Table 1: Population-based studies examining socioeconomic factors or race/ethnicity as independent and C-reactive protein (CRP) level as dependent variables.

[Author, year] Sample population, study type, sampling method [Abramson, 2002] <sup>*</sup> US national sample <sup>a</sup> , cross-sectional, stratified multi-stage probability sample		Age, mean or range (y)	Minimally-adjusted and independ			
			Socioeconomic factors	Race/ethnicity <sup>#</sup>	Treatment of dependent variable <sup>##</sup> and observations	
		>= 17	(-) Education	(+) African-American vs. White and "Other" categories	Dichotomous (< or >= 0.66 mg/dL)	
[Alley, 2005] US national sample <sup>a</sup> , cross-sectional, stratified multi-stage probability sample		>= 20	(-) Above poverty line	<ul> <li>(+) Black</li> <li>(+) Hispanic</li> <li>(n/s) Other</li> <li>White reference category</li> <li>At CRP 3.1-10.0 mg/L</li> </ul>	Categorical (<=1.0, 1.1- 3.0, 3.1-10, >10.0 mg/L CRP), Significant associations at	
			<ul> <li>(-) Above poverty line</li> <li>(-) Education</li> <li>(-) Household income</li> <li>At CRP&gt;10 mg/L</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>(+) Black, at CRP&gt;3 mg/L</li> <li>(n/s) Hispanic</li> <li>(n/s) Other</li> <li>White reference category</li> </ul>	_ age <=80 y	
[Anand, 2004] Four communities in Canada <sup>b</sup> , cross-sectional, random sample of age-eligible	1250	35-75		<ul><li>(+) Lowest to highest:</li><li>Chinese, European, South Asian, Aboriginal</li></ul>	Continuous	
				<ul> <li>(+) Lowest to highest: Chinese, European, South Asian, Aboriginal</li> <li>(n/s) European vs. Chinese</li> <li>(n/s) South Asian vs. Aboriginal</li> </ul>	-	
[Bo, 2005] Asti province, Italy, cross-sectional, all age-	1650	45-64	(-) Education		Dichotomous (< or >= 3.0 mg/L)	
eligible population from 6 GPs representative of districts in province			(n/s) Education			

[Chambers, 2001] London, UK, cross-sectional, random sample of Indian Asians and European Whites from 56 GPs	1025	35-60, men		<ul><li>(+) Indian Asian</li><li>European White reference</li><li>category</li><li>Age adjusted</li></ul>	Continuous
				(n/s) Indian Asian European White reference category	
[Danesh, 1999] Bedfordshire, UK, cross-sectional, randomly selected control group for trial study from five GPs	704	35-64	<ul> <li>(-) Employment</li> <li>(n/s) Completed education b age 16 y</li> <li>(n/s) In rented housing</li> <li>(n/s) Car ownership</li> <li>(n/s) Manual worker</li> <li>(n/s) Marital status</li> </ul>	у	Categorical (thirds of CRP)
			<ul> <li>(-) Employment</li> <li>(n/s) Completed education bage 16 y</li> <li>(n/s) In rented housing</li> <li>(n/s) Car ownership</li> <li>(n/s) Manual worker</li> <li>(n/s) Marital status</li> </ul>	ру	
[Danner, 2003] <sup>*</sup> US national sample <sup>a</sup> , cross-sectional, stratified multi-stage probability sample	6149	17-39	(-) Education (women)	<ul> <li>(+) Lowest to highest (men): Mexican-American, "Other", African- American</li> <li>(+) Lowest to highest (women): "Other", Mexican-American / African-American</li> <li>White reference categories</li> </ul>	Dichotomous (< or >= 0.22 mg/dL)
[Ford, 2000] <sup>*</sup> US national sample <sup>a</sup> , cross-sectional, stratified multi-stage probability sample	8850	>= 40	(-) Education		Categorical (<= 0.21, > 0.21-< 0.55, >= 0.55 mg/dL)
[Ford, 2002] <sup>*</sup> US national sample <sup>a</sup> , cross-sectional, stratified multi-stage probability sample	13748	>= 20	(-) Recently employed (n/s) Education Age adjusted	(+) Non-white Age adjusted	Dichotomous (< or >= 85 <sup>th</sup> percentile)

