

# Supplementary Material

## Electrocardiographic Predictors of Cognitive Decline and Dementia: A Systematic Review

### Search strategy

A search was performed after combining appropriate keywords.

#### PubMed

("electrocardiography"[MeSH Terms] OR "electrocardiography"[Title/Abstract] OR "electrocardiogram"[Title/Abstract] OR "ECG"[Title/Abstract] OR "ECGs"[Title/Abstract] OR "EKG"[Title/Abstract] OR "EKGs"[Title/Abstract]) AND ("dementia"[MeSH Terms] OR "cognitive dysfunction"[MeSH Terms] OR "dementia"[Title/Abstract] OR "dement\*"[Title/Abstract] OR "cognitive impairment"[Title/Abstract] OR "cognitive impair\*"[Title/Abstract] OR "alzheimer"[Title/Abstract] OR "alzheimer's"[Title/Abstract] OR "cognitive decline"[Title/Abstract] OR "cognitive dysfunction"[MeSH Terms] OR "cognitive"[Title/Abstract] OR "cognition"[Title/Abstract] OR "mci"[Title/Abstract] OR "cind"[Title/Abstract] OR "cogn\*"[Title/Abstract] )

#### Web of Science (selecting topic and only articles)

("electrocardiography" OR "electrocardiogram" OR "ECG" OR "ECGs" OR "EKG" OR "EKGs") AND ("dementia" OR "dement\*" OR "cognitive dysfunction" OR "cognitive impairment" OR "cognitive impair\*" OR "alzheimer" OR "alzheimer's" OR "cognitive decline" OR "cognitive" OR "cognition" OR "mci" OR "cind" OR "cogn\*")

#### Embase (selecting topic and only articles)

(electrocardiography OR electrocardiogram OR ECG OR ECGs OR EKG OR EKGs) AND (dementia OR dement\* OR cognitive dysfunction OR cognitive impairment OR cognitive impair\* OR alzheimer OR alzheimers OR cognitive decline OR cognitive OR cognition OR mci OR cind OR cogn\*)

### Inclusion

1. Cross-sectional study, case-control study, prospective study, secondary analysis of randomized controlled trial.
2. The association between specific electrocardiographic markers and cognitive function/ dementia is presented.
3. General population OR community-based participants OR disease-based population.
4. Exposure is specific ECG marker independent of clinical symptoms.
5. Outcome is objective diagnosis of dementia or cognitive function.
6. Adult population.
7. Written in English

### Exclusion

1. Original data is not presented (i.e. reviews, guidelines/recommendations, letters to editor, commentaries, editorials, case reports, conference abstract).
2. Self-reported dementia or cognitive function.

3. ECG finding is heart rate variability (systematic reviews have been performed recently).
4. ECG finding is atrial fibrillation (several systematic reviews have been conducted).
5. The exposure is composite ECG markers or combination of ECG markers and clinical symptoms, and the association between specific ECG marker and outcomes are not presented separately.
6. The outcome is intermediate outcomes such as MRI imaging.
7. Animal studies or *in vitro* studies.
8. Written in languages other than English.
9. Participants experience life-threatening arrhythmia/require immediate interventions.

Information	
Names of databases/platforms searched	PubMed Web of Science Embase
Database time coverage	1945 (Web of Science)- Present
Date searched	1 July 2020
Number of records from each database before de-duplicating	PubMed: 1443 (1 July 2020) Web of Science (Topic): 1,050 (2 July 2020) Embase (Title or Abstract): 1,939 (1 July 2020) Total: 4,432
Number of records after de-duplicating	2,891

