

Investigating the causal relationship of C-reactive protein with 32 complex somatic and psychiatric outcomes: A large scale cross-consortia Mendelian randomization study.

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i. Schizophrenia Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium

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iii. The Genetic and Environmental Risk for Alzheimer's disease (GERAD1) Consortium

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Investigating the causal relationship of C-reactive protein with 32 complex somatic and psychiatric outcomes: A large scale cross-consortia Mendelian randomization study.

S1 Figure. GRS P Plots of CRP versus each outcome

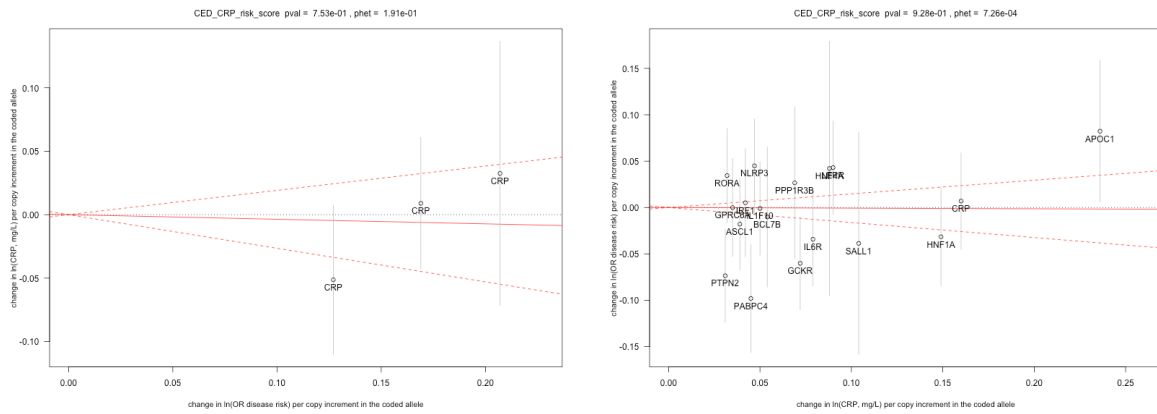
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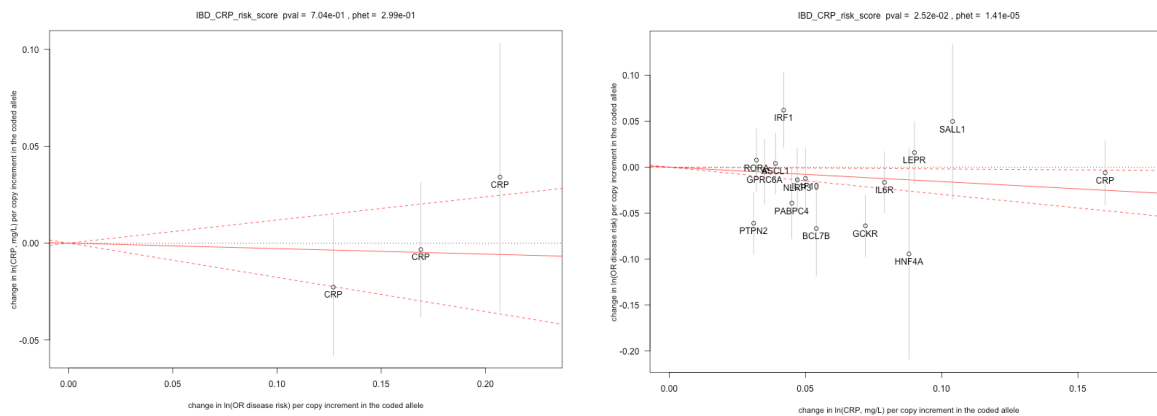
A. Celiac disease.....	2
B. Inflammatory Bowel Disease (all types)	2
C. Crohn’s Disease.....	2
D. Ulcerative Colitis.....	3
E. Psoriasis Vulgaris.....	3
F. Psoriatic Arthritis.....	3
G. Psoriasis Cutaneous.....	4
H. Rheumatoid Arthritis	4
I. Systemic Lupus Erythematosus.....	4
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T. Body Mass Index	8
U. Type II Diabetes	8
V. Chronic Kidney Disease.....	9
W. eGFR for Creatinine	9
X. Serum Albumin Levels.....	9
Y. Serum Protein Levels.....	10
Z. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.....	10
AA. Alzheimer's Disease	10
AB. Parkinsons's Disease.....	11
AC. Autism.....	11
AD. Bipolar Disorder	11
AE. Major Depressive Disorder	12
AF. Schizophrenia.....	12

For each disease / trait we show the plots for two genetic risk scores ; on the left the GRS_{CRP} and on the right GRS_{GWAS} . For every graph, the estimated effects on disease risk (log odds) or trait level (vertical axis) are plotted against estimated effects on the natural log CRP levels (mg/ml) (horizontal axis), for either the GRS_{CRP} SNPs or GRS_{GWAS} SNPs that are associated with CRP levels. The grey vertical lines indicate the 95% confidence interval (CI) for each individual SNP. The effect estimate estimate of CRP levels on disease risk or trait level is represented by a red solid line with gradient α . The 95% CI of this α estimate is represented by red dashed lines.

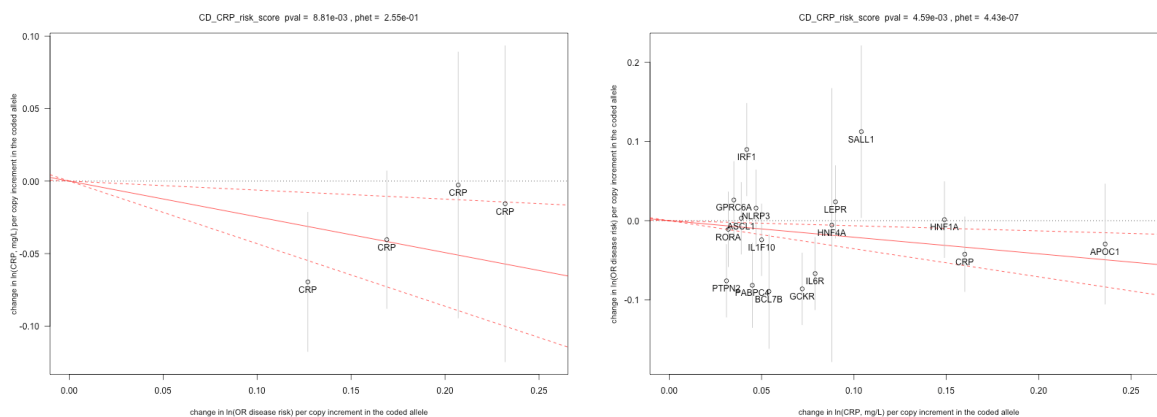
A. Celiac disease



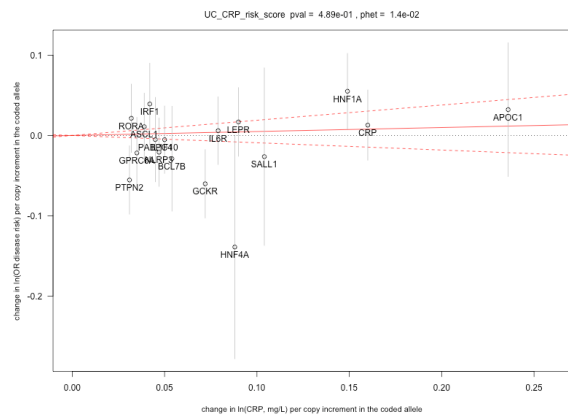
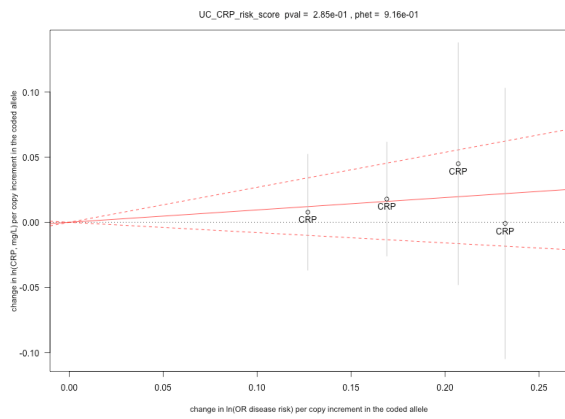
B. Inflammatory Bowel Disease (all types)



