



# Genome-wide-association studies and polygenic risk scores in gastric cancer

**Constanza Camargo, PhD**

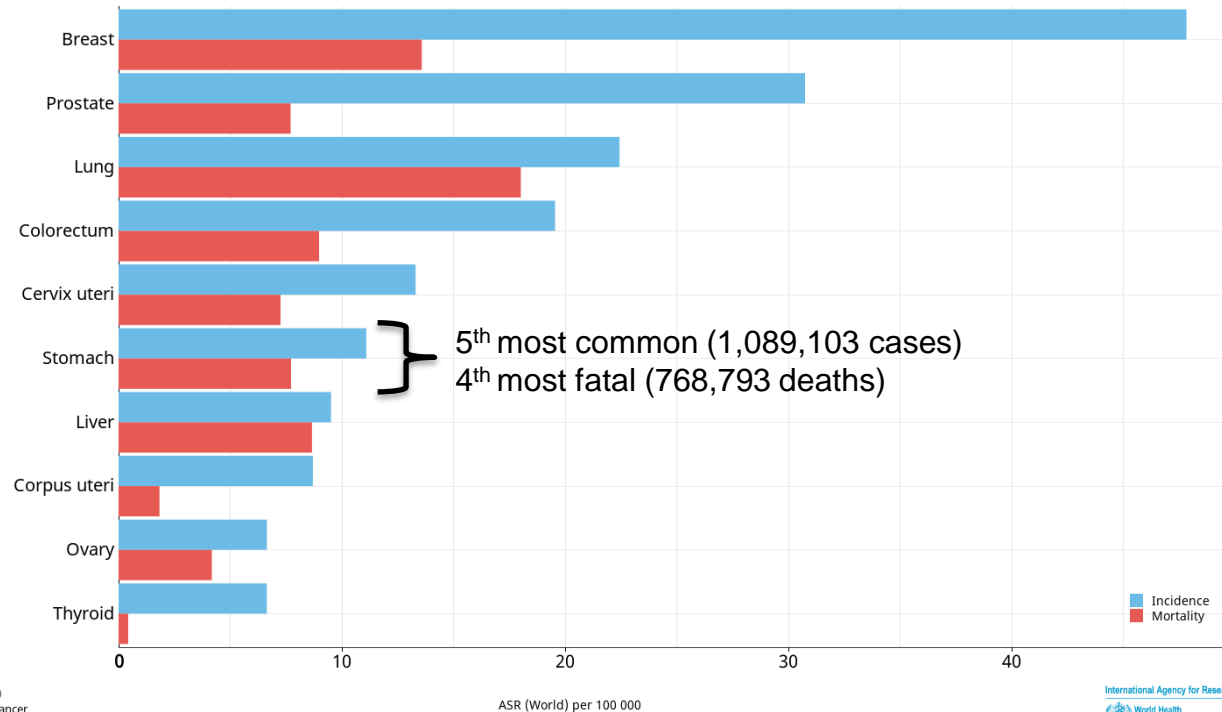
Earl Stadtman Investigator  
Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics

# Outline

- Gastric cancer epidemiology
- Genome-wide-association studies
- Polygenic risk scores

# Gastric Cancer Incidence and Mortality Worldwide

Estimated age-standardized incidence and mortality rates (World) in 2020, worldwide, both sexes, all ages

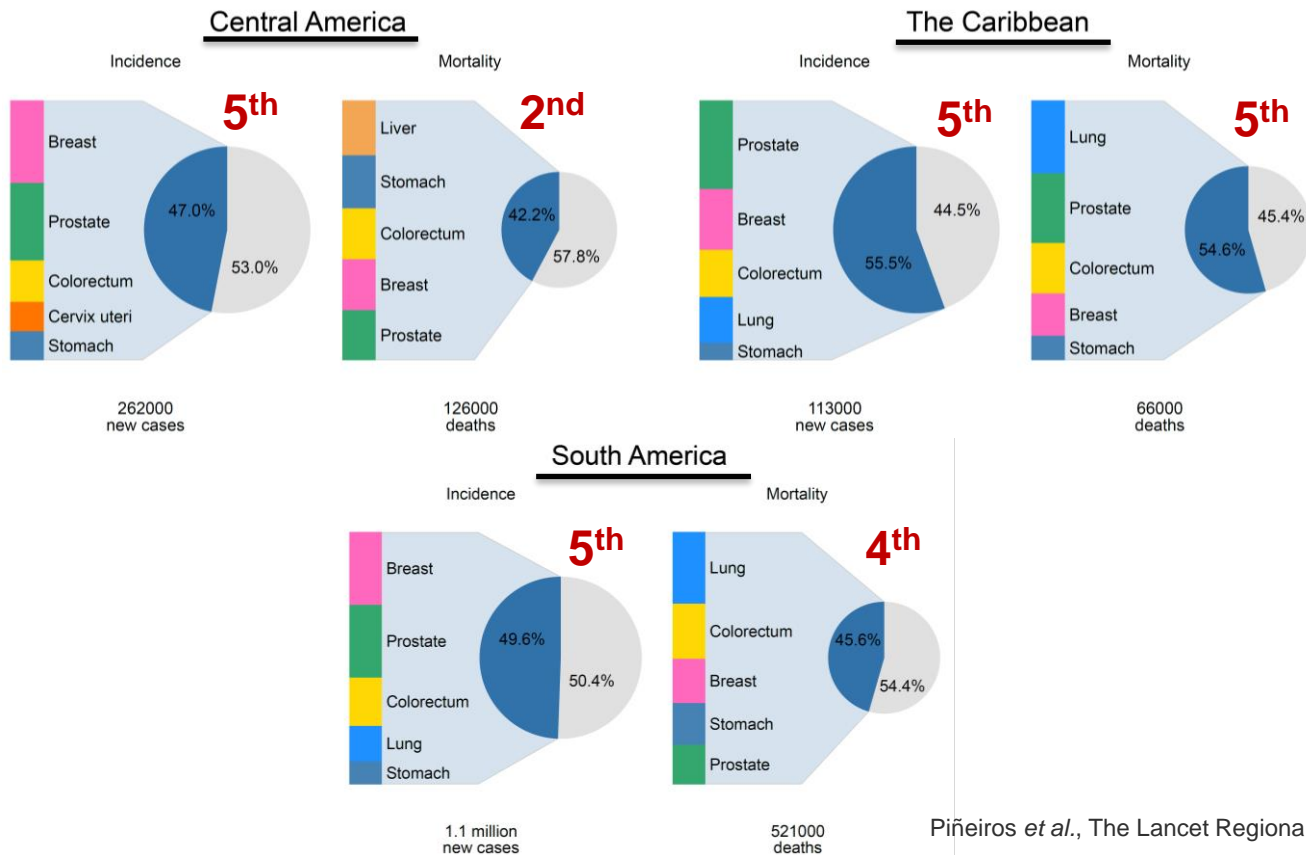


Data source: Globocan 2020  
Graph production: Global Cancer  
Observatory (<http://gco.iarc.fr>)

ASR (World) per 100 000

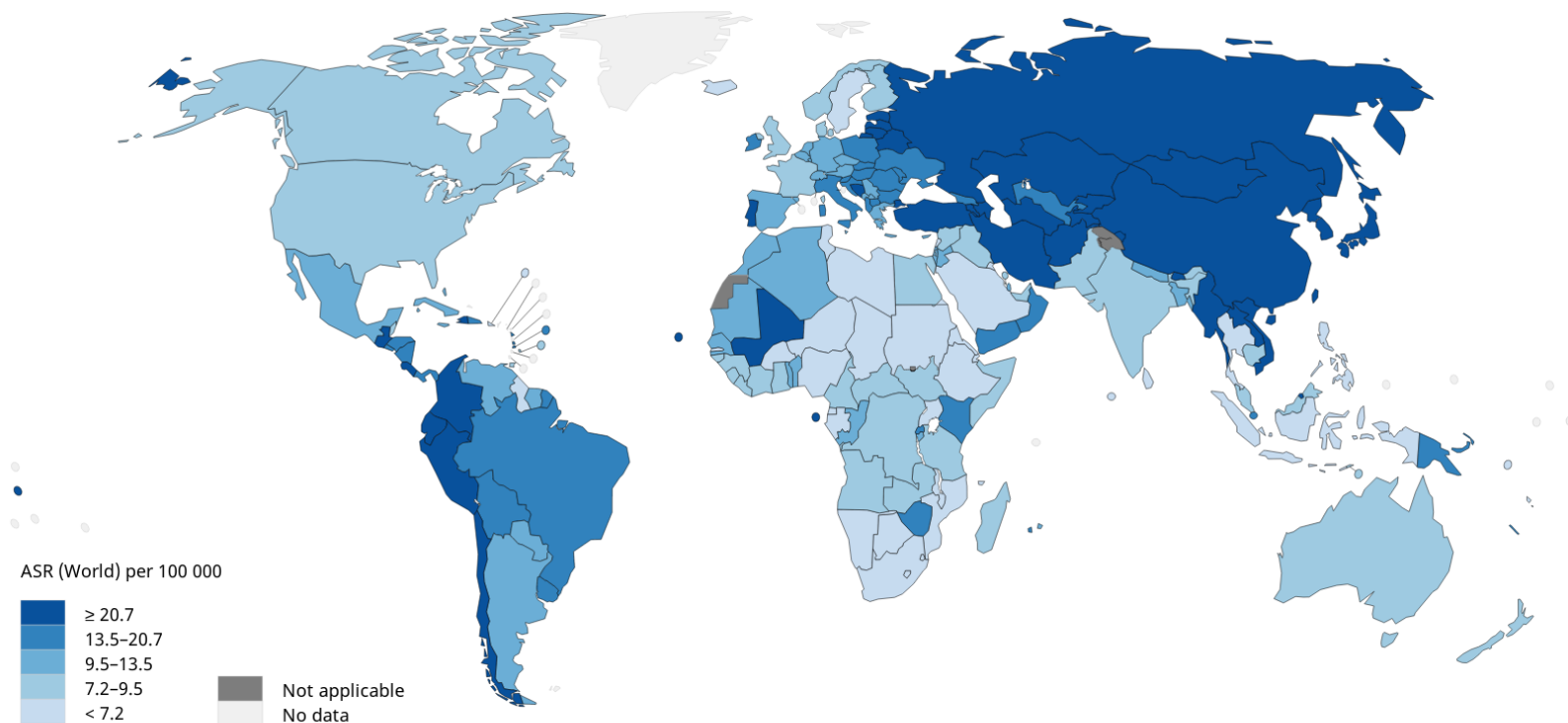
International Agency for Research on Cancer  
World Health  
Organization

