

## Research Article

# Trends in CVD Risk Factors for Youth with Incident Diabetes: SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth

Ronny A. Bell <sup>1</sup>, Joseph Rigdon <sup>2</sup>, Anna Bellatorre <sup>3</sup>, Dana Dabelea <sup>3</sup>,  
Ralph D'Agostino Jr. <sup>2</sup>, Jasmin Divers <sup>4</sup>, Lawrence M. Dolan <sup>5</sup>, Elizabeth Jensen <sup>2</sup>,  
Angela D. Liese <sup>6</sup>, Eva Lustigova <sup>7</sup>, Santica M. Marcovina <sup>8</sup>, Lina Merjaneh <sup>9</sup>,  
David J. Pettitt <sup>10</sup>, Catherine Pihoker <sup>9</sup>, Amy S. Shah <sup>5</sup>, Andrew M. South <sup>2</sup> and  
Lynne E. Wagenknecht <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA

<sup>2</sup>Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC, USA

<sup>3</sup>University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO, USA

<sup>4</sup>New York University Langone Medical Center, New York, NY, USA

<sup>5</sup>Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and The University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, USA

<sup>6</sup>University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, USA

<sup>7</sup>Kaiser Permanente Southern California, Pasadena, CA, USA

<sup>8</sup>Medpace Reference Laboratories, Cincinnati, OH, USA

<sup>9</sup>University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

<sup>10</sup>Retired, Santa Barbara, CA, USA

Correspondence should be addressed to Ronny A. Bell; [bellr@unc.edu](mailto:bellr@unc.edu)

Received 28 March 2023; Revised 23 April 2024; Accepted 8 June 2024

Academic Editor: Robert P. Hoffman

Copyright © 2024 Ronny A. Bell et al. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

**Objectives.** Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death and disability among persons with diabetes. Early intervention on cardiovascular risk factors (CRFs) is important in reducing CVD burden. The SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth study assessed CRFs in incident cohorts of youth aged <20 years established from 2002 to 2016. **Research Design and Methods.** Regression models assessed trends over each incident year for lipids (total cholesterol (TC), HDL-c, LDL-c, triglycerides (TG), VLDL-c, and non-HDL-c), kidney function (albumin/creatinine ratio (ACR)  $\geq 30$  and  $\geq 300$ , cystatin C, serum creatinine and estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR)), systolic and diastolic blood pressure (BP) z-scores, BMI z-score, waist circumference (WC), and an inflammatory marker (C-reactive protein (CRP)). Models were stratified by diabetes type (type 1 diabetes (T1D),  $N = 4,600$ ; type 2 diabetes (T2D),  $N = 932$ ) and adjusted for age at diagnosis, sex, race/ethnicity, and diabetes duration. An interaction analysis assessed differential time trends by type. **Results.** For youth with T1D, all CRFs significantly improved over time, with the exception of ACR  $> 300$ , cystatin C, serum creatinine, eGFR, and CRP. For youth with T2D, TC, LDL-c, and non-HDL-c significantly improved, while eGFR, BMI z-score, and CRP significantly worsened. Significant differences in trends over time by type were seen for TC, HDL-c, BMI z-score, BP z-scores, WC, and CRP. **Conclusions.** Overall, improvements in CRFs were more often observed in youth with T1D. Youth with T2D had worsening trends over time in BMI z-score, CRP, and kidney function. Further research is needed to better understand these trends and their implications for long-term CVD risk.

## 1. Introduction

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death, disability, and health care costs among adults with diabetes [1, 2, 3, 4]. Early detection and management of traditional cardiometabolic risk factors (CRFs), including obesity, blood

pressure, lipids, and kidney function, can provide significant benefits in reducing CVD risk, particularly for young adults with diabetes in the early stages of their condition [5].

The SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth study (SEARCH), which has conducted systematic surveillance of incident cases of diabetes in the United States for youth-onset Type 1

diabetes (T1D) and Type 2 diabetes (T2D) ( $\leq 19$  years of age) since 2002, provides a unique opportunity to monitor trends in health around the time of diagnosis, quality of care and quality of life in this population [6, 7]. The active surveillance period for SEARCH (2002–2020) included monitoring of many events that could potentially influence the quality of care for youth with diabetes, including increased awareness and screening for T2D in youth [8], better treatment options for glycemic control and CRFs [9], and health care reform initiatives, including the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which was signed into law in 2010 but has not been fully implemented nationwide [10].

In a previous SEARCH analysis, Kim et al. [11] examined CRF trends through the 2012 SEARCH incident cohort, showing an increase in the overall number of CRFs among youth with T2D, with an increase in high waist circumference among youth with T2D, and a reduction in the proportion with elevated blood pressure among youth with T1D. The current analysis extends this work by including the most recent SEARCH incident cohort (2016) and an expanded panel of additional CRFs, including measures of kidney function and the inflammatory marker C-reactive protein (CRP) among youth with incident T1D and T2D. We hypothesized that (a) there would be an improvement over time in the absolute levels of CRFs and the proportion with elevated CRFs among youth diagnosed with T1D or T2D, and (b) the rates of improvement would be similar in youth diagnosed with T1D compared to T2D.

## 2. Research Design and Methods

**2.1. Study Population.** Data for this study came from SEARCH, a nationally representative multicenter study of youth with incident T1D or T2D [6, 7]. The SEARCH study included active surveillance in four geographic study sites in South Carolina (the entire state), Ohio (eight counties including Cincinnati), Colorado (the entire state), and Washington (five counties around Seattle), a health plan site (Kaiser Permanente Southern California) and American Indian reservations in Arizona and New Mexico who received their care through the Indian Health Service. Incident cohorts of youth diagnosed at age  $< 20$  years (T1D) and age 10–19 years (T2D; ages truncated due to small cell counts for T2D  $< 10$  years of age) in these regions were established annually from 2002 to 2006, and subsequently in 2008, 2012, and 2016. Written informed consent was obtained from all participants aged 18 and older. Informed consent as well as parental assent were obtained from the parents or guardians of all participants  $< 18$  years of age and participants themselves, respectively, following Institutional Review Board (IRB) regulations at each of the clinical sites. IRB approval was also obtained at the SEARCH Coordinating Center.