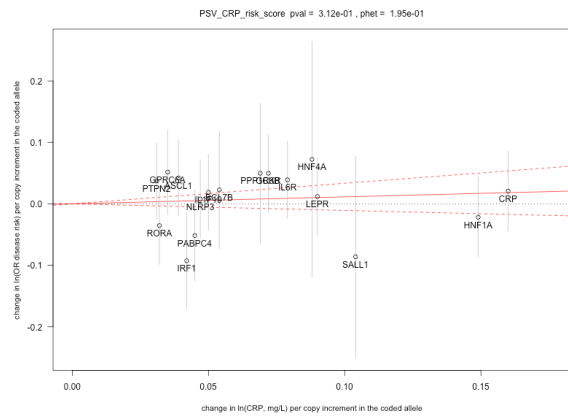
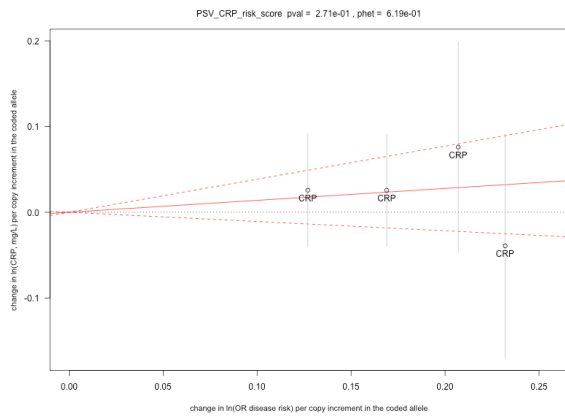
C. Crohn's Disease



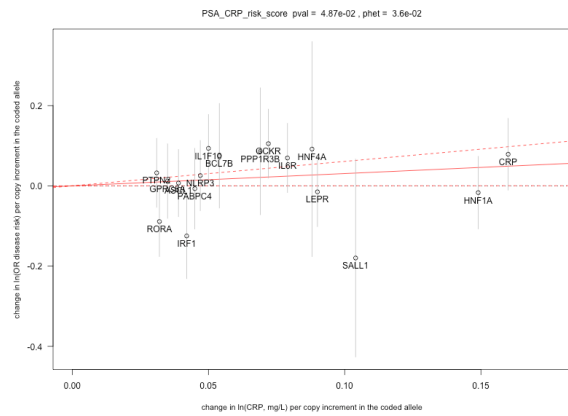
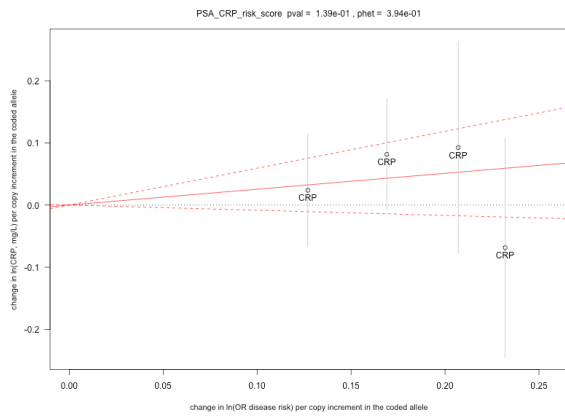
D. Ulcerative Colitis



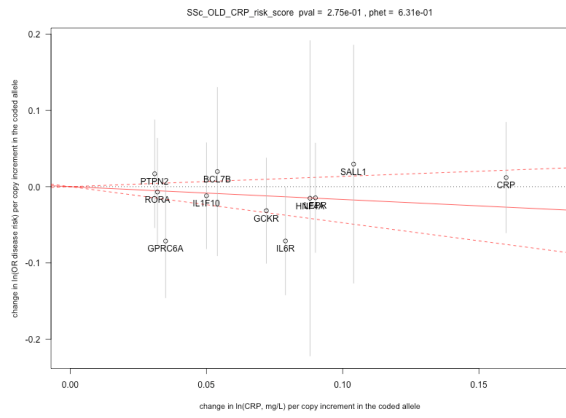
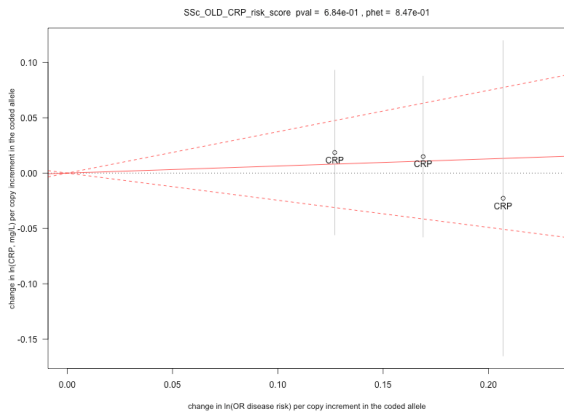
E. Psoriasis Vulgaris



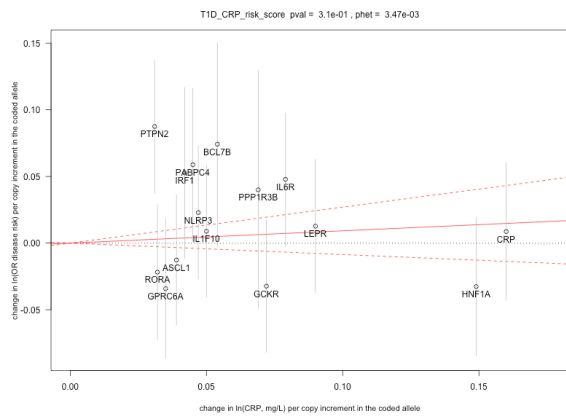
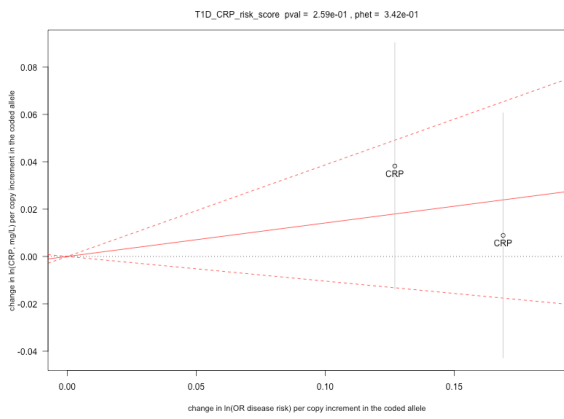
F. Psoriatic Arthritis



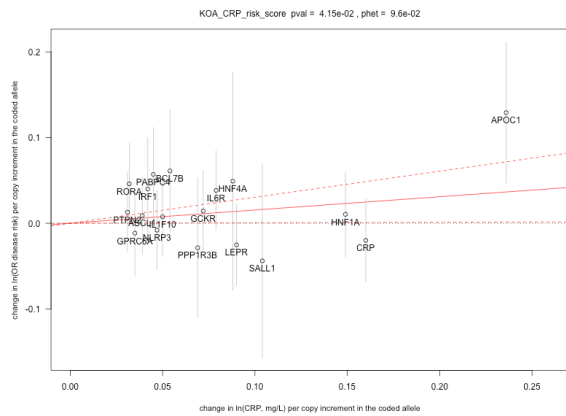
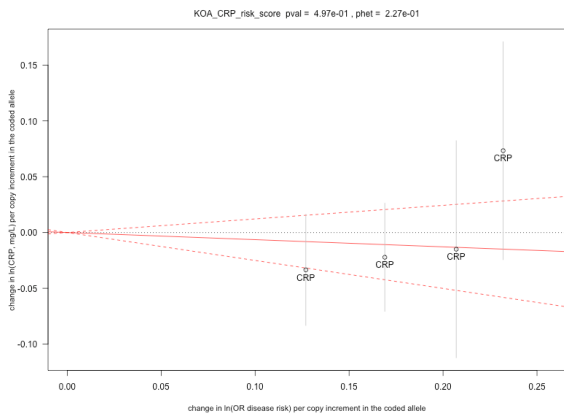
J. Systemic Sclerosis



