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# Education in medicine or medical science increases odds of non-participation in National colorectal cancer screening

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## Aim

To investigate non-participation in colorectal

## Conclusion

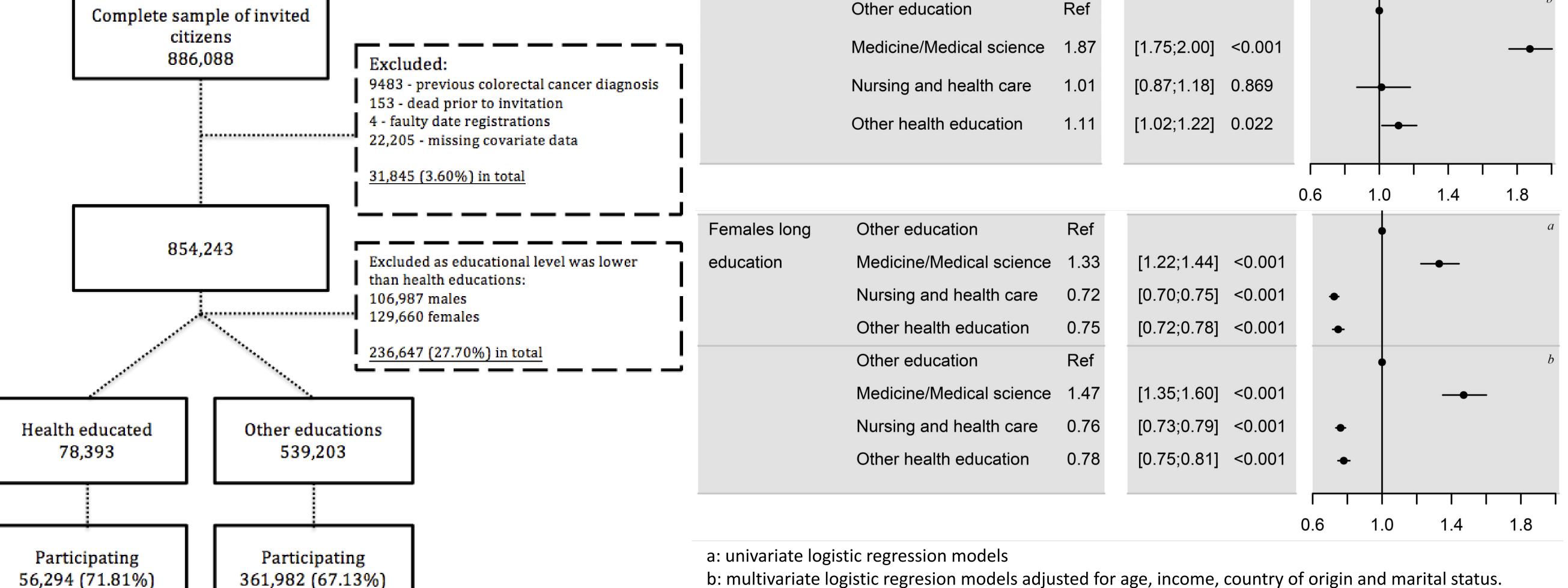
This large scale population-based study demonstrates that

cancer screening predicted by educational level (basic school, high school/vocational or higher) and type in a large Danish sample.

## Highlights

- Education in medicine or medical science is associated with higher odds of nonparticipation.
- Women in nursing had lower odds of nonparticipation, while men did not.
- Differences persisted after adjusting for other risk factors for non-participation.

## Flowchart of 886,088 invited citizens for colorectal cancer screening in Denmark 2014–15.



health education is related to screening participation. Men and women differ in the way they are affected by their health educations, but those educated in the field of medicine/medical science participate in screening less often than their peers in both genders.

Odds ratio of non-participation in males (n=108 966) and females (n=128 994) by educational type and length level, Denmark 2014–15.

Education gro	up Education type	OR	95% CI	P-value	
Males long	Other education	Ref			•
education	Medicine/Medical science	1.47	[1.38;1.57]	<0.001	
	Nursing and health care	1.06	[0.91;1.23]	0.453	_ <b>_</b>
	Other health education	1.15	[1.05;1.26]	0.002	_ <b>—</b> —
	Other education	Ref			•
	Medicine/Medical science	1.87	[1.75;2.00]	<0.001	
	Nursing and health care	1.01	[0.87;1.18]	0.869	
	Other health education	1.11	[1.02;1.22]	0.022	

## Methods

Danes aged 50 through 75 is invited biennially for CRC screening by submitting a FIT-sample. 886,088 Danes were invited during 2014-2015. Logistic regression analyses were conducted, estimating odds of non-participation based on educational type and level, stratified by gender and educational length while adjusting for sociodemographic characteristics (age, marital status, income and country of origin).

#### Results

Among both males and females with long education, odds of non-participation were statistically significantly increased if educated within the field of medicine/medical science (OR 1.87 and 1.47) compared to individuals with a long non-health

related education after full model adjustments. In females but

not in males the odds were reduced in those with a long

education in nursing and health care (OR 0.76) or other long

health education (OR 0.78).

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