# Five most frequent cancers in Latin America and the Caribbean by subregions, both sexes, incidence and mortality, 2020



# Gastric Cancer Incidence

Estimated age-standardized incidence rates (World) in 2020, stomach, both sexes, ages 25+



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Data source: GLOBOCAN 2020  
Graph production: IARC  
(<http://gco.iarc.fr/today>)  
World Health Organization

The proportion of the Latin-American population covered by the existing cancer registries in the region is ~20%, with high-quality information coverage estimated at 7.1%

## Latin America Hub

IARC Hub Liaison



Dr Marion Piñeros

Hub officer, International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon, France

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Established in 2013



# Estimated age-standardized incidence rates (World) of gastric cancer in 2020, both sexes, ages 25+



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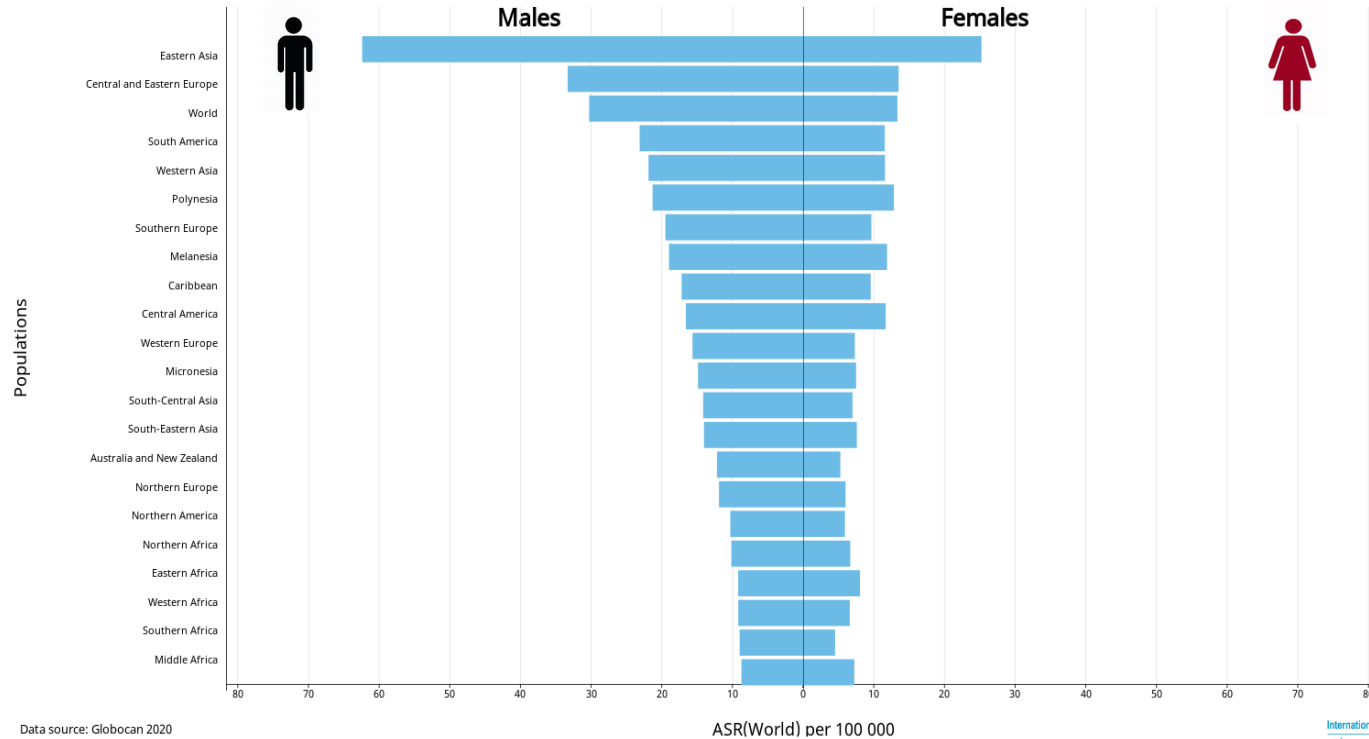
Data source: GLOBOCAN 2020  
Map production: IARC  
(<http://gco.iarc.fr/today>)  
World Health Organization



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# Global Pattern of Male Predominance in Gastric Cancer, 2020

Estimated age-standardized incidence rates (World) in 2020, stomach, ages 25+

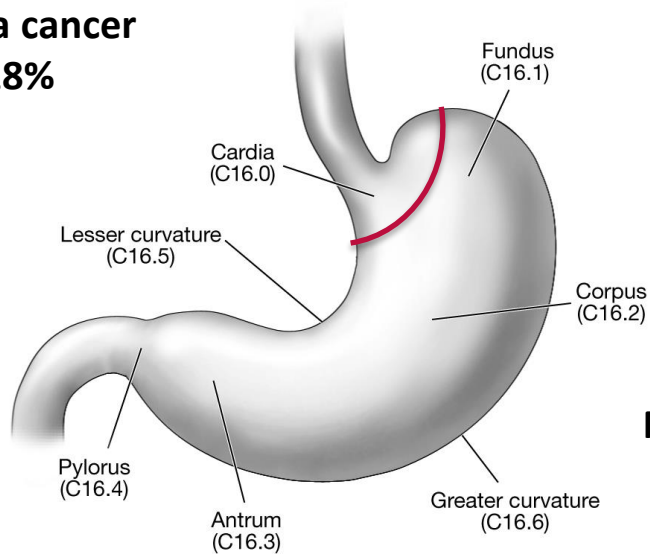


Data source: Globocan 2020  
Graph production: Global Cancer  
Observatory (<http://gco.iarc.fr>)



# Anatomical subsites of gastric cancer

**Cardia cancer**  
**18%**



**Noncardia cancer**  
**82%**

# Risk factors for gastric cancer by anatomical subsite

Level of evidence	Risk factor	Noncardia	Cardia
Convincing	Chronic <i>H. pylori</i> infection <sup>1,2</sup>	↑	↓↑ (E)
	Smoking <sup>3</sup>	↑	↑
Probable	High consumption of fruits and vegetables <sup>4-6</sup>	↓	↓
	Excessive salt/salty food consumption <sup>7,8</sup>	↑	↑
	High consumption of processed meat <sup>9</sup>	↑	↑
	Excess weight <sup>6,10</sup>	Null	↑
	Reflux <sup>11</sup>	?	↑
	Epstein-Barr virus infection <sup>12</sup>	↑	↑
	High consumption of alcohol <sup>6,13</sup>	↑	↑
	Autoimmunity <sup>14</sup>	↑	?
	Type II diabetes <sup>15</sup>	↑	↑
	Suggestive	Estrogens <sup>16</sup>	↓
Some genetic variants <sup>17-20</sup>		↑	↑