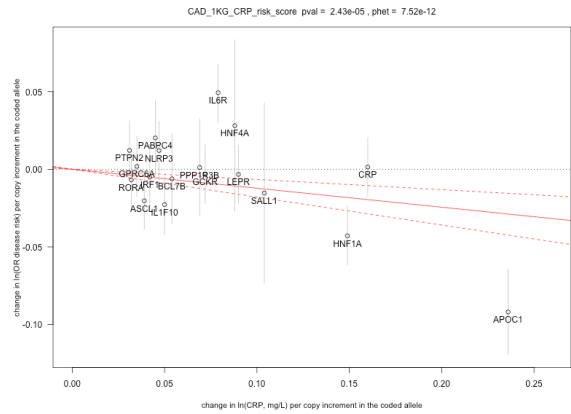
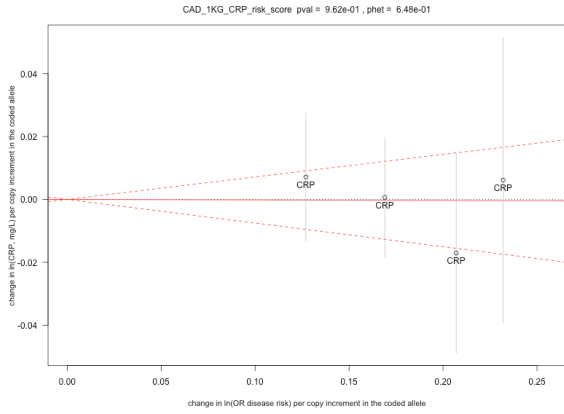
K. Type I Diabetes



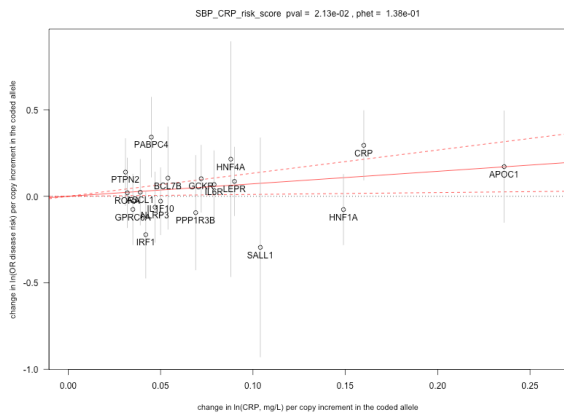
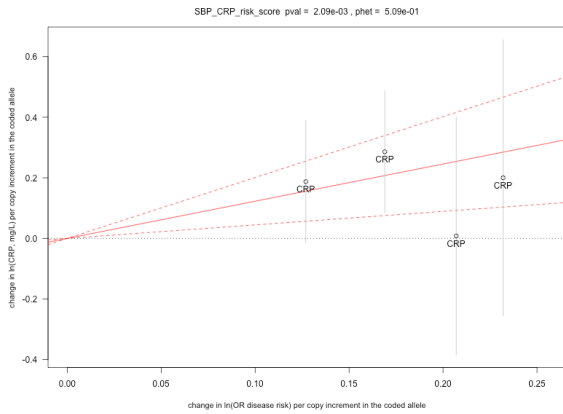
L. Knee Osteoarthritis



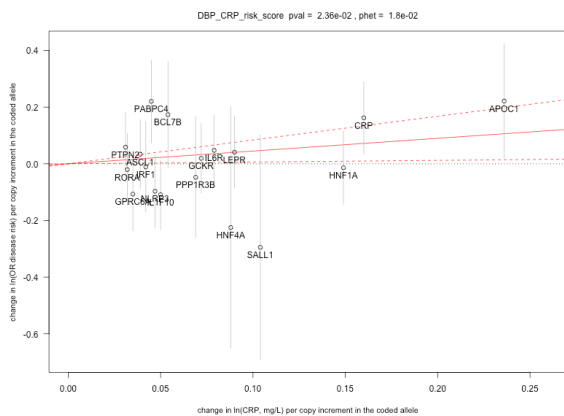
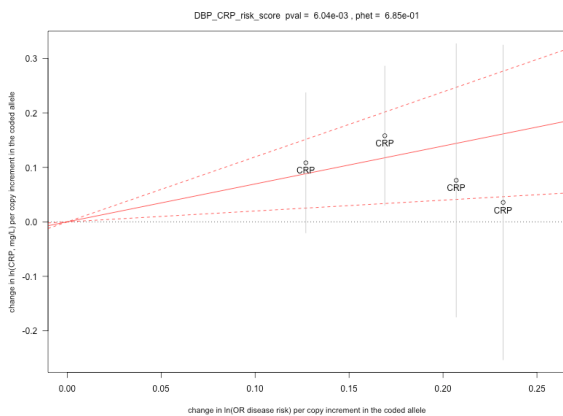
M. Coronary Artery Disease



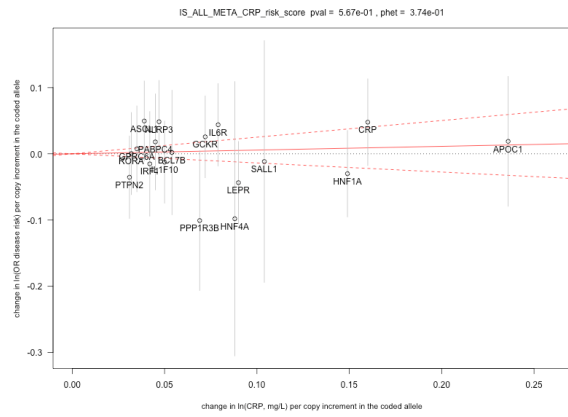
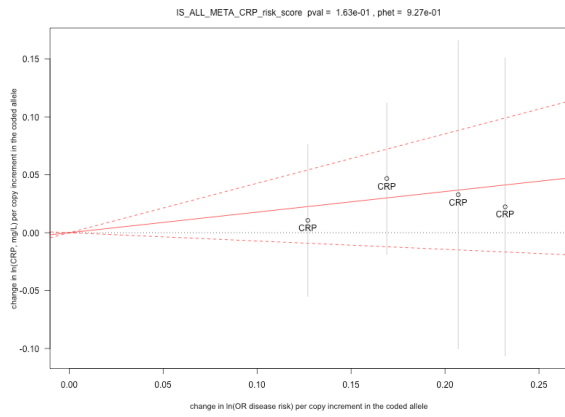
N. Systolic Blood Pressure



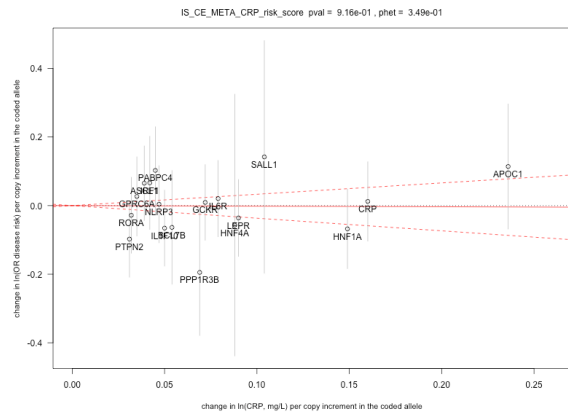
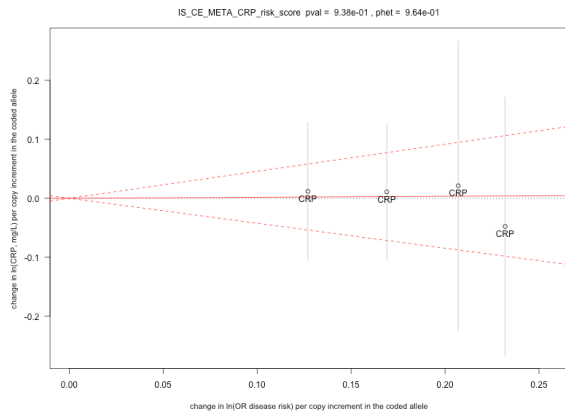
O. Diastolic Blood Pressure



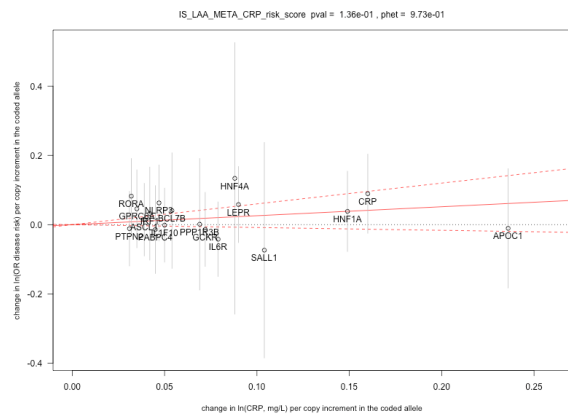
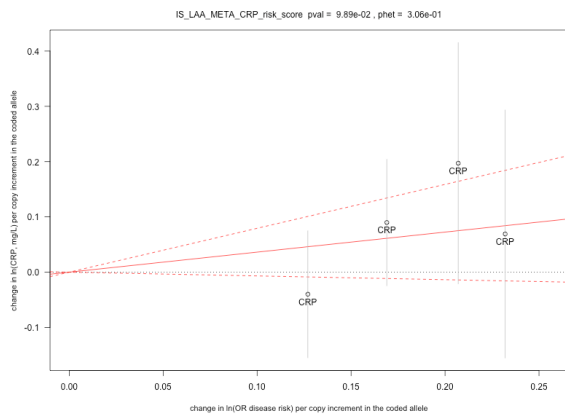
P. Ischemic Stroke (all types)