[Ford, 2003] US national sample <sup>a</sup> , cross-sectional, stratified multi-stage probability sample	1940	>= 20, men	Not	presented	<ul><li>(n/s) Mexican-American</li><li>(n/s) African-American</li><li>(n/s) "Other"</li><li>White reference category</li></ul>	Continuous
			(n/s)	Education	<ul><li>(n/s) Mexican-American</li><li>(n/s) African-American</li><li>(n/s) "Other"</li><li>White reference category</li></ul>	-
[Ford, 2004] US national sample <sup>a</sup> , cross-sectional, stratified multi-stage probability sample	1912	>= 20, women	Not	presented	(+) Lowest to highest: White, African-American, Mexican-American	Continuous
			(-)	Education ( <high-school group)</high-school 	<ul><li>(+) Mexican-American</li><li>(n/s) African-American</li><li>(n/s) "Other"</li><li>White reference category</li></ul>	-
[Forouhi, 2001] <sup>*</sup> London, UK, cross-sectional, random sample of South Asians and Europeans from four GPs	113	40-55	(n/s)	Social class	<ul><li>(+) South Asian</li><li>Among women</li><li>European White reference</li><li>category</li></ul>	Continuous
[Jousilahti, 2003] Eastern and southern Finland <sup>c</sup> , cross-sectional, stratified random sample of men	1503	45-74, men	(-)	SES determined by education and total family income		Continuous, Association significant in
			(-)	SES determined by education and total family income	<b></b>	<60 y groups
[Khera, 2005] Dallas County, Texas, USA, cross-sectional,	2749	30-65			(+) Black women White reference category	Continuous and categorical
probability-based random sample					<ul><li>(+) Black women</li><li>(n/s) Black men</li><li>White men reference category</li></ul>	_

[Kivimaki, 2005] Finnish national sample, cross-sectional and prospective analysis within prospective cohort <sup>d</sup> , random sample of national register		24-39	<ul> <li>(-) Parental occupation</li> <li>(n/s) Parental education</li> <li>(n/s) Own occupation</li> <li>(-) Own education</li> <li>Age and sex adjusted</li> </ul>			Continuous
			<ul> <li>(n/s) Parental occupation</li> <li>(n/s) Parental education</li> <li>(n/s) Own occupation</li> <li>(n/s) Own education</li> </ul>			
[Lakoski, 2006] Six communities in the USA <sup>e</sup> , cross-sectional analysis within prospective cohort, stratified random, geographic or random digit dialing of age and race-eligible	6814 45-84			(+)	Lowest to highest (men): Chinese, Caucasian, African-American, Hispanic Lowest to highest (women): Chinese, Caucasian, Hispanic, African-American	Continuous Racially stratified analysis of gender; no significance tests between ethnic group
				(+)	Lowest to highest: Chinese, Caucasian, African-American, Hispanic	_
[Lawlor, 2005] <sup>*</sup> UK, cross-sectional analysis within prospective cohort <sup>f</sup> , random sample	3745	60-79, women	(-) Life-course SES, determined by index Age adjusted			Categorical (quartiles of CRP)
[Loucks, 2006] Framingham, Massachusetts, USA, cross-sectional analysis within prospective cohort, offspring or spouse of offspring of Framingham Heart Study (random sample of two-thirds of adult population of Framingham)	2729	29 62.1, mean	(-) Education Age and sex adjusted			Continuous
			(-) Education			

[Matthews, 2005] Seven sites in the USA <sup>g</sup> , cross-sectional analysis within prospective cohort, random digit-dialing		42-52		<ul> <li>(+) Lowest to highest: Japanese, Chinese, White, Hispanic, African- American</li> </ul>	Continuous
				<ul> <li>(+) Lowest to highest: Japanese, Chinese, White, Hispanic, African- American</li> <li>(n/s) African-American vs. Hispanic</li> <li>(n/s) Hispanic vs. White</li> </ul>	
[McDade, 2006] Cook County, Illinois, USA, cross-sectional analysis within sub-sample of prospective cohort <sup>h</sup> , multi-stage probability sample of age-eligible	173	50-67	(-) Education Age, gender and ethnicity adjusted	<ul> <li>(+) Lowest to highest:</li> <li>European-American,</li> <li>Latino-American, African- American</li> </ul>	Continuous
			(n/s) Education	(n/s) African-American (n/s) Latino-American European-American reference category (n=153)	
[Mendall, 1996] <sup>*</sup> London, UK, cross-sectional, random sample of Whites from GPs in Merton, Sutton, and Wandsworth District Health Authorities	303	50-69, men	<ul> <li>(-) Father's occupation not manual</li> <li>(n/s) Own occupation not manual</li> </ul>		Categorical (fifths of CRP)
[Mendall, 2000] Caerphilly and 5 villages in South Wales, cross- sectional and prospective analysis within prospective cohort <sup>1</sup> , 100% of age-eligible men	1395	45-59, men	Not presented	_	Continuous
			<ul> <li>(-) Childhood SES, determined by father's social class</li> <li>(n/s) Current social class</li> </ul>		

