



# Sex-differences in triglyceridemic genetic risk scores and risk of myocardial infarction

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# Introduction



- CVD was at 2023 the underlying cause of death in 37 % of males and 43 % of females (in CZ)
- Triglycerides
  - Believed to be associated with CVD
  - Significant genetic background
  - GWAS → ~ 300 SNPs with effects 0.01 - 0.27 mmol/L
  - Polygenic determination
- Genetic risk score (GRS)
  - an estimate of the cumulative contribution of genetic factors

Would TG associated GRS work to predict the risk  
of developing ACS?



# Subjects and methods

IKE  
M

## ■ Subjects

### ■ Patients (ICEM C. unit)

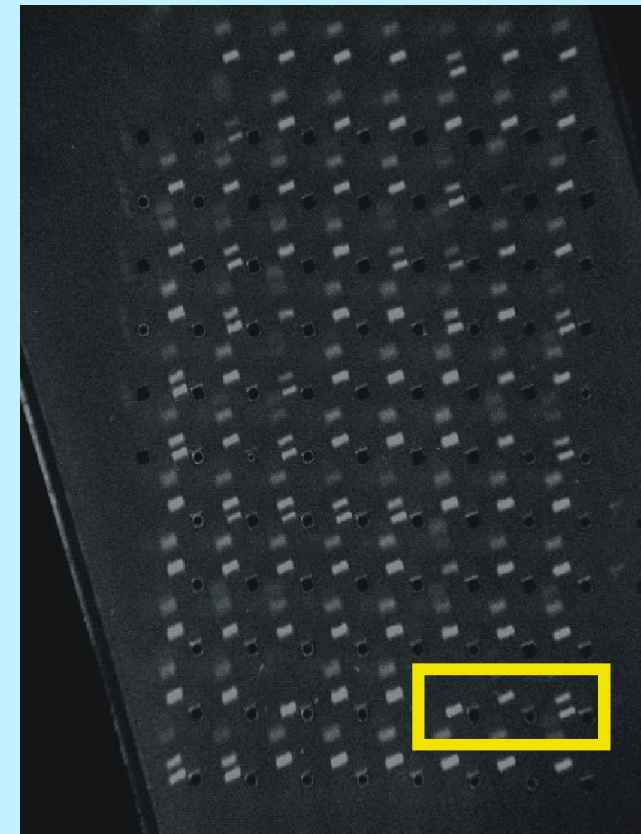
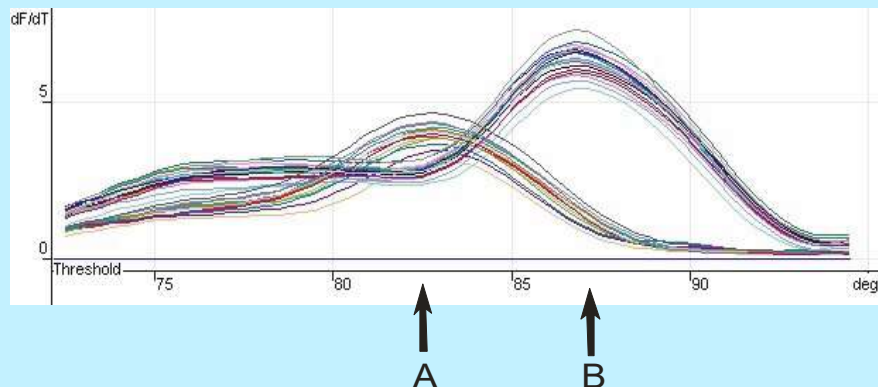
- Males (N = 913)
- Females (N = 680)

### ■ Controls (post-MONICA)

- Males (N = 890)
- Females (N = 1,341)

## ■ Complet set of 18 SNPs

(1.2% controls, 1.7% of patient excluded)





# Analysed SNPs/genes



(selected according GWAS; effect replicated on CZ case control study)

	SNP	Gene	function
1	rs1260326	<i>GCKR</i>	glukokinase regulator
2	rs439401	<i>APOE</i>	binding of lipoproteins to cell-surface receptors
3	rs964184	<i>APOA5</i>	stimulation of lipolysis
4	rs2412710	<i>CAPN3</i>	calcium transport in muscles
5	rs1495743	<i>NAT2</i>	effects n-acetylation
6	rs2929282	<i>FRMD5</i>	regulates cytoskeletal remodeling
7	rs13238203	<i>TYW1B</i>	hypermodification of guanosine
8	rs12678919	<i>LPL</i>	degradation of TG in bloodstream
9	rs2068888	<i>CYP26A1</i>	clearing bioactive retinoids
10	rs261342	<i>LIPC</i>	degradation of TG in bloodstream
11	rs11613352	<i>LRP1</i>	regulation of intracellular signaling
12	rs9686661	<i>MAP3K1</i>	regulates cell survival and apoptosis
13	rs11649653	<i>CTF1</i>	regulates cancer cell migration and metastasis
14	rs1321257	<i>GALNT2</i>	regulates glycosylation
15	rs7205804	<i>CETP</i>	transport of CE to LDL particles
16	rs2954029	<i>TRIB1</i>	regulator of retinoic acid receptors
17	rs2247056	<i>HLA</i>	binding of peptide antigens
18	rs10401969	<i>SORT1</i>	facilitates the formation of LDL particles



