

Table 1. Baseline characteristics stratified by tertile of baseline systolic blood pressure

Group variable	1 st tertile (113-151 mmHg)	2 nd tertile (152 – 165 mmHg)	3 rd tertile (166 – 225 mmHg)
Sample, N	1156	1014	1074
Age, years	48.8 ± 7.3	51.4 ± 7.8	55.1 ± 7.8
Male sex, N (%)	803 (69.5)	645 (63.6)	569 (53.0)
Current smoker, N (%)	285 (24.7)	251 (24.8)	265 (24.7)
SBP, mmHg	142.1 ± 7.0	158.2 ± 3.9	179.3 ± 11.7
DBP, mmHg	99.7 ± 4.1	102.7 ± 6.0	106.5 ± 8.0
Total cholesterol, mmol/l	5.9 ± 1.1	6.0 ± 1.1	6.1 ± 1.2
BMI, kg/m ²	26.7 ± 3.6	26.5 ± 3.7	26.6 ± 4.4
CVD risk (%)	7.9 ± 8.7	12.8 ± 9.6	20.7 ± 9.5

SBP: systolic blood pressure, DBP: diastolic blood pressure, BMI: body - mass index, CVD: cardiovascular disease.

Table 2. Effect of treatment by tertile of baseline systolic blood pressure.

	Event (%)		Adjusted HR (95% CI)*	ARR % (95% CI)	NNT
	Active	Placebo			
Any event					
113-151 mmHg	34 (5.6)	43 (7.8)	0.71 (0.45 -1.11)	2.5 (-0.7,5.6)	41 (-135, 18)
152 – 165 mmHg	49 (9.8)	46 (9.0)	1.07 (0.71 - 1.61)	-1.2 (-5.0, 2.7)	-87 (-20, 37)
166 – 225 mmHg	54 (10.5)	76 (3.6)	0.73 (0.51-1.03)	4.8 (0.9, 8.8)	21 (11, 112)
p-value	-	-	0.25	0.1	-
All-cause mortality					
113-151 mmHg	5 (0.8)	10 (1.8)	0.49 (0.17-1.46)	0.7 (-0.2, 1.7)	139 (-468, 60)
152 – 165 mmHg	11 (2.2)	8 (1.6)	1.30 (0.51 - 3.28)	-0.9 (-2.7, 0.9)	-110 (-36, 108)
166 – 225 mmHg	9 (1.7)	15 (2.7)	0.64 (0.28 - 1.46)	1.9 (0.3, 3.6)	52 (28, 372)
p – value	-	-	0.26	0.08	-
Non-fatal event					
113-151 mmHg	29 (4.8)	33 (6.0)	0.77 (0.47 - 1.28)	1.2 (-1.7, 1.5)	86 (-59, 25)
152 – 165 mmHg	38 (7.6)	38 (7.4)	1.00 (0.63 - 1.58)	-0.2 (-3.6, 1.7)	-455 (-27, 31)
166 – 225 mmHg	45 (8.7)	61 (10.9)	0.76 (0.52 - 1.13)	2.9 (-0.8, 1.8)	35 (-133, 15)
p – value	-	-	0.58	0.48	-
Major CVD event					
113-151 mmHg	31 (5.1)	35 (6.3)	0.79 (0.48 - 1.28)	1.6 (-1.3, 1.5)	61 (-74, 22)
152 – 165 mmHg	41 (8.2)	40 (7.8)	1.04 (0.67 - 1.61)	-0.4 (-4.0; 3.1)	-227 (-25, 32)
166 – 225 mmHg	45 (8.7)	65 (11.7)	0.73 (0.50 - 1.06)	4.1 (0.4, 7.8)	24 (13, 242)
p - value	-	-	0.39	0.22	-
Any CHD					
113-151 mmHg	30 (5.0)	29 (5.3)	0.93 (0.56 - 1.56)	0.4 (-2.4, 3.1)	286 (-42, 32)
152 – 165 mmHg	29 (5.8)	30 (5.9)	0.95 (0.57-1.59)	-0.1 (-3.1, 2.9)	-1250 (-32, 34)
166 – 225 mmHg	38 (7.4)	47 (8.4)	0.87 (0.57-1.34)	2.0 (-1.4, 5.4)	51 (-71, 19)
p - value	-	-	0.89	0.65	-

CVD: cardiovascular disease, CHD: coronary heart disease, HR: hazard ratio, CI: confidence interval, ARD: absolute risk difference, NNT: number needed to treat. NNTB: number needed to treat (benefit). NNTH: number needed to treat (harm).p-value indicated p for interaction.

* Adjusted for age, sex, body-mass index, smoking, screening centres and systolic blood pressure.

Bold p<0.05