



馬偕紀念醫院  
MacKay Memorial Hospital

# Combined Effects of Obesity and Smoking on Subclinical Coronary Artery Disease

Kai-Hsuan Cheng<sup>1</sup>, Shih-Kai Kao<sup>1</sup>, Chuen-Fei Chen<sup>1</sup>, Meng-Ting Tsou<sup>2</sup>,  
Lee-Ching Hwang<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Medicine, MacKay Medical College, New Taipei City, Taiwan

<sup>2</sup> Department of Family Medicine, MacKay Memorial Hospital, Taipei City, Taiwan

• **2023.9.21**

29<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HEALTH  
PROMOTING HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SERVICES  
VIENNA, HYBRID CONFERENCE | SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2023



International Network of  
Health Promoting Hospitals  
& Health Services



# Background

- Coronary artery disease (CAD):  
#atherosclerotic plaque accumulation and calcification.
- Coronary Artery Calcium Scoring (CAC):  
#non-invasive quantitation of coronary artery calcification using computed tomography (CT).  
#a marker of atherosclerotic plaque burden  
#an independent predictor of CAD
- Major risk factors for CAD, including older age, male, high BP, DM, hyperlipidemia, **obesity** and **smoking**.



Curr Opin Cardiol. 2021;36(6):769-775. doi:10.1097/HCO.0000000000000911

Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol. 2011;31(11):2715-2722. doi:10.1161/ATVBAHA.111.234062

- 
- **Obesity (BMI $\geq$ 30) : OR 1.47**
  - **Smoker : OR=1.88**
  - There is less evidence to compare obesity indicators and the combined effects of obesity and smoking.