# Results

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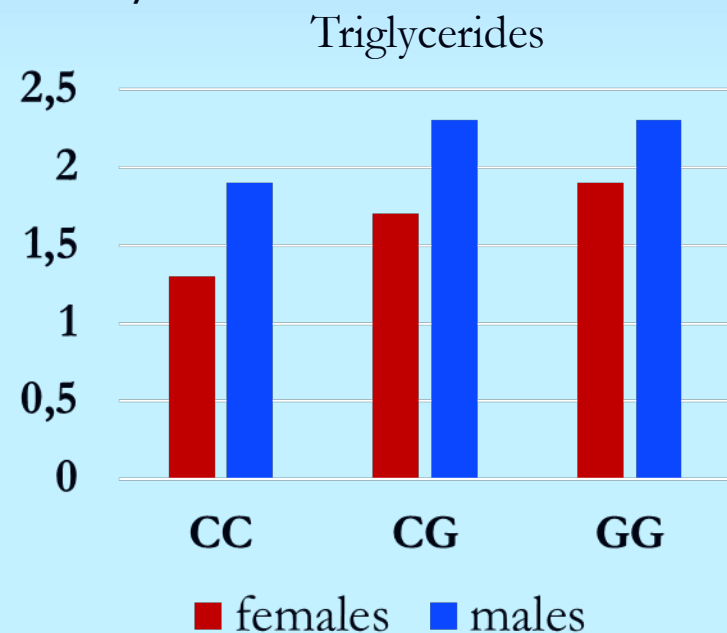


# Example - APOA5

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## Association with ACS

Mmol/L



**both  $P = 0.001$**

$P = 0.67$  OR (95%CI)  
1.03 (0.89 – 1.19)

$P = 0.23$  OR (95%CI)  
1.05 (0.85 – 1.29)

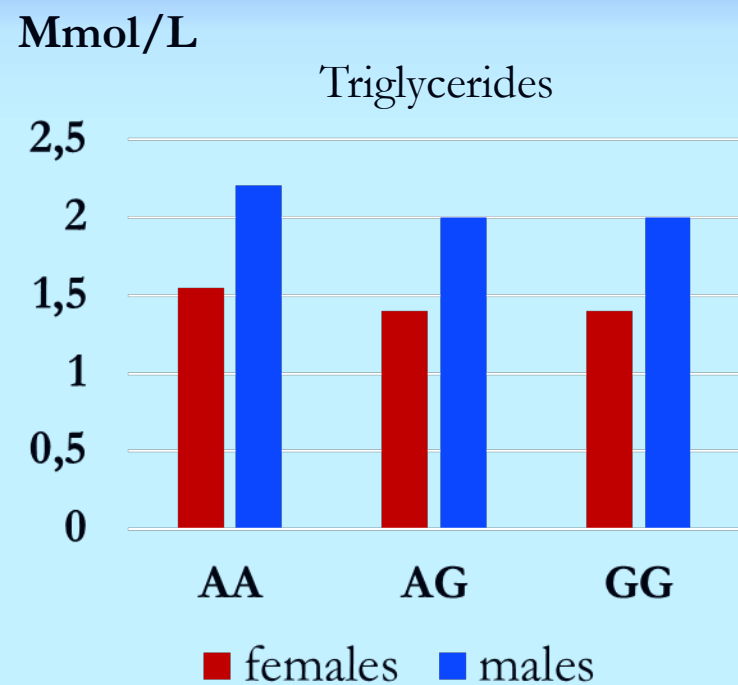


$P = 0.58$  OR (95%CI)  
0.99 (0.81 – 1.22)



