

Air pollution from pregnancy to 18 years and cardiovascular health in young adulthood: findings from a UK birth cohort

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Background

- Particulate matter is the leading risk factor to the global burden of disease
- A growing body of evidence has shown that exposure to air pollution is associated with cardiovascular disease (CVD); fewer studies in younger ages
- Little is known about cardiovascular risk associated with lifetime exposure to air pollution
- Aim to assess the association between exposure to air pollution from pregnancy to 18 years and eight measures of cardiovascular health in young adults
 - Explore sex differences
 - Explore potential sensitive periods

Methods



- Data from the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC)
- Air pollution from pregnancy (in utero) to 18 years:
 - fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5})
 - black carbon (BC)
 - nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)Exposures estimated in the ELAPSE project with land use regression models for 2010
- Cardiometabolic markers at 18 years:
 - central (cSBP) and peripheral systolic blood pressure (pSBP)
 - central (cDBP) and peripheral diastolic blood pressure (pDBP)
 - heart rate
 - carotid intima-media thickness (CIMT)
 - pulse wave velocity (PWV)
 - augmentation index (AIx)

Methods



- Lifetime exposure to air pollution assessed by:
 - Average yearly mean estimates – changes per interquartile range (IQR)
 - Latent class growth analysis
 - Restricted cubic splines; models with 2 to 6 classes
- Linear regression models adjusted for maternal age, education, ethnicity and index of multiple deprivation; age and sex

Results

PM_{2.5}

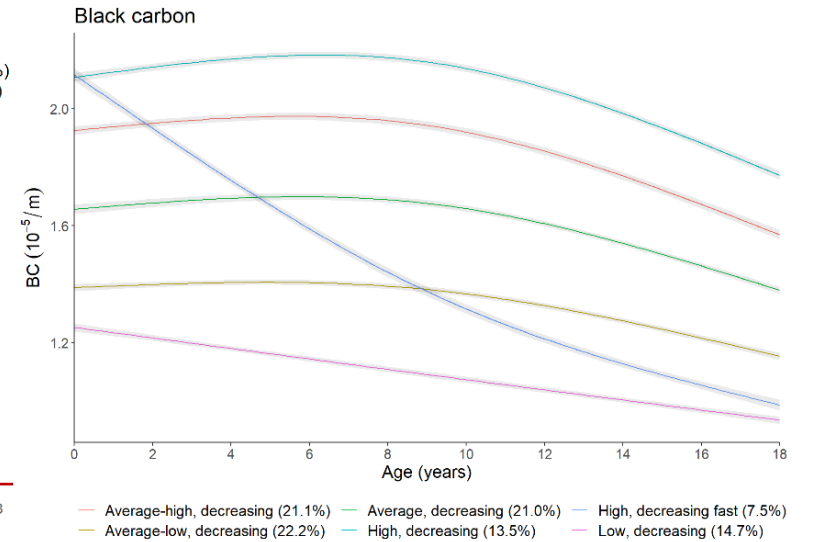
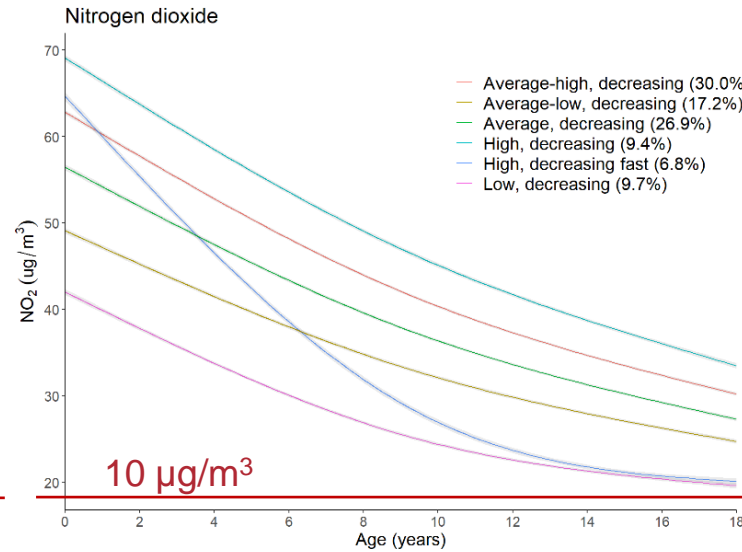
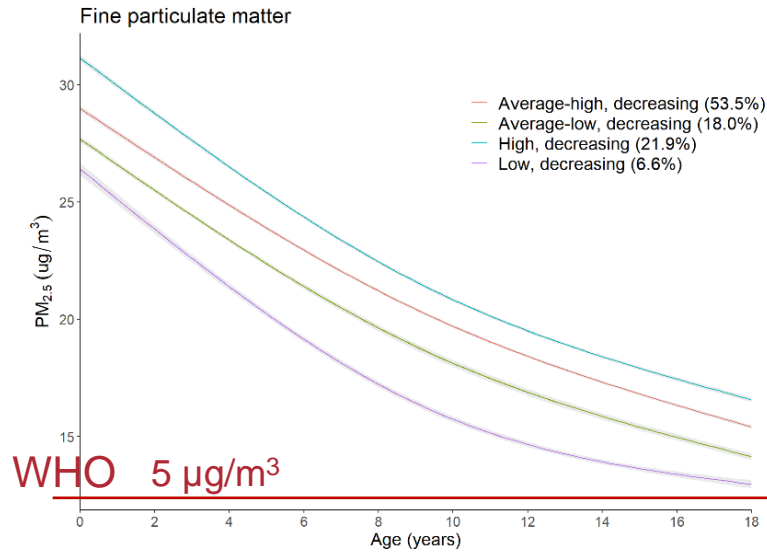
21.1 µg/m³ (IQR 1.63)

