |
| Mahinrad et al. (2) | Ignoring | Restricting to non-medication users | Cardiology |
| Glodzik et al. (3) | Ignoring | Restricting to individuals free of a condition | Cardiology |
|  |  | Restricting to individuals having a condition |  |
| James et al. (4) | Ignoring | Adjusting for having a condition (yes/no) | Diabetes |
|  |  | Replace to maximum values within the cohort |  |
| Punthakee et al. (5) | Adjusting for using medication | Restricting to individuals free of a condition | Diabetes |
|  |  | Restricting to individuals with a condition |  |
|  | Parrinello et al. (6) | Ignoring | Restricting to individuals free of diabetes | Diabetes |
| **Outcome** | Benschop et al. (7) | Restricting to individuals free of a condition at the baseline | Restricting to individuals free of a condition during the entire follow-up | Cardiology |
| Pazoki et al. (8) | Adding medication effect | Restricting to non-medication users | Cardiology |
| Cai et al. (9) | Ignoring | Adjusting for using medication (yes/no) | Cardiology |
| Yano et al. (10) | Adjusting for using medication | Restricting to individuals free of a condition | Cardiology |
| Koivistoinen et al. (11) | Ignoring | Restricting to individuals free of a condition | Cardiology |
|  |  | Restricting to individuals free of a condition |  |
| Wolf et al. (12) | Ignoring | Restricting to non-medication users | Diabetes |
| Much et al. (13) | Ignoring | Adjusting for using medication (yes/no) | Diabetes |
| Bonnefond et al. (14) | Ignoring | Adjusting for using medication (yes/no) | Diabetes |
| Weber et al. (15) | Ignoring | Restricting to non-medication users | Diabetes |
| Simons et al. (16) | Ignoring | Restricting to non-medication users | Diabetes |
| Cabrera et al. (17) | Ignoring | Restricting to non-medication users | Epidemiology |

**Appendix 4. (continued)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Affected variable** | **First author** | **Main analysis method** | **Sensitivity analysis method** | **Journal field** |
| **Outcome** | Chen et al. (18) | Restricting to non-medication users | Restricting to medication users | Epidemiology |
|  | Scannell et al. (19) | Adding a constant value | Adjusting for using medication (yes/no) | Epidemiology |
|  | Vogt et al. (20) | Ignoring | Adjusting for using medication (yes/no) | Epidemiology |
|  | Curto et al. (21) | Adjusting for using medication | Restricting to non-medication users | Epidemiology |
| **Confounder** | Buglioni et al. (22) | Ignoring | Restricting to non-medication users | Cardiology |
|  |  |  | Restricting to medication users |  |

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