**2.2. Data Collection.** Incident cases, ages 3–19 years, identified in the SEARCH catchment areas were invited for an in-person visit to complete questionnaires and for collection of anthropometric data and blood and urine samples by centrally trained research staff under a study-wide protocol to assess clinical outcomes. For youth with incident diabetes

in cohorts prior to 2016, all cases were invited for an in-person visit. For participants with incident diabetes in 2016, a subset was invited for the in-person visit. Youth eligible for this visit included all cases diagnosed during 2016 who identified as a racial/ethnic minority, those with a provider diagnosis of T2D, and 25% of non-Hispanic White youth with a provider diagnosis of T1D, randomly selected for invitation.

Blood and urine samples were shipped to the SEARCH Central Laboratory at the Northwest Lipid Metabolism and Diabetes Research Laboratories at the University of Washington, and all data were sent and analyzed by the SEARCH Coordinating Center at the Wake Forest University School of Medicine. Written informed consent was obtained from participants  $\geq 18$  years of age and from parents or guardians of younger participants. Written assent was obtained from youth aged 8–17 years. The eight incident cohorts from 2002 to 2006, 2008, 2012, and 2016 generated 11,056 incident cases (8,482 T1D, 2,359 T2D, 205 missing type). Of these, a total of 4,600 individuals with T1D and 932 individuals with T2D completed the in-person visit. Study participants ranged from 438 in 2016 to 699 in 2008 for T1D and from 75 in 2005–209 in 2016 for T2D, with the differences in sample size for 2016 reflective of the change in the recruitment strategy for this cohort.

**2.3. Study Variables.** For the CRFs of interest, this analysis focused on traditional CRFs, including lipid, kidney, inflammation, anthropometric, and blood pressure outcomes. We did not include measures of glycemia as this work has been reported previously in SEARCH for the most recent incident cohort [12, 13]. Lipid outcomes were assessed from blood samples drawn after at least an 8-hr fast and included total cholesterol (TC), HDL cholesterol (HDL-c), LDL cholesterol (LDL-c), triglycerides (TG), very low-density lipoprotein (VLDL) cholesterol, and non-HDL cholesterol. Lipid analyses were performed enzymatically on a Roche c502 autoanalyzer (Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis, Indiana). LDL-c levels were assessed by the Friedewald equation for study participants with TG levels less than 400 mg/dL [14] and by the Lipid Research Clinics Beta Quantification [15] for those with TG levels of  $\geq 400$  mg/dL. Kidney outcomes include serum creatinine, albumin to creatinine ratio (ACR, two separate binary variables as  $ACR < \text{or} \geq 30$  and  $ACR \leq \text{or} > 300$ ) [16], cystatin C, and estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) as calculated using the 2021 CKD-EPI creatinine-only and creatinine-cystatin C equations [17]. Serum and urinary creatinine were assessed using the Creatinine Plus enzymatic Roche reagent on a Roche c501 Cobas chemistry auto-analyzer (Roche Diagnostics, Inc., Indianapolis, IN). Urinary albumin was assessed from an overnight urine sample using Siemens reagent (Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics, Inc., Newark, DE). Cystatin C was assessed from serum using an immunochemical technique with Siemens reagents (Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics, Inc., Newark, DE). Inflammation was assessed through the measurement of CRP, which was performed using Siemens reagent on a Siemens BNII nephelometer (Siemens Healthineer, Cary, NC).

The anthropometric outcomes of interest were age- and sex-specific BMI *z*-scores, assessed through height and weight measurements collected with participants wearing light indoor clothing without shoes (average of two measures) and waist circumference (WC), measured using the NHANES protocol, with the average of two measures, with a third measure conducted if the initial two measures differed by 1.0 cm [18]. Blood pressure was assessed using a standard sphygmomanometer with size-appropriate cuffs, and measures included systolic blood pressure (SBP) *z*-score and diastolic blood pressure (DBP) *z*-score, both calculated using the 2017 American Academy of Pediatrics Clinical Practice Guideline [19, 20]. Demographic characteristics included age at study visit, age at diabetes diagnosis, and self-reported race/ethnicity (non-Hispanic White, non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic White, and others, including American Indian/Alaska Natives and Asian/Pacific Islanders). For statistical analyses, race/ethnicity was grouped as white, Black, Hispanic, or other. Diabetes type was defined as the type assigned by a health care provider at the time of diagnosis obtained from medical records by SEARCH research staff.

**2.4. Statistical Analysis.** First, we conducted a descriptive analysis of the pooled cross-sectional incident cases, organized by diabetes type. Next, CRFs over time (differences in CRF absolute values and percentages with elevated CRFs across each of the incident groups in 2002–2006, 2008, 2012, and 2016) for various outcomes of interest were displayed graphically by diabetes type. Finally, hypotheses about change over time for outcomes of interest (by type) were formally tested using both unadjusted and adjusted statistical models adjusted for age at diabetes diagnosis, sex, and race/ethnicity. More specifically, we tested for a linear trend for the change in outcomes over time and further examined whether or not this trend differed by diabetes type using an interaction term in the statistical model. Linear regression was conducted for continuous outcomes (TC, HDL-c, LDL-c, TG, VLDL-c, non-HDL cholesterol, serum creatinine, cystatin C, eGFR, BMI *z*-score, SBP *z*-score, and DBP *z*-score) and coefficients are reported for change in outcome for a 1-year increase in time. Logistic regression was conducted for binary outcomes (ACR <30 or ≥30 and ACR ≤300 or >300), and odds ratios are reported for change in odds of outcome for a 1-year increase in time. The statistical significance level was set at  $\alpha=0.05$ . Analyses were conducted using R version 4.0.2 [21].

### 3. Results

Table 1 presents data on study participants stratified by diabetes type for the number and percentage of study participants in each incident year, mean ( $\pm$ standard deviation, SD) age at diagnosis and at in-person visit, distribution by sex and race/ethnicity, and mean ( $\pm$ SD) BMI. Compared with participants with T1D, youth with T2D were significantly older at diagnosis and at the study visit, had higher BMI *z*-score, and were more likely to be female and identify with racial/ethnic minority groups (all *p* values <0.0001).