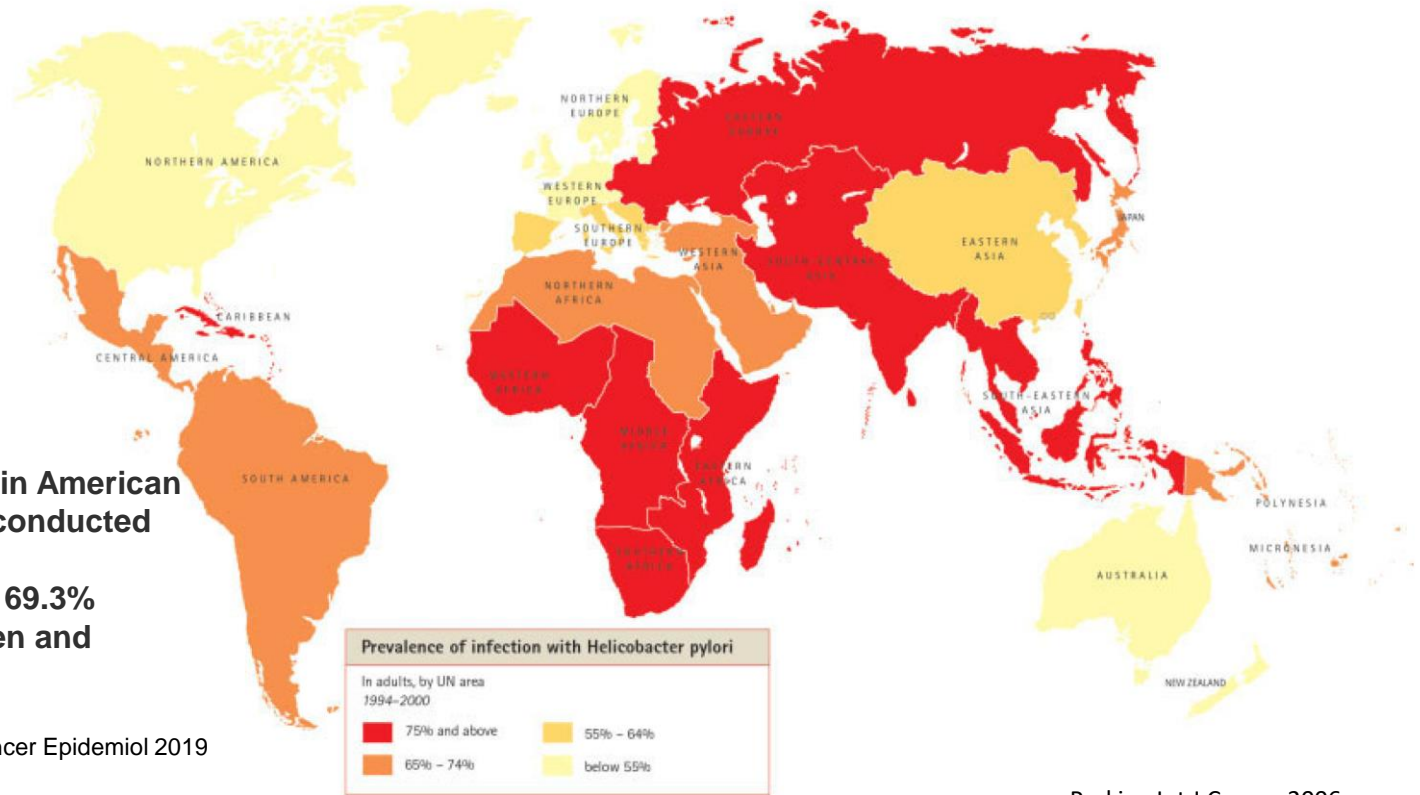
E= endemic areas

<sup>1</sup>Helicobacter and Cancer Collaborative Group, Gut 2001; <sup>2</sup>de Martel, Lancet Glob Health 2020; <sup>3</sup>Ladeiras-Lopez, Cancer Causes Control 2008; <sup>4</sup>Lunet, Eur J Cancer Prev 2007; <sup>5</sup>Lunet, Nutr Cancer 2005; <sup>6</sup>WCRF/AICR, 2016; <sup>7</sup>Tsugane, Gastric Cancer 2007; <sup>8</sup>D'Elia, Clin Nutr 2012; <sup>9</sup>Larsson, JNCI 2006; <sup>10</sup>Yang, Eur J Cancer 2009; <sup>11</sup>Forman, Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2004; <sup>12</sup>Murphy, Gastroenterol 2009; <sup>13</sup>Han, Oncotarget 2017; <sup>14</sup>Song, Cancer Res Treat 2019; <sup>15</sup>Ohkuma, Diabetologia 2018; <sup>16</sup>Camargo, CEBP 2012; <sup>17</sup>Gonzalez, Int J Cancer 2002; <sup>18</sup>Abnet, Nat Genet 2010; <sup>19</sup>Wang, Gut 2015; <sup>20</sup>Mocellin, Gut 2015.

## ***H. pylori* was responsible for ~800,000 new gastric cancer cases in 2018**

	Total	
	New cases	New cases attributable to infectious pathogens
<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>		
Non-cardia gastric cancer	850 000	760 000 <b>90%</b>
Cardia gastric cancer	180 000	36 000 <b>20%</b>
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma of gastric location	22 000	16 000 <b>72%</b>

# Prevalence of *H. pylori* infection in adults, 1994-2000



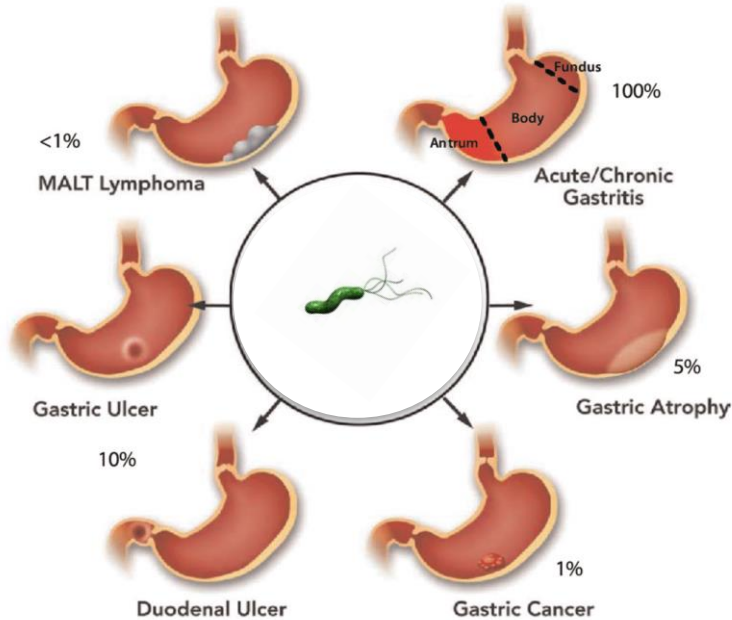
**Meta-analysis of 22 Latin American studies (14 countries) conducted between 1987-2012:**

- Prevalence in adults 69.3%
- Prevalence in children and adolescents: 48.4%

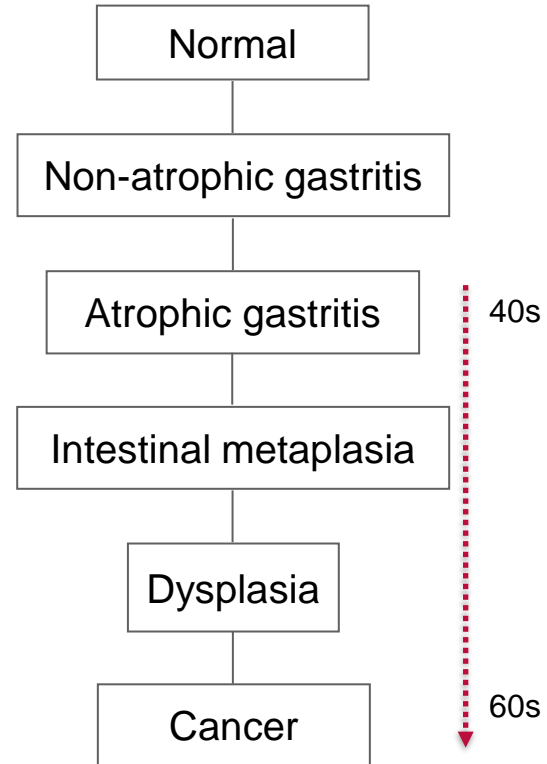
Curado *et al.*, Cancer Epidemiol 2019

Parkin, Int J Cancer 2006

# Model of noncardia gastric carcinogenesis



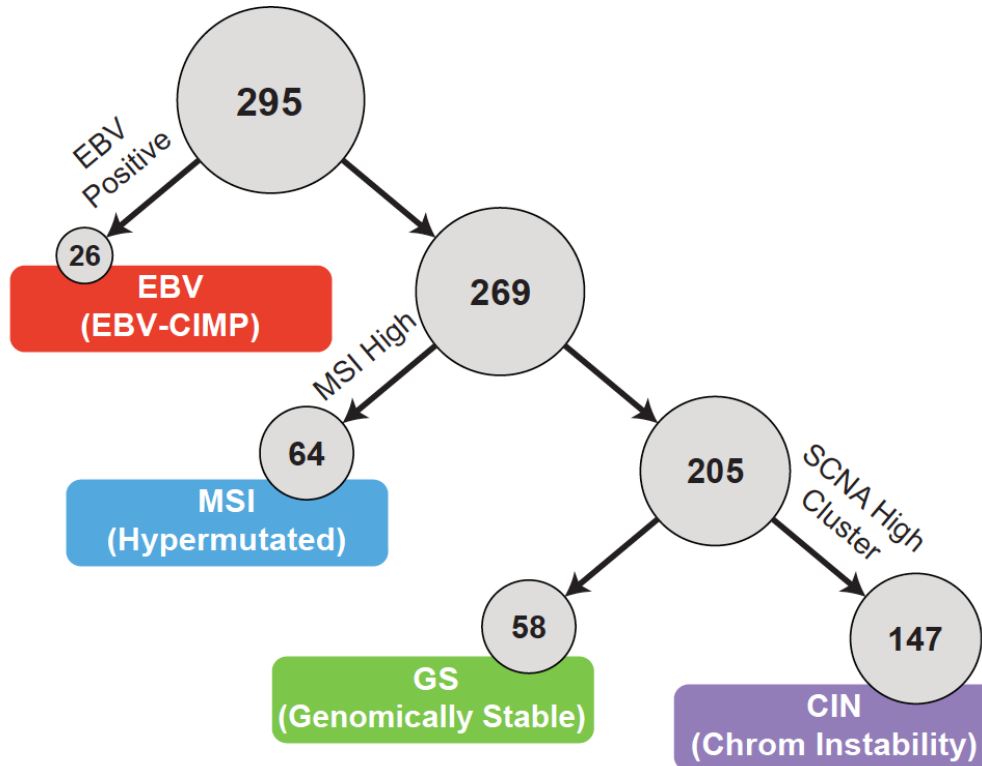
Adapted from Sachs *et al.*, F1000 Reports 2012



