## Electronic supplemental material

ESM Table 1, Characteristics of overall cohort, those within the biobank and the subsets for RNA and RNA-seq.

|  | Entire population (2013) |  | Population in biobank (2013) |  | RNA population |  | RNA-seq population |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | ( $\mathrm{n}=8063$ ) |  | $(\mathrm{n}=4921)$ |  | ( $\mathrm{n}=1033$ ) |  | ( $\mathrm{n}=391$ ) |  |
|  | Median | IQR | Median | IQR | Median ${ }^{\text {l }}$ | IQR | Median ${ }^{\text {I }}$ | IQR |
| Age (years) | 67.5 | [60.0-75.3] | 67.1 | [59.9-74.2] | 65.0 | [57.7-72.4] | 64.0 | [57.3-70.0] |
| Sex (\% female) | 47.3 |  | 44.5 |  | 43.4 |  | 41.2 |  |
| Diabetes duration (years) | 6.9 | [3.2-12.0] | 7.6 | [4.1-12.5] | 4.5 | [2.5-8.7] | 3.7 | [2.1-5.5] |
| Glucose (mmol/l) | 7.8 | [6.8-9.0] | 7.8 | [6.9-9.1] | 7.8 | [7.0-8.9] | 7.9 | [7.2-9.1] |
| $\mathrm{HbA}_{1 \mathrm{c}}$ (\%) | 6.5 | [6.1-7.1] | 6.5 | [6.1-7.1] | 6.4 | [6.0-7.0] | 6.4 | [6.0-7.0] |
| $\mathrm{HbA}_{1 \mathrm{c}}(\mathrm{mmol} / \mathrm{mol})$ | 47 | [43-54] | 47 | [43-54] | 47 | 42-53] | 47 | [42-53] |
| BMI (kg/m ${ }^{2}$ ) | 29.2 | [26.3-33.0] | 29.2 | [26.5-32.9] | 29.5 | [26.5-33.0] | 29.5 | [26.4-33.0] |
| LDL ( $\mathrm{mmol} / \mathrm{l}$ ) | 2.3 | [1.8-3.0] | 2.3 | [1.8-2.9] | 2.3 | [1.8-3.0] | 2.3 | [1.8-2.9] |
| HDL (mmol/l) | 1.2 | [1.0-1.5] | 1.2 | [1.0-1.5] | 1.2 | [1.0-1.5] | 1.2 | [1.0-1.5] |
| Triacylglycerol (mmol/l) | 1.5 | [1.1-2.1] | 1.5 | [1.1-2.1] | 1.5 | [1.1-2.1] | 1.6 | [1.1-2.2] |
| Systolic BP (mmHg) | 139 | [126-155] | 138 | [126-154] | 134 | [124-152] | 134 | [124-152] |
| Diastolic BP (mmHg) | 78 | [73-84] | 78 | [73-84] | 78 | [74-84] | 80 | [75-85] |
| eGFR ( $\mathrm{ml} / \mathrm{min}$ ) | 81.0 | [67.2-95.2] | 81.3 | [67.8-95.2] | 83.0 | [70.5-96.4] | 85.8 | [73.4-98.5] |
| Metformin use (\%) | 68.5 |  | 70.5 |  | 71.2 |  | 89.5 |  |
| SU use (\%) | 29.9 |  | 31.9 |  | 29.9 |  | 11.8 |  |
| Insulin use (\%) | 23.3 |  | 24.5 |  | 17.1 |  | 12.0 |  |



ESM Fig. 1. Measured blood cell percentages against imputed blood cell percentages. a Neutrophils, r
$=0.81 . \mathbf{b}$ lymphocytes, $r=0.83 . \mathbf{c}$ monocytes, $r=0.64 . \mathbf{d}$ eosinophils, $r=0.91 . \mathbf{e}$ basophils, $r=0.08$.


ESM Fig. 2. a Comparison of effect size ( $\log _{2}$ fold change) with imputed cell counts and measured cell counts. Pearson's correlation between two models: $\mathbf{r}=0.99$. $\mathbf{b}$ Comparison of effect size of the model on all individuals and a stratified analysis on metformin users only. Pearson's correlation between two models: $r=0.94$. $\mathbf{c}$ Comparison of effect size of models 1 ) without adjustment for medication usage and with for 1) metformin, 2) metformin and SU and 3) metformin, SU and insulin. FC, fold change; Corr, correlation; NoDrugAdj, no adjustment for drug use; Met, adjustment for metformin only; MetSU, adjustment for metformin and sulfonylureas; MetSUIns, adjustment for metformin, sulfonylureas and insulin.


ESM Fig. 3. Correlation of HbA 1 c between successive years. a Baseline $\mathrm{HbA}_{1 c}$ vs. 1-year follow-up $\mathrm{HbA}_{1 \mathrm{c},} \mathrm{n}=370, \mathrm{r}=0.76, p<0.0001$. b Baseline $\mathrm{HbA}_{1 \mathrm{c}}$ vs. 2-year follow-up $\mathrm{HbA}_{1 \mathrm{c}}, \mathrm{n}=360, \mathrm{r}=0.64$, $p<0.0001$. c 1-year follow-up $\mathrm{HbA}_{1 \mathrm{c}}$ vs. 2-year follow-up $\mathrm{HbA}_{1 \mathrm{c}}, \mathrm{n}=354, \mathrm{r}=0.74, p<0.0001$.


ESM Fig. 4. Overlap between 239 eQTL-SNPs and known diabetes-related traits.