**Supplementary Table 1.** Excluded studies and the reasons for exclusion

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Study authors, year</b>	<b>Reason(s) for exclusion</b>
[1]	Barba, 2000	No association between ECG findings and cognition
[2]	Bart, 2012	Conference abstract
[3]	Bucht, 1984	ECG findings composite
[4]	Charles, 2014	Conference abstract, ECG findings: composite
[5]	Charles, 2014	Outcomes: MRI/CT findings, No association between ECG findings and cognition
[6]	Chen, 2011	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[7]	Chen, 2014	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[8]	Chen, 2014	Conference abstract
[9]	Chen, 2015	Conference abstract
[10]	Chen, 2016	Conference abstract
[11]	Chen, 2016	Conference abstract, No association between ECG findings and cognition check overlapping
[12]	Chen, 2018	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[13]	Chumakova, 2014	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[14]	de Leeuw, 2000	Outcomes: MRI/CT findings, No association between ECG findings and cognition
[15]	Deme, 2009	Conference abstract, No association between ECG findings and cognition
[16]	Diaconu, 2013	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[17]	Ding, 2017	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[18]	Ding, 2018	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[19]	Evstigneeva, 2015	Conference abstract
[20]	Falsetti, 2018	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[21]	Galluzzi, 2009	ECG findings: heart rate variability (24 h)
[22]	Georgakis, 2017	Systematic literature review
[23]	Geroldi, 2003	ECG findings: composite
[24]	Gu, 2019	No association between ECG findings and cognition, selection based on serious disease
[25]	Halling, 2006	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[26]	Horstmann, 2014	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[27]	Ikram, 2008	Exposures are recognized MI and unrecognized MI, which were diagnosed based on not only ECG but also clinical information
[28]	Jackson, 2018	Conference abstract
[29]	Jeerakathil, 2004	Outcomes: MRI/CT findings, No association between ECG findings and cognition
[30]	Jin, 2009	Conference abstract
[31]	Jozwiak, 2006	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[32]	Kawabata-Yoshihara, 2012	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[33]	Kim, 2018	ECG findings: heart rate variability (5 min)
[34]	Lee, 2012	Conference abstract, ECG findings: heart rate variability
[35]	Lima-Costa, 2009	ECG findings: composite
[36]	Lin, 2017	Intervention study
[37]	Mahinrad, 2016	ECG findings: heart rate variability (10 s)

[38]	Mahinrad, 2015	Conference abstract, ECG findings: heart rate variability (10 s)
[39]	Mahringer, 2018	Conference abstract
[40]	Mahringer, 2018	Conference abstract
[41]	Matei, 2015	Conference abstract
[42]	Matei, 2015	Conference abstract
[43]	McNicholas, 2018	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[44]	Nadkarni, 2019	Conference abstract, No association between ECG findings and cognition
[45]	Norby, 2017	Conference abstract
[46]	Norby, 2018	Conference abstract
[47]	O'Connell, 1998	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[48]	Ott, 1997	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[49]	Pal, 2019	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[50]	Podea, 2010	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[51]	Puccio, 2009	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[52]	Räiha, 2013	Association not shown
[53]	Rastas, 2007	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[54]	Rooney, 2017	Conference abstract
[55]	Rooney, 2018	Conference abstract
[56]	Rydén, 2017	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[57]	Rydén, 2017	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[58]	Rydén, 2019	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[59]	Sabatine, 2000	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[60]	Shiohama, 1993	No association between ECG findings and cognition
[61]	Taranchuk, 2011	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[62]	Thacker, 2013	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[63]	Thacker, 2012	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[62]	Thacker, 2013	Duplication (same as Thacker, 2013 above)
[64]	Todoroki, 2015	Outcomes: MRI/CT findings, No association between ECG findings and cognition
[65]	Weinstein, 2019	Conference abstract, ECG findings: heart rate variability
[66]	Wozakowska-Kapłon, 2009	ECG findings: atrial fibrillation
[67]	Yaneva-Sirakova, 2016	Conference abstract, left ventricular hypertrophy assessed by echocardiography
[68]	Young, 2010	Conference abstract
[69]	Zhang, 2019	ECG findings: Atrial fibrillation
[70]	Zhang, 2019	Conference abstract, ECG findings: atrial fibrillation