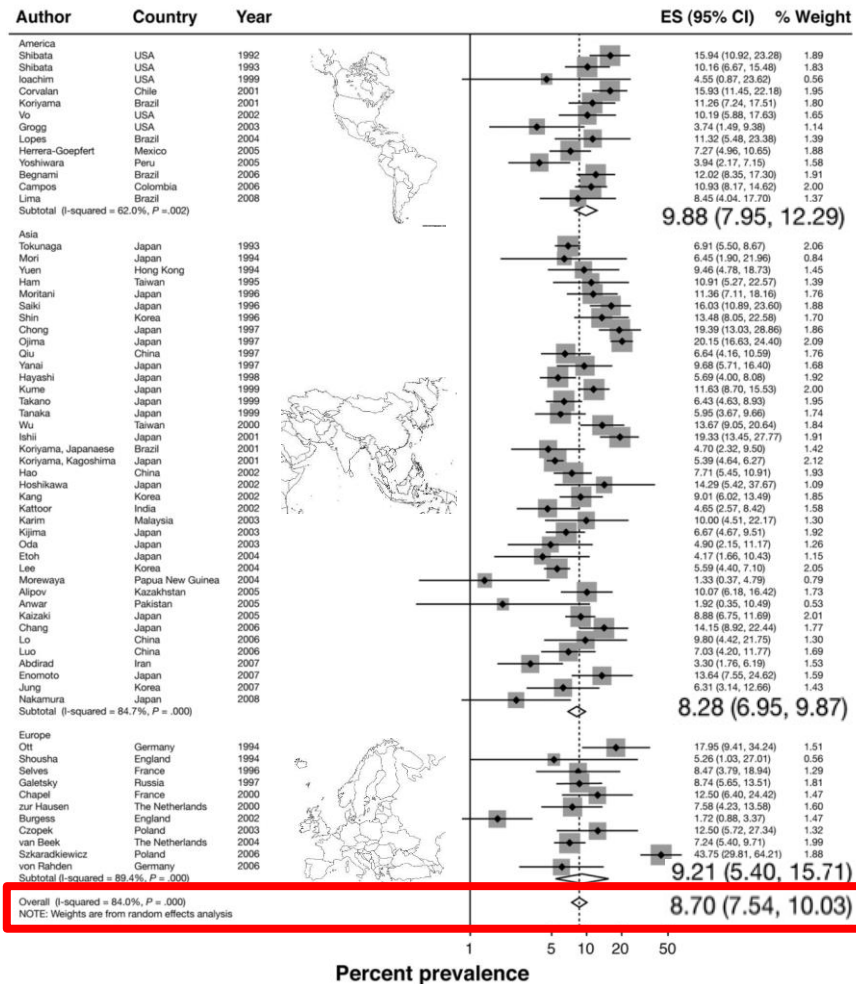
Correa *et al.* Lancet 1975

# Molecular classification of gastric adenocarcinoma

## The Cancer Genome Atlas



# EBV prevalence in gastric tumors



## Tumor EBV prevalence in Latin American populations

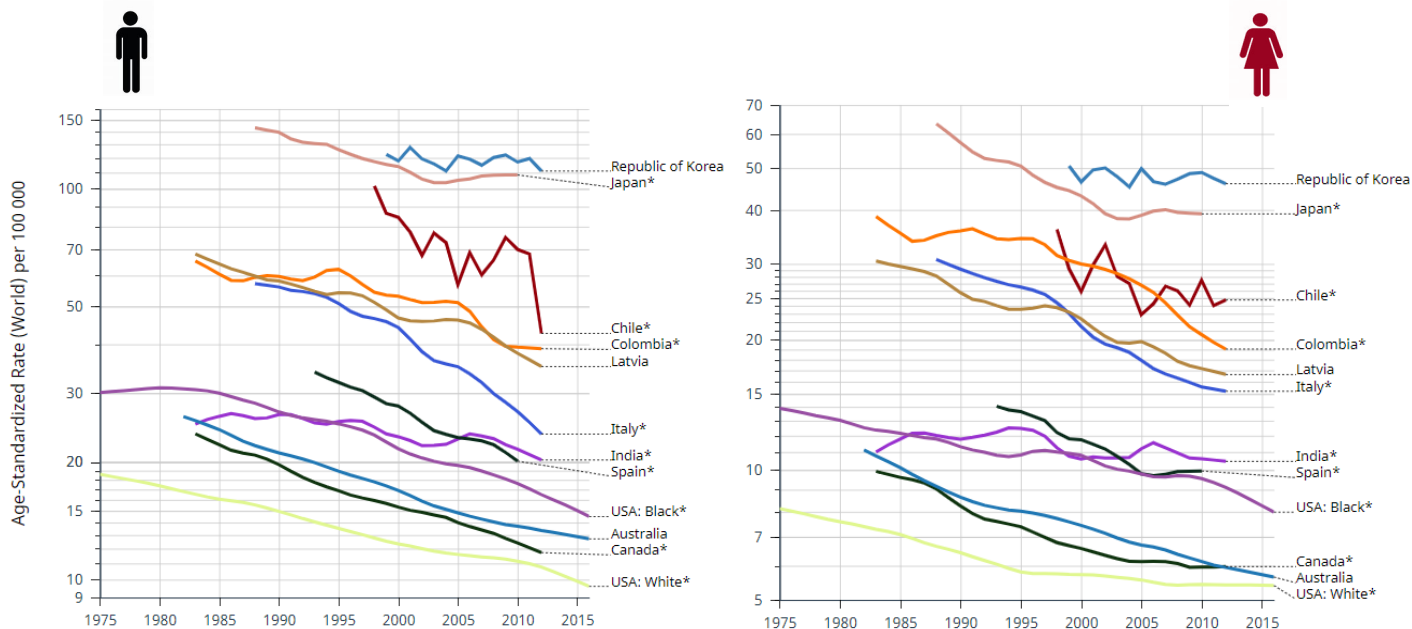
Country	Population	N	%
Brazil	Sao Paulo (non-Japanese-Brazilians) <sup>1</sup>	151	11
	Sao Paulo <sup>2</sup>	53	11
	Sao Paulo <sup>3</sup>	103	12
	Fortaleza <sup>4</sup>	100	8
Chile	Santiago <sup>5</sup>	185	17
Colombia	Cali <sup>6</sup>	178	13
	Cali y Bogota <sup>7</sup>	368	11
	Ibague (unpublished)	73	14
Costa Rica	Cartago (unpublished)	99	22
México	Ciudad de México <sup>8</sup>	330	7
	Ciudad de México y Merida <sup>9</sup>	75	11
Perú	Lima <sup>10</sup>	254	4

<sup>1</sup>Koriyama *et al.*, 2001; <sup>2</sup>Lopes *et al.*, 2004; <sup>3</sup>Begnamiet *et al.*, 2006; <sup>4</sup>Lima *et al.*, 2008; <sup>5</sup>Corvalan *et al.*, 2001; <sup>6</sup>Carrascal *et al.*, 2003 ;

<sup>7</sup>Campos *et al.*, 2006; <sup>8</sup>Herrera-Goepfert *et al.*, 2005; <sup>9</sup>Martínez-López *et al.*, 2014; <sup>10</sup>Yoshiwara *et al.*, 2005



# Trends in incidence of gastric cancer in selected countries



\* Subnational data

Rates are shown on a semi-log scale

Lines are smoothed by the LOESS regression algorithm (bandwidth: 0.25)

CANCER OVER TIME | IARC - All Rights Reserved 2022 - Data version: 1.0

International Agency for Research on Cancer

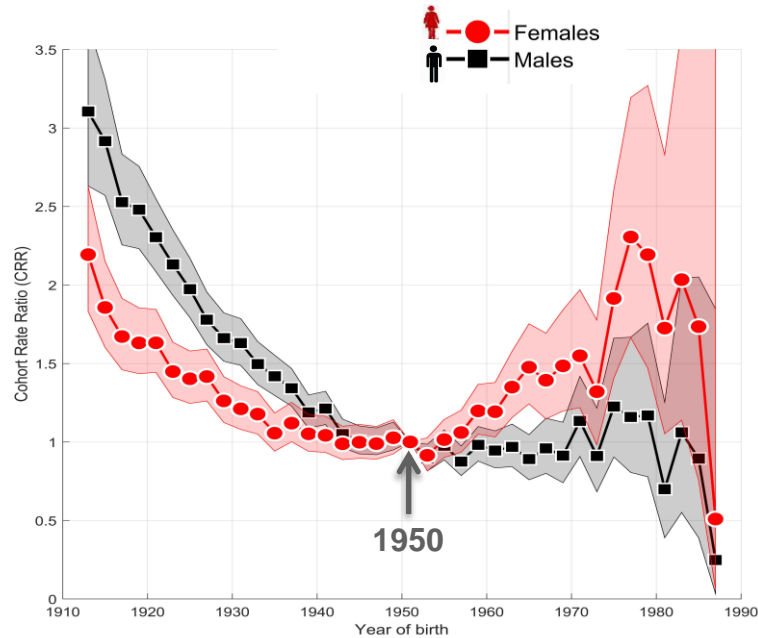


Impact of sanitation, refrigeration and widespread use of antibiotics

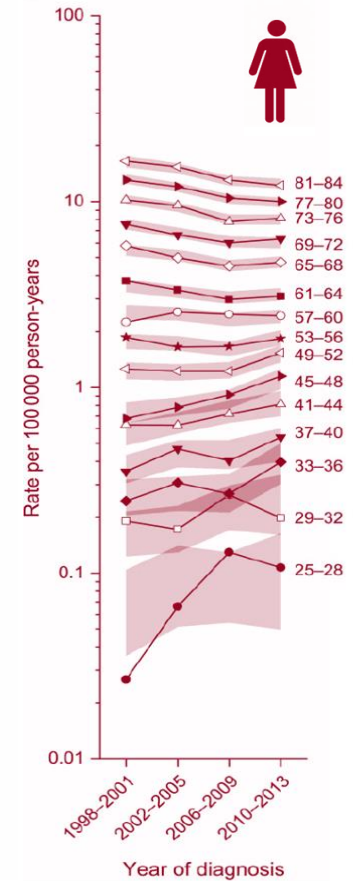
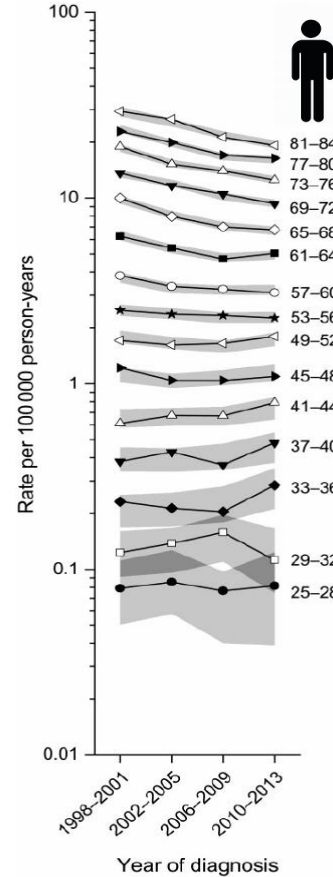
ARTICLE

