

1 **Genome-wide association analysis reveals insights into the genetic**  
2 **architecture of right ventricular structure and function**

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39 Word count: 5,901

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42 **Abstract**

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45 Right ventricular (RV) structure and function play a key role in mediating the morbidity and  
46 mortality from coronary artery disease (CAD), dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM), pulmonary  
47 hypertension and heart failure. No previous study has evaluated the genetic basis of RV  
48 measurements. We perform genome-wide association analyses of four clinically relevant RV  
49 phenotypes (RV end-diastolic volume, RV end-systolic volume, RV stroke volume, RV  
50 ejection fraction) from cardiovascular magnetic resonance images, using a state-of-the-art  
51 deep learning algorithm in 29,506 UK Biobank participants. We identify 25 unique loci  
52 associated with at least one RV phenotype at  $P < 2.27 \times 10^{-8}$ . In a combined meta-analysis ( $N$   
53  $= 41,830$ ), 17 out of 25 loci are validated. Of these, 10 loci are not known to be associated  
54 with left ventricular phenotypes. Several candidate genes overlap with Mendelian  
55 cardiomyopathy genes and are involved in cardiac muscle contraction and cellular adhesion.  
56 The RV polygenic risk scores are associated with DCM, CAD and hypothyroidism. The  
57 findings represent a significant advance in our understanding of the genetic underpinning of  
58 RV measurements.

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## 62 **Introduction**

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64 The vital role of cardiac right ventricular (RV) structure and function in congestive heart  
65 failure, arrhythmia, pulmonary hypertension and sudden death is increasingly recognised<sup>1-5</sup>.

66 The RV ejection fraction is an independent predictor of morbidity and mortality in the  
67 settings of acute myocardial infarction, ischaemic cardiomyopathy and all-cause heart  
68 failure<sup>6-11</sup>. Reduction in RV longitudinal function is associated with an increased risk of  
69 mortality or cardiac transplantation in patients with myocarditis<sup>12</sup>. In non-ischaemic dilated  
70 cardiomyopathy (DCM), RV end-diastolic and end-systolic volumes and RV ejection fraction  
71 are predictive of heart failure hospitalisation and death<sup>13,14</sup>. RV hypertrophy has been  
72 associated with heart failure or death in a multi-ethnic population free of clinical  
73 cardiovascular disease at baseline<sup>15</sup> and RV longitudinal function has been found to predict  
74 cardiovascular death in the general population<sup>16</sup>, even after adjusting for the corresponding  
75 LV parameters.

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77 Morphologically, the right ventricle possesses a complex anatomy which appears triangular  
78 when viewed laterally and semi-lunar when viewed in cross-section<sup>17</sup>. Functionally, the main  
79 purpose of right ventricle is to propel systemic venous blood into the low-resistance  
80 pulmonary circulation. Despite the physiological and clinical significance of RV structure  
81 and function, there is a dearth of data on the genetic basis of RV imaging measurements.

82 Previous studies investigating the genetic architecture of ventricular imaging traits focused  
83 solely on the left ventricle<sup>18-22</sup>. The major obstacle to accurate phenotyping in large studies is  
84 the complexity of RV geometry which defies conventional assessment with two-dimensional  
85 echocardiography. As a result, there has been no evidence to-date from a large-scale genome-

86 wide analysis of RV imaging phenotype. Cardiovascular magnetic resonance (CMR) imaging  
87 is considered as the gold standard for comprehensive evaluation of the right heart due to its  
88 superior image quality and reproducibility<sup>23</sup> and the lack of geometric assumptions compared  
89 to conventional echocardiography. The absence of ionising radiation in CMR compared to  
90 multidetector computed tomography also makes it ideal for large-scale population studies.  
91 The UK Biobank, one of the largest population imaging studies, has acquired both high-  
92 quality standardised CMR examinations and dense genotype data, offering a tremendous  
93 opportunity to investigate the as-yet-unknown genetic determinants of RV parameters.