NO₂

40.1 µg/m³ (IQR 7.96)

BC

1.57 x 10⁻⁵/m (IQR 0.55)

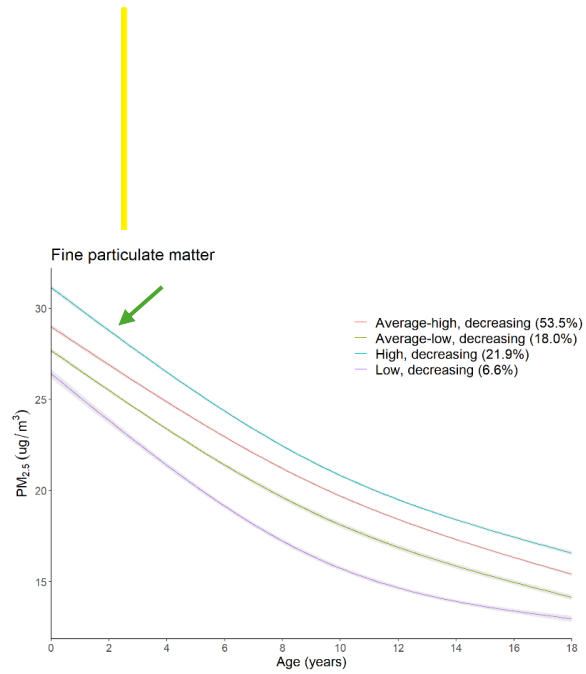


N = 3,767

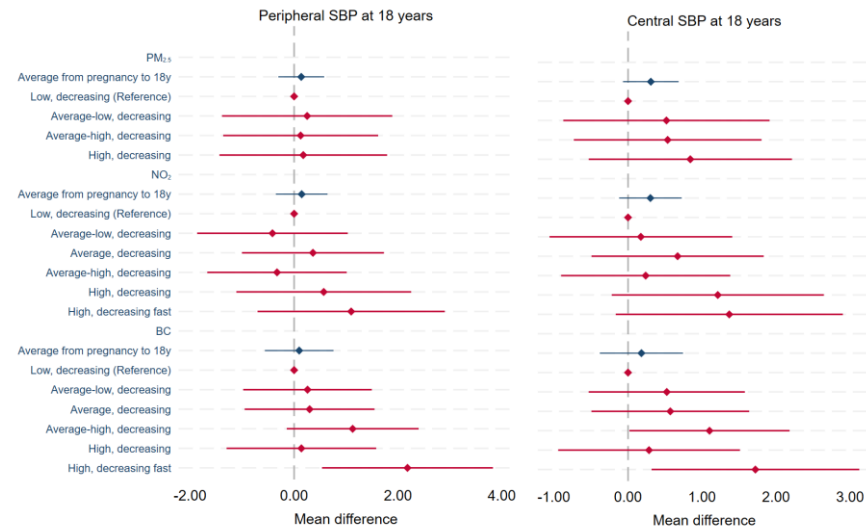
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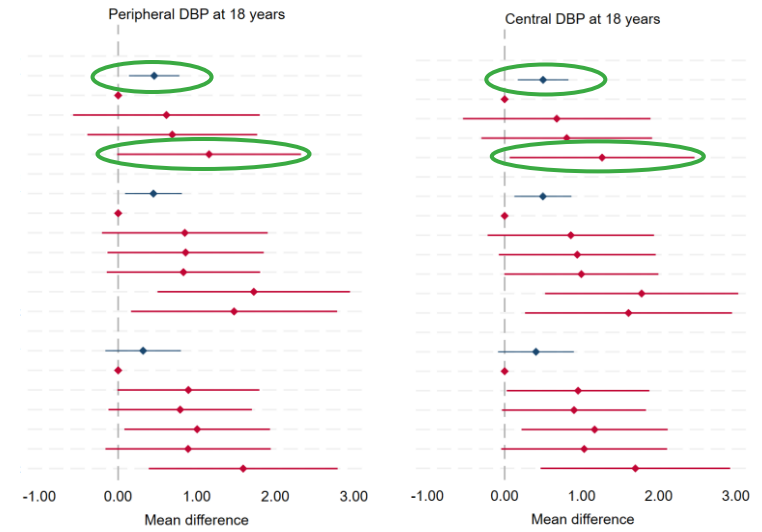
longITools
HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT DYNAMICS