# The Changing Face of Noncardia Gastric Cancer Incidence Among US Non-Hispanic Whites

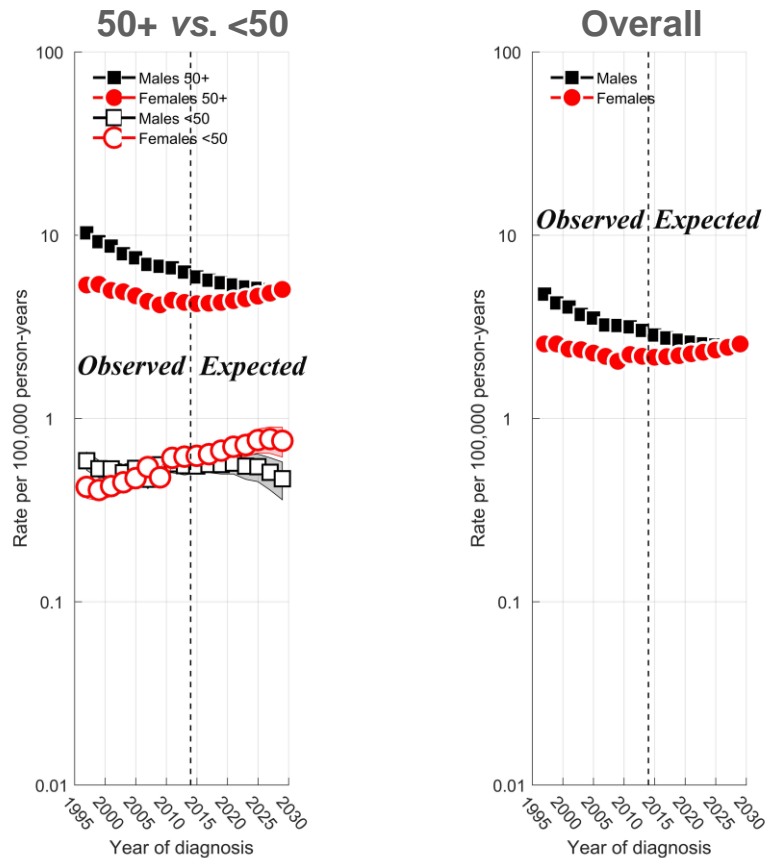
William F. Anderson, Charles S. Rabkin, Natalie Turner, Joseph F. Fraumeni Jr., Philip S. Rosenberg, M. Constanza Camargo



## NAACCR, 1995-2013



# Observed and Expected Age-standardized Incidence of Noncardia Gastric Cancer among non-Hispanic Whites



## Noncardia Gastric Cancer Increasing in Hispanic whites, but not in Blacks or Other Races (mainly Asians)

Hispanics all races		
	<50 years	50+ years
	EAPC	EAPC
Male	0.15	-2.58*
Female	<b>0.73*</b>	-1.95*
non-Hispanic Blacks		
	<50 years	50+ years
Male	-2.36*	-1.88*
Female	0.51	-1.69*
non-Hispanic others		
	<50 years	50+ years
Male	-2.72*	-2.94*
Female	-0.41	-2.96*

\*Statistically significant EAPC at the  $p < 0.05$  level

# Rising noncardia gastric cancer rates mainly restricted to counties <20% prevalence of poverty

% Poverty		<50 years	50+ years
		EAPC	EAPC
<10	Male	0.56	-3.28*
	Female	<b>3.93*</b>	-2.14*
10 - 19.9	Male	0.36	-3.12*
	Female	1.57*	-2.22*
20+	Male	-2.65	-3.16*
	Female	2.33	-1.74*

\*Statistically significant EAPC at the  $p < 0.05$  level

# Sex and age differences in mortality trends of gastric cancer among Hispanic/Latino populations in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean

The Lancet Regional Health - Americas  
 2022;16: 100376  
 Published online 7 October 2022  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lana.2022.100376>

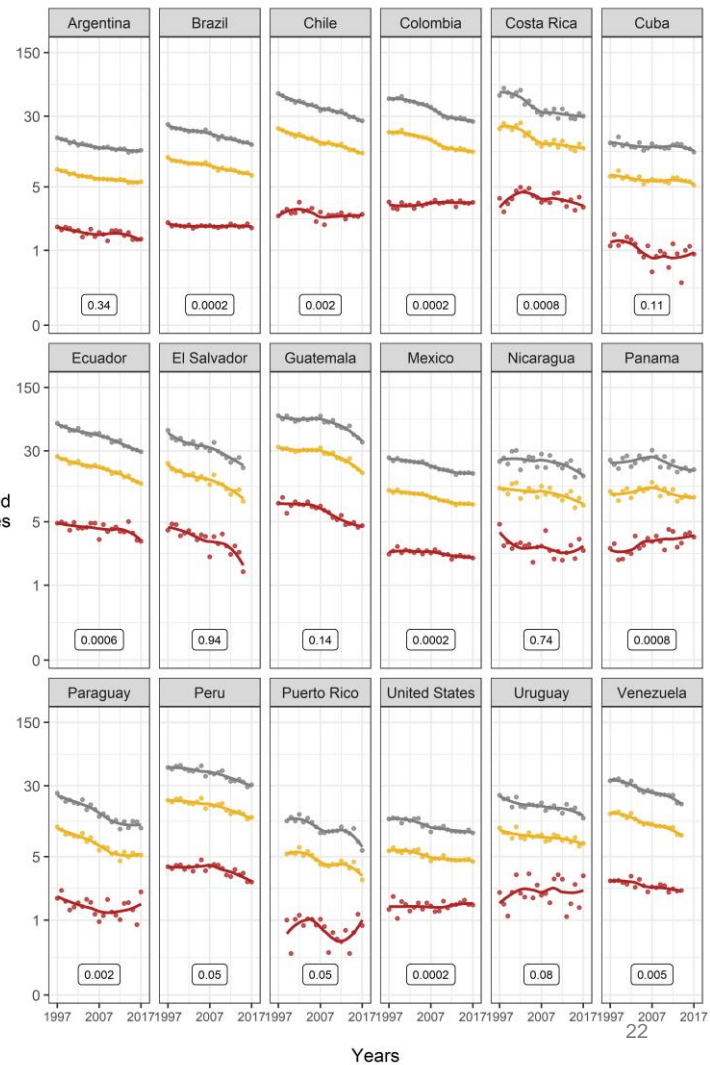
J. Smith Torres-Roman,<sup>a,b,\*</sup> Christian S. Alvarez,<sup>c</sup> Pedro Guerra-Canchani,<sup>b,d</sup> Bryan Valcarcel,<sup>b</sup> José Fabián Martínez-Herrera,<sup>b,e</sup> Carlos A. Dávila-Hernández,<sup>f</sup> Camila Alves Santos,<sup>b,g</sup> Samara Carollyne Mafra Soares,<sup>b,g</sup> Dyego Leandro Bezerra de Souza,<sup>b,g,h</sup> and M. Constanza Camargo<sup>c</sup>

## Mortality trends among females

Age-standardized mortality rates

— All ages — 25-49y — ≥50y

P-values for parallelism test comparing 25-49 vs. ≥50 years

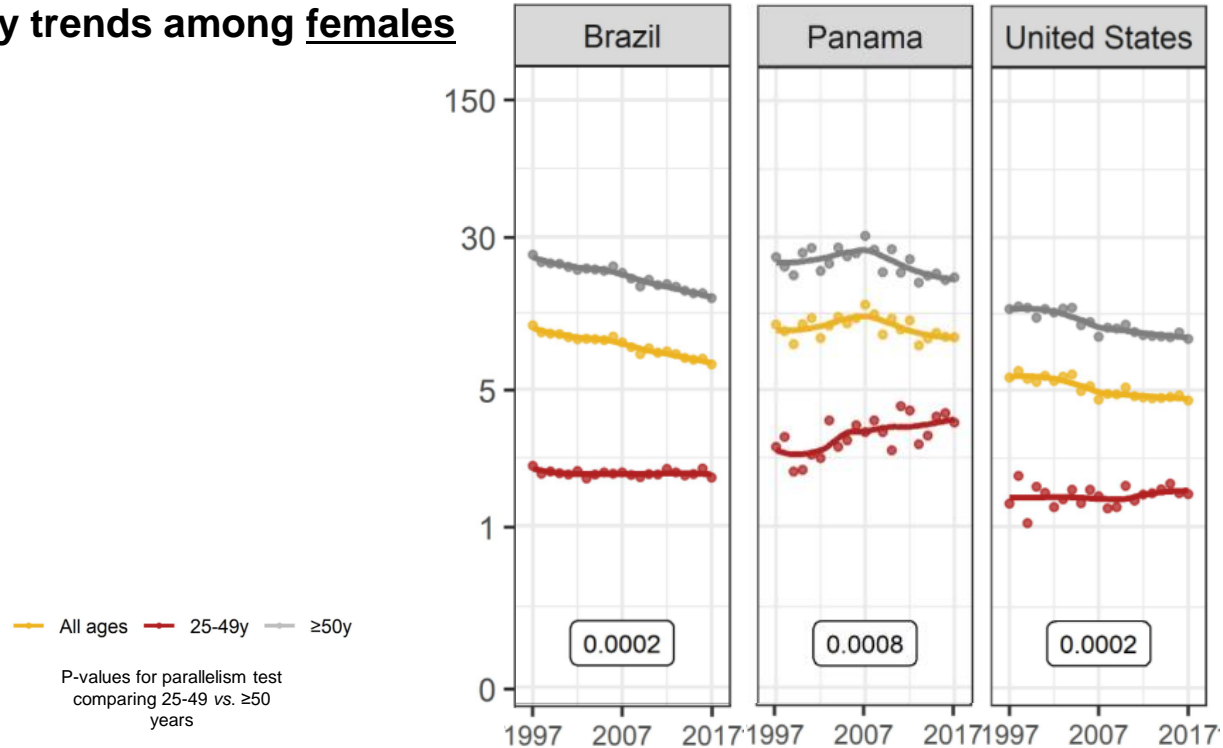


# Sex and age differences in mortality trends of gastric cancer among Hispanic/Latino populations in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean

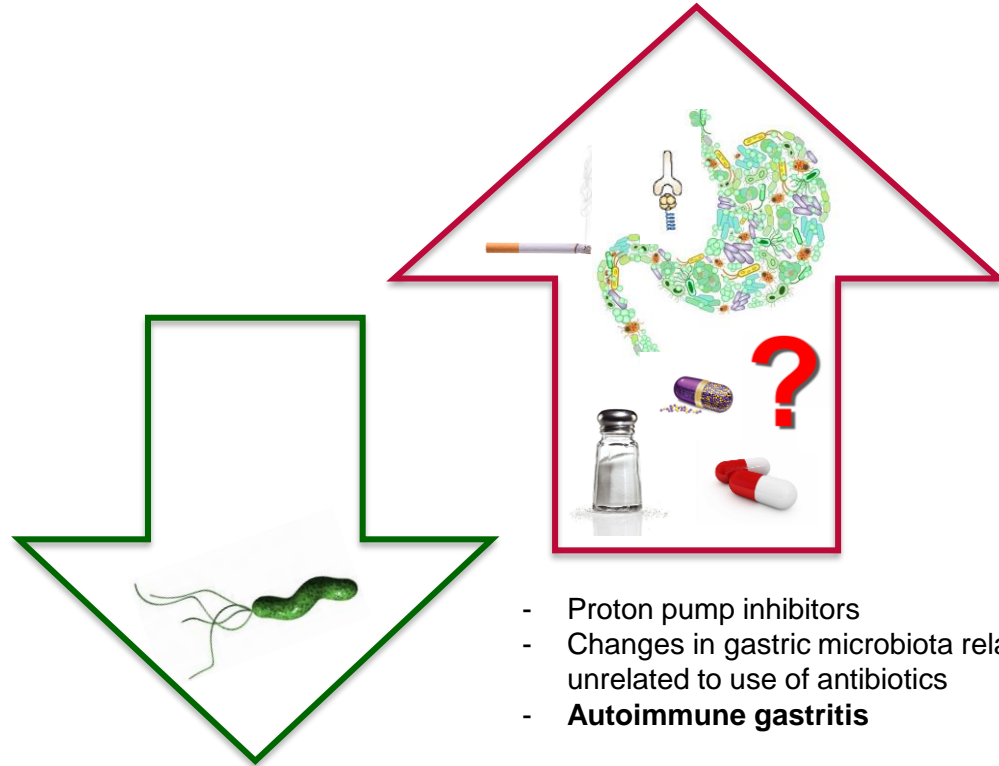
The Lancet Regional Health - Americas 2022;16: 100376  
Published online 7 October 2022  
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## Mortality trends among females

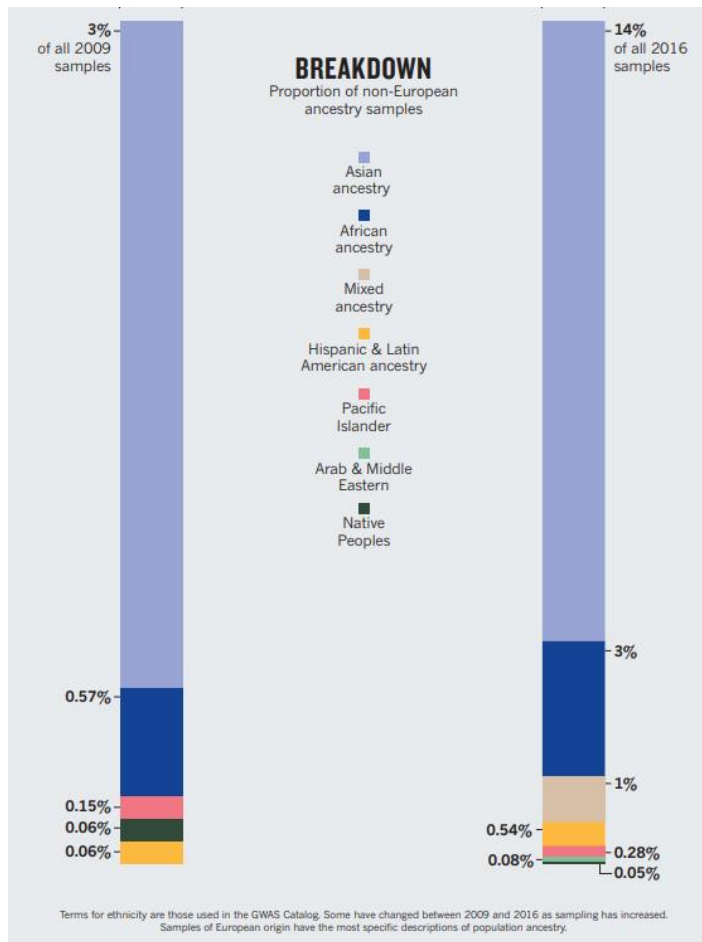
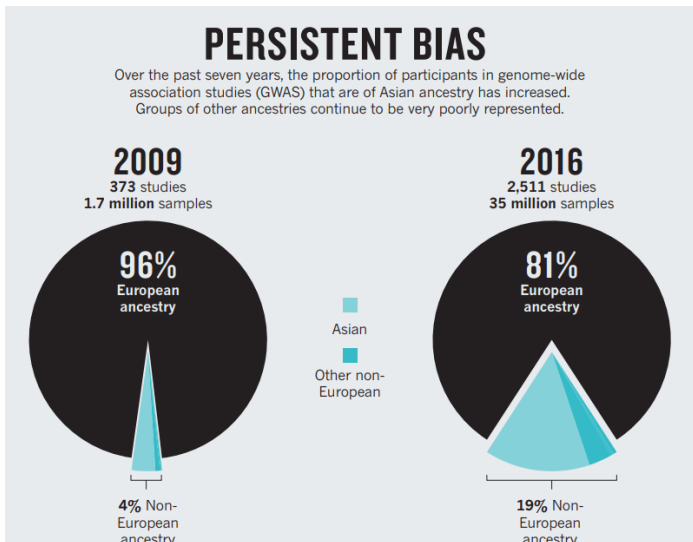


# Potential Changes in the Etiologic Fractions of Major and Potential Risk Factors

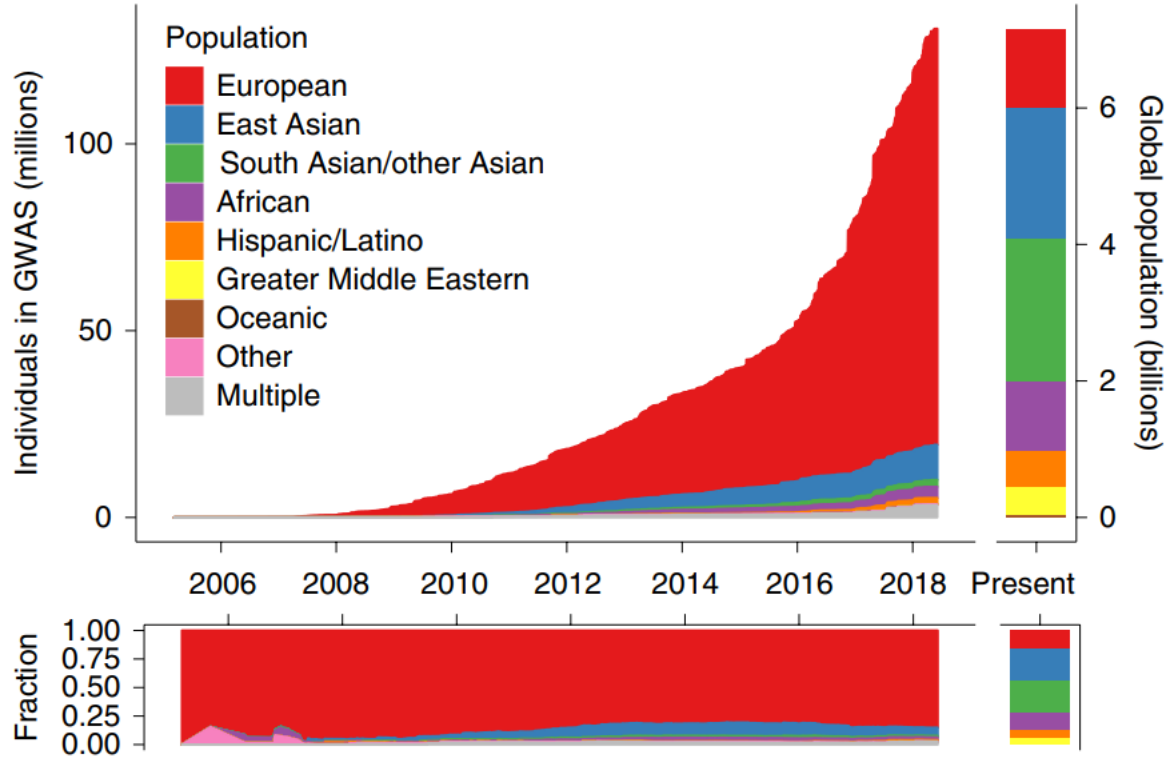




# Genomics is failing on diversity



# Ancestry of GWAS participants over time -- compared with the global population



# Heritability of Gastric Cancer

Proportion of variation among individuals that can be attributed to genes

## Nordic populations

- Lichtenstein *et al.*: 28%
- Mucci *et al.*: 22%

## East Asian populations

- Dai *et al.*: 20%
- Sampson *et al.*: 25%

Lichtenstein *et al.*, NEJM 2000; Sampson *et al.*, JNCI 2015; Mucci *et al.*, JAMA 2016; Dai *et al.*, IJC 2017