TABLE 1: Incident year distribution and demographic characteristics of the study sample by diabetes type.

| Characteristic           | Type 1<br><i>n</i> = 4,600 | Type 2<br><i>n</i> = 932 | <i>p</i> -Value <sup>1</sup> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Year                     |                            |                          |                              |
| 2002                     | 545 (11.8%)                | 96 (10.3%)               | —                            |
| 2003                     | 601 (13.1%)                | 86 (9.2%)                | —                            |
| 2004                     | 574 (12.5%)                | 82 (8.8%)                | —                            |
| 2005                     | 542 (11.8%)                | 75 (8.0%)                | —                            |
| 2006                     | 562 (12.2%)                | 76 (8.2%)                | —                            |
| 2008                     | 699 (15.2%)                | 117 (12.6%)              | —                            |
| 2012                     | 639 (13.9%)                | 191 (20.5%)              | —                            |
| 2016                     | 438 (9.5%)                 | 209 (22.4%)              | —                            |
| Age at diagnosis         | 9.8 ( $\pm$ 4.3)           | 14.5 ( $\pm$ 2.6)        | <0.0001                      |
| Age at in-person visit   | 10.7 ( $\pm$ 4.4)          | 15.6 ( $\pm$ 2.8)        | <0.0001                      |
| Sex                      |                            |                          |                              |
| Female                   | 2,178 (47.3%)              | 570 (61.2%)              | <0.0001                      |
| Male                     | 2,422 (52.7%)              | 362 (38.8%)              | —                            |
| Race/ethnicity           |                            |                          |                              |
| Hispanic                 | 680 (14.8%)                | 265 (28.4%)              | <0.0001                      |
| Non-Hispanic Black       | 575 (12.5%)                | 400 (42.9%)              | —                            |
| Non-Hispanic White       | 3,200 (69.6%)              | 166 (17.8%)              | —                            |
| Other                    | 145 (3.2%)                 | 101 (10.8%)              | —                            |
| BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) | 20.0 ( $\pm$ 5.1)          | 35.9 ( $\pm$ 8.8)        | <0.0001                      |
| BMI <i>z</i> -score      | 0.5 ( $\pm$ 1.0)           | 2.2 ( $\pm$ 0.7)         | <0.0001                      |

*N* (%) or mean ( $\pm$ SD). <sup>1</sup>From Wilcoxon rank-sum test or Fisher's exact test.

Figures 1, 2, and 3 show linear trends in CRFs, and Table 2 presents point estimates for adjusted models for trends in CRFs for youth by diabetes type and a comparison of trends between types (mean values for each CRF by type and year are provided in Tables S1(a), S1(b), and S1(c)). For youth with T1D, there was a significant trend in improvement for all lipids, SBP, DBP and BMI *z*-scores, and a significant worsening trend for serum creatinine. There was also a significant 3% reduction per year in odds of ACR ≥30 for each increasing year of calendar time. For T2D, there was a significant trend in improvement in TC, LDL-c, and non-HDL-c, and a significant trend in the worsening of eGFR, BMI *z*-score, and CRP.

For the comparison of the change in CRFs over time (across each of the incident groups) between T1D and T2D (Table 2 and Figures 1, 2, and 3), a significant difference was observed for a greater reduction in TC over time T2D vs. T1D (interaction term  $-0.50$ , 95% CI:  $-0.98$  to  $-0.03$ ), and a greater improvement in HDL-c over time in T1D vs. T2D (interaction term  $0.29$ , 95% CI:  $0.10$ – $0.48$ ). Conversely, a significant difference between diabetes type in trends over time was observed for SBP *z*-score (interaction term  $-0.0251$ , 95% CI:  $0.0105$ – $0.0397$ ), DBP *z*-score (interaction term  $-0.0216$ , 95% CI:  $0.0085$ – $0.0347$ ), BMI *z*-score (interaction term  $-0.019$ , 95% CI:  $0.0045$ – $0.0336$ ), WC (interaction term  $-0.2232$ , 95% CI  $0.0339$ ,  $0.4125$ ) and CRP (interaction term  $-0.0182$ , 95% CI:  $0.0077$ – $0.0287$ ), indicating greater reductions over time in blood pressure and BMI *z*-scores in youth

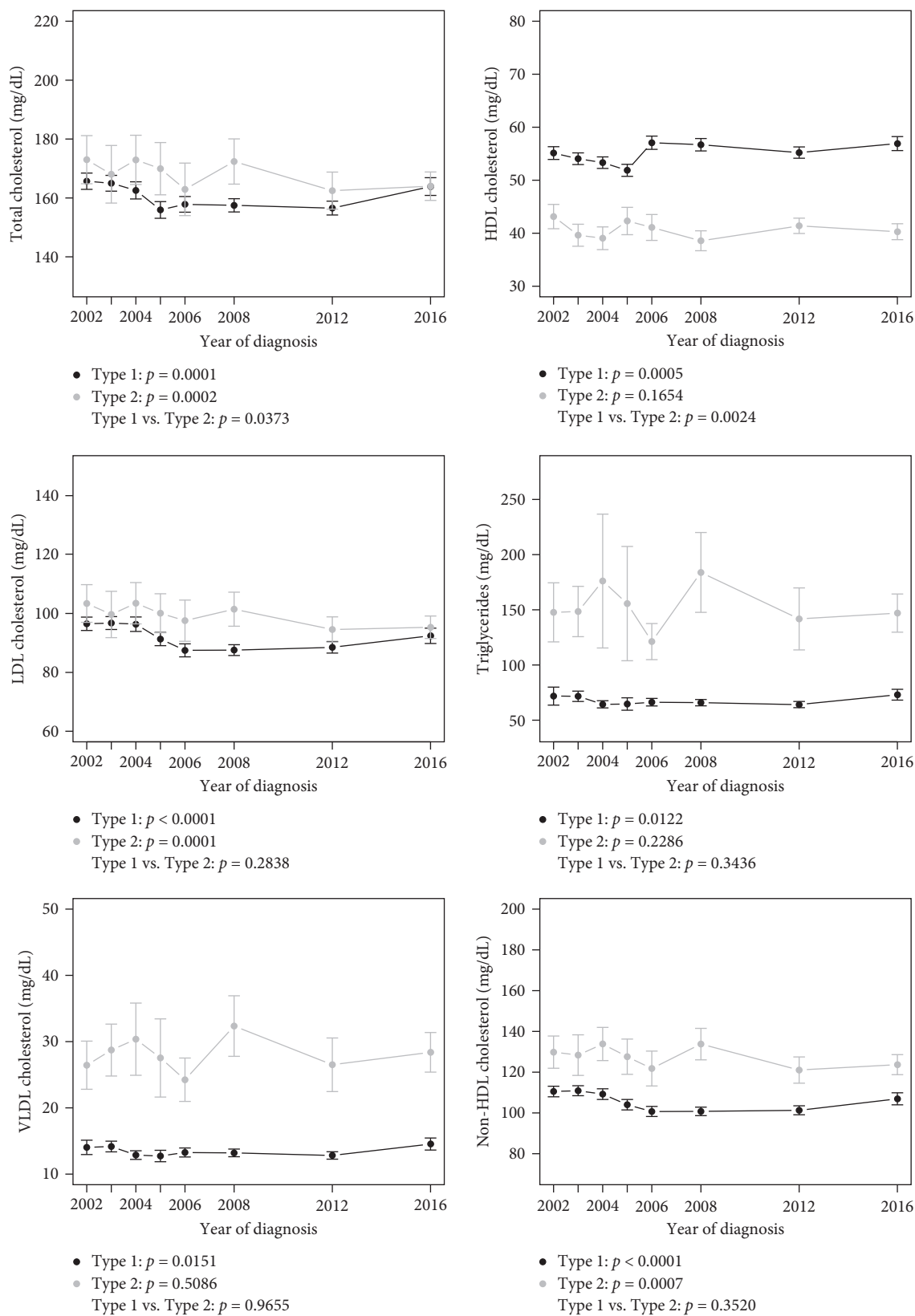


FIGURE 1: Lipid outcomes over time by diabetes type. Estimates include 95% confidence intervals at each year.