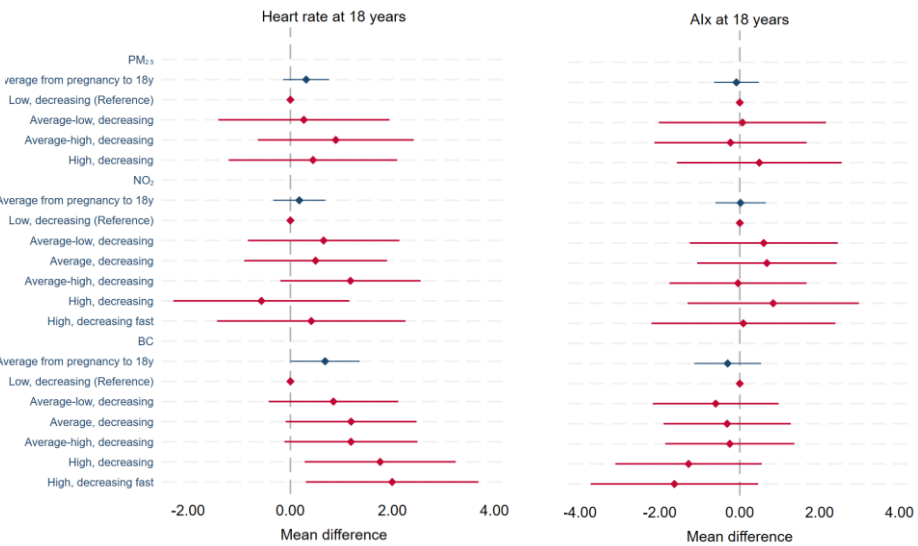
Systolic blood pressure (SBP)



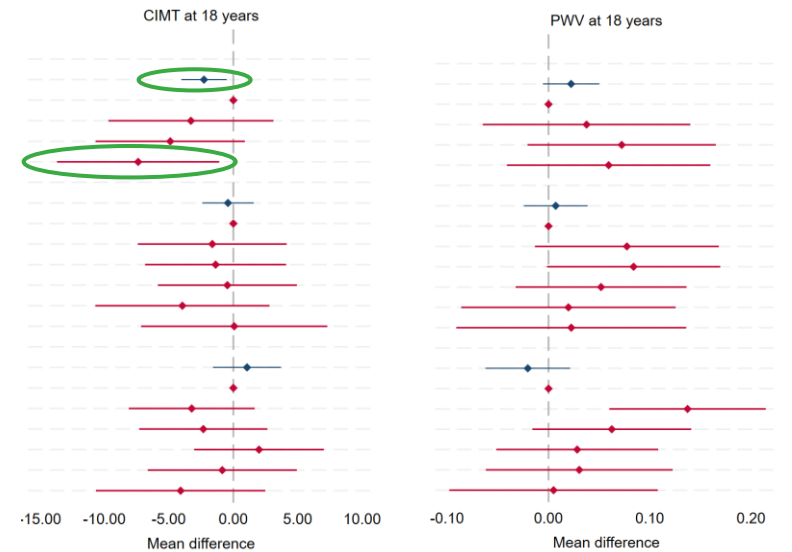
Diastolic blood pressure (DBP)



Heart rate and augmentation index (AIx)

