



# ***Improving Identification of Familial Hypercholesterolaemia (FH) in English Family Practice using Electronic Medical Records***

**Professor Nadeem Qureshi**


**University of Nottingham, Division of Primary Care**



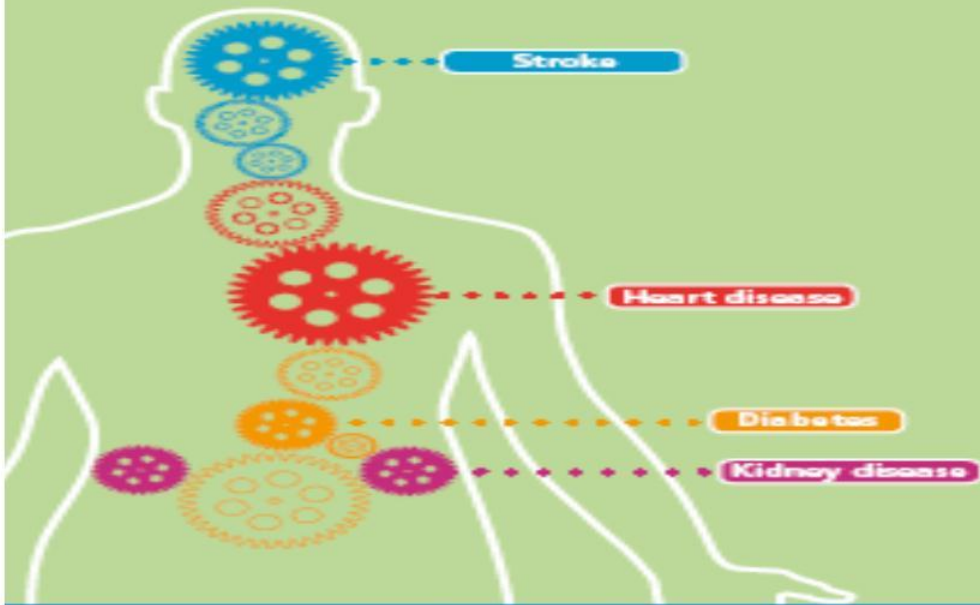
## **Opportunities in Primary Care Role**

- **Integrate with national policy**
- **Computer records**
  - **Patient-specific reminders**
  - **Audit & Feedback**
  - **Software toolkits**

# National Health Checks 2009



Putting Prevention First  
NHS Health Check: Vascular  
Risk Assessment and Management  
Best Practice Guidance