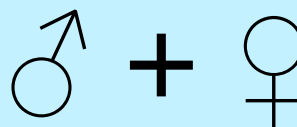


## Example - CYP26A1



### Association with ACS

**P = 0.002**      **OR (95%CI)**  
**1.32 (1.11 – 1.59)**



**!!but!!**

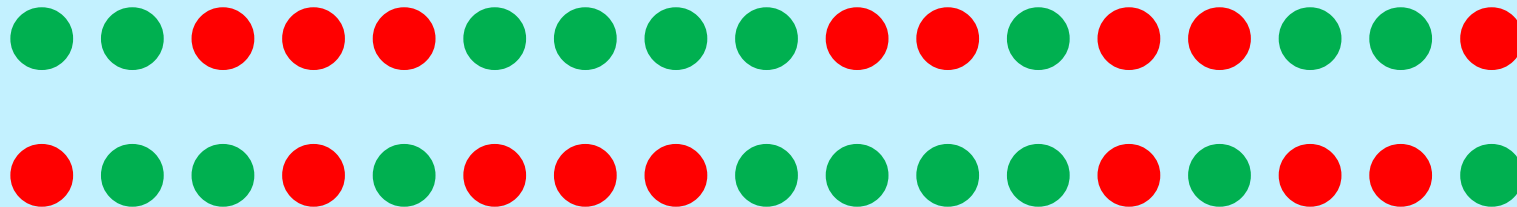
**both P < 0.05**

**G allele is the risky**

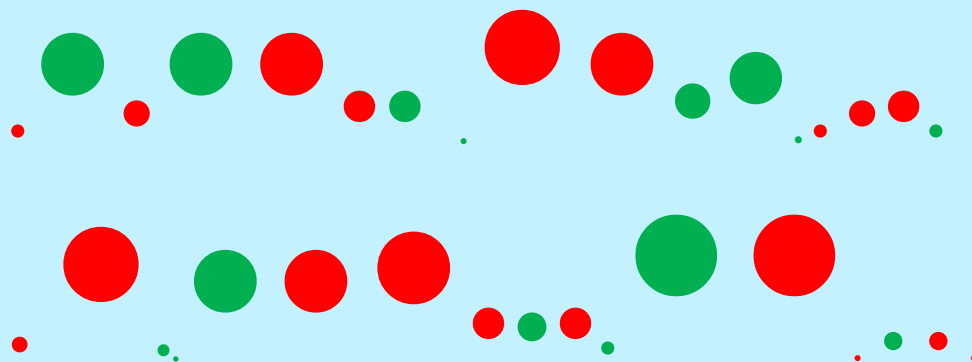


# Genetic risk score

- cumulative contribution of genetic factors on phenotype
- unweighted – number of risk alleles



- weighted – takes into account the effect size  
(log OR, log HR, beta c.)







# Genetic risk score - uGRS



- Two independent GRS
  - Based on ACS risk
  - Based on association with TG values
- uGRS
  - Normal distribution
  - Relative low number of categories
  - each risk allele +1 (0 1 2)
  - ACS -  $P < 0.1$
  - TG -  $P < 0.1$  or  $\beta$  at least 0,2 mmol/L
- Categorisation
  - No rules
  - No definitions
    - normal ???
    - risk ???



## Genes selected for GRS (ACS effect)

	Gene	MAF/population	Risky in males	Risky in females
1	<i>TYW1B</i>	3.0	CC	+ T
2	<i>NAT2</i>	22.2	+C	
3	<i>FRMD5</i>	5.9	AA	+ T
4	<i>CAPN3</i>	1.9	+ A	GG
5	<i>LPL</i>	9.4	+ G	AA
6	<i>APOE</i>	39.0	TT	
7	<i>SORT1</i>	8.0	TT	+ C
8	<i>CYP26A1</i>	48.2	AA	