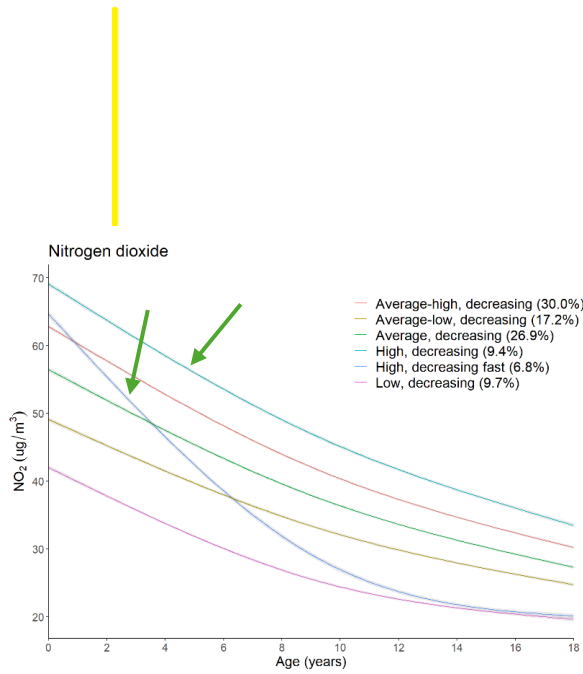


Carotid intima-media thickness (CIMT) and Pulse wave velocity (PWV)

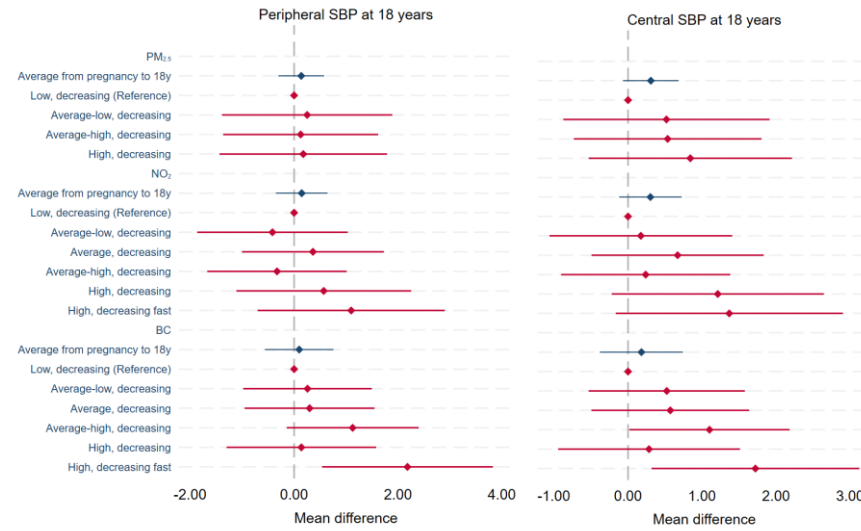


◆ Average ◆ Classes

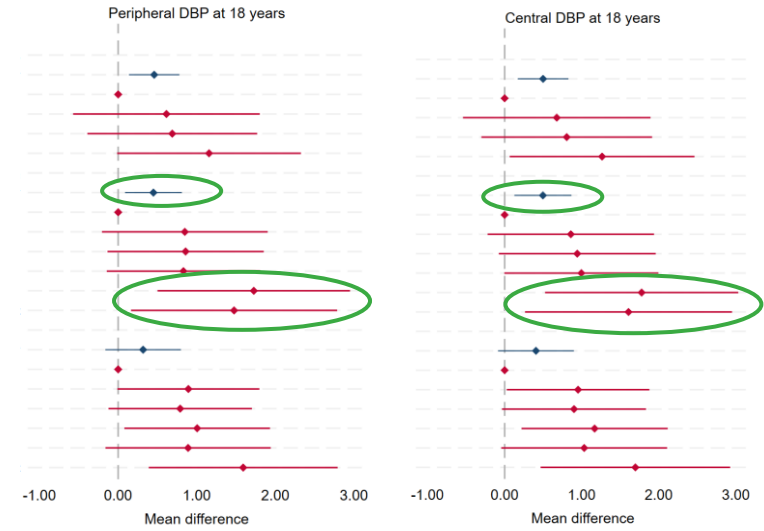
Adjusted for area deprivation, maternal education, maternal age, maternal ethnicity, age, and sex