Stroke

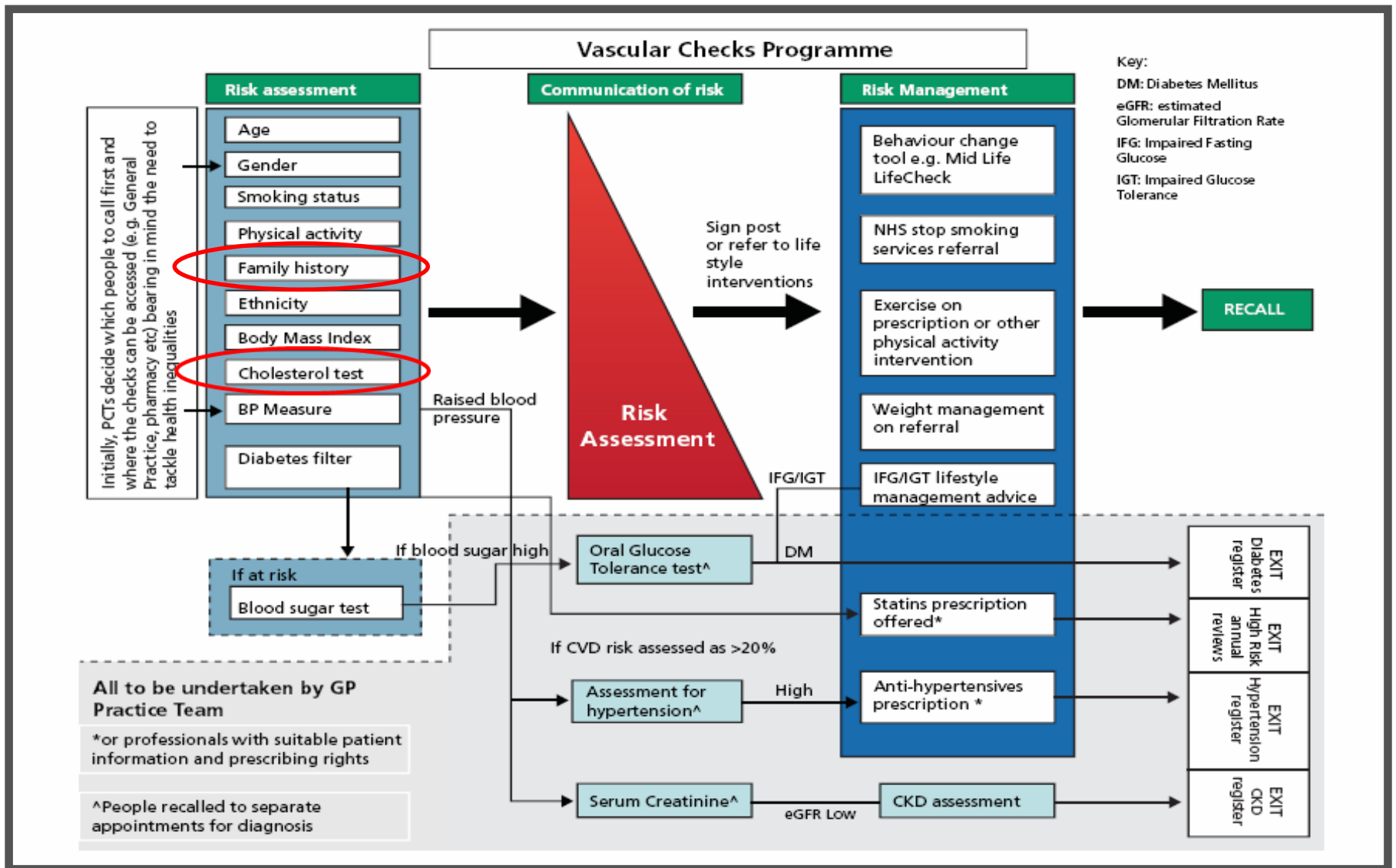
Heart disease

Diabetes

Kidney disease

**Free NHS Health Check**  
Helping you prevent heart disease, stroke,  
diabetes and kidney disease.





**Threshold:** There is no specific threshold for the vascular risk assessment and management programme or for primary prevention of vascular disease. However, if an individual's total cholesterol is **>7.5 mmol/l** it is important to consider familial hypercholesterolaemia – a genetic condition that causes a high cholesterol concentration in the blood – as set out in the NICE clinical guideline 71.

# Familial hypercholesterolaemia

Implementing NICE guidance

2008

NICE clinical guideline 71



## Identification of FH: Simon Broome diagnostic criteria (adults)

### Dx for possible FH:

- cholesterol > 7.5 mmol/l (LDL 4.9 mmol/l) **Computer Search**

& at least one of the following:

- **FHx of MI** < 50 years in second-degree relative, or < 60 years in first-degree relative OR
- **FHx of raised total cholesterol > 7.5 mmol/l** ( LDL 4.9 mmol/l\*) in adult first or second- degree relative OR > 6.7 mmol/l in child, brother or sister aged < 16 years.

**Family History Questionnaire**

# Identification and management of familial hypercholesterolaemia: what does it mean to primary care?

*Nadeem Qureshi, Steve E Humphries, Mary Seed, Philip Rowlands and Rubin Minhas, on behalf of the NICE Guideline Development Group*

## ABSTRACT

Familial hypercholesterolaemia is one of the most common dominantly inherited disorders to be identified in primary care, leading to raised serum cholesterol evident from the first year of life. Around 1 in 500 people are affected by this condition, but less than 15% of these are currently attending lipid clinics, suggesting that the vast majority are unrecognised in general practice. The recently released National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence evidence-based guideline on the identification and management of familial hypercholesterolaemia provides an opportunity to bridge this gap. Primary care has a role in systematic and opportunistic case finding, such as recognising the relevance of a family history of

## INTRODUCTION

This review summarises the recommendations that have an impact on primary care from the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) guideline on the identification and management of familial hypercholesterolaemia.<sup>1</sup> Familial hypercholesterolaemia is an inherited disorder leading to raised serum cholesterol evident from the first year of life. This may present with signs indicative of raised cholesterol levels such as tendon xanthomata, and, if untreated, the development of premature coronary heart disease (CHD). The disorder has an autosomal dominant mode of

## NICE Quality Standard for FH

Statement 1. Adults with a baseline total cholesterol above 7.5 mmol/l are **assessed for a clinical diagnosis** of familial hypercholesterolaemia (FH).