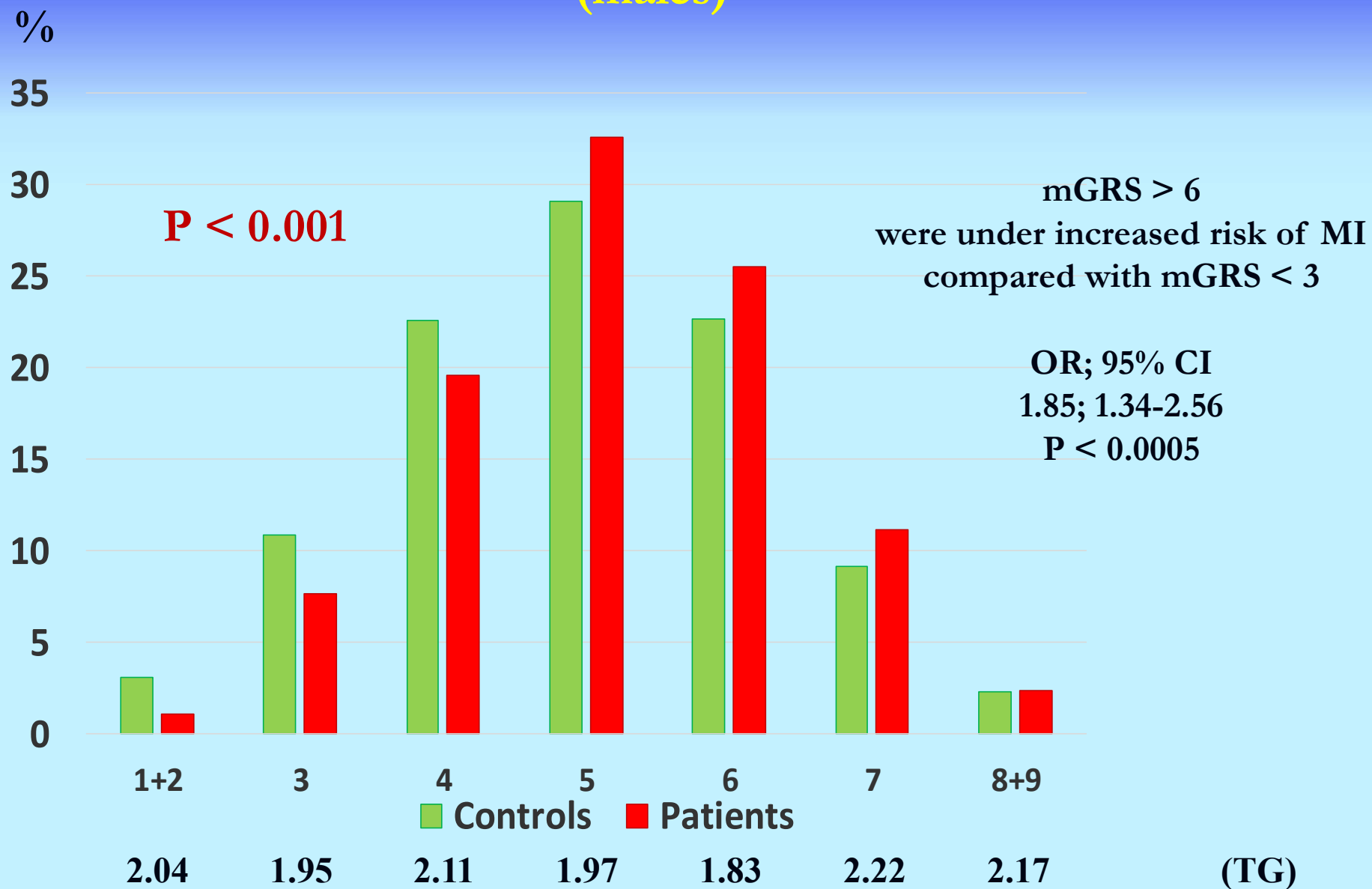
all SPNs with MAF < 10% → sex specific effect  
(associated with ACS in males, females or both)