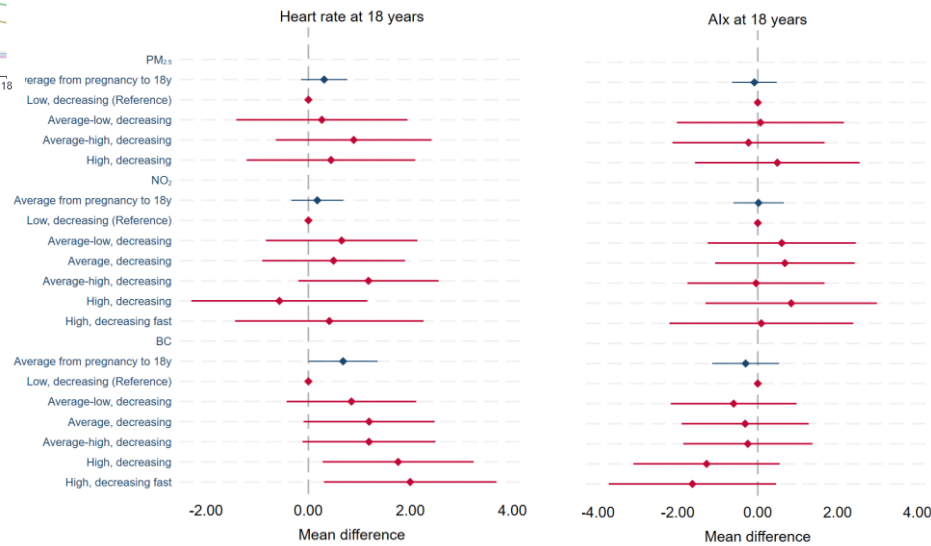
Systolic blood pressure (SBP)



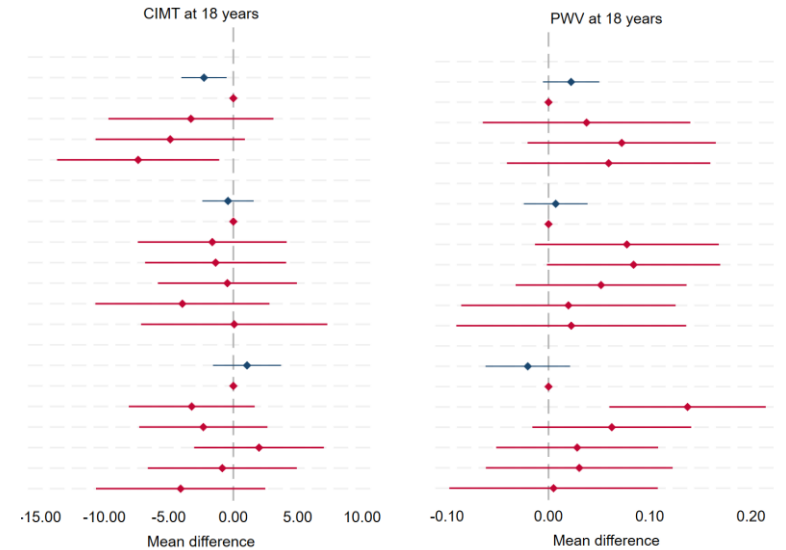
Diastolic blood pressure (DBP)



Heart rate and augmentation index (AIx)



Carotid intima-media thickness (CIMT) and Pulse wave velocity (PWV)