Statement 2. People with a clinical diagnosis of familial hypercholesterolaemia (FH) are **referred for specialist assessment.**

## How can identification of FH be enhanced in general practice?

### FAMCHOL Study

#### Objectives:

- Assess the feasibility of incorporating computerised patient specific reminders (PSRs) for FH if Chol > 7.5
- Evaluate the recruitment & retention of participants

# FAMCHOL study

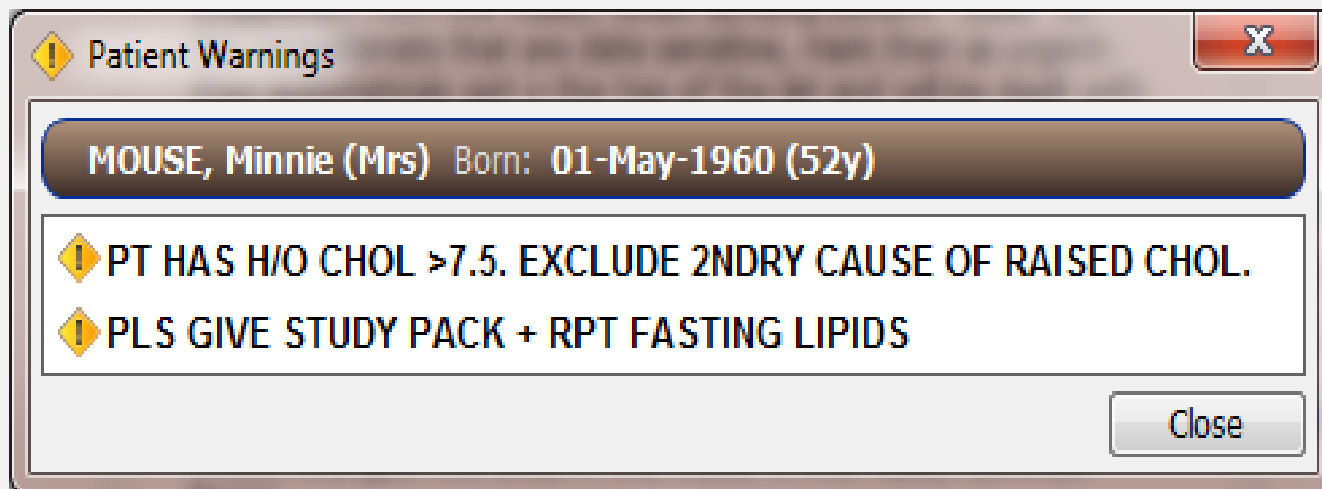
Feasibility of improving identification of familial hypercholesterolaemia  
in general practice: intervention development study



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## Patient specific reminders



# FAMCHOL study

Feasibility of improving identification of familial hypercholesterolaemia  
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<b>No. of eligible patients aged &gt; 18 years:</b>	<b>31377</b>
<b>No. with cholesterol &gt; 7.5 mmol/l:</b>	<b>927</b>
<b>No. participate in the study:</b>	<b>124 (13%)</b>
<b>No. of possible FH identified:</b>	<b>27 (3%)</b>
<b>Unclear if possible FH, due to lack of information on family history:</b>	<b>16</b>

