SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS AND METHODS

Measurement of potential confounders

BMI was calculated as body weight (kg) divided by the square of the height (m²) and was categorized according to the WHO criteria recommended for Asians (overweight: $23 \le BMI < 27.5$; obesity: $BMI \ge 27.5$) [1]. Comorbidities included hypertension, diabetes mellitus, stroke, cardiovascular disease, arthritis, chronic kidney disease, cancer and lung disease. The presence of hypertension was based on self-report, antihypertensive drug treatment or an average blood pressure of ≥140/90 mmHg [2]. Diabetes mellitus was defined by self-report, medication use, fasting blood glucose of 126 mg/dL or higher or HbA1c of \geq 6.5% [3]. Chronic kidney disease was defined as an estimated glomerular filtration rate of $<60 \text{ mL} \cdot \text{min}^{-1} (1.73 \text{ m}^2)^{-1}$ [4]. Other diseases were assessed by referring to the self-reported physician's diagnosis. Use of uric acid lowering drug was determined by assessing whether individuals were taking medicine with contents of any one of below: Allopurinol, Febuxostat, Probenecid, Sulfinpyrazone, Benzbromarone or Rasburicase.

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