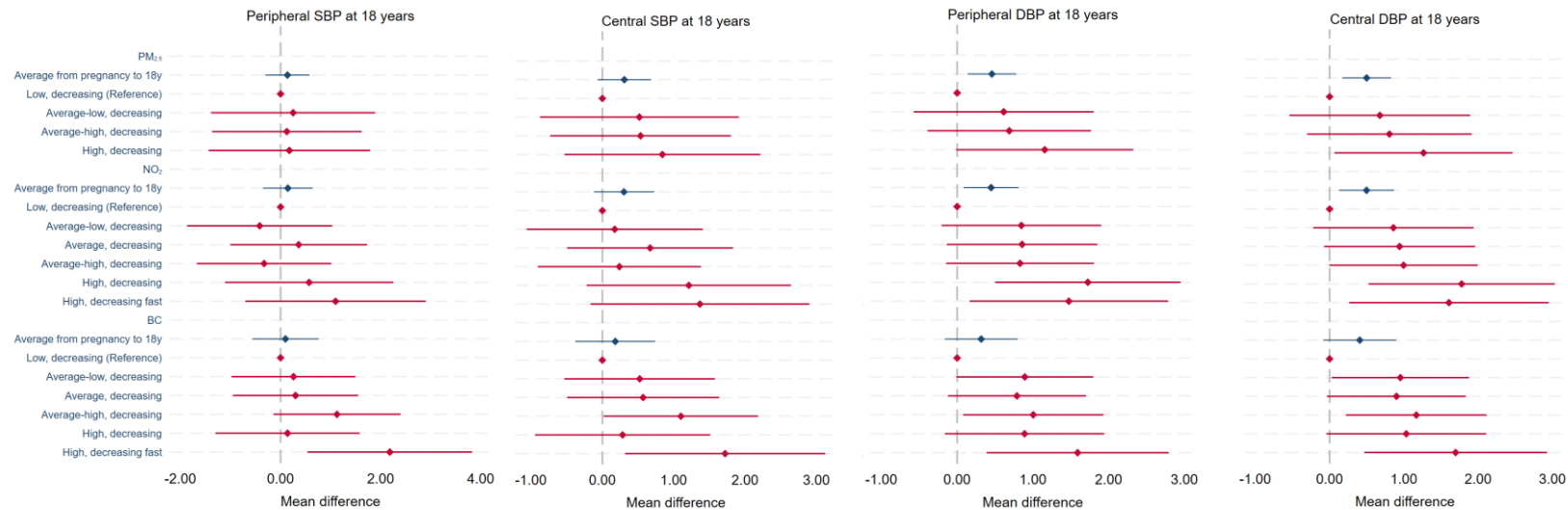


◆ Average ◆ Classes

Adjusted for area deprivation, maternal education, maternal age, maternal ethnicity, age, and sex

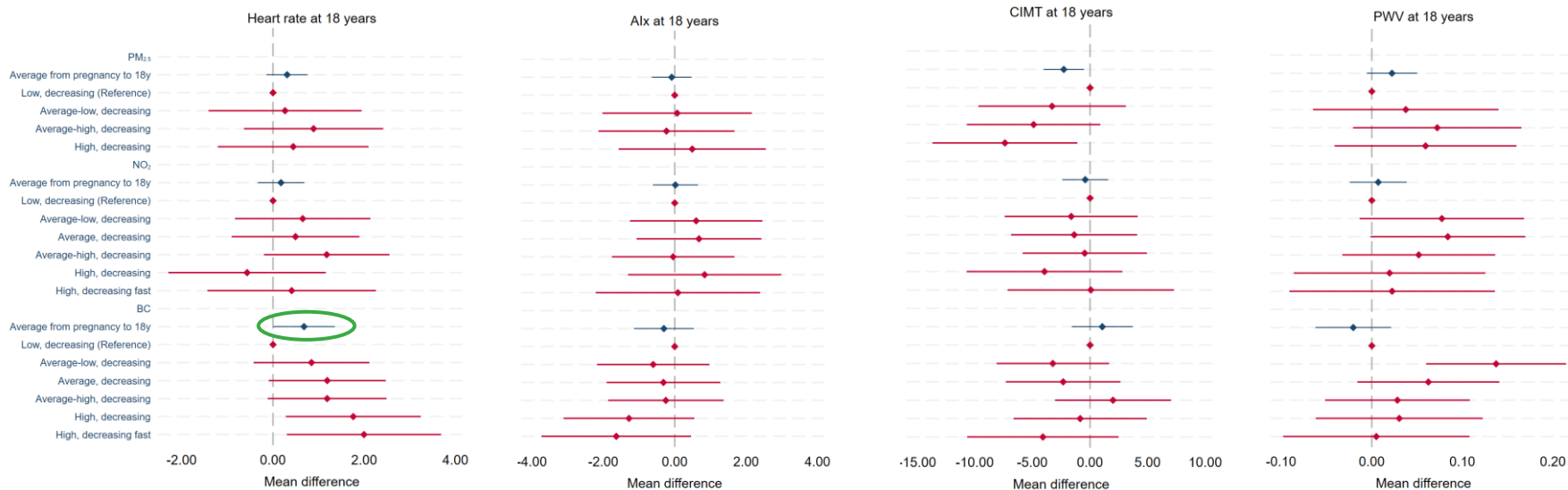
Systolic blood pressure (SBP)

Diastolic blood pressure (DBP)



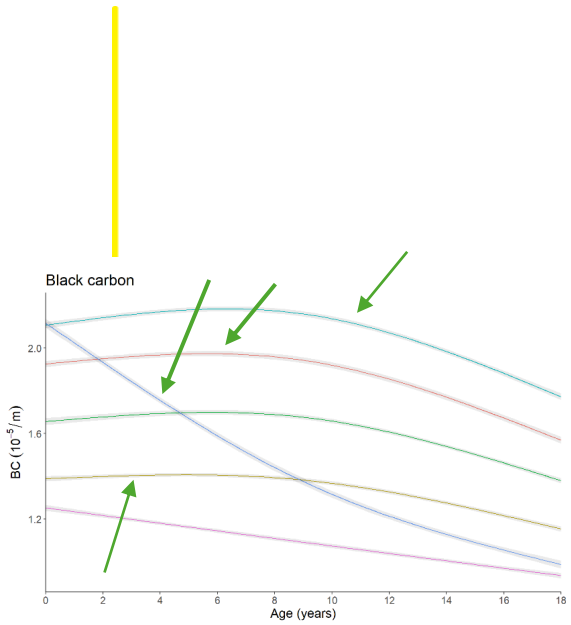
Heart rate and augmentation index (AIx)