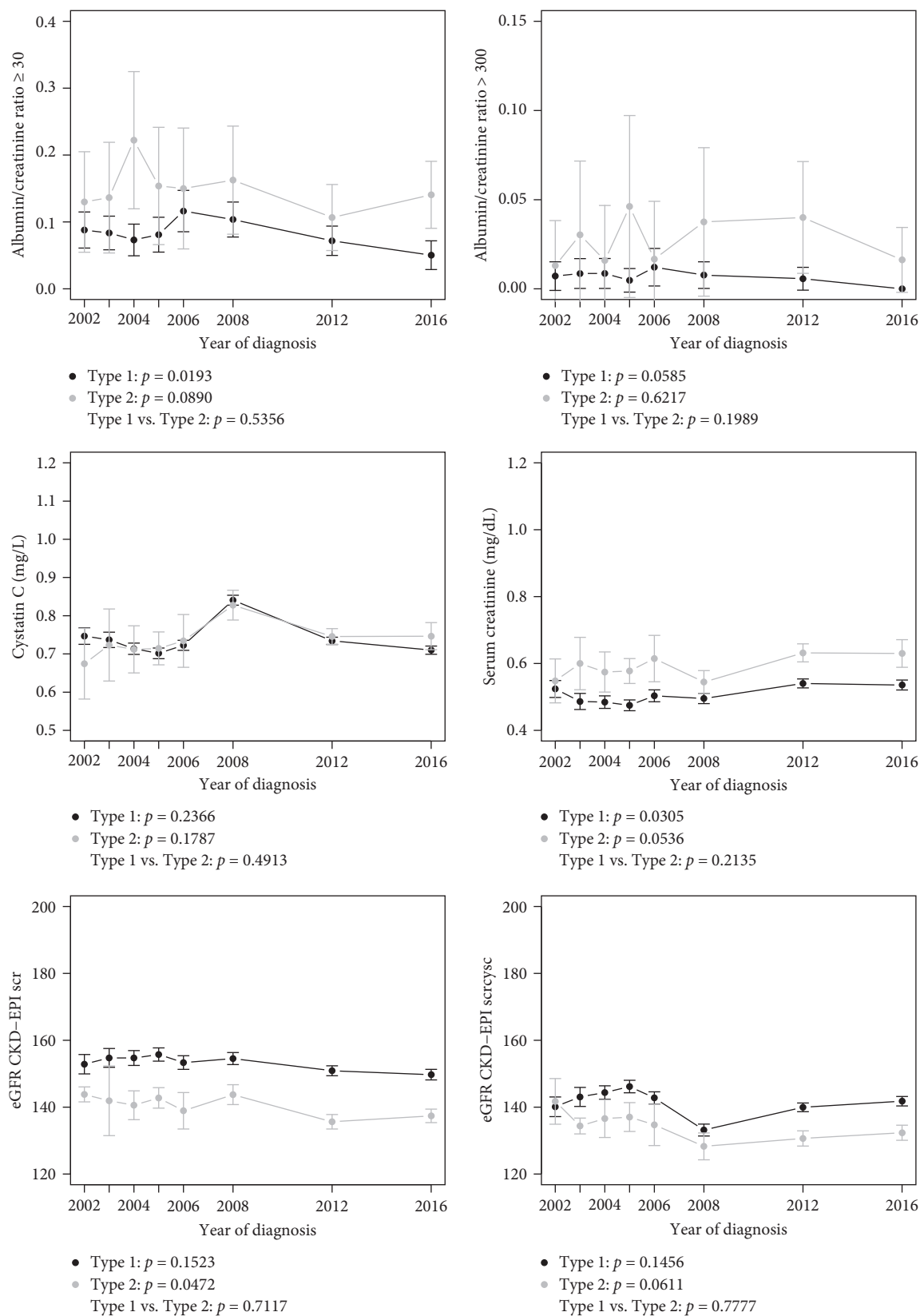


FIGURE 2: Kidney outcomes over time by diabetes type. Estimates include 95% confidence intervals at each year.