# FAMCHOL study

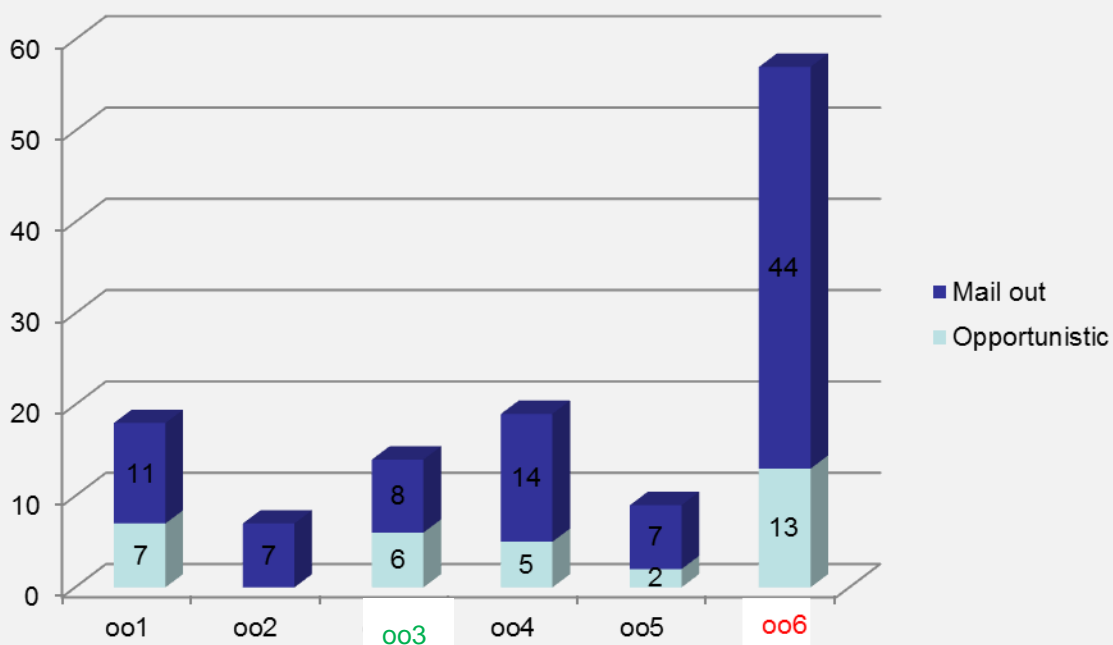
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## Practice recruitment



### Practice geographical area

001 – Inner city  
002 – Inner city  
003 – Suburban  
004 – Inner city  
005 – Inner city  
006 – Rural

### Total recruitment

Opportunistic	Mail out
33 (14%)	91 (10%)

Total = 124 (11%)

## Familial Hypercholesterolaemia CHART Audit

Total no. of eligible patients in Practice	2932
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No. of patients with Total Cholesterol > 7.5 ever	54
No. of those patients with Primary Cause recorded	11
No. of those patients with Secondary Cause recorded	15
No. of those patients with Possible Drug Cause recorded	15
No. of those patients with Thyroid or Diabetes Rx recorded	14
No. of those patients whose most recent cholesterol before 1/3/2013 < 4	5
No. of those patients with no primary exclusions	43

Potential participants	
No. of patients recruited	19
No. of patients with Latest Total Cholesterol > 7.5	9
No. of patients with Total Cholesterol in last 6 months	10
No. of patients with TSH recorded	20
No. of patients with Dietary Advice recorded	5
No. of patients with Weight Management advice recorded	0
No. of patients with GPPAQ exercise advice recorded	6
No. of patients with Smoking Cessation advice recorded	14
No. of patients with Statin prescribed	14