# GWAS Catalog

The NHGRI-EBI Catalog of human genome-wide association studies

Examples: breast carcinoma, rs7329174, Yao, 2q37.1, HBS1L, 6:16000000-25000000

feedback

GWAS / Search / gastric cancer

### Refine search results

- P** Publications **8**
- T** Traits **11**
- G** Genes **5**

## Search results for *gastric cancer*

**T** **gastric cancer** **MONDO\_0001056**

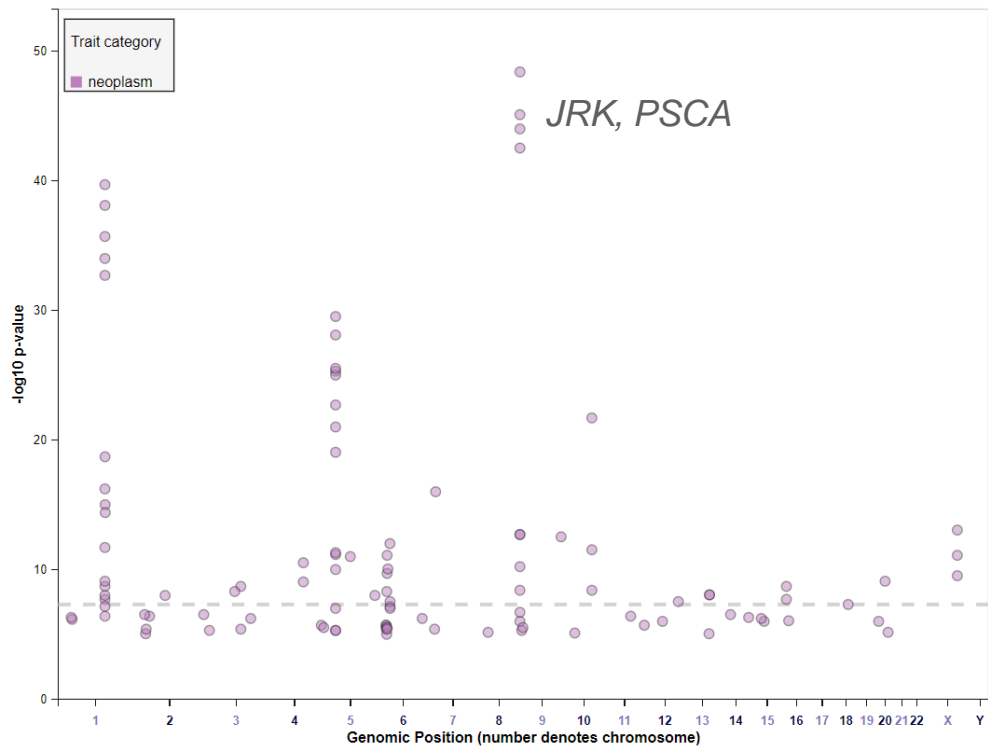
A primary or metastatic malignant neoplasm involving the stomach.

Associations **130** Studies **26**

# Gastric Cancer GWAS in the East Asian and European populations

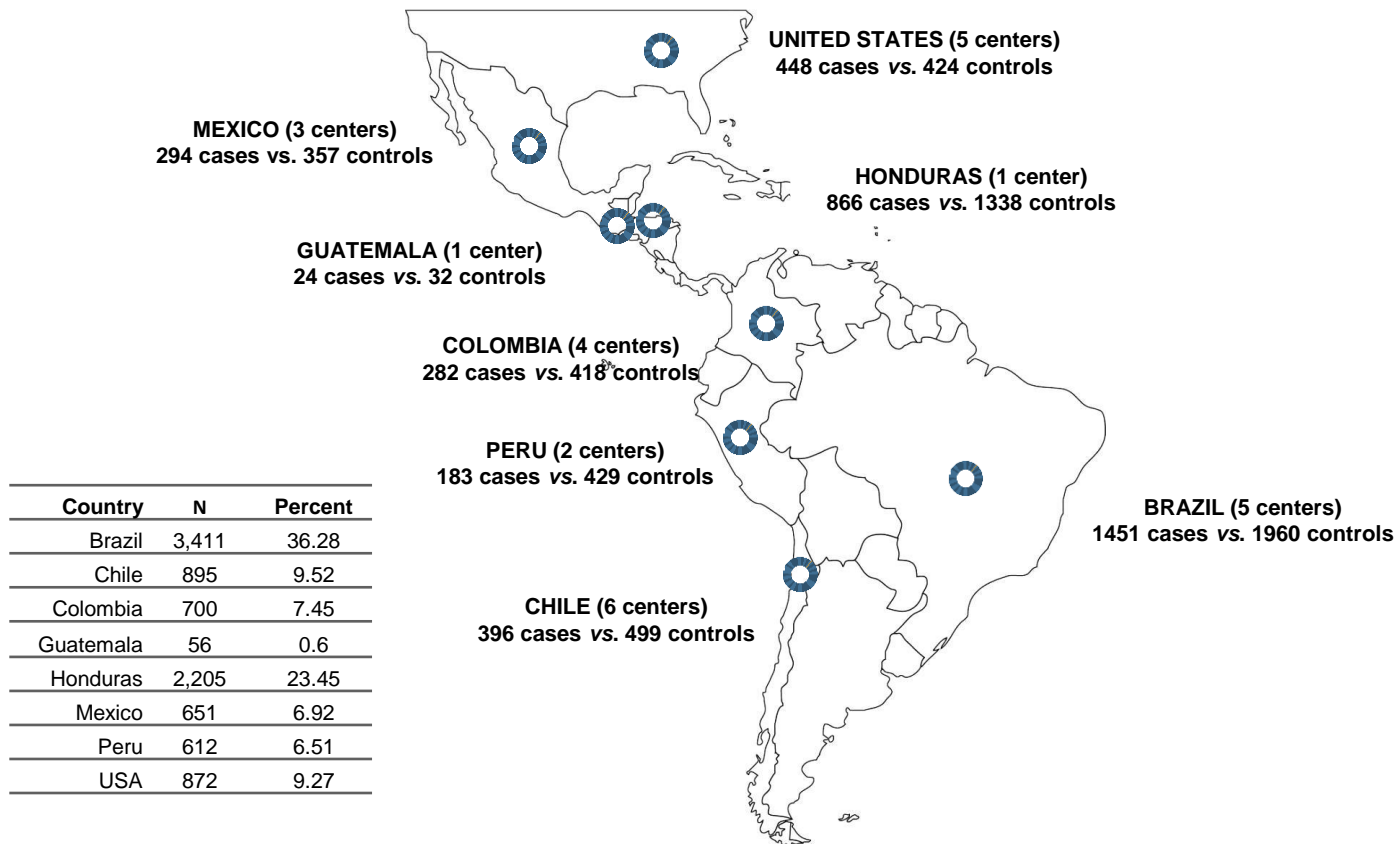
<b>First author</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Publication year</b>	
Abnet	East Asian	2010	Total No. cases: ~48,000
Shi	East Asian	2011	
Helgason	European	2015	
Park	East Asian	2018	
Tanikawa	East Asian	2018	
Yan	East Asian	2019	
Ishigaki	East Asian	2020	
Rashkin	European	2020	
Jin	East Asian	2020	
Sakaue	European and East Asian	2021	
Nam	East Asian	2022	
Hess and Maj	European	2023	

# GWAS hits across all studies



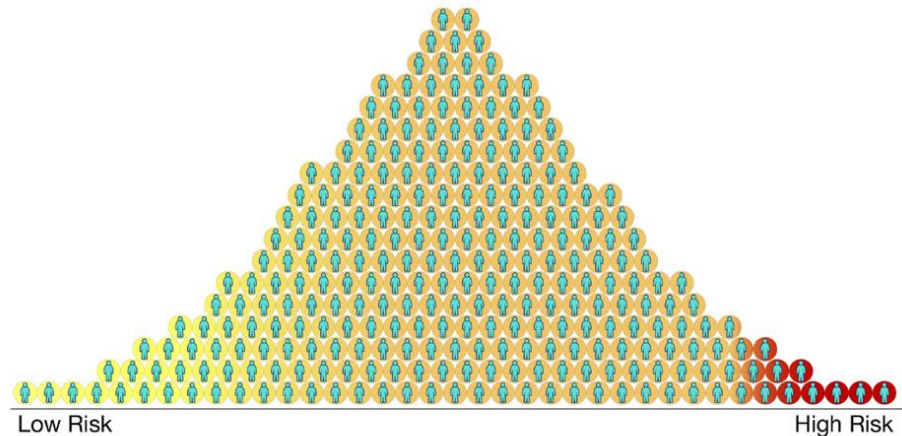
*ABO, ACYP2, ARC, MROH4P, ARL4C, ASH1L, BDKRB1, ATG2B, C7, CCDC32, CHST14, CHD6, CUX2, DEFB121, DNAH11, ECRG4, FAM183A, GAPDHP77, RNU6-309P, GBAP1, GON4L, HLA-C, HLA-F, HLA-U, HLA-A, ILF2P2, BRMS1L, JRK, KCNU1, KRTCAP2, LINC01068, LINC02161, LINC02363, MYL12BP2, LINC02516, LINC02580, LMNA, LRFN2, LRIG3, LINC02388, MAS1LP1, MAST2, MICA, HLA-S, MIR4457, TERT, MLN, LINC01016, MTX1; THBS3; MUC1, NPIP2, NPM1P28, OARD1, UNC5CL, OPCML, PLCE1, PPP1R10, PRKAA1, PSCA, LY6K, PTGER4, TTC33, PTMAP5, HIGD1AP2, RANBP6, RMDN2, RNMTL1P2, PRPS1L1, RNU6-309P, GAPDHP77, RPL3P2, WASF5P, SIGLEC15, SMARCA2, SMIM15P2, PGBD1, SMIM23, FGF18, SNAP25-AS1, TACC1P1, TATDN2, THBS3, MTX1, THBS3-AS1, TRPM1, TTC33, U6, UNC5CL, VN1R10P, ZNF204P, VPS35L, ZBTB20, ZNF603P, ZNF192P1*