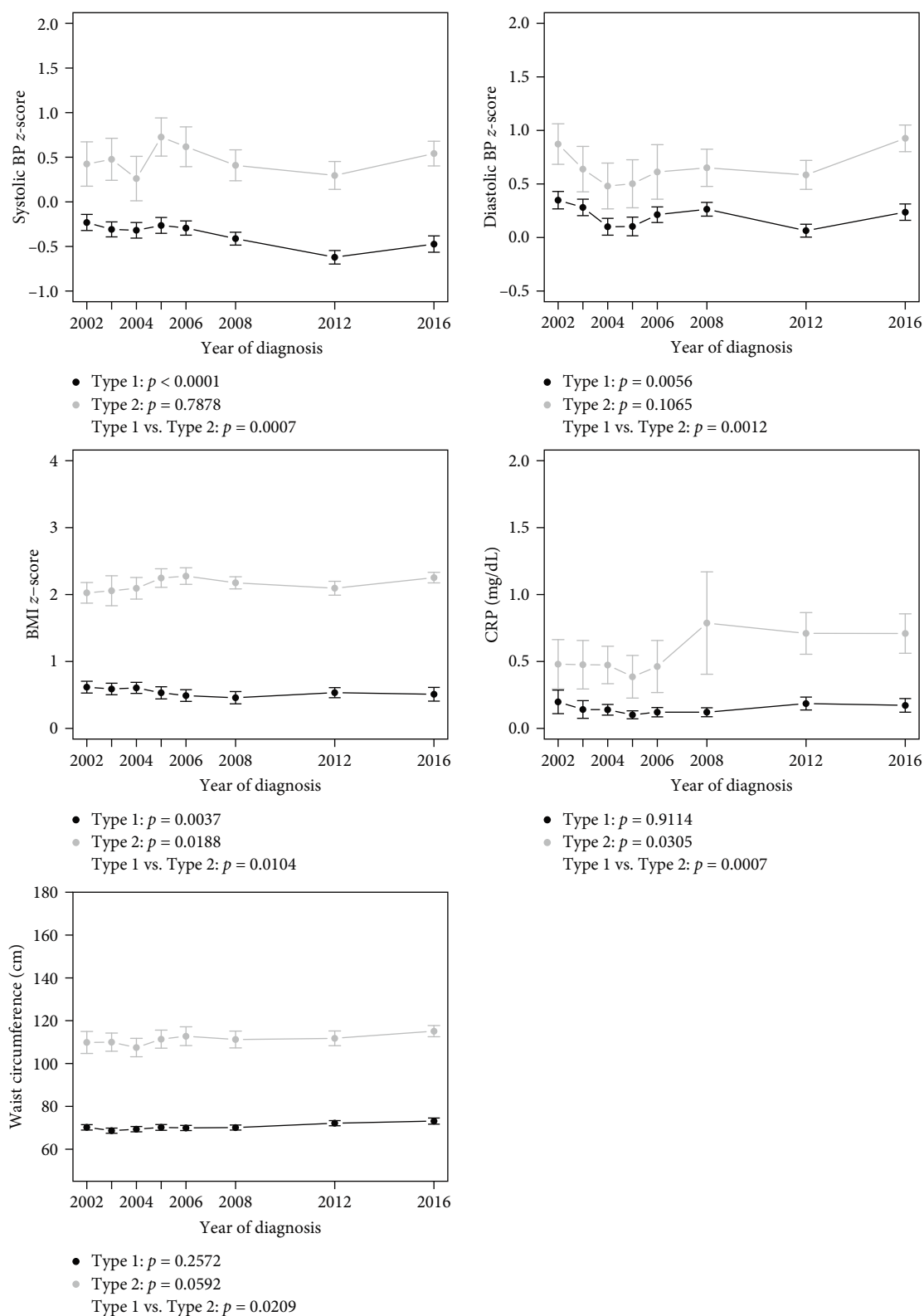


FIGURE 3: Blood pressure, BMI, C-reactive protein, and waist circumference outcomes over time by diabetes type. Estimates include 95% confidence intervals at each year.

TABLE 2: Tests of trend over time for CRF outcomes by diabetes type and differences in trend by type.

| CRF outcome                                 | Type 1 diabetes trend over time |         | Type 2 diabetes trend over time |         | Difference in type 2 vs. type 1 diabetes trend over time |         |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|                                             | Estimate (95% CI)               | p-Value | Estimate (95% CI)               | p-Value | Estimate (95% CI)                                        | p-Value |
| <b>Lipids</b>                               |                                 |         |                                 |         |                                                          |         |
| Total cholesterol (mg/dL)                   | -0.43 (-0.65, -0.21)            | 0.0001  | -1.02 (-1.56, -0.48)            | 0.0002  | -0.50 (-0.98, -0.03)                                     | 0.0373  |
| HDL cholesterol (mg/dL)                     | 0.17 (0.08, 0.27)               | 0.0005  | -0.10 (-0.24, 0.04)             | 0.1654  | -0.29 (-0.48, -0.1)                                      | 0.0024  |
| LDL cholesterol (mg/dL)                     | -0.53 (-0.71, -0.34)            | <.0001  | -0.82 (-1.23, -0.41)            | 0.0001  | -0.21 (-0.6, 0.18)                                       | 0.2838  |
| Triglycerides (mg/dL)                       | -0.48 (-0.86, -0.1)             | 0.0122  | -1.41 (-3.71, 0.89)             | 0.2286  | -0.61 (-1.89, 0.66)                                      | 0.3436  |
| VLDL cholesterol (mg/dL)                    | -0.08 (-0.14, -0.01)            | 0.0151  | -0.10 (-0.41, 0.20)             | 0.5086  | 0.00 (-0.19, 0.18)                                       | 0.9655  |
| Non-HDL cholesterol (mg/dL)                 | -0.60 (-0.81, -0.40)            | <.0001  | -0.92 (-1.46, -0.39)            | 0.0007  | -0.22 (-0.67, 0.24)                                      | 0.3520  |
| <b>Kidney outcomes</b>                      |                                 |         |                                 |         |                                                          |         |
| Albumin/creatinine ratio $\geq 30$ mg/mmol* | 0.97 (0.94, 0.99)               | 0.0193  | 0.96 (0.92, 1.01)               | 0.0890  | 1.02 (0.97, 1.07)                                        | 0.5356  |
| Albumin/creatinine ratio $> 300$ mg/mmol*   | 0.90 (0.81, 1.00)               | 0.0585  | 0.98 (0.89, 1.07)               | 0.6217  | 1.09 (0.95, 1.25)                                        | 0.1989  |
| Cystatin C (mg/L)                           | 0.0007 (-0.0005, 0.0019)        | 0.2366  | 0.0028 (-0.0013, 0.0068)        | 0.1787  | 0.0010 (-0.0019, 0.0040)                                 | 0.4913  |
| Serum creatinine (mg/dL)                    | 0.0010 (0.0001, 0.0019)         | 0.0305  | 0.0043 (-0.0001, 0.0086)        | 0.0536  | 0.0017 (-0.0001, 0.0044)                                 | 0.2135  |
| eGFR CKD-EPI scr**                          | -0.06 (-0.14, 0.02)             | 0.1523  | -0.25 (-0.51, 0.00)             | 0.0472  | -0.04 (-0.24, 0.16)                                      | 0.7117  |
| eGFR CKD-EPI scr <sub>cysc</sub> **         | -0.09 (-0.22, 0.03)             | 0.1456  | -0.31 (-0.63, 0.01)             | 0.0611  | -0.04 (-0.33, 0.25)                                      | 0.7777  |
| <b>Other CRFs</b>                           |                                 |         |                                 |         |                                                          |         |
| SBP z-score                                 | -0.0278 (-0.0349, -0.0207)      | <.0001  | -0.0020 (-0.0162, 0.0123)       | 0.7878  | 0.0251 (0.0105, 0.0397)                                  | 0.0007  |
| DBP z-score                                 | -0.0090 (-0.0154, -0.0026)      | 0.0056  | 0.0108 (-0.0023, 0.0239)        | 0.1065  | 0.0216 (0.0085, 0.0347)                                  | 0.0012  |
| BMI z-score                                 | -0.0112 (-0.0187, -0.0036)      | 0.0037  | 0.0108 (0.0018, 0.0199)         | 0.0188  | 0.019 (0.0045, 0.0336)                                   | 0.0104  |
| CRP (mg/dL)                                 | -0.0002 (-0.0046, 0.0041)       | 0.9114  | 0.0156 (0.0015, 0.0298)         | 0.0305  | 0.0182 (0.0077, 0.0287)                                  | 0.0007  |
| Waist circumference (cm)                    | -0.0442 (-0.1206, 0.0323)       | 0.2572  | 0.2689 (-0.0105, 0.5482)        | 0.0592  | 0.2232 (0.0339, 0.4125)                                  | 0.0209  |