*LPL, APOE, SORT1* – mechanism of effect on TG is known



# mGRS based on ACS risk (males)

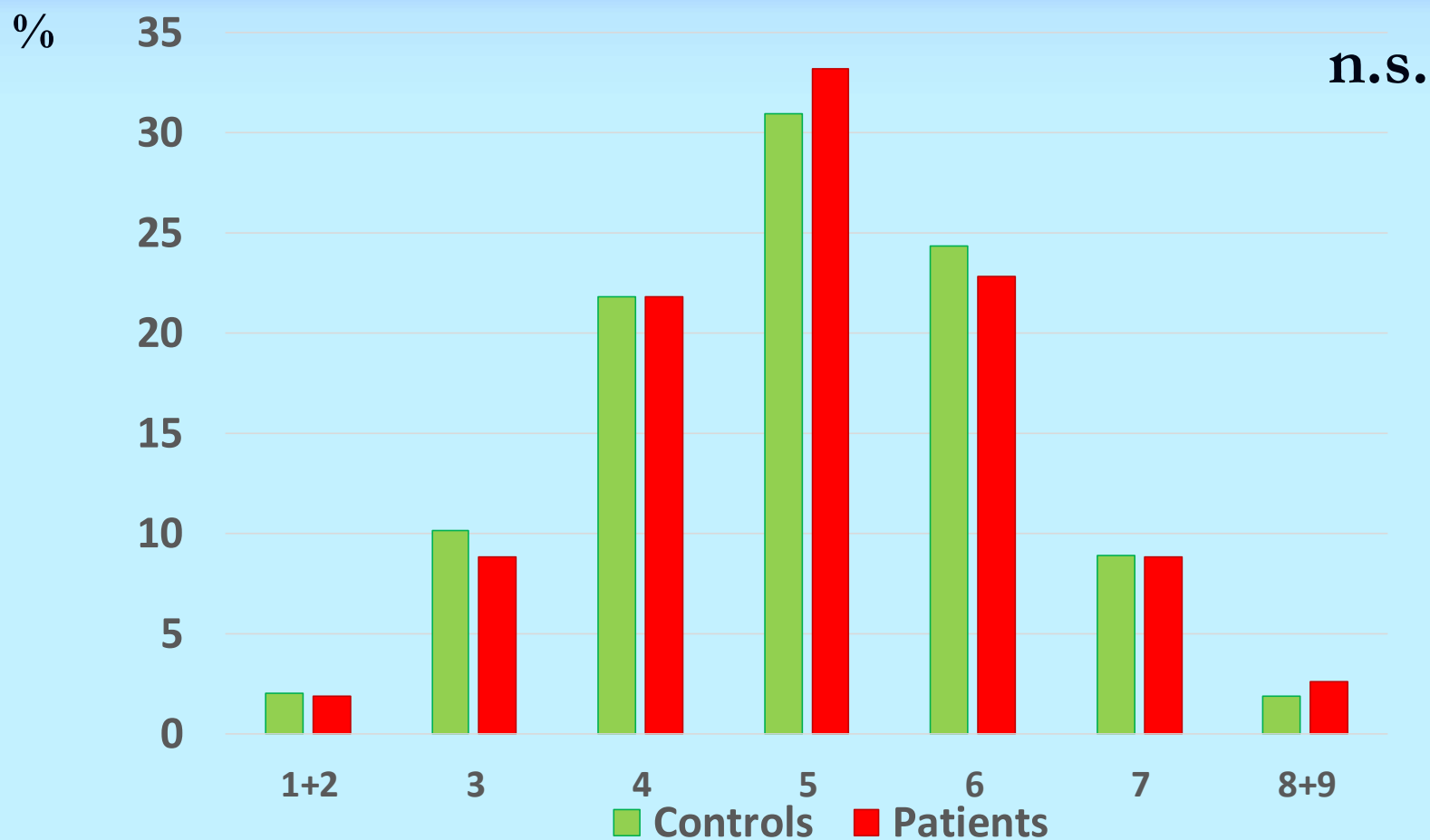
IKE  
M





# mGRS and ACS risk (applied on females)

IKE  
M

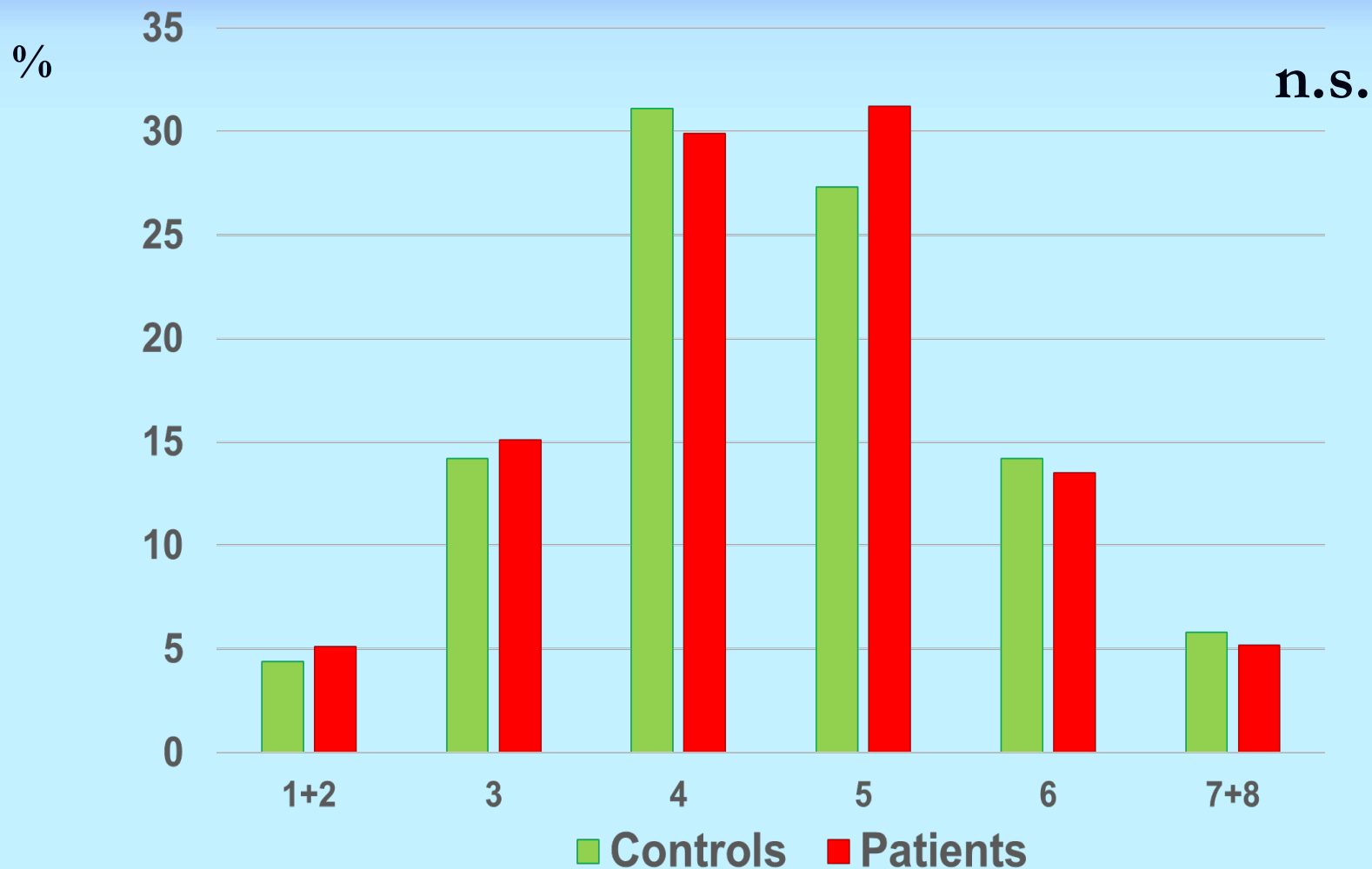




# fGRS and ACS

(applied on females)