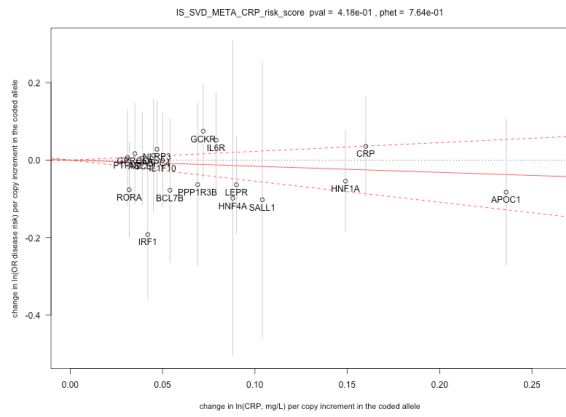
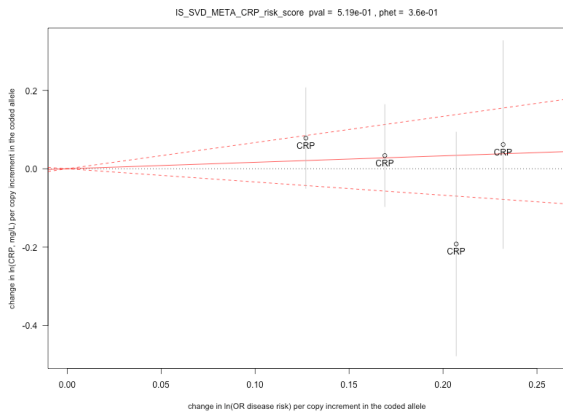
O. Ischemic Stroke (Cardioembolic Stroke)



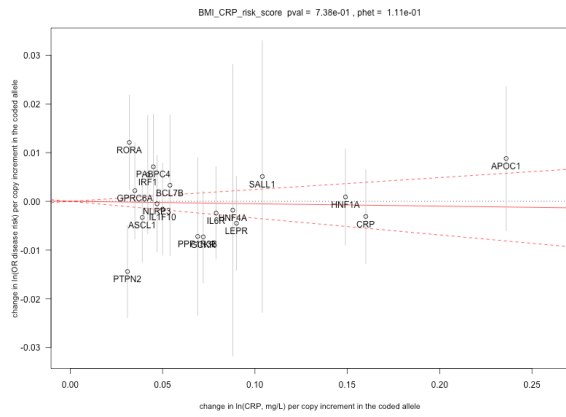
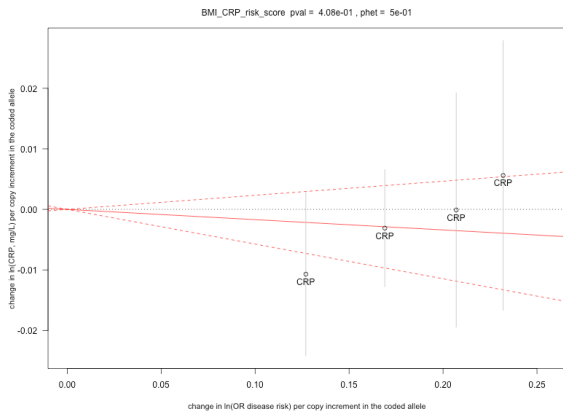
R. Ischemic Stroke (Large Vessel Disease)



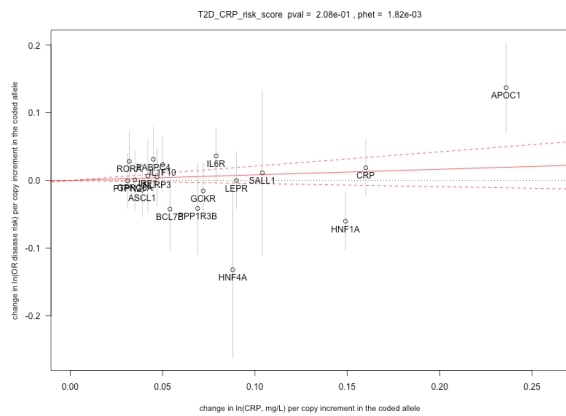
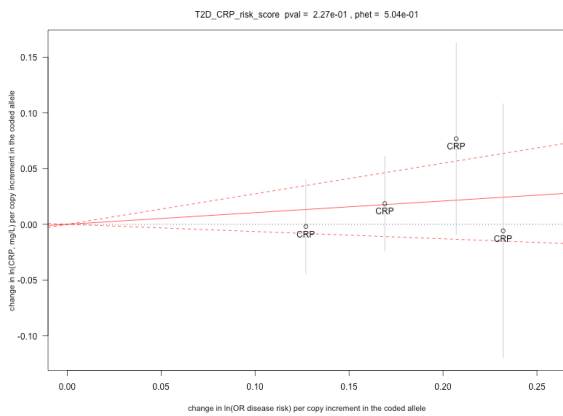
S. Ischemic Stroke (Small Vessel Disease)



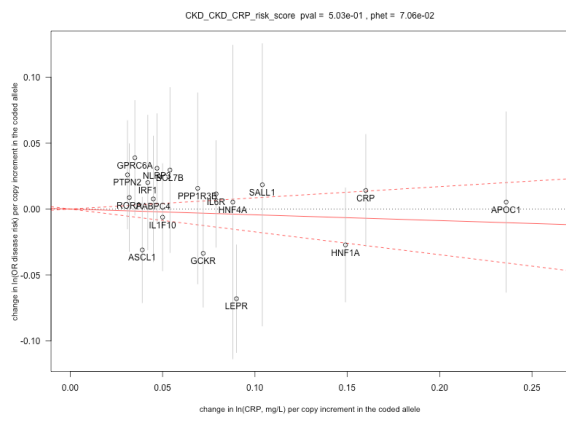
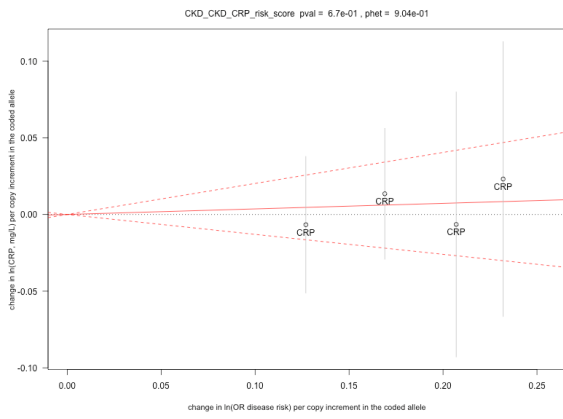
T. Body Mass Index



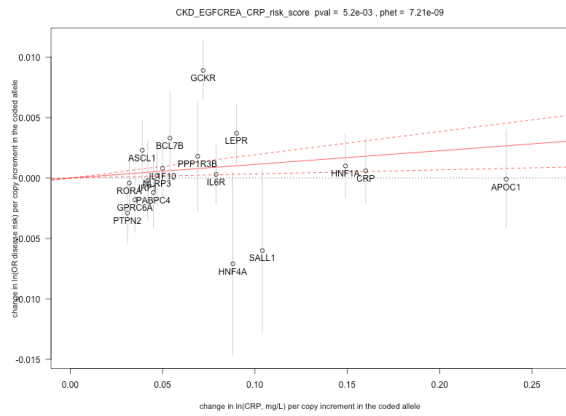
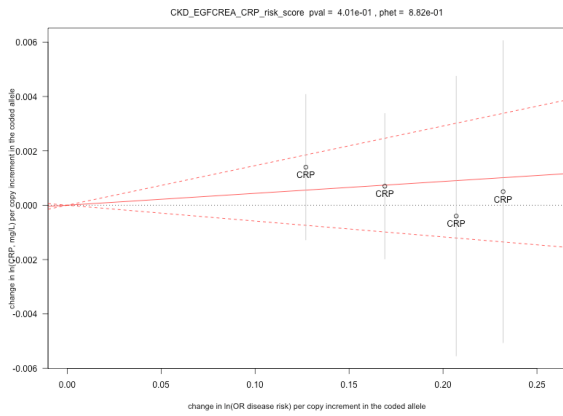
U. Type II Diabetes