**Supplementary Table 2: A summary of unadjusted studies**

Study, year, country	Population, N, Age (mean/median), males (%), Follow-up	Exclude	Type of ECG, ECG findings	Outcome, Diagnosis criteria	Effect size (95% confidence interval)	Quality
<i>Outcome Dementia: cross-sectional analyses (n=5)</i>						
De Pedis*, 1987, [71]	Patients admitted to a geriatric hospital, N: <b>Dementia 36, Control 27</b> , Age: Dementia 84 y, Control 83 y, Male: Dementia 22.0%, Controls 30.0%		AV block, SA block, sick sinus syndrome, Gaps (RR interval >1.5 s)		Difference in prevalence of each ECG finding between dementia group and control: Ventricular tachycardia p=0.02, gaps p=0.03, AV block NS, SA block NS, sick sinus syndrome NS	2/9
Sanna*, 2019, Italy [72]	Convenient sample of patients with AD without cardiovascular or systematic disease and controls, N: <b>AD 32, Control 34</b> , Age: AD 75.1±7.2 y, Control 73.3±6.2 y, Male: AD 69%, Control 65%	Malignant tumors (n=4), systemic inflammatory diseases (n=12), amyloidosis (n=3), known or clinically suspected coronary artery disease (n=11), moderate to severe valvular disease (n=8), grade II to III arterial hypertension (blood pressure 160/100>mm Hg) (n=10), pericardial disease (n=1), and congenital heart disease (n=1)	Resting 12-lead ECG  Right bundle branch block, Left bundle branch block, Low QRS voltage, Total QRS score, LV hypertrophy, Pathologic Q waves, Repolarization abnormalities, PR interval, QTc interval		ECG findings (Value or %) in AD patients versus controls Sinus rhythm: 94% versus 94% p=0.95, Atrial fibrillation: 6% versus 6% p=0.95, Right bundle branch block: 3% versus 3% p=0.97, Left bundle branch block: 0% versus 6% p=0.16, Low QRS voltage: 28% versus 3% <b>p=0.004</b> , Total QRS score: 96.5±26mm versus 111.6±34.3 <b>p=0.05</b> , LVH: 3% versus 0% p=0.51, Pathologic Q waves: 6% versus 3% p=0.52, Repolarization abnormalities: 16% versus 24% p= 0.42, PR interval: 160 (IQR150–180) ms versus 160 (160–180) ms p=0.87, QTc interval: 418±24 ms versus 424±30 ms p=0.37	4/9
Sonnesyn*, 2009, Norway [73]	Recruited from the DemVst study, a prospective cohort study of participants with mild dementia, N: <b>DLB 22, AD 81, Control 23</b> , Age: DLB 78.1±8.2 y,	Patients without dementia or with acute delirium, terminal illness, previous bipolar disorder or psychotic disorder, or having been recently	Resting 12-lead ECG  QTc		Mean QTc ± SD in patients with AD versus patients with AD versus Control: 429.5±39.5 versus 424.2±28.2 versus 438.9±30.7 p=0.125  QTc >420 ms (%): 55 versus 56 versus 65 p=0.765	5/9

Study, year, country	Population, N, Age (mean/median), males (%), Follow-up	Exclude	Type of ECG, ECG findings	Outcome, Diagnosis criteria	Effect size (95% confidence interval)	Quality
	AD 75.6±7.7 y, Control not mentioned, Male: DLB 49%, AD 30%, Control 30%	diagnosed with life-threatening or severe somatic illness. Patients with missing or unreadable ECGs, ECGs showing rhythms other than sinus rhythm, or with right or left bundle branch block.			QTc>450 ms (%): 18 versus 20 versus 39 p=0.211	
Zulli*, 2005, Italy [74]	Community population-based sample of patients admitted to an Alzheimer's disease center for investigation of cognitive disturbances, <b>N: AD 33, MCI 39, Controls 29</b> , Age: AD 72.1±8.2 y, MCI 70.0±7.2 y, Controls 69.8±5.3 y, Male: AD 39.4%, MCI 41.0%, Control 34.5%	Individuals with heart failure, clinical evidence of coronary artery disease, significant valvular disease, diabetes mellitus, or severe clinical conditions; patients with ECG changes or those who were taking drugs that could potentially interfere with the measurements of QT parameters; patients with major depressive or cerebrovascular disorders; and patients with abnormalities in levels of serum folate, vitamin B12, and thyroid hormones, positive syphilis serology, history of traumatic brain injury, or other neurological diseases. Only patients with AD who had never undergone cholinesterase	Resting 12-lead ECG  QT maximal QT interval (Qtmax), maximal QT corrected interval (QTcmax), minimal QT interval (QTmin), minimal QT corrected interval (QTcmin), QTD, and QT corrected dispersion (QTcD)		QTcmax (ms) AD 434.2 ±25.1 MCI 421.8 ± 24.8 control 432.0 ±22.3 p-values AD versus MCI 0.08, AD versus C 0.90, MCI versus C 0.14 QTmax (ms) AD 410.3 ± 23.9, MCI 402.7 ± 29.1, control 397.6 ±21.8 p-values AD versus MCI 0.31, AD versus C 0.08, MCI versus C 0.29 QTcmin (ms) AD 376.7 ± 22.4, MCI 377.1 ± 23.0, control 389.6 ± 20.3 p-values AD versus MCI 0.95, AD versus C 0.07, MCI versus C 0.68 QTmin (ms) AD 356 ± 20.8, MCI 359.3 ±21.7, control 361.3 ± 20.6 p-values AD versus MCI 0.57, AD versus C 0.41, MCI versus C 0.75 QTcD (ms) AD 59.8 ± 13.3, MCI 47.2 ± 11.7, control 39.1 ±14.8 p-values AD versus MCI <b>0.001</b> , AD versus C <b>&lt;0.001</b> , MCI versus C <b>0.03</b> QTD (ms)	2/9

