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| **Table 1: Description of cases and controls. Values are numbers (percentages) unless otherwise stated** | | |
| **Matching factors** | Cases (n=144 959) | Control (n=549 336) |
| Ever prescribed a statin: |  |  |
| Yes | 32 119 (22.2) | 111 023 (20.2) |
| No | 112 840 (77.8) | 438 313 (79.8) |
| Sex: |  |  |
| Male | 58 888 (40.6) | 214 064 (39.0) |
| Female | 86 071 (59.4) | 335 272 (61.0) |
| Age: |  |  |
| 18-29 | 10 849 (7.48) | 38 761 (7.06) |
| 30-49 | 28 762 (19.84) | 104 708 (19.06) |
| 50-59 | 27 833 (19.2) | 105 157 (19.1) |
| 60-69 | 31 134 (21.5) | 121 108 (22.0) |
| 70-79 | 28 025 (19.3) | 110 097 (20.0) |
| 80-89 | 15 891 (11.0) | 61 566 (11.2) |
| > 90 | 2465 (1.7) | 7939 (1.4) |
| Socioeconomic status (practice level) |  |  |
| 1 | 28 938 (20.0) | 109 663 (20.0) |
| 2 | 28 853 (19.9) | 109 253 (19.9) |
| 3 | 29 811 (20.6) | 112 888 (20.5) |
| 4 | 30 550 (21.1) | 115 678 (21.1) |
| 5 | 26 807 (18.5) | 101 854 (18.5) |
| **Other Characteristics** |  |  |
| Mean (IQR) length of follow-up (in years) | 8.6 (4.3-12.1) | 8.6 (4.3-12.1) |
| BMI category: |  |  |
| Underweight | 2776 (1.9) | 10 549 (1.9) |
| Normal weight | 50 530 (34.9) | 188 060 (34.2) |
| Overweight | 47 886 (33.0) | 177 603 (32.3) |
| Obese | 29 581 (20.4) | 109 440 (19.9) |
| Missing | 14 186 (9.8) | 63 684 (11.6) |
| Smoking Status: |  |  |
| Non-smoker | 54 751 (37.8) | 208 436 (37.9) |
| Current smoker | 36 107 (24.9) | 141 826 (25.8) |
| Ex-smoker | 52 353 (36.1) | 186 373 (33.9) |
| Missing | 1784 (1.2) | 12 701 (2.3) |
| Alcohol use: |  |  |
| Non-drinker | 14 481 (10.0) | 56 774 (10.3) |
| Current drinker | 103 113 (71.1) | 383 976 (69.9) |
| Ex-drinker | 12 786 (8.8) | 45 242 (8.2) |
| Missing | 14 579 (10.1) | 63 344 (11.5) |
| Cardiovascular Disease | 15 855 (10.94) | 53 352 (9.71) |
| HIV | 128 (0.09) | 97 (0.02) |
| Lymphoma | 444 (0.31) | 386 (0.07) |
| Leukaemia | 205 (0.14) | 368 (0.07) |
| Myeloma | 492 (0.34) | 816 (0.15) |
| Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation | 26 (0.02) | 3 (0.00) |
| Other unspecified cellular immune deficiencies | 95 (0.07) | 190 (0.03) |
| Other immunosuppressive therapy | 2 164 (1.49) | 3 822 (0.70) |
| Oral corticosteroids | 502 (0.35) | 1 058 (0.19) |
| Rheumatoid arthritis | 3 111 (2.15) | 8 029 (1.46) |
| Systemic lupus erythematosus | 387 (0.27) | 818 (0.15) |
| Inflammatory bowel disease | 1 851 (1.28) | 5 118 (0.93) |
| COPD | 6 815 (4.70) | 20 201 (3.68) |
| Asthma | 10 243 (7.07) | 31 865 (5.80) |
| Chronic kidney disease | 8 724 (6.02) | 29 437 (5.36) |
| Depression | 6 830 (4.71) | 22 052 (4.01) |
| Diabetes: | 11 430 (7.88) | 41 320 (7.52) |
| Type 1 | 396 (0.27) | 1 054 (0.19) |
| Type 2 | 10 359 (7.15) | 38 136 (6.94) |
| Unknown | 675 (0.47) | 2 130 (0.39) |
| Missing data in any variable | 20 598 (14.2) | 88 233 (16.1) |