

Supplementary Appendix

Table S1 Missing data across confounding variables of interest

Confounder	Missing Observations (N)
Urban	0
Education	27
Marital status	4
Region	0
Smoking status	689
Alcohol consumption	44
Physical activity	0
Diet	0
Number of observations	17329

Table S2 NCD treatments among men and women in the CHARLS 2011

	Men n=8401	Women n=8928	P value
Hypertension			
Chinese traditional	11.27%	12.04%	0.660
Western modern	73.24%	73.02%	0.912
None of the above	21.27%	19.71%	0.296
Dyslipidaemia			
Chinese traditional	11.18%	16.03%	0.071
Western modern	48.04%	44.93%	0.398
Other treatments	5.40%	7.33%	0.189
None of the above	43.24%	41.57%	0.647
Diabetes			
Chinese traditional	10.24%	13.15%	0.245
Western modern	63.56%	57.75%	0.206
Insulin injections	14.80%	9.98%	0.052
None of the above	21.74%	29.52%	0.031
Heart Disease			
Chinese traditional	20.23%	24.71%	0.099
Western modern	55.97%	59.05%	0.289
Other treatments	6.08%	5.10%	0.359
None of the above	32.24%	28.46%	0.151
Stroke			
Chinese traditional	26.92%	31.73%	0.398

Western medicine	55.07%	49.59%	0.374
Physical therapy	9.22%	8.11%	0.735
Accupuncture	11.82%	9.91%	0.721
Occupational therapy	3.85%	2.12%	0.347
None of the above	33.52%	32.49%	0.859
Chronic lung disease			
Chinese traditional	15.28%	22.63%	0.005
Western modern	48.65%	55.87%	0.030
Other treatments	5.87%	10.98%	0.001
None of the above	42.61%	33.06%	0.002
Cancer			
Chinese traditional	18.25%	21.99%	0.620
Western modern	46.68%	43.01%	0.687
Chemotherapy	24.03%	12.44%	0.112
Surgery	28.63%	44.39%	0.072
Radiation therapy	7.16%	4.78%	0.525
None of the above	28.78%	28.96%	0.075
Arthritis			
Chinese traditional	17.02%	20.21%	0.010
Western modern	33.33%	40.56%	<0.001
Other treatments	21.02%	22.47%	0.282
None of the above	45.23%	37.70%	<0.001

Categorical variables presented as weighted percentage adjusted for age. Differences in categorical variables were explored by Chi-square test.