Carotid intima-media thickness (CIMT) and Pulse wave velocity (PWV)



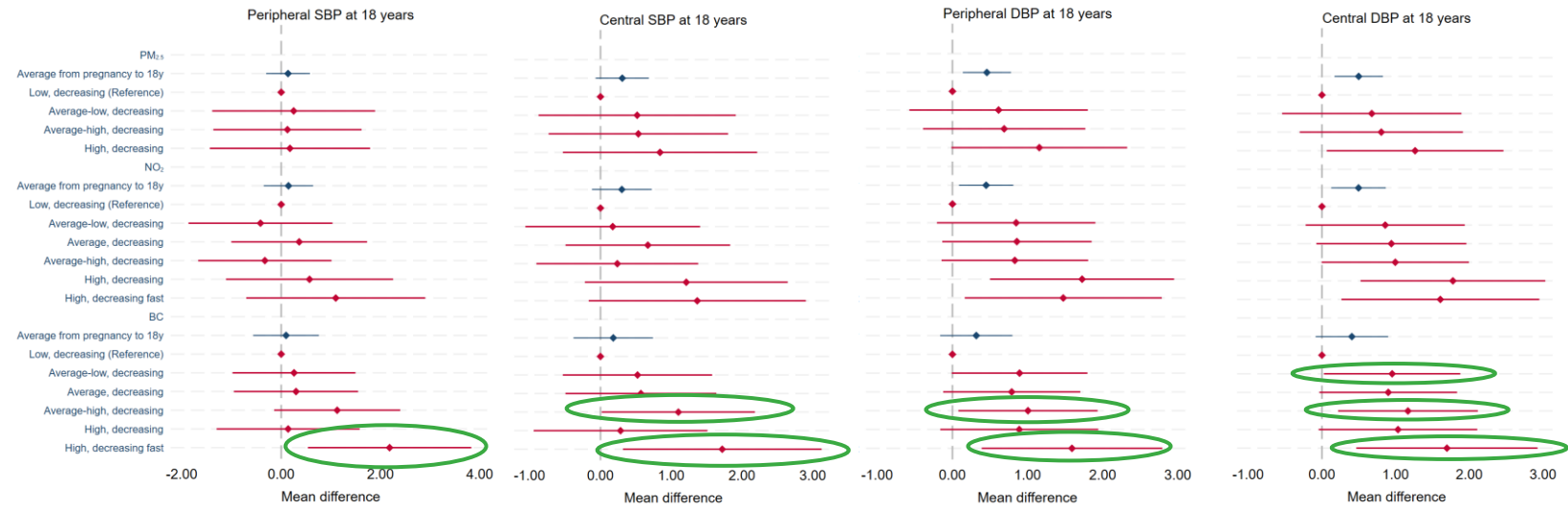
◆ Average ◆ Classes

Adjusted for area deprivation, maternal education, maternal age, maternal ethnicity, age, and sex



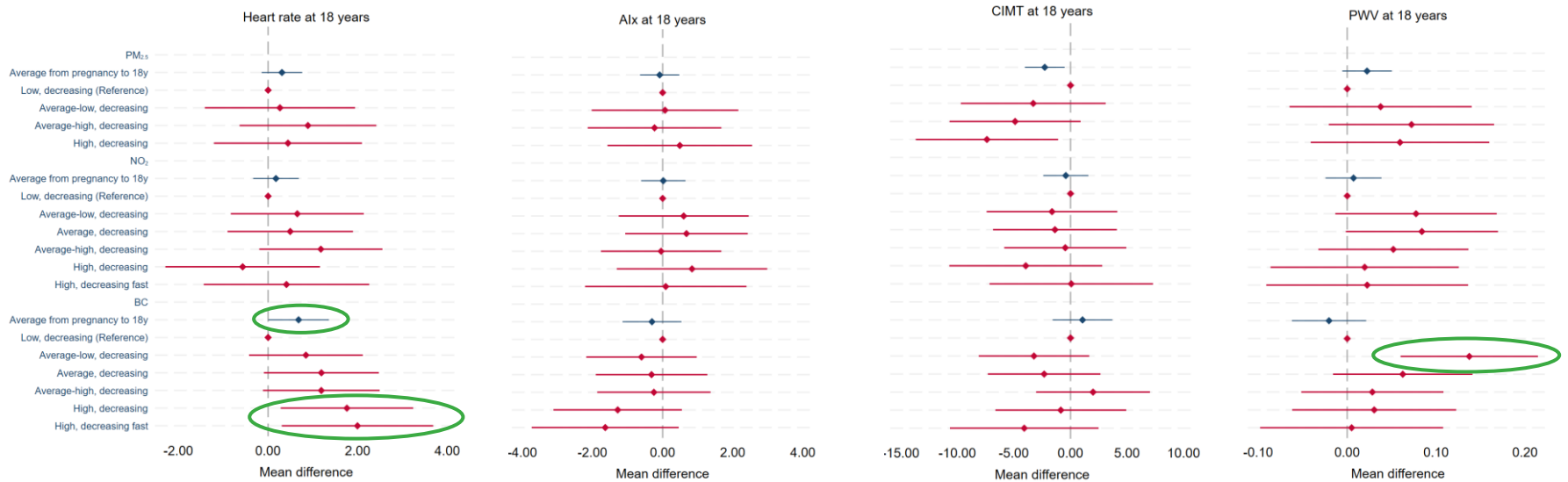
Systolic blood pressure (SBP)