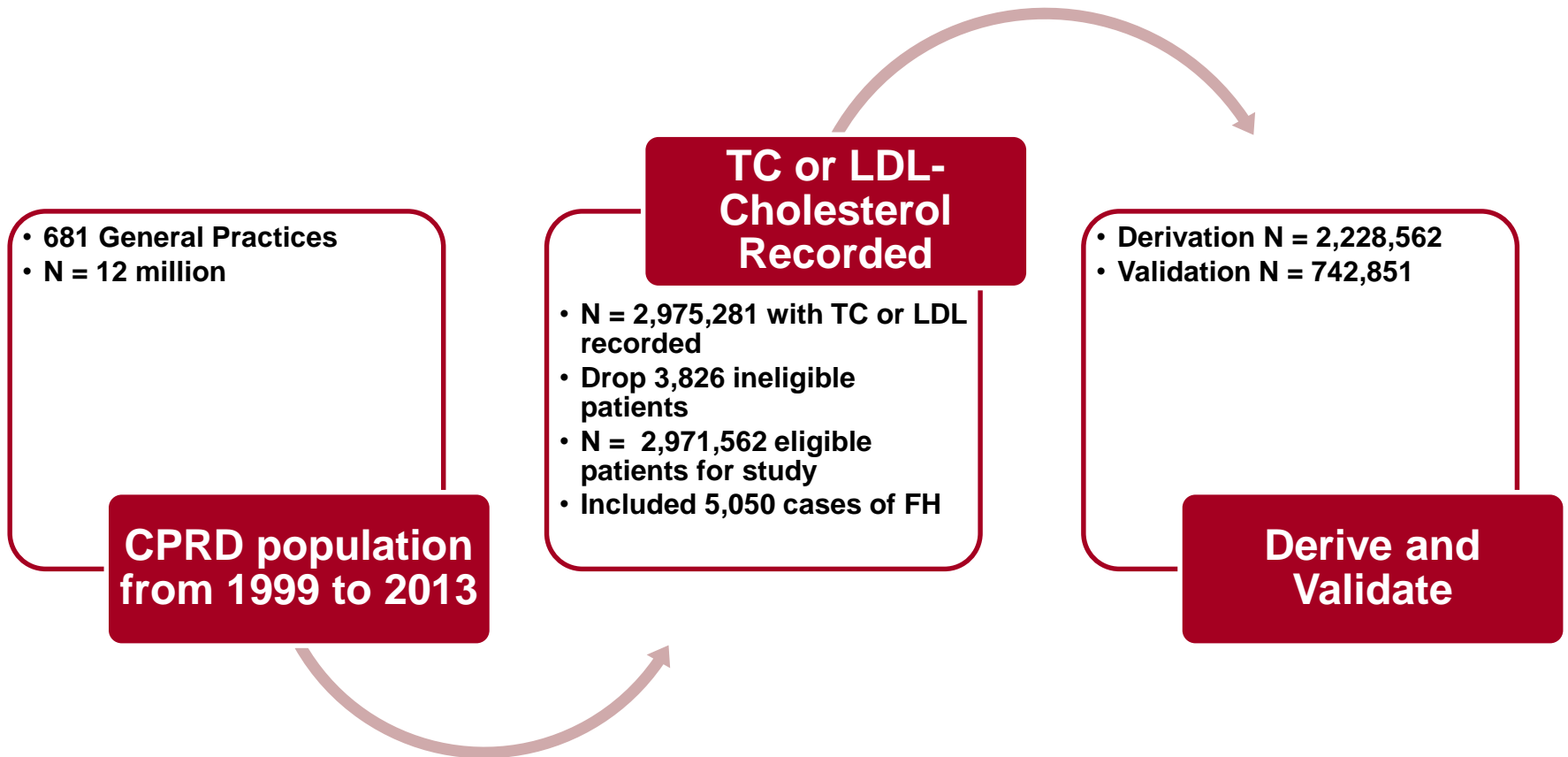
## Improving Identification of Familial Hypercholesterolemia in General Practice Computer Medical Records

### Rationale

(1) Current tools lack sensitivity and specificity → Results in both misdiagnosis and under-diagnosis → Misses 93,500 to 102,000 cases of FH who could benefit from lipid lowering treatment to reduce morbidity/mortality related to coronary heart disease

(2) From feasibility study large number of case identified using Serum Cholesterol > 7.5 filter: ? rationalise