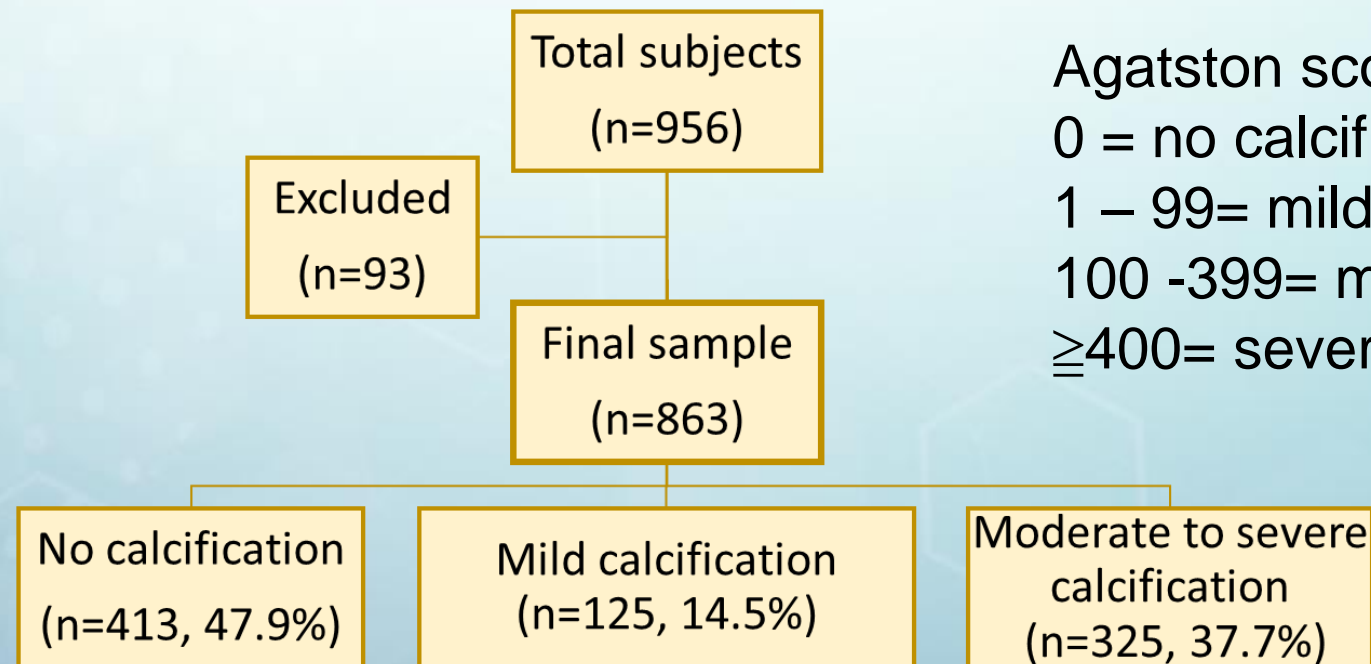
---

## Aim: [Relevance to Health Promotion in Hospitals and Health Services]

- Investigate the relationship between **different indicators of obesity** (body fat [BF], waist circumference [WC], body mass index [BMI]) and subclinical CAD
- **The combined effect of obesity and smoking**

# Methods

- **956 participants aged 50 to 75 years old** who underwent coronary CT in health checkups
- Three groups: **no** calcification, **mild** calcification and **moderate to severe** calcification groups



Agatston score  
0 = no calcification  
1 – 99= mild calcification;  
100 -399= moderate calcification;  
≥400= severe calcification



**Table1. Characteristics of the study participants**

| Characteristics          | No calcification <sup>A</sup><br>(n=413, 47.9%) | Mild calcification <sup>B</sup><br>(n=325, 37.7%) | Moderate to severe calcification <sup>C</sup><br>(n=125, 14.5%) | P value | Post-hoc analysis |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|---------|-------------------|
| Age (years)              | 58.5 ± 5.7                                      | 60.6 ± 6.2  | 62.4 ± 6.4  | <.001*  | C>B>A             |
| Gender Men (n, %)        | 197 (47.7)                                      | 218 (67.1)  | 94 (75.2)   | <.001*  |                   |
| Women (n, %)             | 216 (52.3)                                      | 107 (32.9)  | 31 (24.8)   |         |                   |
| SBP (mmHg)               | 126.9 ± 17.6                                    | 129.5 ± 17.2                                      | 130.6 ± 17.7  | 0.040*  | C>A               |
| DBP (mmHg)               | 78.2 ± 10.3                                     | 78.9 ± 10.1                                       | 78.1 ± 11.1   | 0.681   |                   |
| HTN (n, %)               | 65 (15.7)                                       | 82 (25.2)   | 46 (36.8)   | <.001*  |                   |
| DM (n, %)                | 61 (14.8)                                       | 73 (22.5)   | 49 (39.2)   | <.001*  |                   |
| AC (mg/dL)               | 101.9 ± 20.3                                    | 106.6 ± 26.0                                      | 112.0 ± 32.3  | 0.001*  | C>B>A             |
| TG (mg/dL)               | 129.6 ± 73.3                                    | 138.7 ± 67  | 155.6 ± 93.6  | 0.002*  | C>B, C>A          |
| LDL-C (mg/dL)            | 133.4 ± 33.9                                    | 133.9 ± 34.3                                      | 135.5 ± 39.4  | 0.840   |                   |
| HDL-C (mg/dL)            | 54.1 ± 15.8                                     | 51.6 ± 14.9                                       | 49.5 ± 15.5   | 0.006*  | A>B, A>C          |
| BF (n, %)                | 27.9 ± 6.7                                      | 27.3 ± 6.4  | 27.4 ± 6.8  | 0.439   |                   |
| WC (cm)                  | 85.1 ± 9.9                                      | 87.3 ± 8.5  | 89.7 ± 9.0  | <.001*  | C>B>A             |
| BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) | 24.5 ± 3.4                                      | 25.2 ± 3.1  | 25.5 ± 3.5  | 0.003*  | C>A, B>A          |
| Smoking (n, %)           | 82 (18.9)                                       | 78 (23.3)   | 50 (36.5)   | 0.001*  |                   |