94

95 In this study, we aim to investigate the genetic basis of four clinically relevant and  
96 prognostically important RV imaging phenotypes (RV end-diastolic volume [RVEDV], RV  
97 end-systolic volume [RVESV], RV stroke volume [RVSV] and RV ejection fraction  
98 [RVEF]). We report single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP)-based heritability estimates of  
99 19% to 34% and a total of 46 locus-trait associations (25 unique loci) associated with RV  
100 structure and function. The RV GWAS loci are enriched in the components of cell adhesion  
101 and several putative candidate genes associated with RV phenotypes are linked to inherited  
102 cardiomyopathy and intra-cellular calcium handling. The phenome-wide scanning with RV  
103 polygenic risk scores shows associations with DCM, ischaemic heart disease and  
104 hypothyroidism. Overall, this study substantially enhances our knowledge of the genetic  
105 underpinning of RV structure and function and underscores their shared genetic architecture  
106 with intrinsic heart muscle disease and arrhythmia development.

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## 108 **Results**

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### 110 **Derivation of high-quality RV phenotypes enabled by deep learning**

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112 A total of 32,581 CMR studies were available at the time of analysis. The first 5,065 studies  
113 were manually segmented by eight human analysts to create a reference dataset for four RV  
114 structural and functional phenotypes (RVEDV, RVESV, RVSV and RVEF). This expert-  
115 annotated dataset was used to train a deep fully convolutional neural network with a U-net  
116 like architecture<sup>24,25</sup>, which subsequently performed automatic segmentation of the remaining  
117 27,516 CMR studies (Methods). Both manual and automatic techniques produced highly  
118 accurate and reproducible RV segmentation and derived measurements as indicated by their  
119 Dice scores and intra-class correlation coefficients (ICC) (manual Dice = 0.87, manual ICC:  
120 0.77-0.92 and automatic Dice = 0.90, automatic ICC: 0.90-0.96)<sup>26,24</sup>. Following the exclusion  
121 of poor image quality and sample quality-control procedures, 29,506 European participants  
122 free from a diagnosis of myocardial infarction or heart failure remained (Supplementary Fig.  
123 1). The average age of the cohort at the time of imaging visit was 63 years and 47% were  
124 men. The mean values of RVEDV, RVESV, RVSV and RVEF were 157 ml, 68 ml, 89 ml  
125 and 57 %, respectively (Supplementary Table 1 and Supplementary Fig. 2). An overview of  
126 study design is presented in Fig. 1.

127

## 128 **Heritability and genotypic correlation**

129

130 We estimated the proportion of RV phenotypic variation attributable to the genotypes (also  
131 known as SNP-based heritability) by the variance component analysis (Methods). The RV  
132 structural and functional measurements were moderately heritable with SNP-based  
133 heritability of 31% for RVEDV, 34% for RVESV, 19% for RVSV and 21% for RVEF. The  
134 magnitude of genotypic correlation ( $r_g$ ) between the RV phenotypes was moderate to high for  
135 all traits except for the correlation between RVEDV and RVEF ( $r_g = -0.13$ ). The strongest

136 positive genotypic correlation was observed between RVEDV and RVSV ( $r_g = 0.83$ ) and the  
137 strongest negative genotypic correlation was found between RVESV and RVEF ( $r_g = -0.67$ ).  
138 The overall pattern of RV genotypic correlations closely mirrored the corresponding  
139 phenotypic correlations (Supplementary Fig. 3).

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#### 141 **Genomic loci associated with RV phenotypes**

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143 The conventional single-trait genome-wide association analyses were conducted in ~ 9.9  
144 million variants with minor allele frequency (MAF) <sup>3</sup> 0.01 and INFO score > 0.3.

145 Additionally, to leverage on the increased statistical power afforded by highly correlated RV  
146 phenotypes, we performed paired multi-trait analyses using the single-trait GWAS summary  
147 statistics. Specifically, RVEDV was paired with RVSV and RVESV was paired with RVEF.

148 The single-trait and multi-trait analyses yielded a total of a total of 46 susceptibility loci – 12  
149 loci for RVEDV, 14 loci for RVESV, 5 loci for RVSV and 15 loci for RVEF – at  $P < 2.27 \times$   
150  $10^{-8}$  (conventional GWAS P value  $5 \times 10^{-8}$  divided by 2.2, effective number of tests for  
151 correlated RV phenotypes) (Table 1 and Fig. 2). Out of 46 loci, 34 loci were discovered by  
152 single trait analyses and the remaining 12 loci were obtained from joint multi-trait analyses.

