Table S1. Non-communicable disease risk factors in men aged 40-45 years, by educational level 1974-2002.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Education | Absolute inequality |
|  | Lower | Secondary  | Tertiary | Slope Index of Inequality, SII |
| Serum total cholesterol, mmol/l, mean (SD) | N=7171 | N=7404 | N=2132 |  |
|  1974-78  | 6.65 (1.32) | 6.50 (1.25) | 6.28 (1.24) | 0.4 (0.3, 0.5) |
|  1985-88  | 6.39 (1.22) | 6.27 (1.18) | 6.04 (1.17) | 0.4 (0.3, 0.5) |
|  2001-02  | 5.64 (1.02) | 5.76 (1.01) | 5.66 (1.03) | 0.0 (-0.2, 0.3) |
| *p-trend* | *<0.001* | *<0.001* | *<0.001* | *0.209* |
| Systolic blood pressure, mmHg, mean (SD) |  |  |  |  |
|  1974-78 | 139.0 (16.9) | 136.7 (16.4) | 134.1 (14.6) | 5.6 (4.1, 7.1) |
|  1985-88 | 137.3 (14.4) | 136.1 (14.2) | 134.3 (13.8) | 3.7 (2.6, 4.9) |
|  2001-02 | 129.5 (15.8) | 128.2 (14.7) | 127.0 (13.6) | 3.2 (-0.4, 6.8) |
| *p-trend* | *<0.001* | *<0.001* | *<0.001* | *0.028* |
| Diastolic blood pressure, mmHg, mean (SD) |  |  |  |  |
|  1974-78 | 86.0 (11.1) | 85.2 (11.1) | 85.0 (9.7) | 1.4 (0.5, 2.5) |
|  1985-88 | 82.5 (10.4) | 82.1 (10.5) | 81.0 (10.1) | 1.7 (0.8, 2.5) |
|  2001-02 | 76.2 (8.9) | 76.0 (9.1) | 75.6 (8.6) | 1.0 (-1.2, 3.2) |
| *p-trend* | *<0.001* | *<0.001* | *<0.001* | *0.942* |
| Daily smoking, % |  |  |  |  |
|  1974-78 | 63.7 | 49.7 | 37.8 | 33 (29, 38) |
|  1985-88 | 54.5 | 44.9 | 27.5 | 35 (31, 39) |
|  2001-02 | 50.6 | 30.8 | 18.3 | 36 (26, 46) |
| *p-trend* | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.589 |
| Physical inactive, % |  |  |  |  |
| *1974-78* | *18.7* | *18.9* | *14.1* | *2 (-1, 6)* |
| *1985-88* | *23.9* | *21.9* | *18.8* | *7 (3, 10)* |
| *2001-2001* | *26.9* | *24.4* | *19.3* | *9 (-2, 20)* |
| *p-trend* | *<0.001* | *<0.001* | *0.017* | *0.060* |
| BMI, kg/m2, mean (SD) |  |  |  |  |
|  1974-78 | 25.4 (3.2) | 25.2 (2.9) | 24.7 (2.6) | 0.71 (0.43, 0.99) |
|  1985-88 | 25.9 (3.4) | 25.7 (3.1) | 24.8 (2.8) | 1.19 (0.93, 1.44) |
|  2001-02 | 27.9 (4.7) | 27.3 (3.6) | 26.6 (3.4) | 1.68 (0.75, 2.60) |
| *p-trend* | *<0.001* | *<0.001* | *<0.001* | *0.003* |
| Serum triglycerides, mmol/l, mean (SD) |  |  |  |  |
|  1974-78 | 2.24 (1.51) | 2.13 (1.27) | 1.89 (1.00) | 0.34 (0.22, 0.47) |
|  1985-88 | 2.35 (1.46) | 2.28 (1.64) | 1.96 (1.70) | 0.43 (0.31, 0.56) |
|  2001-02 | 2.27 (1.68) | 2.02 (1.25) | 1.84 (1.23) | 0.51 (0.19, 0.84) |
| *p-trend* | *0.008* | *0.357* | *0.902* | *0.257* |