\*Odds ratios reported. \*\*See [16].

with T1D compared to T2D and an increase over time in CRP in T2D compared to T1D.

#### 4. Conclusions

CVD exacts a significant toll on individuals with diabetes [1, 2, 3, 4]. The onset of diabetes in the early stages of life increases the likelihood of a cardiovascular event at some point in the lifetime of that individual, making it imperative to assess, monitor, and treat CRFs as soon after diagnosis as possible. This is important given the increasing rates of T2D in adolescents, particularly in racial/ethnic minority populations [22, 23].

In a previous analysis of SEARCH data, Kim et al. [11] examined trends in CRF among youth by diabetes type, including data from 2002 to 2012. They observed that there was a higher prevalence of CRF “clusters” ( $\geq 2$  CRFs) in youth with T2D compared to youth with T1D, although the prevalence of CRF clusters did not change over time. They also observed that the proportion of high blood pressure decreased over time for youth with T1D, while the prevalence of high waist circumference increased over time for youth with T2D. In this work, we chose to predominantly study quantitative rather than binary outcomes in order to maximize power and use all available data.

This analysis extends the previous SEARCH analysis to include a more recent and more diverse cohort (2016) primarily focused on the analysis of continuous CRF data (with the exception of ACR) and to include other CRFs such as additional lipid measures, an inflammation marker (CRP) and kidney function. We found that there were improvements in most of the CRFs over this time period, more so for youth with T1D, in support of our first hypothesis. There is, however, some level of concern that these risk factors are at a level to put youth at elevated risk for future CVD. For example, for youth with T2D, levels of HDL-c and non-HDL-c were consistently within the range considered unhealthy ( $\leq 45$  and  $\geq 120$  mg/dl, respectively) [24].

With regard to our second hypothesis, our findings were somewhat mixed. The trend in improvement in TC was significantly greater for youth with T2D compared to youth with T1D. Conversely, improvements in HDL-c, blood pressure z-scores, and BMI z-score were greater in youth with T1D compared to youth with T2D, while CRP worsened over time in T2D vs. T1D. For BMI z-score, WC, and CRP, this difference was partially a reflection of an increase in these CRFs in youth with T2D.

These findings offer some areas of optimism and some areas of concern regarding trends associated with CVD risk for youth at the onset of their condition. Youth with T1D demonstrated an improvement in almost all CRFs over time. While kidney function did not change appreciably over time in youth with T1D, the slightly decreased odds of albuminuria are encouraging. While we did observe a statistically significant increase in serum creatinine over time in this population, this is not likely to be clinically significant for three reasons: The estimate is exceedingly small (0.001 mg/dL/year), there was no concomitant statistically or clinically

significant increase in cystatin C (a more accurate measure of kidney function compared to creatinine), and our two eGFR measures did not change significantly over time.

Conversely, we observed a troubling pattern of decreased eGFR and increased BMI z-score and CRP for youth with T2D. While height and weight are generally measured in clinical encounters, CRP is generally not part of a routine blood panel, so its interpretation here may not be as clinically useful as other CRFs. CRP is also nonspecific and does not guide clinical management. Finally, it is concerning that blood pressure did not decrease over time in youth with T2D, suggesting a need for primary prevention strategies and aggressive treatments in this population to decrease the risk of future CVD.

In light of these findings, this study has a number of limitations that must be taken into consideration. First, this study focused on the surveillance of CRFs in incident diabetes cases rather than a longitudinal assessment of individual cases. Second, this analysis was limited by the CRF variables collected in the SEARCH study at the single study visit soon after diagnosis. Finally, this study relied on the use of diabetes type based on classification in the study participant’s medical record or physician reports. However, this does not appear to be a significant concern, as previous analyses of SEARCH data indicate relatively high agreement between provider-assigned diabetes type and etiologically-based diabetes type (94.4%–96.0% for T1D and 73.2%–84.8% for T2D) [22].

However, the study has a number of strengths, including the large sample size of youth with T1D and T2D, their racial/ethnic diversity, a standardized protocol for assessment of clinical variables, and the availability of data over an extended period of time (15 years), which may be informed by increased awareness of T2D in youth, changes in health care legislation and updated treatment guidelines for CRFs in these populations [5, 10].

This study provides unique insights into our understanding of trends in CRFs among youth with T1D and T2D. These trends are occurring within the contexts of an increased awareness of T2D in youth, changes in health care policies impacting access to care, such as the Affordable Care Act, the increased availability of treatment options CVD risk factors for youth with diabetes and both positive and negative trends in lifestyle behaviors related to increased CVD risk. While this study did not examine these relationships, it nonetheless provides important clinical considerations for providers who care for youth with diabetes. Further research is needed to better understand the relationship between youth-onset diabetes and CVD risk to enhance prevention and treatment options to reduce long-term cardiovascular risk.

#### Data Availability

Data and data dictionaries, forms, and manuals of procedures for the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth study are available on the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) website at <https://repository.niddk.nih.gov/studies/search/>.