Study, year, country	Population, N, Age (mean/median), males (%), Follow-up	Exclude	Type of ECG, ECG findings	Outcome, Diagnosis criteria	Effect size (95% confidence interval)	Quality
		inhibitor therapy were included.			AD 56.3 ±12.8, MCI 45.6 ± 12.8, control 36.2 ±13.7 p-values AD versus MCI <b>0.001</b> , AD versus C <b>&lt;0.001</b> , MCI versus C <b>0.01</b>	
Zulli*, 2008, Italy [75]	Patients with AD, MCI, and cognitive healthy control without clinical evidence of coronary artery disease, <b>N: AD 33, MCI 39, Control 29</b> , Age: AD 72.1±8.2 y, MCI 70.0±7.2 y, Controls 69.8±5.3 y, Male: AD 39.4%, MCI 41.0%, Control 34.5%	Individuals with heart failure, clinical or instrumental evidence of coronary artery disease, significant valvular disease, diabetes mellitus and severe clinical conditions were excluded. Patients with ECG change or taking antiarrhythmic drugs, including beta blockers, or drugs potentially interfering with the measurements of QT parameters did not enter the study as well. Also patients taking inhibitors of the rennin–angiotensin–aldosterone system were excluded. Patients with bundle branch blocks and patients with left ventricular hypertrophy–subendocardial strain pattern were excluded too, because they prevent the evaluation of SMI. Patients with major depressive disorders, cerebrovascular	24-h ECG  any episode of myocardial ischemia, number of premature ventricular beats (PVBs), their morphology, the number of couplets and runs of ventricular tachycardia in each subject. Repetitive premature ventricular beats (RPVBs) were defined as those ventricular beats forming couplets or ventricular tachycardia episodes; non-sustained ventricular tachycardia (NSVT) was characterized as >3 consecutive premature beats occurring at a rate of >100 beats/min lasting less than 30 s (24-h ECG)		The mean number of ventricular couplets: AD =3.44±5.2, MCI=0.8±2.2 C=0.33±0.86; AD versus MCI, p= <b>0.005</b> ; AD versus C, p= <b>0.002</b> The mean number of repetitive PVB: AD=8.56±13.1, MCI =1.8±7.2, C=0.7±1.7; AD versus MCI, p= <b>0.02</b> ; AD versus C, p= <b>0.02</b> Supraventricular arrhythmias: No significant difference	2/9

Study, year, country	Population, N, Age (mean/median), males (%), Follow-up	Exclude	Type of ECG, ECG findings	Outcome, Diagnosis criteria	Effect size (95% confidence interval)	Quality
		disorders, abnormalities in serum folate, vitamin B12 and thyroid hormones levels, positive syphilis serology, history of traumatic brain injury or other neurologic diseases were excluded too. Further, only AD patients who had never experienced cholinesterase inhibitors therapy were included, to avoid confounders.				
<b>Outcome Dementia: longitudinal analyses (n=1)</b>						
Katzman, 1989, US [76]	Ambulatory, functional, presumably nondemented volunteers aged 75 to 85 were recruited from senior citizen centers, by local newspaper advertisements, and by word of mouth, N=434, 79 y, 35.5%, 5 y	The presence of Parkinson's disease, terminal illnesses, or visual or hearing impairments that precluded psychological testing	Unclear for LVH, 24-h ECG for sinus bradycardia, LVH, sinus bradycardia (detail not mentioned)	Incident dementia (AD), multiinfarct dementia/mix AD and cerebrovascular disease (MID/MIX))  Dementia: DSM-3, AD: McKhann and colleagues	LHV(%) in nondemented participants versus participants with AD versus participants with MID/MIX: 12.6% versus 6.3% versus 20.0%, sinus bradycardia at baseline 29.4% versus 25.0% versus 20.0%	5/9
<b>Outcome Cognitive function: cross-sectional analyses (n=4)</b>						
Bernal, 2018, Spain [77]	IFFANIAM study Patients with myocardial infarction, N=254, 82.1±4.5 y, 57.5%		IAB	Cognitive impairment (Pfieffer test>3)	Cognitive impairment (%) in those with no IAB/partial versus those with advanced IAB; 26.9% versus 26.5%	1/8
Elmståhl, 2009,	General population (all men born in the year		24-hour ECG,	Cognitive test battery (binary)	During 24 h	3/8