153 The LocusZoom region plots for all RV loci are depicted in Supplementary Fig. 4. Twelve  
154 loci (*TTN*, *ATXN2*, *PTPN11*, *ACTN4*, *RBL2*, *LUC7L2*, *AK097794*, *BAG3*, *GOSR2*, *SLC6A6*,  
155 *OBSCN*, *FHOD3*) were shared across more than one RV phenotype at our pre-defined  
156 GWAS P value ( $2.27 \times 10^{-8}$ ) resulting in 25 unique loci (Supplementary Fig. 5). Furthermore,  
157 all loci except for *SVIL* and *CCDC85C* for RVEF were associated with at least one other RV  
158 phenotype at a suggestive significant  $P < 1 \times 10^{-5}$  (Supplementary Table 2), reflecting the  
159 strength of underlying phenotypic and genetic correlations. There was no evidence of  
160 confounding from population stratification or cryptic relatedness in our GWASs as

161 demonstrated by low genomic inflation factor ( $\lambda = 1.071 - 1.102$ ), small LD score regression  
162 intercept (1.00 – 1.01) and the quantile-quantile plots (Supplementary Fig. 6). The lead  
163 variants explained a small proportion of trait variance ( $R^2$  for RVEDV: 0.41%, RVESV:  
164 0.96%, RVSV: 0.30%, RVEF: 1.48%). The clumping procedure at linkage disequilibrium  
165 (LD)  $r^2 < 0.1$  in each genomic locus produced independent variants for several loci as  
166 indicated in the footnote of Table 1.

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168 Meta-analysis of RV loci

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170 We sought validation of the RV loci in the new UK Biobank sample which became available  
171 at the end of our discovery analysis ( $N_{\max} = 11,073$ ) and Multi-Ethnic Study of  
172 Atherosclerosis (MESA) ( $N$  European ancestry = 1,251). We performed a meta-analysis  
173 combining the association summary statistics from the discovery analysis, the new UK  
174 Biobank sample and MESA, in a total of up to 41,830 individuals. In this analysis, 17 out of  
175 25 unique loci achieved validation by attaining genome-wide significance at  $P_{\text{meta-analysis}} <$   
176  $5 \times 10^{-8}$  (Table 1 and Supplementary Table 3). Four out of five loci highly specific to RV  
177 phenotypic variations (*OBSCN*, *PALLD*, *AK311445*, *SVIL*) were validated by the meta-  
178 analysis. The lead variant of *CCDC85C* locus (rs79884713) which failed to achieve  
179 validation ( $P_{\text{meta-analysis}} = 1.8 \times 10^{-4}$ ) tags few LD proxies (Supplementary Fig. 4.4) and the  
180 genes in this locus were not convincingly supported by our subsequent bioinformatic  
181 analyses.

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183 **Shared genetic architecture with known LV loci**

184

185 No prior study had investigated the genetic architecture of RV imaging phenotypes; hence,  
186 all genetic loci reported in this study are new observations. However, due to interdependent  
187 nature of LV and RV chambers and the importance of RV remodelling in the context of left  
188 heart disease, we first sought to quantify the strength of their genetic correlations by LD  
189 score regression using our RV summary statistics and the summary data from a recently  
190 published LV GWAS<sup>22</sup>. The LV and RV imaging phenotypes were highly correlated except  
191 for the relationships between functional traits (RV and LV stroke volume and ejection  
192 fraction) where negligible genetic correlation was observed (Supplementary Fig. 7). We then  
193 looked up our RV lead variants in the published GWAS data of CMR-derived LV phenotypes  
194 to identify common genetic loci. The lead variants at 7 RV loci (*TTN*, *SLC6A6*, *PTPN11*,  
195 *BAG3*, *ATXN2*, *SLC35F1* and *CLCNKA*) were also associated with CMR LV phenotypes at  $P$   
196  $< 5 \times 10^{-8}$  (Supplementary Table 4). Additionally, 4 RV loci (*AK097794*, *GOSR2*, *TPM2* and  
197 *FHOD3*) were associated with at least one LV imaging phenotype at a suggestive  $P < 1 \times 10^{-5}$ .  
198 The remaining 6 loci (*AK311445*, *HSPA4*, *OBSCN*, *PALLD*, *PLEC*, *SVIL*) did not have  
199 strong evidence of association with LV phenotypes.