Diastolic blood pressure (DBP)



Heart rate and augmentation index (AIx)

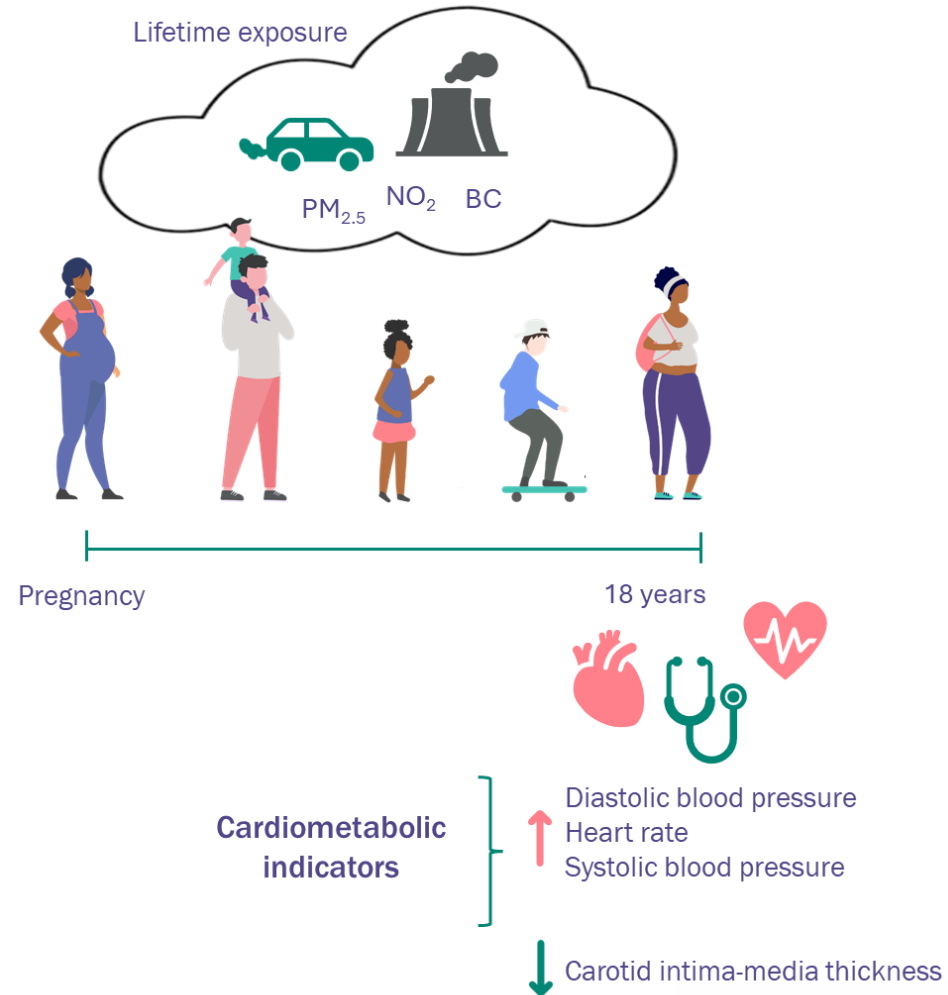
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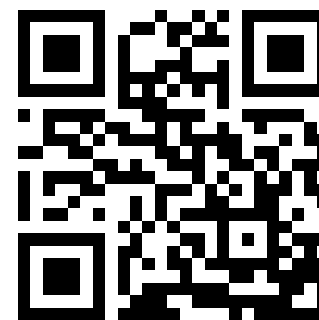


◆ Average ◆ Classes

Adjusted for area deprivation, maternal education, maternal age, maternal ethnicity, age, and sex

Summary and conclusions





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Thank you

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