Study, year, country	Population, N, Age (mean/median), males (%), Follow-up	Exclude	Type of ECG, ECG findings	Outcome, Diagnosis criteria	Effect size (95% confidence interval)	Quality
Sweden [78]	1984 and residing in the municipality of Malmo), N=88, 81 y, 100%		ST segment depression (STDE) assessed using 24-h Holter ECG	(Swedish version of Block Design, a Swedish version of the original Verbal Paired Associates of Wechsler, Digit Symbol Substitution Test, the Benton Visual Retention Test)	Low block design (%) in those without STDE versus those with STDE: 59 versus 84 p=0.014, Low synonyms (%): 67 versus 78 p=0.775, Low paired associates (%): 68 versus 69 p=0.887, Low digit symbol substitution (%): 68 versus 71 p=1.000, Low Benton Visual Retention (%): 54 versus 63 p=0.285  Night-time Low block design (%) in those without STDE versus those with <60 min STDE versus those with >60 min STDE: 71 versus 83 versus 88, p=0.209, p for trend 0.079, Low synonyms (%): 79 versus 83 versus 71 p=0.701 p for trend 0.692, Low paired associates (%): 63 versus 92 versus 82 p=0.089 p for trend 0.045, Low digit symbol substitution (%): 92 versus 91 versus 94 p=0.335 p for trend 0.404, Low Benton Visual Retention (%): 65 versus 91 versus 92 p=0.059 p for trend 0.022	
Formiga, 2018, Spain [79]	Substudy from the OCTABAIX project, General population (substudy of a prospective population-based study of community dwelling older inhabitants), N=75, 85 y, 46.7%	AF, pacemaker rhythm, the presence of a severe cognitive impairment MEC<10, functional dependence Barthel Index<30	IAB	MEC (Spanish version of the Mini-Mental State Examination)	MEC>23 (%) in those with IAB versus those without IAB: 100% versus 70.6%, p=0.004	2/8
Rabuñal-Rey, 2012,	99-year-old and older patients living in the		Resting 12-lead ECG	The cognition mini-exam	% in those with CME≥ versus those with CME<20:	2/8

Study, year, country	Population, N, Age (mean/median), males (%), Follow-up	Exclude	Type of ECG, ECG findings	Outcome, Diagnosis criteria	Effect size (95% confidence interval)	Quality
Spain [80]	Lugo area (Galicia, northwest Spain), N=80, 100.8±1.3 y		Various findings according to Minnesota code (Arrhythmias: (premature supraventricular, junctional or ventricular beats, AF, other arrhythmias), QRS axis deviation (left-axis deviation, right-axis deviation, extreme axis deviation), high amplitude R waves (left ventricular hypertrophy), AV conduction defect (second-degree AB block, First-degree AV block), Ventricular conduction defect (left bundle branch block, right bundle branch block, right bundle branch block incomplete, left bundle branch block incomplete, nonspecific intraventricular conduction delay), Repolarization abnormalities (ST depression, T	(CME) (Spanish version of the Folstein Mini-mental State Exam) (cognitive impairment CME<20)	QRS axis: 26.1% versus 36.8% p=0.357, High amplitude R waves: 8.7% versus 8.8% p=0.999, AV conduction defect: 8.7% versus 12.3% p=0.999, Ventricular conduction defect: 26.1% versus 35.1% p=0.437, Repolarization abnormalities: 21.7% versus 35.1% p=0.244, ST depression: 8.7% versus 26.3% p=0.130, T amplitude zero, negative or diphasic: 17.4% versus 24.6% p=0.487, Q and QS patterns: 13.0% versus 17.5%, p=0.747 Miscellaneous items: 17.4% versus 40.4%, p=0.068	

Study, year, country	Population, N, Age (mean/median), males (%), Follow-up	Exclude	Type of ECG, ECG findings	Outcome, Diagnosis criteria	Effect size (95% confidence interval)	Quality
			amplitude zero, negative or diphasic, other repolarization)			

\*Cross-sectional study.

