

**Supplementary Table 2** All regression models tested in the combined sample of African men and women.

	Unadjusted Model				Model 1 (Adjusted for confounders)				Model 2 (Adjusted for confounders and BMI)				
	Dependent variable	Beta/OR	95% CI	p	Sex Int	Beta/OR	95% CI	p	Sex Int	Beta/OR	95% CI	p	Sex Int
Corticosterone	BMI	0.005	(-0.033, 0.043)	0.794	0.173	-0.046	(-0.096, 0.004)	0.071	0.063	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Waist circumference	-0.011	(-0.034, 0.013)	0.375	0.274	-0.030	(-0.065, 0.005)	0.089	0.123	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Systolic BP	0.010	(-0.015, 0.035)	0.437	0.633	0.007	(-0.029, 0.043)	0.714	0.656	0.014	(-0.021, 0.049)	0.430	0.956
	Diastolic BP	-0.003	(-0.025, 0.020)	0.809	0.786	0.009	(-0.023, 0.041)	0.572	0.897	0.016	(-0.016, 0.047)	0.324	0.775
	Fasting glucose*	-0.032	(-0.071, 0.007)	0.113	<b>0.031</b>	-0.008	(-0.055, 0.039)	0.739	<b>0.009</b>	-0.001	(-0.048, 0.046)	0.953	<b>0.008</b>
	Fasting insulin	0.092	(-0.040, 0.223)	0.172	0.064	-0.119	(-0.301, 0.063)	0.200	0.219	-0.031	(-0.191, 0.129)	0.705	0.446
	Two-hour glucose	-0.008	(-0.093, 0.077)	0.854	0.791	-0.017	(-0.099, 0.065)	0.683	0.971	-0.001	(-0.082, 0.079)	0.972	0.824
	HbA1c*	-0.016	(-0.047, 0.014)	0.301	<b>0.007</b>	-0.013	(-0.045, 0.019)	0.435	<b>0.003</b>	-0.010	(-0.042, 0.022)	0.543	<b>0.002</b>
	HOMA2-IR	0.077	(-0.057, 0.211)	0.261	0.083	-0.129	(-0.312, 0.055)	0.170	0.300	-0.045	(-0.205, 0.116)	0.586	0.551
	Matsuda index	0.228	(0.042, 0.415)	<b>0.017</b>	0.560	0.220	(0.034, 0.407)	<b>0.021</b>	0.444	0.134	(-0.036, 0.303)	0.122	0.921
	Total cholesterol	-0.009	(-0.047, 0.029)	0.653	0.077	-0.053	(-0.108, 0.001)	0.056	0.060	-0.053	(-0.108, 0.002)	0.060	0.077
	LDL cholesterol*	-0.007	(-0.075, 0.062)	0.850	<b>0.012</b>	-0.095	(-0.193, 0.003)	0.057	<b>0.019</b>	-0.086	(-0.184, 0.012)	0.085	<b>0.029</b>
	HDL cholesterol	-0.024	(-0.084, 0.036)	0.431	<b>0.042</b>	0.018	(-0.066, 0.102)	0.678	0.263	-0.009	(-0.088, 0.071)	0.830	0.377
	Triglycerides	0.060	(-0.014, 0.135)	0.110	<b>0.013</b>	-0.066	(-0.177, 0.046)	0.247	0.063	-0.044	(-0.153, 0.066)	0.431	0.116
Metabolic syndrome	0.983	(0.730, 1.321)	0.908	0.392	1.104	(0.792, 1.540)	0.558	0.142	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Cortisol	BMI*	0.017	(-0.024, 0.059)	0.414	0.086	-0.011	(-0.064, 0.041)	0.679	<b>0.040</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Waist circumference	0.008	(-0.018, 0.034)	0.540	0.085	0.000	(-0.016, 0.016)	0.984	0.055	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Systolic BP	0.036	(0.009, 0.063)	<b>0.009</b>	0.942	0.042	(0.005, 0.079)	<b>0.028</b>	0.955	0.043	(0.007, 0.080)	<b>0.018</b>	0.634
	Diastolic BP	0.046	(0.022, 0.070)	<b>1.790 x10<sup>-4</sup></b>	0.954	0.051	(0.017, 0.085)	<b>0.004</b>	0.918	0.052	(0.019, 0.085)	<b>0.002</b>	0.546
	Fasting glucose*	0.027	(-0.017, 0.072)	0.229	<b>0.010</b>	0.042	(-0.010, 0.094)	0.110	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.044	(-0.008, 0.095)	0.097	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
	Fasting insulin	0.040	(-0.106, 0.186)	0.589	<b>0.027</b>	-0.065	(-0.261, 0.131)	0.516	0.073	-0.055	(-0.226, 0.117)	0.534	0.352
	Two-hour glucose*	0.032	(-0.054, 0.118)	0.467	0.255	-0.013	(-0.099, 0.074)	0.775	0.090	-0.010	(-0.095, 0.075)	0.810	<b>0.047</b>
	HbA1c*	-0.009	(-0.044, 0.026)	0.619	<b>0.022</b>	-0.001	(-0.036, 0.035)	0.965	<b>0.003</b>	-0.001	(-0.036, 0.035)	0.974	<b>0.001</b>

HOMA2-IR	0.025	(-0.124, 0.175)	0.739	0.072	-0.057	(-0.254, 0.141)	0.573	0.241	-0.036	(-0.208, 0.137)	0.685	0.658
Matsuda index	-0.054	(-0.248, 0.141)	0.589	0.128	0.083	(-0.117, 0.284)	0.415	0.572	0.048	(-0.133, 0.229)	0.603	0.848
Total cholesterol	0.007	(-0.037, 0.050)	0.764	0.955	-0.048	(-0.106, 0.010)	0.102	0.690	-0.048	(-0.106, 0.010)	0.104	0.573
LDL cholesterol	-0.007	(-0.082, 0.067)	0.846	<b>0.038</b>	-0.138	(-0.241, -0.034)	<b>0.009</b>	0.565	-0.136	(-0.239, -0.034)	<b>0.009</b>	0.768
HDL cholesterol	0.037	(-0.027, 0.102)	0.254	<b>0.014</b>	0.105	(0.017, 0.193)	<b>0.020</b>	<b>0.038</b>	0.102	(0.019, 0.186)	<b>0.017</b>	0.083
Triglycerides	0.073	(0.071, -0.006)	0.152	0.651	-0.032	(-0.146, 0.081)	0.577	0.708	-0.030	(-0.141, 0.081)	0.598	0.394
Metabolic syndrome	1.397	(1.005, 1.946)	0.047	0.251	1.502	(1.044, 2.170)	0.029	0.245	NA	NA	NA	NA

**Unadjusted Model:** Unadjusted linear/logistic regression model; **Model 1 (Adjusted for confounders):** Linear/logistic regression model adjusted for age, sex, time of blood sample (calculated as minutes from the earliest sample (07h00)), smoking, alcohol, and relevant chronic medication; **Model 2 (Adjusted for confounders and BMI):** Linear/logistic regression model adjusted the above confounders and BMI. **Beta/OR:** regression co-efficient/odds ratio value of the linear/logistic model; **95% CI:** 95% confidence intervals; **p:** P value of the regression model; **Sex Int:** P value for the sex interaction.