# GWAS in Hispanic/Latino populations: 3,944 cases and 5,457 controls



# Polygenic risk score (PRS)

- A PRS aggregates the effects of many genetic variants into a single number which predicts genetic predisposition for a phenotype
- PRS are typically composed of hundreds-to-millions of variants which are combined using a weighted sum of allele dosages multiplied by their corresponding effect sizes, as estimated from a relevant GWAS



<https://www.cdc.gov/genomics/disease/polygenic.htm>



# Health Care and Public Health Implications

- PRS can provide a measure of disease risk due to your genes
- Combining PRS with other risk factors can give a better idea of how likely someone is to get a specific disease than considering either alone
- Knowing how likely someone is to get a disease can help you take steps to prevent a disease or find it earlier
- PRS can also be combined with other factors to help predict how a disease will progress and how well you will respond to a treatment

<https://www.cdc.gov/genomics/disease/polygenic.htm>

# The Polygenic Score (PGS) Catalog

An open database of polygenic scores and the relevant metadata required for accurate application and evaluation.



Examples: [breast cancer](#), [glaucoma](#), [BMI](#), [EFO\\_0001645](#)

## New tool!

We just released **pgsc\_calc**: a reproducible workflow to calculate both PGS Catalog and custom polygenic scores. [▶ See more information](#)

Feedback

## Explore the Data

In the current PGS Catalog you can **browse** the scores and metadata through the following categories:

Polygenic Scores

 3,664

Traits

 617

Publications

 461

Development of the **PGS Catalog** is supported by:

T gastric cancer (MONDO\_0001056) (Cancer) (Digestive system disorder)

A primary or metastatic malignant neoplasm involving the stomach. [NCIT: C9331]

Associated PGS 1 >> Show PGS

PGS ID PGS Name Reported Trait

PGS002299 PRS3\_gastric Gastric cancer

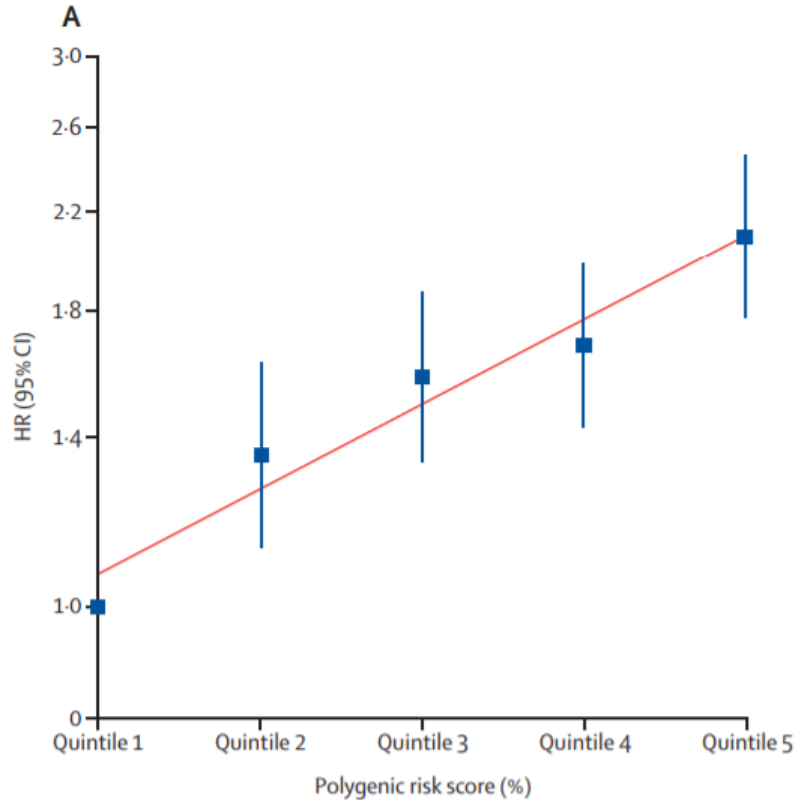
272 UK Biobank cases

Number of SNPs	Number of loci	PRS, Mean ± SD			AUC (95% CIs)
		Cases	Noncases	P value	
3	3	0.82 ± 0.24	0.78 ± 0.24	.01	0.56 (0.53-0.60)

Cancer	Q1 (low)	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	P for trend
Gastric						
Number of cases	42	44	74	52	60	
HR (95% CI)	1.00 (Reference)	1.21 (0.79-1.84)	1.60 (1.10-2.34)	1.40 (0.93-2.10)	1.75 (1.18-2.59)	.005

PRS groups			
Top 5%	Top 1%	Bottom 5%	Bottom 1%
1.27 (0.75-2.15) <sup>a</sup>	1.27 (0.75-2.15) <sup>b</sup>	0.82 (0.47-1.43) <sup>c</sup>	0.53 (0.07-3.83) <sup>d</sup>

# Polygenic Risk Score in Chinese individuals (n=112 SNPs; $p < 5 \times 10^{-5}$ )



GWAS: 10,254 cancer and 10,914 controls

Effectiveness within Kadoorie Biobank  
(n=100,220)

- 692 gastric cancer cases during a median follow-up of 10.4 years

	Number of cases/ person-years	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	p value	p <sub>trend</sub> value	Absolute risk over 10 years (95% CI)	Absolute risk reduction over 10 years (95% CI)	Number of participants who needed to adhere to a healthy lifestyle*
Low genetic risk	..	..	..	0.0051	..	..	..
Unfavourable lifestyle	33/34 206	1 (ref)	..	..	1.00% (0.65–1.34)	0 (ref)	..
Intermediate lifestyle	50/135 331	0.52 (0.31–0.88)	0.014	..	0.38% (0.27–0.49)	0.62% (0.26–0.97)	162
Favourable lifestyle	5/28 465	0.30 (0.11–0.84)	0.022	..	0.18% (0.02–0.34)	0.82% (0.45–1.19)	122
Intermediate genetic risk	..	..	..	0.00013	..	..	..
Unfavourable lifestyle	138/105 718	1 (ref)	..	..	1.33% (1.11–1.56)	0 (ref)	..
Intermediate lifestyle	243/403 912	0.64 (0.51–0.83)	0.00027	..	0.61% (0.53–0.69)	0.72% (0.50–0.97)	139
Favourable lifestyle	32/82 545	0.51 (0.33–0.78)	0.0019	..	0.39% (0.26–0.53)	0.94% (0.69–1.22)	106
High genetic risk	..	..	..	0.027	..	..	..
Unfavourable lifestyle	61/35 662	1 (ref)	..	..	1.62% (1.20–2.03)	0 (ref)	..
Intermediate lifestyle	115/133 277	0.73 (0.52–1.03)	0.076	..	0.81% (0.66–0.97)	0.81% (0.36–1.19)	124
Favourable lifestyle	15/28 468	0.53 (0.29–0.99)	0.048	..	0.49% (0.24–0.74)	1.12% (0.62–1.56)	89

ref=reference. \*Refers to the number needed to adhere to a healthy lifestyle to prevent one gastric cancer case in 10 years.

**Table 2: Risk of incident gastric cancer according to lifestyle and level of genetic risk**

Defined as not smoking, never consuming alcohol, the low consumption of preserved foods, and the frequent intake of fresh fruits and vegetables. No significant interaction between genetic risk and lifestyle factors was observed ( $p=0.45$ ).



**PRIMED**  
consortium

The Polygenic Risk Methods in Diverse populations (PRIMED) Consortium is working to improve the methods and application of polygenic risk scores (PRS) in diverse populations. The consortium has two overarching goals:

- Improve the applicability of PRS in diverse populations.
- Optimize the integration of large-scale, harmonized genomic and phenotype data.

## PRIMED Consortium Polygenic Risk Methods in Diverse Populations

[Read about us](#)

Image credit: Darryl Leja, NHGRI/NIH



The PRIMED Consortium has the following goals:



### **1. Gather Diverse Datasets**

Bring together large datasets with genomic and health measures from diverse ancestry populations



### **2. Develop New Methods**

Develop new methods to improve genetic risk prediction across diverse populations for a broad range of health and disease outcomes



### **3. Enable Collaboration**

Enable collaborative analysis by sharing PRS-related data, software, and other resources with the scientific community



### **4. Improve Health**

Leverage existing precision medicine partner programs to develop, test, and refine PRS in diverse populations to improve health outcomes

# Take home messages

- Additional GWAS are needed to identify risk variants to improve their PRS for risk prediction, especially by reflecting the ancestry and subtype (location, histology, molecular) of cancer
- Evaluation of the risk reduction benefit of *H. pylori* eradication in populations with different levels of genetic risk could be useful for an individualized primary gastric cancer prevention approach
- It is unknown whether individuals at a high genetic risk of gastric cancer would benefit more from endoscopic screening than those with a low genetic risk, which could ultimately improve secondary prevention



# Key Collaborators

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## GWAS in Hispanic/Latino populations

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