200

### 201 **Pleiotropic associations with other complex traits**

202

203 We interrogated the PhenoScanner database<sup>27</sup> to explore pleiotropic associations between our  
204 lead variants (and their close proxies at  $LD\ r^2 \geq 0.8$ ) and other complex traits. Variants in 8  
205 loci (*TTN*, *BAG3*, *ATXN2*, *PTPN11*, *GOSR2*, *SLC35F1*, *PLEC* and *HSPA4*) were associated  
206 with several traits including cardiovascular risk factors and disease phenotypes (Fig. 3). To  
207 highlight a few relevant associations, our GWAS variant in the *BAG3* locus (rs2234962) has  
208 been implicated in DCM and the variants in *ATXN2* and *PTPN11* loci have multiple  
209 pleiotropic relationships with CAD and risk factors such as hypertension, diabetes mellitus



210 and lipids (Supplementary Table 5). We observed variants at 2 loci to be associated with CV  
211 traits only (*TTN* and *GOSR2*). Four RV loci (*OBSCN*, *PALLD*, *AK311445*, *SVIL*) showed  
212 very limited evidence of association with other traits including LV phenotypes, thus,  
213 appeared more specific to the RV phenotypes (Supplementary Fig. 8).

214

### 215 **Functional annotation of variants**

216

217 The RV GWAS loci harboured a total of 2756 candidate variants in 99% credible sets (2.1%  
218 exonic variants, 47% intronic variants, 31% intergenic variants, and the remainder are non-  
219 coding RNA, untranslated, upstream and downstream variants). Four exonic variants were  
220 predicted to be damaging by two or more in-silico prediction tools. These variants are  
221 rs16866380 in the *TTN* gene, rs10497529 in the *CCDC141* gene, rs2234962 in the *BAG3*  
222 gene and rs34674752 in the *SHARPIN* gene. Among the non-coding variants, 25 variants  
223 were considered functionally important according to RegulomeDB<sup>28</sup> or Combined  
224 Annotation Dependent Depletion (CADD) score<sup>29</sup>. The eCaviar<sup>30</sup> colocalisation analysis,  
225 which uses the gene expression data in cardiovascular tissues, detected at least one causal  
226 variant in 16 out of 17 validated RV loci. The putative causal variant differed from the lead  
227 variant in the majority (72%) of cases (Table 1). The functional characteristics of GWAS  
228 variants are outlined comprehensively in Supplementary Table 6. We next investigated the  
229 enrichment of our GWAS loci in a wide spectrum of known biological annotations using the  
230 DEPICT<sup>31</sup> (Data-driven Expression Prioritized Integration for Complex Traits) framework. In  
231 this analysis, the GWAS summary statistics for each RV phenotype at  $P < 1 \times 10^{-5}$  was  
232 inputted into the software. Enrichment in the components of cell adhesion (in particular cell-  
233 substrate junctions that anchors cells to the extracellular matrix) was observed at false  
234 discovery rate  $< 0.05$  for RVEDV and RVSV (Supplementary Table 7).