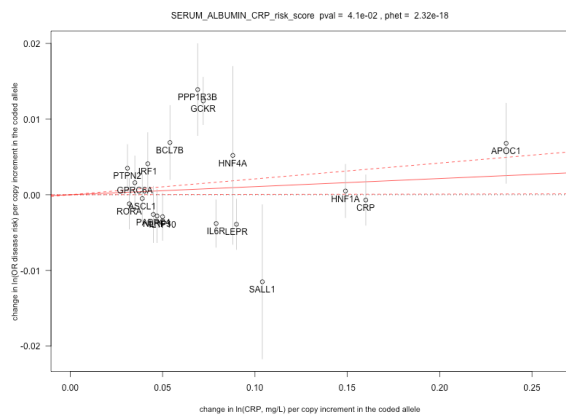
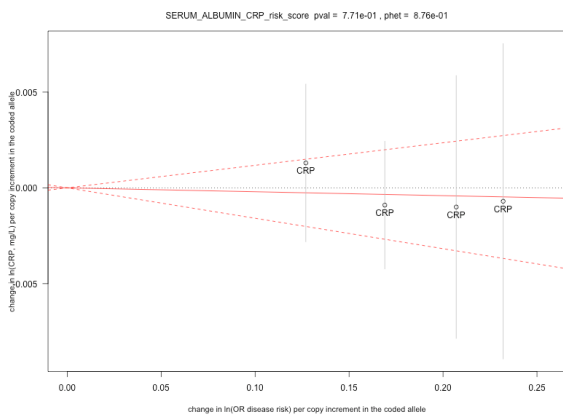
V. Chronic Kidney Disease



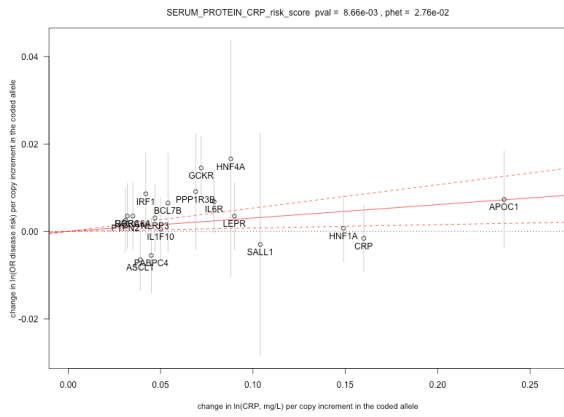
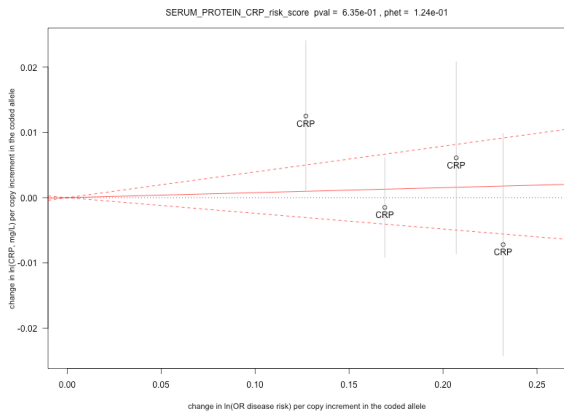
W. eGFR for Creatinine



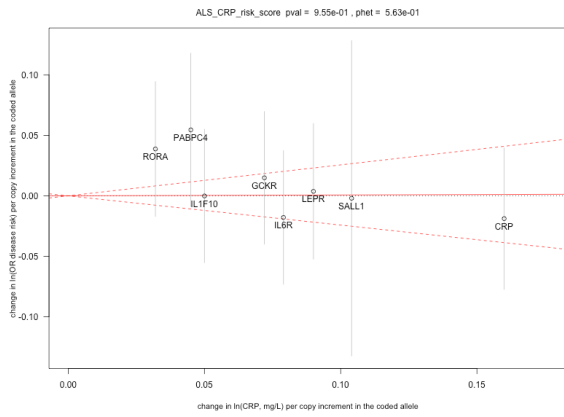
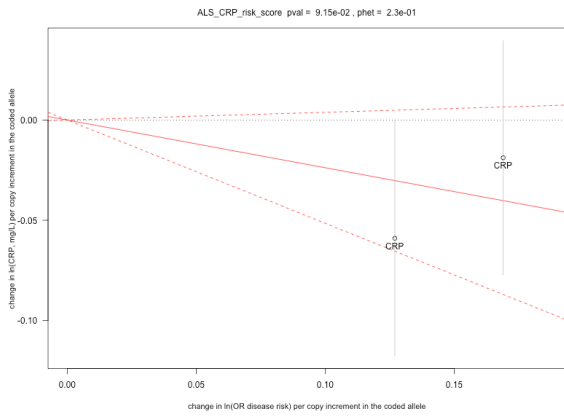
X. Serum Albumin Levels



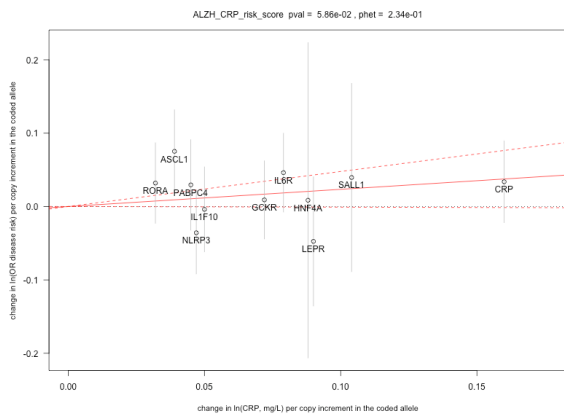
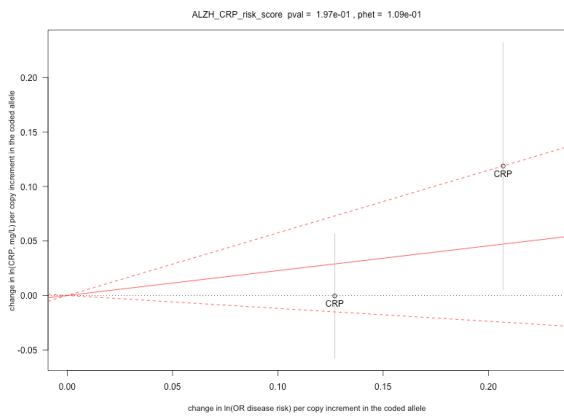
Y. Serum Protein Levels



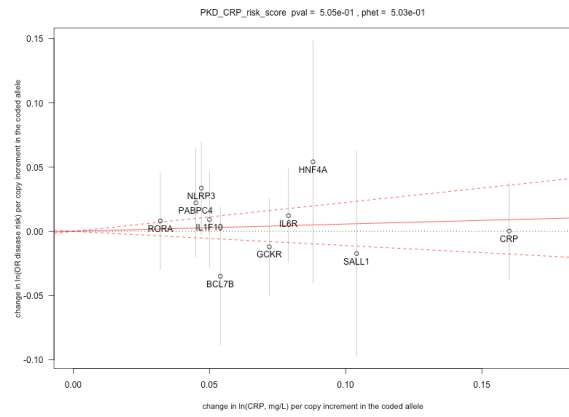
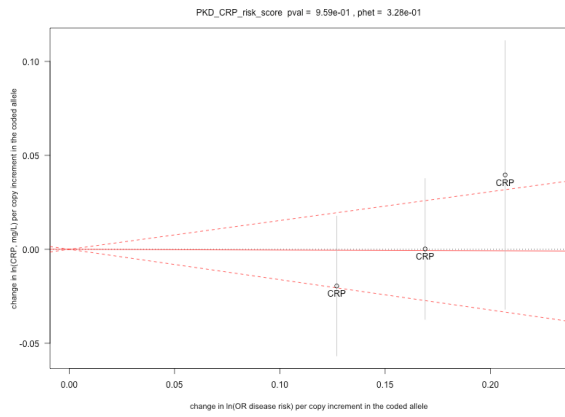
Z. Amvotrophic Lateral Sclerosis