## Additional Points

**Summary.** Early CVD risk factor (CRF) control is important in reducing CVD burden. The SEARCH study examined CRF trends in youth with incident T1D/T2D from 2002 to 2016. Youth with T1D had better patterns over time vs. youth with T2D. Further research is needed to understand these trends and their implications for long-term CVD risk. *Central Laboratory.* (PI) Santica M. Marcovina, PhD, ScD. Alan Chait, MD; Noemie Clouet-Foraison, PhD; Jessica Harting; Greg Strlewicz, PhD for the University of Washington Northwest Lipid Metabolism and Diabetes Research Laboratories. *Coordinating Center.* (Co-PIs) Ralph D'Agostino, Jr., PhD, Elizabeth T. Jensen, MPH, PhD; Lynne E. Wagenknecht, DrPH; Ramon Casanova, PhD; Jasmin Divers, PhD; Maureen T. Goldstein, BA; Leora Henkin, MPH, M.Ed; Scott Isom, MS; Kristin Lenoir, MPH; June Pierce, AB; Beth Reboussin, PhD; Joseph Rigdon, PhD; Andrew M. South, MD, MS; Jeanette Stafford, MS; Cynthia Suerken, MS; Brian Wells, MD, PhD; Carrie Williams, MA, CCRP for Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

## Disclosure

Data from this study were presented in poster format at the American Diabetes Association 82nd Scientific Sessions, New Orleans, LA, June 3–7, 2022.

## Conflicts of Interest

The authors affirm that they have no conflicts of interest related to the content of this manuscript.

## Authors' Contributions

Ronny A. Bell and Lynne E. Wagenknecht developed the overall manuscript concept. Ronny A. Bell led the manuscript preparation and Ronny A. Bell and Lynne E. Wagenknecht reviewed and edited the manuscript and approved the final version. Joseph Rigdon conducted the data analyses, compiled the data tables and figures, wrote the statistical analysis section, reviewed and edited the manuscript, and approved the final version. Dana Dabelea, Ralph D'Agostino Jr., Santica M. Marcovina, Lina Merjaneh, Catherine Pihoker, and Lynne E. Wagenknecht served as SEARCH clinical site, coordinating center and central laboratory PIs, and overall the data collection for the SEARCH study. Anna Bellatorre, Dana Dabelea, Ralph D'Agostino Jr., Jasmin Divers, Lawrence M. Dolan, Elizabeth Jensen, Angela D. Liese, Eva Lustigova, Santica M. Marcovina, Lina Merjaneh, David J. Pettitt, Catherine Pihoker, Amy S. Shah, and Andrew M. South reviewed and edited the manuscript and approved the final version.

## Acknowledgments

The SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Study is indebted to the many youth and their families, and their health care providers, whose participation made this study possible. *SEARCH 3/4:* The authors wish to acknowledge the involvement of the Kaiser

Permanente Southern California's Marilyn Owsley Clinical Research Center (funded by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and supported in part by the Southern California Permanente Medical Group); the South Carolina Clinical & Translational Research Institute, at the Medical University of South Carolina, NIH/National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) grant numbers UL1 TR000062 and UL1 TR001450; Seattle Children's Hospital and the University of Washington, NIH/NCATS grant number UL1 TR00423; University of Colorado Pediatric Clinical and Translational Research Center, NIH/NCATS grant Number UL1 TR000154; the Barbara Davis Center at the University of Colorado at Denver (DERC NIH grant number P30 DK57516); the University of Cincinnati, NIH/NCATS grant numbers UL1 TR000077 and UL1 TR001425; and the Children with Medical Handicaps Program managed by the Ohio Department of Health. This study includes data provided by the Ohio Department of Health, which should not be considered an endorsement of this study or its conclusions. The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. *Grant Support (SEARCH 4):* The SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Cohort Study (1R01DK127208-01 and 1UC4DK108173) is funded by the National Institutes of Health, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases and supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Population Based Registry of Diabetes in Youth Study (1U18DP006131, U18DP006133, U18DP006134, U18DP006136, U18DP006138, and U18DP006139) is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (DP-15-002) and supported by the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. *Grant Support (SEARCH 1, 2, 3):* SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (PA numbers 00097, DP-05-069, and DP-10-001) and supported by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. Kaiser Permanente Southern California (U48/CCU919219, U01 DP000246, and U18DP002714), University of Colorado Denver (U48/CCU819241-3, U01 DP000247, and U18DP000247-06A1), Cincinnati's Children's Hospital Medical Center (U48/CCU519239, U01 DP000248, and 1U18DP002709), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (U48/CCU419249, U01 DP000254, and U18DP002708), Seattle Children's Hospital (U58/CCU019235-4, U01 DP000244, and U18DP002710-01) and Wake Forest University School of Medicine (U48/CCU919219, U01 DP000250, and 200-2010-35171). The writing group for this manuscript wishes to acknowledge the contributions of the following individuals to the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Study: *SEARCH SITES: California:* (PI) Jean M. Lawrence, ScD, MPH, MSSA\*. Peggy Hung, MPH; Corinna Koebnick, PhD, MSc; Xia Li, MS; Eva Lustigova, MPH; Kristi Reynolds, PhD, MPH for the Department of Research & Evaluation, Kaiser Permanente Southern California, Pasadena California, and David J. Pettitt, MD, Santa Barbara, California. \*Dr. Lawrence is now with the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. *Carolinas:* (PI) Elizabeth J. Mayer-Davis, PhD. Amy Mottl,

MD, MPH; Joan Thomas, MS, RD for the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Malaka Jackson, MD; Lisa Knight, MD; Angela D. Liese, PhD, MPH; Christine Turley, MD for the University of South Carolina. Deborah Bowlby, MD, for the Medical University of South Carolina. James Amrhein, MD; Elaine Apperson, MD; Bryce Nelson, MD for Greenville Health System and Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center. *Colorado: (PI)* Dana Dabelea, MD, PhD. Anna Bellatorre, PhD; Tessa Crume, PhD, MSPH; Richard F. Hamman, MD, DrPH; Katherine A. Sauder, PhD; Allison Shapiro, PhD, MPH; Lisa Testaverde, MS for the LEAD Center in the Department of Epidemiology, Colorado School of Public Health, University of Colorado Denver. Georgeanna J. Klingensmith, MD; David Maahs, MD; Marian J. Rewers, MD, PhD; Paul Wadwa, MD for the Barbara Davis Center for Childhood Diabetes. Stephen Daniels, MD, PhD; Michael G. Kahn, MD, PhD; Greta Wilkening, PsyD for the Department of Pediatrics and Children's Hospital. Clifford A. Bloch, MD for the Pediatric Endocrine Associates. Jeffrey Powell, MD, MPH for the Shiprock Service Unit, Navajo Area Indian Health Service. Kathy Love-Osborne, MD, for the Denver Health and Hospital Authority. Diana C. Hu, MD, for the Pediatrics Department, Tuba City Regional Health Care Center, Tuba City, AZ. *Ohio: (PI)* Lawrence M. Dolan, MD. Amy S. Shah, MD, MS; Debra A. Standiford, MSN, CNP; Elaine M. Urbina, MD, MS for the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Department of Pediatrics, University of Cincinnati. *Washington: (PI)* Catherine Pihoker, MD. Irl Hirsch, MD; Grace Kim, MD; Faisal Malik, MD, MSHS; Lina Merjane, MD; Alissa Roberts, MD; Craig Taplin, MD; Joyce Yi-Frazier, PhD for the University of Washington. Natalie Beauregard, BA; Cordelia Franklin, BS; Carlo Gangan, BA; Sue Kearns, RN; Mary Klingsheim, RN; Beth Loots, MPH, MSW; Michael Pascual, BA for Seattle Children's Hospital. Carla Greenbaum, MD for Benaroya Research Institute. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Giuseppina Imperatore, MD, PhD, Sharon H. Saydah, PhD. National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, NIH: Barbara Linder, MD, PhD.

