

Supplementary Table 1. Participants' characteristics according to education level after propensity score matching

Variables	Low education group (n=782)	Non-low education group (n=782)	p-value
Age (years)	57.4±7.9	57.0±9.8	0.383
Sex (men, %)	362 (46.3)	373 (47.7)	0.577
Body mass index (kg/m ²)	24.0±3.1	23.9±3.1	0.752
Diabetes mellitus (%)	112 (14.3)	111 (14.2)	0.942
Hypertension (%)	323 (41.3)	304 (38.9)	0.327
Smoking habitus (%)			0.598
Non-smoker	449 (57.4)	431 (55.1)	
Ex-smoker	190 (24.3)	206 (26.3)	
Current smoker	143 (18.3)	145 (18.5)	
Alcohol intake (%)			0.079
Abstinence	244 (31.2)	227 (29.0)	
Moderate intake	486 (62.1)	520 (66.5)	
Heavy intake	52 (6.6)	35 (4.5)	
Coronary artery disease (%)	36 (4.6)	33 (4.2)	0.712
Cerebrovascular accident (%)	18 (2.3)	15 (1.9)	0.598
Average hearing threshold (dB)	20.9±12.9	20.2±13.2	0.291
Household income (1000 won/month)	355.5±792.5	416.0±759.8	0.123
Exposure to occupational noise (%)	120 (15.3)	119 (15.2)	0.944
Exposure to explosive noise (%)	164 (21.0)	164 (21.0)	1.000
Occupation			<0.001
Non-labor intensive (%)	244 (31.2)	353 (45.1)	
Labor intensive (%)	272 (34.8)	106 (13.6)	
Non-occupation (%)	266 (34.0)	323 (41.3)	
Osteoarthritis (%)	86 (11.0)	83 (10.6)	0.807
Rheumatoid arthritis (%)	19 (2.4)	18 (2.3)	0.868
Dyslipidemia (%)	118 (15.1)	116 (14.8)	0.887
Depression (%)	32 (4.1)	37 (4.7)	0.538
Stress (%)			0.469
No	135 (17.3)	128 (16.4)	
Some stress	480 (61.4)	476 (60.9)	
Moderate stress	133 (17.0)	152 (19.4)	
Severe stress	34 (4.3)	26 (3.3)	

The data are expressed as counts (percentages) for categorical variables and as mean ± standard deviations for continuous variables. p-values were tested by t-test and χ^2 test for categorical variables