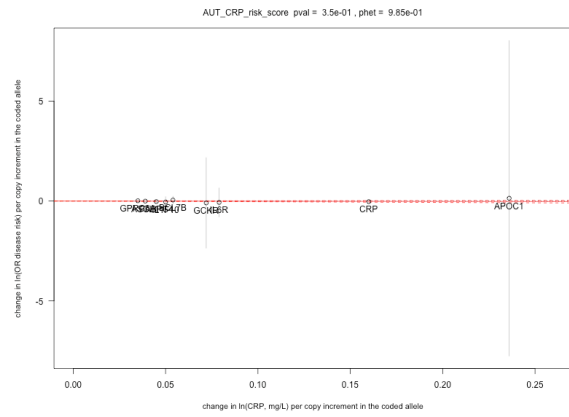
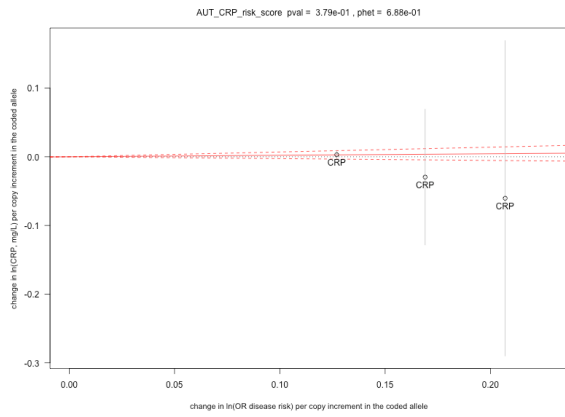
AA. Alzheimer's Disease



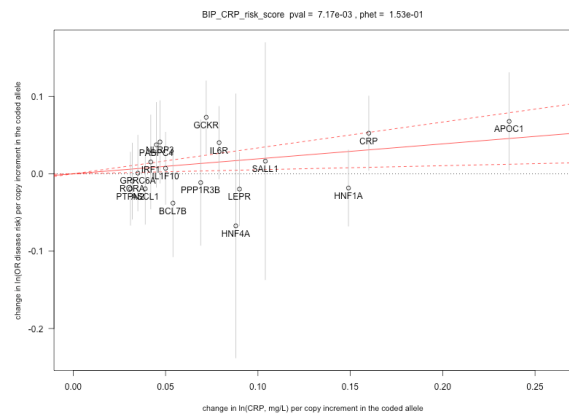
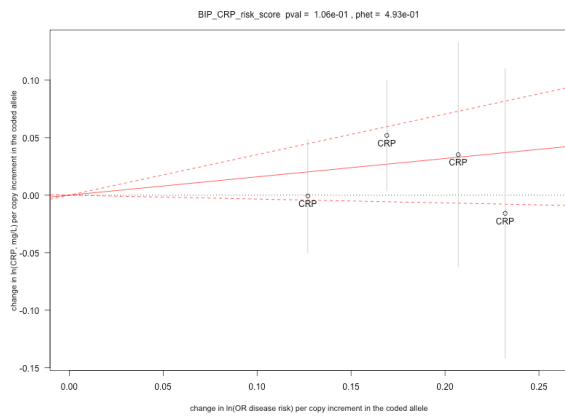
AB. Parkinson's Disease



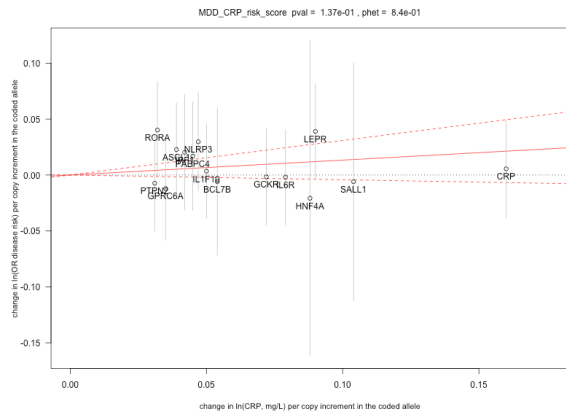
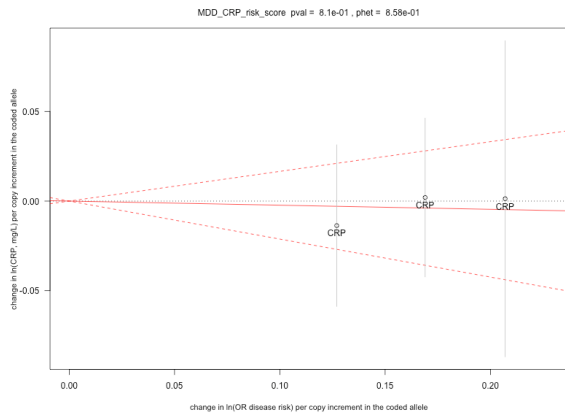
AC. Autism



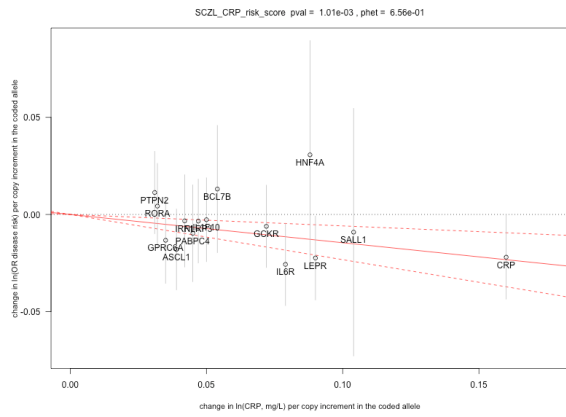
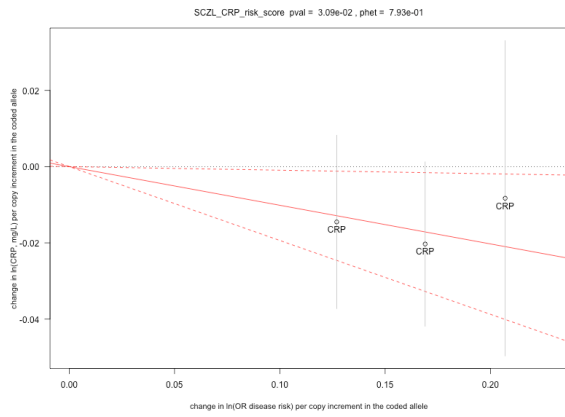
AD. Bipolar Disorder



AE. Major Depressive Disorder



AF. Schizophrenia



None of the study sponsors had a role in the study design, data collection, analysis and interpretation, report writing, or the decision to submit the report for publication.

BPP was supported by a scholarship from Graduate School of Medical Sciences, UMCG, Groningen, The Netherlands, and by grants from the Economic & Social Research Council (ES/H029745/1) and the Wellcome Trust (WT098051), the United Kingdom. AV was supported by a scholarship from Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran and a scholarship from Graduate School of Medical Sciences, UMCG, Groningen, The Netherlands. AA is supported by a Rubicon grant from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO project no. 825.13.004) and by Medical Research Council UK (grant reference no. MC-U106179471). H.M. is supported by an NIHR Senior Investigator award. His work is supported by a NIHR Comprehensive Biomedical Research Centre award to Cambridge University Hospitals. R.K.W. is supported by a VIDI grant (016.136.308) from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO). AM is a Wellcome Trust Senior Fellow in Basic Biomedical Science (grant number WT098017). PM is supported by the research program of the NIHR Barts Cardiovascular Biomedical Research Unit.

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This manuscript was not prepared in collaboration with investigators of the T1DGC study, except for those listed as authors on the current manuscript, and does not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of the T1DGC study, the NIDDK Central Repositories, or the NIDDK. The Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT) and its follow-up the

Epidemiology of Diabetes Interventions and Complications (EDIC) study were conducted by the DCCT/EDIC Research Group and supported by National Institute of Health grants and contracts and by the General Clinical Research Center Program, NCRR. This manuscript was not prepared under the auspices of the DCCT/EDIC study and does not represent analyses or conclusions of the DCCT/EDIC study group. The Genetics of Kidneys in Diabetes (GoKinD) Study was conducted by the GoKinD Investigators and supported by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the CDC, and the Special Statutory Funding Program for Type 1 Diabetes Research administered by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK). This manuscript was not prepared in collaboration with investigators of the GoKinD study and does not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of the GoKinD study, the NIDDK Central Repositories, or the NIDDK.