**Table2. Multiple logistic regression analysis of the presence of coronary artery calcification**

|                       |     | Moderate to severe calcification compared with no calcification |               |
|-----------------------|-----|---|---------------|
|                       |     | OR  | 95%CI         |
| Total participants BF |     | 1.052   | (1.011-1.094) |
| WC                    |     | 1.027   | (1.002-1.053) |
| BMI                   |     | 1.063   | (0.996-1.135) |
| Men group             | BF  | 1.094   | (1.035-1.155) |
|                       | WC  | 1.038   | (1.005-1.073) |
|                       | BMI | 1.109   | (1.020-1.207) |
| Women group           | BF  | 1.001   | (0.938-1.067) |
|                       | WC  | 1.014   | (0.974-1.055) |
|                       | BMI | 0.989   | (0.880-1.111) |
| Age 50-65 yrs         | BF  | 1.066   | (1.018-1.117) |
|                       | WC  | 1.024   | (0.995-1.055) |
|                       | BMI | 1.068   | (0.992-1.151) |
| Age ≥ 65 yrs          | BF  | 1.013   | (0.939-1.092) |
|                       | WC  | 1.034   | (0.981-1.091) |
|                       | BMI | 1.038   | (0.892-1.208) |



Adjusted for age, gender, smoking, fasting plasma glucose, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol and systolic blood pressure

**Table3. Comparison of obese smokers, non-smokers and normal-weight individuals**

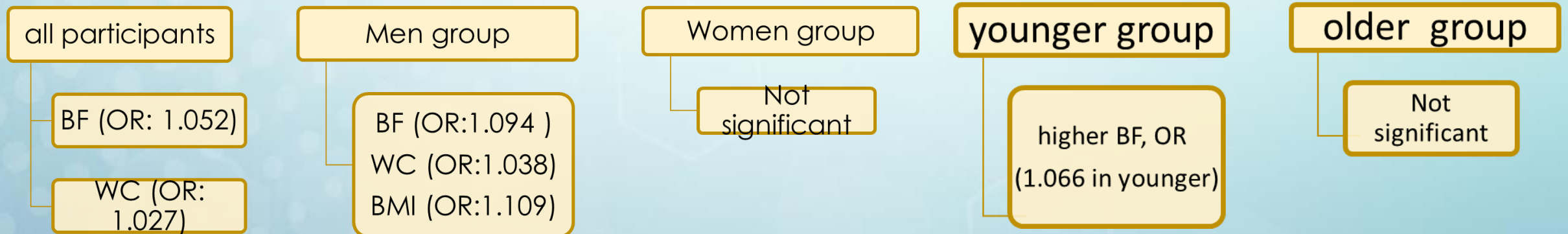
| Obesity indicators          | BMI                        | WC                         |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
|                             | OR (95% CI)                | OR (95% CI)                |
| Normal-weight + non-smoking | 1.000                      | 1.000                      |
| <b>Obesity + smoking</b>    | <b>3.028 (1.547-5.926)</b> | <b>3.629 (1.850-7.118)</b> |
| Obesity + non-smoking       | 1.090 (0.633-1.876)        | 1.513 (0.871-2.628)        |
| Normal-weight + smoking     | 1.303 (0.537-3.159)        | 1.723 (0.798-3.721)        |





# Major results-1

- In univariate analysis, higher WC, BMI, and smoking rates were seen in the moderate to severe calcification group.
- **Higher BF and WC** were significantly associated with moderate to severe coronary artery calcification in all participants.
- The odds ratio of all obesity indicators in men was increased. However, this association was not seen in women or elderly.



# Major results-2

- Obese smokers have significantly increased risk of coronary artery stenosis compared with non-smokers and normal-weight individuals.

Obese smokers

Higher **coronary artery calcification** risk

# Discussion

- The relationship between the indicators of obesity (e.g., BMI) and the presence of CAD is still uncertain and debatable.
- Our study showed WC and BF, as obesity indicators, were more significant predictors than BMI, leading to the trend of coronary artery calcification grade.
- The OR is higher in men and younger people.
- Obese smokers have a significantly increased risk of coronary artery stenosis compared with non-smokers and normal-weight people

# Study limitation

- Selection bias may exist, and the results may not generalize to common populations.
- Due to the small number of participants, we need to combine the participants with obesity and overweight ( $BMI \geq 24$ ).
- There are many risk factors in CAD, such as unhealthy dietary habits, and it isn't easy to consider them in one model.



# Conclusion

- BF and WC can be used as a regular monitoring index for the prediction of CAD in adults in Taiwan, especially in men and young people.
- For obese smokers, the risk of CAD may remarkably increase.
- Obese smokers can take notice of this and take action to quit smoking and start controlling their weight for prevention of CAD.



# Thank for your attention !

