

Inflammation and hearing impairment

Supplemental Table 1. Availability of each biomarker at wave 4 and wave 6 of ELSA

| | Wave 4 only | Wave 6 only | Average wave 4 wave 6 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| CRP <20 mg/dL | 799 | 804 | 3276 |
| Fibrinogen | 821 | 832 | 3226 |
| White blood cell count | 783 | 796 | 3300 |

Supplemental Table 2. Comparison of the baseline characteristics between participants included and excluded from the analytical sample

| | Excluded N=5007 | Included N=4879 | p difference |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Age | 68.4 (10.8) | 64.1 (8.02) | <0.001 |
| BMI (kg/m ²) | 28.5 (5.68) | 28.2 (5.02) | 0.011 |
| Memory score (0-20) | 9.46 (3.84) | 11.1 (3.23) | <0.001 |
| Female | 2790 (55.7%) | 2670 (54.7%) | 0.329 |
| Education | | | <0.001 |
| Degree | 708 (14.3%) | 929 (19.0%) | |
| Intermediate | 2433 (49.1%) | 2861 (58.6%) | |
| No qualifications | 1818 (36.7%) | 1089 (22.3%) | |
| Living with a partner | 3203 (64.0%) | 3564 (73.0%) | <0.001 |
| Depressive symptoms CESD | 1254 (25.0%) | 566 (11.6%) | <0.001 |
| Smoking | | | <0.001 |
| Never smoker | 1636 (34.8%) | 1983 (40.6%) | |
| Ex-smoker | 2295 (48.8%) | 2307 (47.3%) | |
| Current smoker | 769 (16.4%) | 589 (12.1%) | |
| Physical activity | | | <0.001 |
| Sedentary | 1330 (26.7%) | 518 (10.6%) | |
| Moderately inactive | 775 (15.6%) | 639 (13.1%) | |
| Moderately active | 1398 (28.1%) | 1504 (30.8%) | |
| Active | 763 (15.3%) | 1060 (21.7%) | |
| Very active | 716 (14.4%) | 1158 (23.7%) | |
| High blood pressure | 2738 (54.8%) | 2394 (49.1%) | <0.001 |
| Diabetes | 705 (14.3%) | 513 (10.5%) | <0.001 |
| Self-reported hearing | | | <0.001 |
| Excellent | 866 (17.3%) | 994 (20.4%) | |
| Very good | 1279 (25.6%) | 1406 (28.8%) | |
| Good | 1648 (33.0%) | 1633 (33.5%) | |
| Fair | 882 (17.6%) | 700 (14.3%) | |
| Poor | 326 (6.52%) | 146 (2.99%) | |