## Supplementary Materials

Table S1(a–c): CRF outcomes over time by diabetes type. (*Supplementary Materials*)

## References

- [1] American Diabetes Association, "Economic costs of diabetes in the U.S. in 2017," *Diabetes Care*, vol. 41, no. 5, pp. 917–928, 2018.
- [2] S. Raghavan, J. L. Vassy, Y.-L. Ho et al., "Diabetes mellitus-related all-cause and cardiovascular mortality in a national cohort of adults," *Journal of The American Heart Association*, vol. 8, no. 4, Article ID e011295, 2019.
- [3] I. Cavallari, D. L. Bhatt, P. G. Steg et al., "Causes and risk factors for death in diabetes: a competing-risk analysis from the SAVOR-TIMI 53 trial," *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, vol. 77, no. 14, pp. 1837–1840, 2021.
- [4] T. R. Einarson, A. Acs, C. Ludwig, and U. H. Pantoni, "Prevalence of cardiovascular disease in type 2 diabetes: a systematic literature review of scientific evidence from across the world in 2007–2017," *Cardiovascular Diabetology*, vol. 17, no. 1, Article ID 83, 2018.
- [5] American Diabetes Association Professional Practice Committee, "Cardiovascular disease and risk management: standards of medical care in diabetes—2022," *Diabetes Care*, vol. 45, no. Supplement\_1, pp. S144–S174, 2022.
- [6] D. Dabelea, K. A. Sauder, E. T. Jensen et al., "Twenty years of pediatric diabetes surveillance: what do we know and why it matters," *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, vol. 1495, no. 1, pp. 99–120, 2021.
- [7] R. F. Hamman, R. A. Bell, D. Dabelea et al., "The SEARCH for diabetes in youth study: rationale, findings and future directions," *Diabetes Care*, vol. 37, no. 12, pp. 3336–3344, 2014.
- [8] R. Gao and E. T. Jensen, "Type 2 diabetes in youth," *Global Pediatric Health*, vol. 7, 2021.
- [9] L. Pyle and M. M. Kelsey, "Youth-onset type 2 diabetes: translating epidemiology into clinical trials," *Diabetologia*, vol. 64, no. 8, pp. 1709–1716, 2021.
- [10] US Department of Health and Human Services, "About the affordable care act," 2022, <https://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/about-the-aca/index.html>.
- [11] G. Kim, J. Divers, N. F. Fino et al., "Trends in prevalence of cardiovascular risk factors from 2002 to 2012 among youth early in the course of type 1 and type 2 diabetes. The SEARCH for diabetes in youth study," *Pediatric Diabetes*, vol. 20, no. 6, pp. 693–701, 2019.
- [12] D. Igudesman, B. A. Reboussin, K. J. Souris et al., "Trends in glycaemia between 2002 and 2016 among incident youth cohorts early in the course of type 1 diabetes: the SEARCH for diabetes in youth study," *Journal of Diabetes Research*, vol. 2022, Article ID 8554991, 6 pages, 2022.
- [13] F. S. Malik, K. A. Sauder, S. Isom et al., "Trends in glycemic control among youth and young adults with diabetes: the SEARCH for diabetes in youth study," *Diabetes Care*, vol. 45, no. 2, pp. 285–294, 2022.
- [14] W. T. Friedewald, R. I. Levy, and D. S. Fredrickson, "Estimation of the concentration of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol in plasma, without use of the preparative ultracentrifuge," *Clinical Chemistry*, vol. 18, no. 6, pp. 499–502, 1972.
- [15] K. J. Hunt, R. G. Resendez, K. Williams, S. M. Haffner, and M. P. Stern, "National cholesterol education program versus World Health Organization metabolic syndrome in relation to all-cause and cardiovascular mortality in the san antonio heart study," *Circulation*, vol. 110, no. 10, pp. 1251–1257, 2004.
- [16] Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) CKD Work Group, "KDIGO 2012 clinical practice guidelines for the evaluation and management of chronic kidney disease," *Kidney International Supplements*, vol. 3, pp. 5–14, 2013.
- [17] L. A. Inker, N. D. Eneanya, J. Coresh et al., "New creatinine- and cystatin c-based equations to estimate GFR without race," *New England Journal of Medicine*, vol. 385, no. 19, pp. 1737–1749, 2021.
- [18] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "National health and nutrition examination survey," *Anthropometry Procedures Manual*, pp. 3–31, 2000.
- [19] J. T. Flynn, D. C. Kaelber, C. M. Baker-Smith et al., "Clinical practice guideline for screening and management of high blood pressure in children and adolescents," *Pediatrics*, vol. 140, no. 3, Article ID e20171904, 2017.
- [20] B. Rosner, N. Cook, R. Portman, S. Daniels, and B. Falkner, "Determination of blood pressure percentiles in normal-weight children: some methodological issues," *American Journal of Epidemiology*, vol. 167, no. 6, pp. 653–666, 2008.

- [21] R Core Team, “R: a language and environment for statistical computing. R foundation for statistical computing,” Vienna, Austria, 2020, <https://www.R-project.org/>, Accessed July 29, 2022.
- [22] J. M. Lawrence, J. Divers, S. Isom et al., “Trends in prevalence of type 1 and type 2 diabetes in children and adolescents in the US, 2001–2017,” *JAMA*, vol. 326, no. 8, pp. 717–727, 2021.
- [23] J. Divers, E. J. Mayer-Davis, J. M. Lawrence et al., “Trends in incidence of type 1 and type 2 diabetes among youths—selected counties and indian reservations, United States,” *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 69, no. 6, pp. 161–165, 2020.
- [24] National Library of Medicine, “High cholesterol in children and teens,” 2022, Medline Plus <https://medlineplus.gov/highcholesterolinchildrenandteens.html>, Accessed 10/21/2022.