235

## 236 **Candidate gene identification**

237

238 We sought to identify candidate genes influencing RV phenotypic variation using an  
239 integrative approach supported by multiple lines of evidence. Based on the downstream  
240 analysis of the discovery GWAS summary statistics, eight genes were prioritised by the  
241 presence of damaging non-synonymous variants, 44 and 37 genes were identified by  
242 transcriptome-wide analysis of predicted gene expression and splicing, respectively, in S-  
243 MultiXcan<sup>32</sup> (Supplementary Tables 8-9), 32 genes were associated with alteration of  
244 myocardial phenotypes in mouse knockout models, 28 were discovered by the long-range  
245 chromatin interaction analyses (Supplementary Table 10) and 129 were identified by position  
246 ( $\pm$  100kb of the lead variant). The gene-based analysis in MAGMA<sup>33</sup> (Multi-marker Analysis  
247 of GenoMic Annotation) which also incorporates rare variants by burden scoring identified  
248 59 additional genes (Supplementary Table 11) including *CAV3* and *MYH6* (both associated  
249 with RVSV), two well-known causative genes for familial hypertrophic cardiomyopathy  
250 (HCM). In total, 221 candidate genes were mapped as detailed in Supplementary Table 12.  
251 Some notable candidate genes include *FHOD3*, *MYL4* and *TMEM43* known to be associated  
252 with inherited cardiovascular disease.

253

254 The functional profiling of prioritised genes in the 17 validated RV loci using g:Profiler  
255 revealed enrichment in the biological pathways associated with cardiac morphogenesis,  
256 structural constituents of heart muscle, cardiac muscle contraction and adrenergic signalling  
257 in cardiomyocytes (Fig. 4 and Supplementary Table 13).

258

## 259 **Phenome-wide association study (PheWAS)**

260

261 We investigated the relationships between weighted polygenic risk scores (PRSs) constructed  
262 from the lead and secondary variants of the validated loci for each RV phenotype and 1041  
263 disease phenotypes derived predominantly from the hospital episodes data. The PheWASs  
264 showed significant associations with ischaemic heart disease, myocardial infarction,  
265 primary/intrinsic cardiomyopathy and heart failure (Supplementary Table 14). A strong  
266 signal of association was noted between RVEF PRS and non-ischaemic DCM (odds ratio  
267 0.70, 95% confidence interval: 0.64 – 0.77, adjusted  $P = 5.64 \times 10^{-12}$ , per 1 standard deviation  
268 increase in PRS) (Fig. 5). Interestingly, beyond the circulatory system, a negative association  
269 was identified between the genetic risk scores of RVEDV, RVESV and RVSV and  
270 hypothyroidism, which may reflect the perturbation in preload and cardiac output often seen  
271 in this condition<sup>34</sup>.

272

## 273 **Discussion**

274

275 This is the first study to examine the genetic determinants of clinically relevant RV structural  
276 and functional phenotypes, robustly derived from high-quality CMR examinations. Both  
277 single-trait genome-wide association and multi-trait joint analyses were conducted using ~9.9  
278 million common genetic variants obtained from ~29,000 individuals free from pre-existing  
279 heart failure or myocardial infarction. This approach yielded a total of 25 unique loci (46  
280 locus-trait associations) for RV structure and function. A follow-up European ancestry meta-  
281 analysis ( $N_{\max} = 41,830$ ) validated 17 out of 25 loci, 10 were not previously known to be  
282 associated with LV phenotypes. The discovered GWAS loci are enriched in the processes of  
283 cell-matrix adhesion. Extensive multi-layered bioinformatic annotations identified candidate  
284 genes involved in inherited cardiomyopathy and muscle contraction. The phenome-wide

285 association scanning with RV polygenic scores demonstrated the relationships between  
286 genetically determined RV structure and function and ischaemic heart disease, non-ischaemic  
287 dilated cardiomyopathy and heart failure, further underscoring the prognostic importance of  
288 RV imaging phenotypes.

289

290 Prior to this study, little was known about the heritability and genetic basis of RV  
291 measurements primarily due to difficulties in imaging the complex geometry. Delineation of  
292 RV cavity to extract quantitative phenotypes such as RV volume is equally challenging and  
293 requires experienced analysts to perform a time-consuming annotation process called  
294 segmentation. In this study, acquisition of highly standardised CMR images coupled with the  
295 state-of-the-art automatic segmentation technique revolutionised by deep learning permitted  
296 characterisation of the genetic architecture of clinically relevant RV measurements and  
297 provided novel biological insights. Firstly, our investigations found that a significant  
298 proportion of RV phenotypic variability is explained by the underlying genetics as indicated  
299 by heritability estimates ranging from 19% to 34%. The RV phenotypic and genotypic  
300 correlations are strong and almost identical in magnitude. There is a very high level of  
301 genetic overlap between four RV phenotypes, reflecting their intimate physiological  
302 relationship.