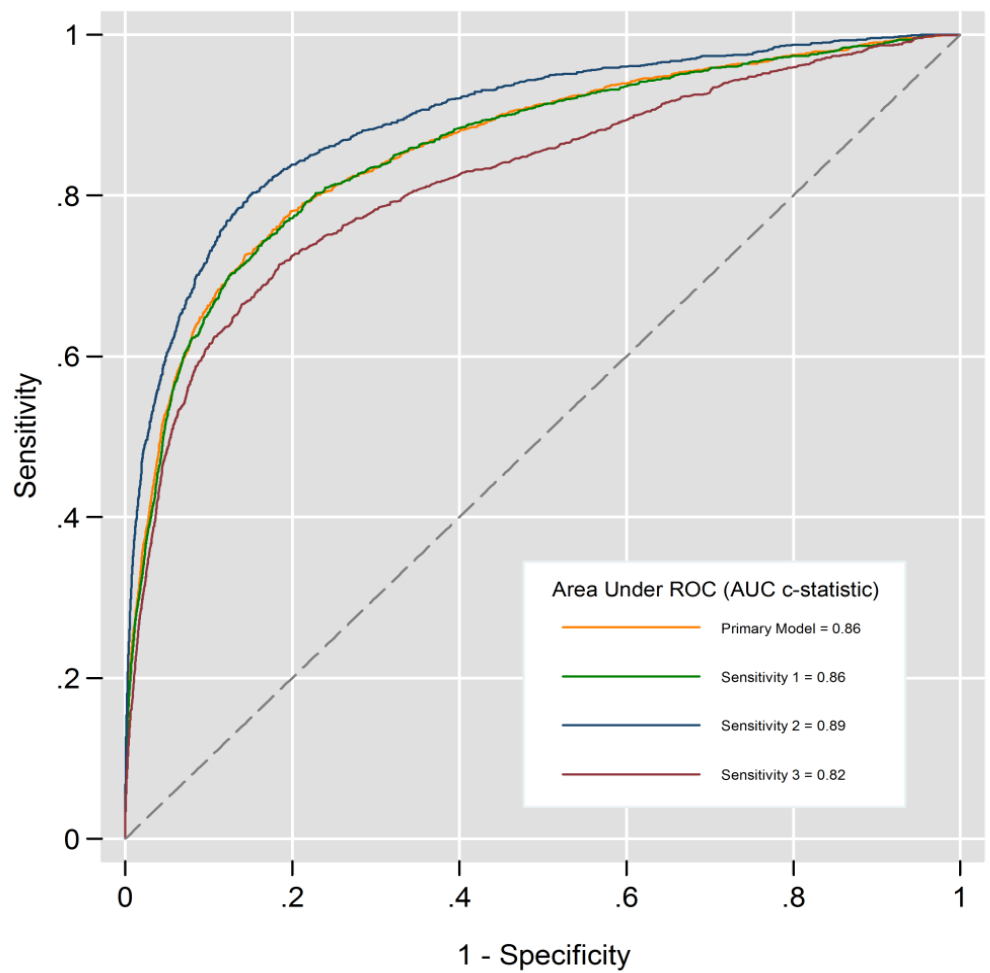
# Methodology



Diagnostic Variables	Adjusted Odds Ratio (AOR)	95% Confidence Interval	
		Lower Confidence Limit	Upper Confidence Limit
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	Ref	--	--
Female	1.24	1.16	1.33
<b>Highest TC or LDL recorded (mmol/L)</b>			
Ideal (TC ≤ 5 OR LDL ≤ 3.3)	Ref	--	--
High (TC > 5 to ≤ 6.5 OR LDL > 3.3 to ≤ 4.1)	2.60	2.26	3.00
Very High (TC > 6.5 to ≤ 7.5 OR LDL > 4.1 to ≤ 4.9)	8.29	7.17	9.59
Extremely High (TC > 7.5 OR LDL > 4.9)	42.74	37.24	49.07
<b>Age during cholesterol measurement (years)</b>	0.95	0.94	0.96
<b>Triglycerides during cholesterol measurement (mmol/L)</b>			
Ideal (< 1.7)	Ref	--	--
Borderline High (≥ 1.7 to < 2.3)	0.96	0.88	1.05
High (≥ 2.3 to < 5.6)	0.83	0.76	0.91
Very High (≥ 5.6)	0.68	0.57	0.82
Not Recorded	0.43	0.38	0.50
<b>Lipid lowering drug usage during cholesterol measurement</b>			
No lipid lowering drugs prescribed	Ref	--	--
Prescribed fibrate, bile acid sequestrant, or nicotinic acid	4.51	3.51	5.80
Prescribed low potency statins <sup>1</sup>	2.67	2.11	3.37
Prescribed medium potency statin <sup>2</sup>	3.98	3.53	4.48
Prescribed high potency statins <sup>3</sup>	8.30	7.31	9.43
<b>Family history of familial hypercholesterolemia</b>			
None recorded/No	Ref	--	--
Yes	9.13	8.12	10.26
<b>Family history of myocardial infarction</b>			
None recorded/No	Ref	--	--
Yes	1.81	1.61	2.05
<b>Family history of raised cholesterol</b>			
None recorded/No	Ref	--	--
Yes	3.20	2.75	3.72
<b>Any diagnosis of diabetes</b>			
No	Ref	--	--
Yes	0.37	0.32	0.42
<b>Any diagnosis of kidney disease</b>			
No	Ref	--	--
Yes	0.71	0.62	0.81
<sup>1</sup> Fluvastatin or Pravastatin ≤ 40 mg/day; Simvastatin ≤ 10 mg/day			
<sup>2</sup> Fluvastatin or Pravastatin 80 mg/day; Simvastatin 20 mg/day or 40 mg/day; Atorvastatin ≤ 10 mg/day; Rosuvastatin 5 mg			
<sup>3</sup> Simvastatin 80 mg; Atorvastatin ≥ 20 mg/day; Rosuvastatin ≥ 10 mg/day			