GD: Cardiff University was supported by the Wellcome Trust, Medical Research Council (MRC), Alzheimer's Research UK (ARUK) and the Welsh Assembly Government. Cambridge University and Kings College London acknowledge support from the MRC. ARUK supported sample collections at the South West Dementia Bank and the Universities of Nottingham, Manchester and Belfast. The Belfast group acknowledges support from the Alzheimer's Society, Ulster Garden Villages, N. Ireland R&D Office and the Royal College of Physicians/Dunhill Medical Trust. The MRC and Mercer's Institute for Research on Ageing supported the Trinity College group. The South West Dementia Brain Bank acknowledges support from Bristol Research into Alzheimer's and Care of the Elderly. The Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust supported the OPTIMA group. Washington University was funded by NIH grants, Barnes Jewish Foundation and the Charles and Joanne Knight Alzheimer's Research Initiative. Patient recruitment for the MRC Prion Unit/UCL Department of Neurodegenerative Disease collection was supported by the UCLH/UCL Biomedical Centre and NIHR Queen Square Dementia Biomedical Research Unit. LASER-AD was funded by Lundbeck SA. The Bonn group was supported by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Competence Network Dementia and Competence Network Degenerative Dementia, and by the Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung. GD also used samples ascertained by the NIMH AD Genetics Initiative. The Framingham Heart Study (FHS) and inflammation biomarkers collection is supported by the National Institute of Health, USA (grants numbers: R01 HL076784; R01 AG028321; and RO1 HL64753, contract numbers HHSN268201500001I & N01-HC 25195).

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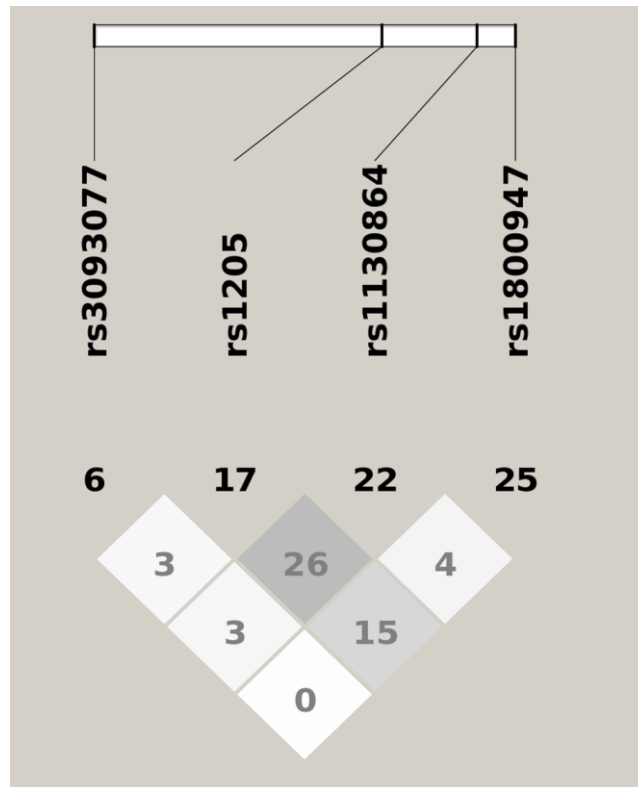
The work leading up to this publication was funded by the European Community's Health Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007–2013; grant agreement number 259867).

Investigating the causal relationship of C-reactive protein with 32 complex somatic and psychiatric outcomes: A large scale cross-consortia Mendelian randomization study.

Supplementary Methods 1: Linkage disequilibrium of the four *GRSCRP* SNPs.

Methods: The figure was generated using Haploview. LD values (r^2) were calculated using Hapmap Phase II+III (r28, CEU population) data. r^2 values are shown between SNPs pairs on a scale between 0 (no LD) to 100 (full LD) in diamonds colored on a corresponding grayscale, where no LD is represented by white and full LD by black. This plot indicates low LD between each of the four SNPs spanning the CRP gene.

S2 Fig: Linkage disequilibrium (LD) heatmap for 4 SNPs as used in the *GRSCRP* IV.



Investigating the causal relationship of C-reactive protein with 32 complex somatic and psychiatric outcomes: A large scale cross-consortia Mendelian randomization study.

Supplementary Methods - 2: CRP GRS_{GWAS} in AD and BMI.

A. Calculation of the Alzheimer's Disease GWAS summary statistics.

We received summary statistics (SNP, OR, SE, P, Reference Allele, Other Allele, OR 95 L, OR 95 U) from the Genetic and Environmental Risk in Alzheimer's Disease (GERAD) consortium for three separate Alzheimer's datasets ; from the TGEN consortium, from the ADNI consortium, and from the GERAD consortium for up to 4,663 cases and 8,357 controls. We next performed an inverse variance weighted fixed effects analysis using GWAMA¹ to calculate combined effect sizes and standard errors, which were subsequently used in our genetic risk scores.

B. Calculation of the BMI GWAS summary statistics.

We downloaded sex-stratified summary statistics for BMI from Randall et.al ². From https://www.broadinstitute.org/collaboration/giant/index.php/GIANT_consortium_data_files. We next performed an inverse variance weighted fixed effects analysis using GWAMA¹ to calculate combined effect sizes and standard errors, which were subsequently used in our genetic risk scores.

¹ Mägi R, Morris AP. GWAMA: software for genome-wide association meta-analysis. BMC Bioinformatics. 2010 May 28;11:288.

² Randall JC. Sex-stratified genome-wide association studies including 270,000 individuals show sexual dimorphism in genetic loci for anthropometric traits. PLoS Genet. 2013 Jun;9(6):e1003500.

Investigating the causal relationship of C-reactive protein with 32 complex somatic and psychiatric outcomes: A large scale cross-consortia Mendelian randomization study.

Supplementary Methods - 3: WEBLINKS.

Software :

Genetics ToolboX (version 0.0.8):

<http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/gtx/index.html>

[Functions for Medical Statistics Book with some Demographic Data](#)

<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/fmsb/>

<http://www.genemania.org>

Publicly downloaded GWAS summary statistics:

1. *GIANT BMI summary statistics:*

www.broadinstitute.org/collaboration/qiant/index.php/GIANT_consortium_data_files

2. *CARDIoGRAM CAD summary statistics:*

www.cardiogramplusc4d.org

3. *Rheumatoid arthritis summary statistics:*

www.broadinstitute.org/ftp/pub/rheumatoid_arthritis/Stahl_etal_2010NG/

4. *PGC consortium (psychiatric) summary statistics:*

www.med.unc.edu/pgc/downloads

5. *Systemic Lupus Erythematosus*

Data was downloaded through dbGaP : <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gap>

Study name : Whole Genome Association Study of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

dbGaP Study Accession: phs000122.v1.p1

Analysis Name and Accession

Name: Whole Genome Association Study of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

Accession: pha002848.1

Investigating the causal relationship of C-reactive protein with 32 complex somatic and psychiatric outcomes: A large scale cross-consortia Mendelian randomization study.

Supplementary Methods - 4: CRP Polygenic risk score (CRP_{PRS}) in Schizophrenia.

Background: We observed a causally protective effect of CRP GWSAs against Schizophrenia. We aim to determine whether a) CRP-associated risk alleles are associated with schizophrenia by employing the use of polygenic risk scores, and b) to determine if the relationship between CRP and schizophrenia is due to genetic pleiotropy or clinical heterogeneity. Here below we explain study design and applied methods.

Sample Description: Individual-level dosage data was retrieved from the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium (PGC) Schizophrenia dataset, consisting of 36 independent cohorts with a combined 25629 cases and 30976 controls. 3 family-based samples of European ancestry (1,235 parent affected-offspring trios) were excluded from our analysis. For a more detailed treatment of the PGC schizophrenia dataset, refer to the methods section of the full paper (Ripke et al., 2014).

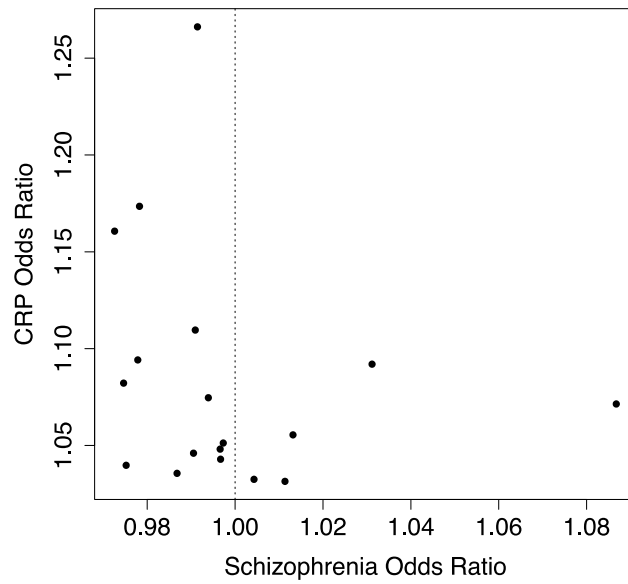
Selection of CRP-associated SNPs : Summary statistics (including SNP RSID, chromosome and position, coded allele, beta, standard error, and p value) were retrieved from a meta-analysis of 15 independent European population-based studies with 66,185 participants (Dehghan et al., 2011). After accounting for the replication sample, 18 SNPs reached genome-wide significance ($p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$) and were thus included in the study. All non-genome-wide significant SNPs were clumped based on linkage disequilibrium estimates using plink v2 with the following flags: --clump-p1 1 --clump-p2 1 --clump-r2 0.1 --clump-kb 1000. Thus, all SNPs included in the analyses were LD-independent, as defined by SNPs with $r^2 < 0.1$ (Purcell et al., 2007). We subsequently grouped the sub-threshold CRP-associated SNPs at the following p -value thresholds: 1×10^{-4} , 0.001, 0.01, 0.05, and 0.1.