[Onat, 2001] Three regions of Western Turkey, cross-sectional analysis within sub-sample of prospective cohort <sup>j</sup> , stratified random sample	1046	>= 30	(-) Family income Among women	Continuous
			(n/s) Family income (n=690)	
[Panagiotakos, 2004] Attica province, Greece, cross-sectional, multi- stage random sample <sup>k</sup>	2271	> 18	(-) SES, determined by formal education level	Continuous
			(-) SES, determined by formal education level	
[Panagiotakos, 2005] Attica province, Greece, cross-sectional, multi- stage random sample <sup>k</sup>	3042	> 18	(-) Lowest to highest, by SES tertile: 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 1 <sup>st</sup>	Continuous
			(-) SES, determined by family income and education	
[Rathmann, 2006] Augsburg region, Germany, cross-sectional, cluster sample of region <sup>1</sup>	1653	55-74	<ul> <li>(-) SES, determined by occupation; education; vocational training and income (women)</li> <li>Age adjusted</li> </ul>	Continuous
			(n/s) SES, determined by occupation, education, vocational training and income	
[Sattar, 2004] <sup>*</sup> Two Scottish towns <sup>m</sup> , cross-sectional analysis within prospective cohort, offspring of original cohort (all aged 45-64 y population)	1663	30-59	(-) SES, deprivation index, determined by postcode of residence	Continuous

[St J O'Reilly, 2006] Two Scottish towns <sup>m</sup> , cross-sectional analysis within prospective cohort, offspring of original cohort (all aged 45-64 y population)	2101	30-59	<ul><li>(-) SES, deprivation index, determined by postcode of residence</li><li>Age adjusted</li></ul>			Continuous
			(-) SES, deprivation index, determined by postcode of residence (women)			
[Thorand, 2003] <sup>*</sup> Augsburg region, Germany, cross-sectional, cluster sample of region <sup>1</sup>	1238	45-74, men	(-) Education			Continuous
[Wener, 2000] <sup>*</sup> US national sample <sup>a</sup> , cross-sectional, stratified multi-stage probability sample	22467	>4		(+)	Lowest to highest: White, Hispanic, Black	Continuous
[Williams, 2004] Dunedin, New Zealand, cross-sectional analysis	822	26	Not presented			Continuous
within prospective birth cohort <sup>n</sup> , births over 1 y period			(n/s) SES, determined by occupation and income	-		
[Wong, 2001] <sup>*</sup> US national sample <sup>a</sup> , cross-sectional, stratified multi-stage probability sample	9684	30-74		(+)	Lowest to highest (men): White, Mexican- American, Black Lowest to highest (women): White, Black, Mexican-American	Continuous and categorical (<0.5, >=0.5-<1.0, >=1.0 mg/dL)

## Table 1 legend:

(+) and (-) indicate statistically significant positive and negative associations, respectively, (n/s) indicates statistically non-significant associations

\* Study reported on findings from unadjusted or minimally adjusted (for demographic variables) models only (n=11). [Wener, 2000] reported on individuals aged >4 and we report on participants aged >=20 y and without inflammatory conditions (N unknown).

\*\* Results of unadjusted or minimally adjusted analyses appear on one row while those from studies including multivariable (fully adjusted) models appear on two rows (unadjusted or minimally adjusted analyses top, fully adjusted model bottom). Details for minimally adjusted models noted. Effect sizes discussed in Results section of text and in Table 2.

# Classification of race/ethnicity given as presented in original study

## Continuous variables analyzed as *ln*CRP due to skewed distribution

<sup>a</sup> National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES). Studies including the same years and age groups include partially overlapping samples. Studies used data from varying periods, as follows: NHANES 1988-1994: Abramson (2002), Danner (2003), Ford (2000 and 2002), Wener (2000), Wong (2001); NHANES 1999-2000: Ford (2003 and 2004); NHANES 1999-2002: Alley (2005).

<sup>b</sup> Hamilton, Toronto, Edmonton, the Six Nations Reservation (Oshweken, Ontario)

<sup>c</sup> Finnish Platelet Aggregation and Inflammation Study (PAIS)

<sup>d</sup> The Cardiovascular Risk in Young Finns Study

<sup>e</sup> Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA): Baltimore, MD; Chicago, IL; Forsyth County, NC; Los Angeles County, CA; Northern Manhattan, NY; and St Paul, MN. <sup>f</sup> British Women's Heart and Health Study: participants from 23 British towns

<sup>g</sup> Study of Women's Health Across the Nation (SWAN): Boston, MA; Chicago, IL; the Detroit area, MI; Newark, NJ; Pittsburgh, PA; Los Angeles and Oakland, CA

<sup>h</sup> The Chicago Health, Aging, and Social Relations Study

<sup>i</sup> The Caerphilly Prospective Heart Disease Study

<sup>j</sup> Turkish Adult Risk Factor Study. Study includes participants from three of seven regions included in cohort: Marmara, Aegean, and Mediterranean.

<sup>k</sup> The ATTICA Study. Overlapping sample populations (same individuals examined more than once).

<sup>1</sup> The KORA (Cooperative Health Research in the Region of Augsburg) Survey 2000, [Rathmann, 2006]; The MONICA (Monitoring of Trends and Determinants in Cardiovascular Disease) Augsburg Project, [Thorand, 2003]

<sup>m</sup> Midspan family study in Renfrew and Paisley, Scotland. [St J O'Reilly, 2006] also included data from West of Scotland coronary prevention study (WOSCOPS), which did not meet inclusion criteria and was excluded. Overlapping sample populations (same individuals examined more than once).

<sup>n</sup> Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health and Development Study