Model Performance	AUC c-statistic*	Standard Error+	95% Confidence Interval	R <sup>2</sup>
Primary Analysis				
Simon-Broome	0.749	0.007	0.735 - 0.763	0.105
FAMCAT	0.860	0.006	0.848 - 0.871	0.179
Sensitivity Analysis				
FAMCAT excluding secondary disease causes <sup>1</sup>	0.858	0.006	0.845 - 0.869	0.173
FAMCAT with comprehensive family history of MI <sup>2</sup>	0.894	0.005	0.884 - 0.904	0.232
FAMCAT excluding family history variables <sup>3</sup>	0.820	0.007	0.807 - 0.834	0.137

\*Harrell's c concordance index  
+Bootstrap standard errors using jack-knife procedure  
<sup>1</sup>Excluded kidney disease and diabetes  
<sup>2</sup>Assumes 80.3% of familial hypercholesterolemia cases and 9.3% of non-cases have positive family history of myocardial infarction  
<sup>3</sup>Excluded family history of myocardial infarction, raised cholesterol and familial hypercholesterolemia



M12345

Data extracted on 17/04/14 using Reference date 17/04/14

**PRIMIS**

JKJ

**CHART**  
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Nottingham  
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Total patients in practice	5296
Of which are aged 16-120	4459
Of which have a TC or LDL recording	1265

	Probability $\leq 1/1000$	Probability $\leq 1/500$ to $> 1/1000$	Probability $> 1/500$
<b>Total Number</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>110</b>
Men	485	61	39
Women	513	96	71

<b>Total Patients with TC <math>&gt; 7.5</math> mmol/L OR LDL above <math>&gt; 4.9</math> mmol/L</b>	1	0	29
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<b>Total Patients on lipid lowering drug treatment</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>45</b>
Patients on high potency statins	161	55	41
Patients on medium potency statins	55	7	4
Patients on low potency statins	7	0	0
Patients on other lipid lowering drugs	1	2	0

<b>Total patients with at least one of following family histories</b>	180	60	61
Patients with family history of myocardial infarction	180	60	57
Patients with family history of cholesterol	0	0	0
Patients with family history of familial hypercholesterolaemia	0	0	5

	Probability $\leq 1/1000$	Probability $\leq 1/500$ to $> 1/1000$	Probability $> 1/500$
<b>Total Men</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>39</b>
16-24	2	1	0
25-34	7	1	2
35-44	33	8	10
45-64	62	18	10
55-64	114	15	8
65-74	127	14	9
75-84	113	2	0
85 and over	27	2	0
<b>Total Women</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>71</b>
16-24	2	4	0
25-34	11	5	6
35-44	30	11	9
45-64	75	21	14
55-64	82	22	22
65-74	113	21	12
75-84	132	12	7
85 and over	68	0	1

