

Additional file 4

Characteristics of the subset

	Cases (n=20)	Controls (n=20)	P-value ^{††}
Age at enrollment (years)			
Mean (SD)	59.6 (6.0)	59.6 (6.1)	0.995
BMI			
Mean (SD)	26.8 (3.5)	26.5 (3.6)	0.764
Missing	1	-	
Use of oral contraceptives, n (%)			
No, but used to in the past	11 (55.0)	10 (50.0)	0.752
No, never	9 (45.0)	10 (50.0)	
Duration of oral contraceptives use[*] (years)			
Median (IQR)	10 (4-12)	4.5 (2.5-10.5)	0.272
Use of HT, n (%)			
No, but used to in the past	-	-	-
No, never	20 (100)	20 (100)	
Ovariectomy, n (%)			
Both ovaries removed	1 (5.0)	-	0.311
Parity, n (%)			
Nulliparous	2 (10.0)	-	0.147
Number of children[†]			
Median (IQR)	2.0 (2.0-3.0)	3.0 (2.0-3.8)	0.065
Smoking, n (%)			
No, but used to in the past	10 (50.0)	10 (50.0)	1.000
No, never	10 (50.0)	10 (50.0)	
Pack-years smoking until stop date[‡]			
Median (IQR)	3.1 (1.6-7.9)	7.2 (1.1-16.4)	0.536
Missing	1	1	
Alcohol intake[§] (g/day)			
Median (IQR)	5.1 (0.8-17.0)	3.4 (0.1-6.4)	0.234
Use of medicines, minerals or vitamins[#], n (%)			
Yes	16 (80.0)	11 (55.0)	0.091
No	4 (20.0)	9 (45.0)	
Minutes since last meal and/or drink^{**} (min)			
Median (IQR)	122 (97-160)	134 (87-145)	0.829

SD: Standard Deviation; BMI: Body Mass Index; IQR: Inter Quartile Range; HT: menopausal Hormone

Therapy; ^{*} Among former oral contraceptives/HT users; [†] Among women with children; [‡] Among

former smokers; [§] Energy-adjusted alcohol intake at enrollment; [#] in last week before blood collection;

^{**} at moment of blood collection; ^{††} Independent samples T test for age and BMI, Mann-Whitney U

test for other continuous variables, and Pearson Chi-Square test for categorical variables.