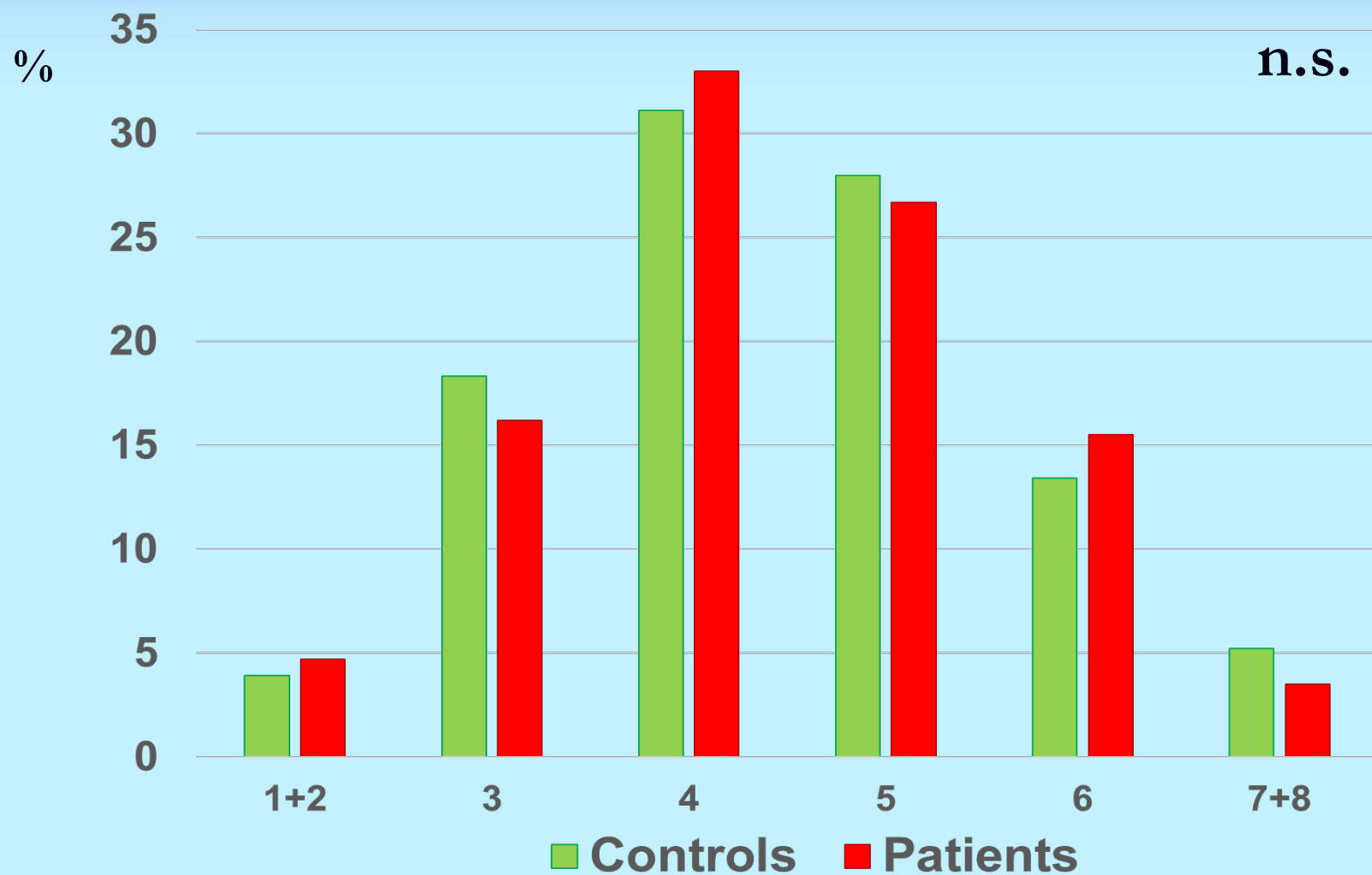
IKE  
M





# fGRS and ACS risk (applied on males)

IKE  
M





# Genes selected for GRS (TG effect males)

	Gene	P	$\Delta$ TG
1	<i>MAP3K1</i>	0.470	0.32
2	<i>GCKR</i>	0.096	0.20
3	<i>APOA5</i>	0.001	0.32
4	<i>CAPN3</i> *	0.032	0.36
5	<i>NAT2</i> *	0.695	0.22
6	<i>APOE</i> *	0.151	0.20
7	<i>SORT1</i> *	0.007	0.29