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
	SEX CATEGORY	Latest TC Ever Code	Latest TC Ever Date	Latest TC Ever Value	Latest LDL Ever Date	TC/LDL AGE	Latest TC with TG on same day Code	Latest TC with TG on same day Date	Latest TG with TC on same day Value	Latest Family History of FH Code	Latest Family History of MI Code	Latest Family History of MI Date	Latest Family History of Raised Cholesterol Date	PROBABILITY	RELATIVE RISK ADJUSTER	RELATIVE RISK	
31 F		2 44P..	17/11/10	8.84			27 44P..	17/11/10	4.53					0.188845	0.002	94.42266	
63 F		2 44P..	24/08/11	8.58			60 44P..	24/08/11	1.21	12C5.	21/10/91			0.092296	0.002	46.14808	
65 F		2 44P..		7.79			0							0.054383	0.002	27.19165	
71 F		2 44P..	22/08/11	8.01			68 44P..	22/08/11	3.50	12C3.	28/03/99			0.046856	0.002	23.42786	
52 F		2 44P..	28/04/11	8.15			49 44P..	28/04/11	5.72					0.04579	0.002	22.89522	
54 F		2 44P..	24/08/11	7.18			51 44P..	24/08/11	1.92	12C2.	05/03/99			0.025384	0.002	12.69222	
65 M		1 44P..	26/01/11	7.97			61 44P..	26/01/11	1.01					0.019205	0.002	9.602442	
46 F		2 44P..	20/06/11	7.61			43 44P..	20/06/11	1.54					0.01601	0.002	8.004763	
50 F		2 44P..	27/03/11	7.57			47 44P..	27/03/11	1.02					0.01316	0.002	6.580149	
63 F		2 44P..	02/02/11	7.64			59 44P..	02/02/11	1.86	12C2.	08/02/99			0.012431	0.002	6.215609	
51 F		2 44P..	14/06/10	7.71			47 44P..	14/06/10	2.01					0.0121	0.002	6.050047	
33 M		1 44P..	12/11/08	7.99			27							0.011849	0.002	5.924334	
47 F		2 44P..	14/08/11	7.92			44 44P..	14/08/11	3.20					0.011453	0.002	5.72631	
55 F		2 44P..		6.57			0							0.010467	0.002	5.233504	
68 F		2 44P..	30/06/11	7.66			65 44P..	30/06/11	1.49	12C2.	15/05/00			0.010077	0.002	5.038383	
69 F		2 44P..	25/04/11	7.54			66 44P..	25/04/11	1.23	12C5.	22/04/11			0.009595	0.002	4.797475	
59 F		2 44P..	23/08/09	6.65	23/08/09		54 44P..	23/08/09	1.54					0.009339	0.002	4.669691	
59 M		1 44P..	07/10/01	8.56			46			12C3.	24/10/10			0.008639	0.002	4.319333	
78 F		2 44P..	22/02/11	6.88			75 44P..	22/02/11	1.33	12C5.	22/05/10			0.008519	0.002	4.25929	
28 F		2 44P..	21/03/10	5.75			24 44P..	21/03/10	0.77			19/08/09		0.008144	0.002	4.071887	
51 M		1 44P..	08/12/10	6.08			47 44P..	08/12/10	1.90	12C5.	19/05/09			0.007935	0.002	3.967395	
56 M		1 44P..	12/05/10	7.71			52 44P..	12/05/10	1.80					0.007747	0.002	3.873318	
42 F		2 44P..	06/09/10	6.26			38 44P..	06/09/10	0.70	12C3.	29/12/01	03/09/02		0.007586	0.002	3.792835	
59 F		2 44P..	25/01/10	7.54			54 44P..	25/01/10	2.59					0.007017	0.002	3.508268	
57 F		2 44P..	16/04/11	6.01			54 44P..	16/04/11	2.19	12C5.	07/07/08			0.006884	0.002	3.442246	
75 F		2 44P..	22/08/11	7.60			72 44P..	22/08/11	2.02	12C3.	28/12/02			0.006575	0.002	3.287507	
28 F		2 44P..	09/11/09	6.56			23			12C5.	04/11/09			0.006273	0.002	3.136585	
37 M		1 44P..	22/02/08	7.28			33 44P..	22/02/08	2.62	12C3.	07/07/08			0.006003	0.002	3.001570	

Graph to show the pattern of FH quality over time