AD, Alzheimer's disease; DLB, dementia with Lewy bodies; IAB, interatrial block; IQR, interquartile range; LVH, left ventricular hypertrophy; MCI, mild cognitive impairment; MI, myocardial infarction; QTc, corrected heart rate values of QT interval; QTcD, QT dispersion

**Supplementary Table 3. A summary of appropriately adjusted disease-based studies**

Study, year, country	Population, N, Age (mean/median), males (%), Follow-up	Type of ECG, ECG findings	Outcome, Diagnosis criteria	Effect size (95% confidence interval)	Adjustment	Quality
<i>Outcome: dementia</i>						
Buss, 2012, India [81]	Patients with dementia and controls, N=305, 68.4±6.4 y, 52.8%	Resting 12-lead ECG, LVH, ST and T abnormalities, Q waves, Bundle branch block	All dementia, AD, VaD  Diagnosis criteria not mentioned	Dementia in participants with LVH: All dementia OR: <b>4.53 (1.52, 13.51)</b> , AD OR: 0.89 (0.10, 8.25), VaD OR: <b>11.74 (3.15, 43.71)</b> Dementia in participants with ST and T abnormalities All dementia OR: 2.03 (0.82, 5.00) AD OR: 1.00 (0.25, 3.96) VaD OR: <b>3.06 (1.06, 8.85)</b> Dementia in participants with Bundle branch block: All dementia OR: 1.14 (0.21, 6.21) AD OR: 1.26 (0.14, 11.25) VaD OR: 0.98 (0.10, 9.16)	Age, sex, education	3/8
Cacciatore, 2012, Italy [82]	Patients with cognitive impairment recruited at university hospital, N=358, 73.7±7.1 y, 40.5%, 10 y	24-h ECG, Ventricular rate response (binary): moderate (>50/<90 bpm), low/high (<50/>90)	Incident dementia,  Dementia: DSM-4, AD: the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke-Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association VaD: the California Alzheimer's Disease Diagnostic and Treatment Centers	Incident dementia in participants with ventricular rate response low/high: HR: <b>2.40 (1.10, 5.20)</b>	Age, sex, heart rate (beats per minute), pulse blood pressure, number of concomitant diseases, number of drugs taken, administration of warfarin or aspirin, CHF, diabetes, CAD, the geriatric depression scale, the Basic Activities of Daily Living Index, social support	7/9

Study, year, country	Population, N, Age (mean/median), males (%), Follow-up	Type of ECG, ECG findings	Outcome, Diagnosis criteria	Effect size (95% confidence interval)	Adjustment	Quality
<b>Outcome: cognitive decline</b>						
Van der Veen, 2015, The Netherlands [83]	Second Manifestations of Arterial Disease–Magnetic Resonance (SMART-MR) study Patients newly referred to the hospital with manifest coronary artery disease, cerebrovascular disease, peripheral arterial disease or an abdominal aortic aneurysm, N=663, 57±9 y, 81%, Mean 3.9 y	Resting 12-lead ECG  LVH (Yes/No) Sokolow–Lyon criterion: S in V1 + (R in V5 or V6, whichever is larger) ≥3.5 mV and/or Cornell voltage criterion: S in V3 + R in aVL >2.8 mV (in men), >2.0 mV (in women)	Change in memory and executive function tests.  The composite score for memory performance included immediate recall, delayed recall, and retention score of the 15-word learning test and the delayed recall of the Rey-Osterrieth Complex Figure test. The composite score for executive functioning included the Visual Elevator test, the Brixton Spatial Anticipation test, and the Verbal Fluency test (letter N for baseline and letter A for follow-up, 1-minute time frame).	Additional change in cognitive functioning in patients with LVH Change in memory: Model1 -0.00 (-0.19, 0.18) Model2 -0.00 (-0.19, 0.18) Model3 -0.01 (-0.20, 0.18) Change in executive functioning: Model1 0.03 (-0.20, 0.26) Model2 0.02 (-0.21, 0.25) Model3 0.00 (-0.23, 0.23)	Model 1: Age, sex, educational level, Dutch version of the National Adult Reading test score, baseline memory or executive functioning z-score, and follow-up time; Model 2: additionally adjusted for systolic and diastolic BP and use of antihypertensives; Model 3: additionally adjusted for cardiovascular risk factors (BMI, alcohol use, smoking, hyperlipidemia, diabetes mellitus).	5/9

AD, Alzheimer's disease; BMI, body mass index; BP, blood pressure; CAD, coronary arterial disease; CHF, chronic heart failure; HR, hazard ratio; IAB, interatrial block; LVH, left ventricular hypertrophy; OR, odds ratio; VaD, vascular dementia

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