8	<i>TRIB1</i>	0.150	0.26

\*Effect on TG as well as on ACS



# GRS based on TG values (males)

%  
30

25

20

15

10

5

0

$P = 0.20$

mGRS > 9  
compared with mGRS < 7

OR; 95% CI  
1.35; 0.95-1.91  
P = n.s.

2 - 5

6

7

8

9

10-13

Controls Patients

1.66

1.62

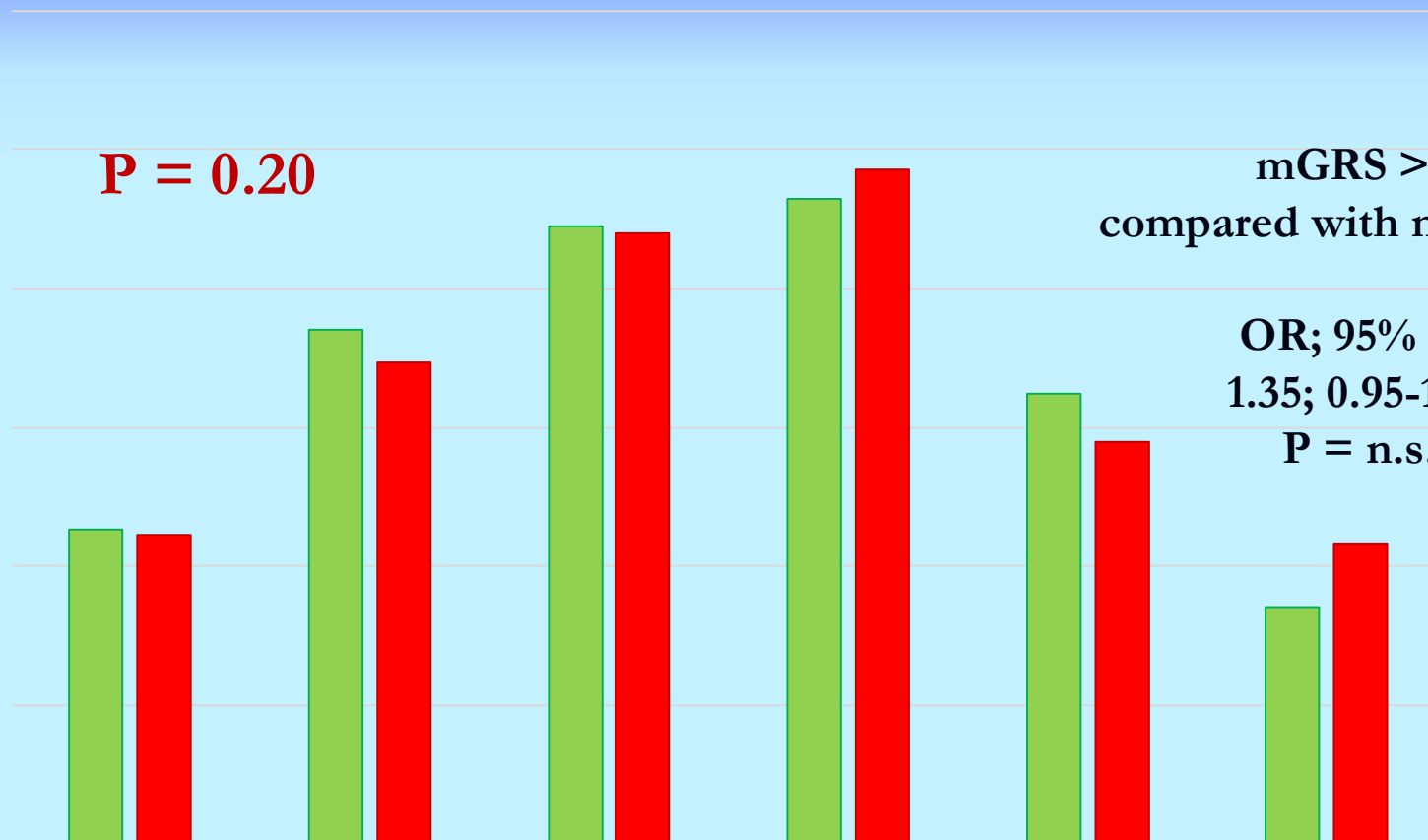
2.08

2.20

2.20

2.50

(TG)