Statistical Analysis: Polygenic risk scores were calculated for each individual by summing the total effect of the SNP dosages by its effect size. This was performed for each independent schizophrenia cohort using plink v2 with the --score and --qscore flags (Purcell et al., 2007). A fixed effects, inverse variance weighted meta-analysis was performed across all 36 cohorts using a custom R script. Briefly, beta estimates (log odds ratios) was weighted by the estimated standard errors. 10 PCs were regressed out of each independent cohort to account for population stratification.

Results

Examining the association between the 18 CRP-associated risk alleles in GWAS and schizophrenia

13 out of the 18 SNPs associated with elevated CRP levels were protective against schizophrenia (Fig 1, and S3 Fig). Five out of the 13 SNPs reached a significance threshold of $p < 0.05$ (S3 Fig). A sign test was performed to determine if the risk alleles for CRP are shared with schizophrenia more than expected ($P < 0.096$).



S3 Fig: 18 risk alleles associated with elevated CRP levels that reached genome-wide significance, and their corresponding schizophrenia odds ratios.

Supplementary Methods - 5: In-silico (gene) pathway analyses highlight the role of IFN in the causal pathway between CRP and SCZ.

Background: We aimed to explore the possible underlying pathways that may underwrite the protective causal association between CRP and schizophrenia. We answered this question by performing two studies: In the first study we aimed to elucidate through which potential pathways CRP associated proteins (encoded by those genes which are tagged by CRP associated gSNPs and eSNPs potentially are linked to genes associated to SCZ, more specifically, those that are differentially expressed in schizophrenia cases versus controls

Study I : Identification of common pathways between genes / their encoded proteins involved in determination on CRP levels and proteins differentially expressed in schizophrenia cases versus controls.

The following 3 steps were taken:

1.1) We firstly retrieved a list of CRP-associated genes whom harboured by loci associated with CRP in the large GWAS meta-analysis for CRP to date [6] and genes for which their expression was associated with one or more of the above mentioned 18 loci as presented by Vaez et.al.[7]. These groups of genes and their selection processes have been discussed in greater detail in our previous publication by Vaez et.al.[7] and presented in Table 2 of the respective paper and for convenience listed again in our S4 Table (tablename “CRP genes”). We used the 40 CRP genes from Table 2 in Vaez et. al. [7] and performed enrichment analyses as explained in the same publication [7] using the well-established pathway and network analysis suite Genemania (S3 Methods Weblinks) [8], the result of which is presented in S Table 6 (tablename “S6. CRP enriched pathways”). As previously observed[7] the most enriched functions within this geneset are related to the type I interferon signaling pathway (FDR=6.08x10⁻⁹).

1.2) Secondly, we retrieved a list of 144 proteins, which are significantly differentially expressed in brain tissues of schizophrenia cases compared with matched controls, hence are expected to be involved in the mechanism of schizophrenia. These proteins are presented in the study by Hwang et.al. [9] in their respective S Table 4. These proteins are listed in our S6 Table (tablename “SCZ expr genes”). We performed functional enrichment analysis for this geneset in the same fashion as described above, the results of which are presented in S7 Table (tablename “SCZ expr enriched pathways”).

None of the differentially expressed proteins from the study of Hwang et.al overlap. with proteins encoded by genes identified by Vaez et.al. except the *HEYL*, which is a non-inflammatory gene. Surprisingly, we observed that the most significantly enriched function for the set of differentially expressed proteins is also the type I interferon signalling pathway (FDR=2.81x10⁻¹²).

1.3) Lastly, to confirm the type I interferon signalling pathway may be the predominant pathway that is shared between these two sets of proteins, we performed functional prediction and pathway enrichment analyses by including all the 40 CRP associated and 144 SCZ associated genes as presented S8 Table (tablename “CRP & SCZ expr gene list”), the results of which are presented in S9 Table (tablename “CRP&SCZ enriched pathways”). We observed again

that the type I interferon signalling pathway remained as the most significantly enriched pathway (FDR=8.60x10⁻²²).

Summary of study 1 : Identification of common pathways between genes / their encoded proteins involved in determination on CRP levels and proteins differentially expressed in schizophrenia cases versus controls.

Our *in-silico* functional enrichment analysis from both CRP and SCZ associated genes showed the enrichment of pathways of “response to type I interferon”, “cellular response to type I interferon”, “type I interferon signaling pathway”.

We therefore speculate the protective causal effect of CRP might be explained by the fact that T-cell IFN cytokine release stimulates microglia to facilitate glutamate clearance in neuronal cells without evoking inflammatory mediators, and by contributing to restoration of normal homeostasis[1,2].

Study 2 : Identification of pathways involved in schizophrenia based on loci identified in the largest Genome Wide Association Study for schizophrenia and their associated eQTLs in brain and blood, excluding any known CRP associated genes and associated eQTLs.

Our second study intended to investigate through which pathways do **non-CRP** SCZ associated genes and their encoded proteins affect SCZ. We took a similar approach to our first study, where now instead we use the results from the largest meta-GWAS study for schizophrenia[10] as a basis as follows :

2.1) Firstly, we extracted the list of genes harboured by 108 SCZ associated loci at genome wide significance level from the largest meta-GWAS in SCZ published by the Schizophrenia Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium, as listed in S Table 3 in the respective study[10] and in our S10 Table (tablename “SCZ 108 loci genes”).

2.2) Next we extracted all genes tagged by expression quantitative trait loci (eQTL) from a human brain cortex eQTL study and another eQTL study performed in peripheral blood cells as listed in S Table 4 in the same publication [10], and in our S11 Table (tablename “SCZ 108 loci eQTL”) and merged these with the list of genes harboured by 108 SCZ associated loci mentioned above. We removed duplicate genes and to focus on non-CRP associated pathways, we additionally removed genes overlapping with those from Vaez et. al., resulting in the removal of in total, C12orf42). The combined set of genes is presented in S12 Table (tablename “SCZ eQTL + 108 loci genes”).

2.3) We performed the same functional enrichment analyses as explained earlier on this combined set of 407 genes. The (non-)results are presented in S13 Table (tablename “eQTL&SCZ loci enr pathways”).

Summary of Study 2 : Identification of pathways involved in schizophrenia based on loci identified in the largest Genome Wide Association Study for schizophrenia and their associated eQTLs in brain and blood, excluding any known CRP associated genes and associated eQTLs.

Similar to the main manuscript, we failed to identify any significantly enriched pathways, in our case using Genemania, although nominally significant enrichments were observed for several

predefined candidate pathways such as calcium channels in the original publication. In our case we included also eQTL loci whereas the original study used the meta-analysis summary statistics. We did not identify any inflammatory related pathways these analyses. The report from the Schizophrenia Working Group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium does however provide some evidence for a role of the immune system in schizophrenia development when searching for the most relevant cell-types based on their genomic loci and cell and tissue type specific enhancers enrichment analyses ; two peaks can be observed in Fig 2 for B-lymphocyte lineages involved in acquired immunity (CD19 and CD20 cell lines), which remained significant even after excluding the extended MHC region and regions containing brain enhancers[10]. The main original study has not report any significantly enriched pathway, and neither did our analyses led to such a conclusion based on the presented data in [10] .

Taken together, our *in-silico* analyses point to a role for pathway associated to IFN response and metabolism that may possibly underlie protective effect of CRP in schizophrenia. Specifically, we speculate that CRP-IFN pathway perhaps contributes to neuroprotection by stimulating a phenotype in neuron supporting cells such as astrocytes or microglia that facilitates glutamate reduction as observed directly for IFN by Shaked et.al [2] and Garg et.al [1] leading to the protection of neurons against oxidative stress associated with an excess of glutamate.

Associated files:

Please find lists of trait-associated genes and results of pathway enrichment analyses in S4 Table to S13 Table. The first tab in this file, named as “Contents” contains a guide to the contents of this file.

Web link: <http://www.genemania.org>

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