# GRS based on ACS risk (males)

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M

%

35

30

$P < 0.001$

25

mGRS > 6  
were under increased risk of MI  
compared with mGRS < 3

20

OR; 95% CI  
1.85; 1.34-2.56  
 $P < 0.0005$

15

10

5

0

1+2

3

4

5

6

7

8+9

Controls Patients

2.04

1.95

2.11

1.97

1.83

2.22

2.17

(TG)



# Genetic vs „traditional“ RF

(males only)

OR

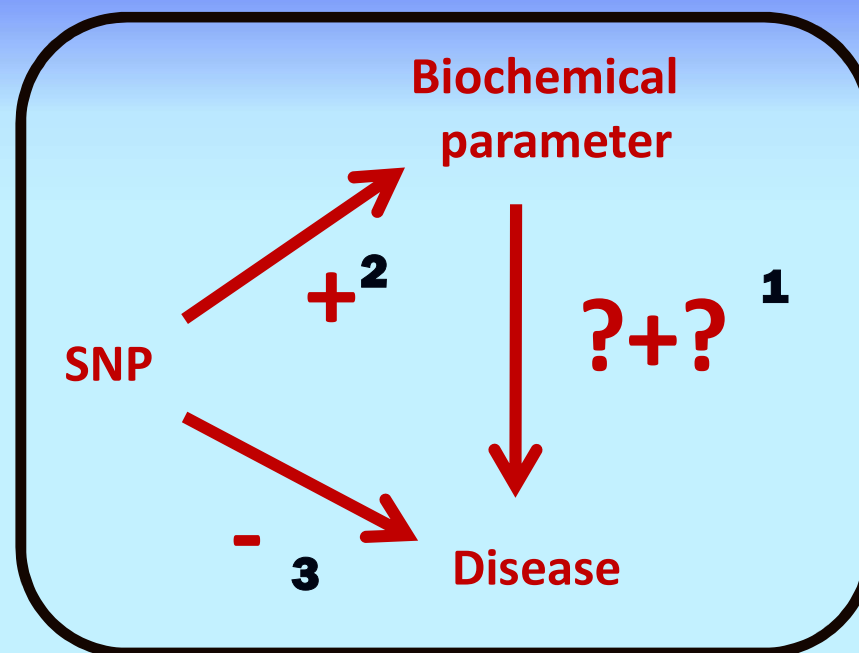
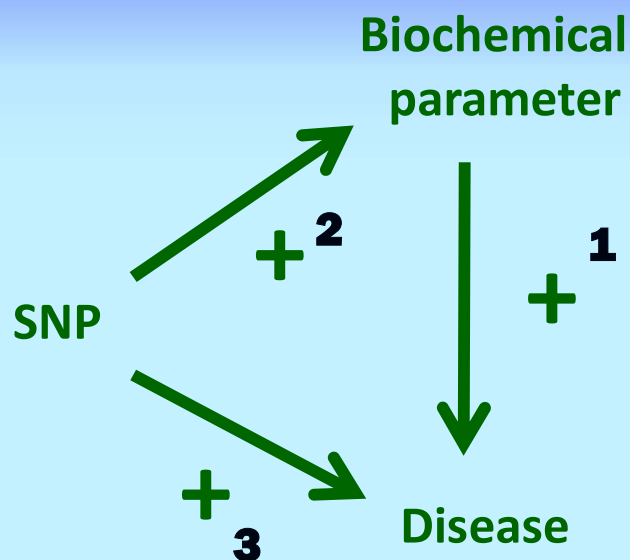
■ GRS („TG“) ACS	1.85		
Smoking	3.86		
Diabetes	1.75		
Hypertension	1.41		
Overweight	1.01		
Plasma cholesterol	4.8 ± 1.1	5.7 ± 1.0	
Plasma triglycerides	2.1 ± 1.5	2.0 ± 1.3	



# Mendelian randomisation

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M

TG and ACS risk



MR is a method of studying the causal effects of potential risk factor (TG) on outcome (ACS) using genetic variants associated with the exposure of interest



# Conclusions

*take home messages*

- Sex specific effect of selected SNPs
- MR questions TG (values common in the population) as causative RF for ACS
- Risk associated with analysed SNPs is likely not mediated by the effect on TG
  - Regulatory effects on ???



# Thanks for your attention!



...times are getting more and more complicated...  
It is easy to substitute genetic information for genetic desinformation

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