303

304 A large proportion of the RV loci were associated with previously reported loci for LV  
305 imaging phenotypes, an expected finding due to the interdependent nature LV and RV  
306 chambers and their strong genetic correlations as indicated by the LD score regression  
307 analysis. This observation reinforces the rationale for investigating the genetic basis of RV  
308 phenotypes as a complementary gateway to understanding the drivers of LV remodelling  
309 which is more strongly linked with adverse outcomes. Furthermore, some RV GWAS loci

310 showed evidence of pleiotropic associations polygenic traits such as hypertension (e.g.,  
311 *GOSR2* locus for RVEDV, RVESV and RVEF), highlighting the shared genetic pathway  
312 influencing cardiovascular physiology and morphology. *GOSR2* a candidate gene at this  
313 locus encodes a vesicle docking protein, and recent functional studies validate its importance  
314 in cardiovascular development. Knockout studies in fish indicate numerous abnormalities  
315 including abnormal heart morphology and reverse looped heart<sup>35</sup>. Lahm and colleagues have  
316 reported a variant in high LD ( $r^2 > 0.8$ ) with our lead variant associated with congenital heart  
317 disease, and differences in gene expression between human fetal and adult tissues, indicating  
318 a possible role for *GOSR2* in cardiac development<sup>36</sup>.

319

320 At loci demonstrating some RV specificity in our analysis sample there are candidate genes  
321 with an important role in myocyte integrity and cell anchoring. *SVIL* (supervillin) binds the  
322 actin cytoskeleton and the plasma membrane and has been shown to regulate cell adhesion,  
323 cytokinesis and cell motility<sup>37</sup>. Loss of function *SVIL* mutations have been associated with  
324 the development of a type of skeletal myopathy with cardiac manifestations<sup>37</sup>. The *OBSCN*  
325 (Obscurin) gene in the *OBSCN* locus for RVESV and RVEF encodes a giant myofibrillar  
326 protein which mediates cellular adhesion and support sarcolemmal integrity<sup>38</sup>. Mutations in  
327 this gene had been shown to result in perturbation of calcium cycling and spontaneous  
328 arrhythmia<sup>39</sup>. *PALLD* (palladin) encodes a cytoskeletal protein that functions as a scaffolding  
329 molecule and is important for actin polymerization and assembly and has a role in cell  
330 morphology, motility and adhesion<sup>40</sup>. On the whole, our results suggest the involvement of  
331 protein complexes regulating the cell-matrix junction in RV remodelling in individuals  
332 without overt cardiac disease. This finding is somewhat analogous to the mutations in  
333 desmosomes (intercellular adhesives) associated with arrhythmogenic right ventricular  
334 cardiomyopathy (ARVC)<sup>41</sup>, an extreme Mendelian form of RV disease.

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There is a preponderance of Mendelian genes implicated in the pathogenesis of inherited cardiomyopathy at the RV loci. Beyond well-recognised cardiomyopathy-associated genes such as *TTN* and *BAG3*, we identified several other candidate genes associated with RV phenotypes (*FHOD3*, *MYH6*, *MYL4*, *TMEM43*) linked to heart muscle disease and arrhythmia. The *FHOD3* (Formin Homology 2 Domain Containing 3) gene in the *FHOD3* locus for RVESV and RVEF is involved in actin filament polymerisation during myofibrillogenesis<sup>42</sup> and is required for post-natal development and maintenance of the adult mouse heart<sup>43</sup>. A missense mutation (rs2303510) with G to A allele polymorphism was found to be protective of sporadic DCM in an exome-wide association study<sup>44</sup>. In our GWAS, the same variant was associated with smaller RVESV suggesting a protective effect. *MYH6* identified by the MAGMA analysis for RVSV and *MYL4* indicated by the sQTL and MAGMA analyses for RVESV are genes that encode proteins in the subunits of cardiac muscle myosin. Mutations in *MYH6* cause familial HCM and DCM<sup>45</sup>. *MYL4* encodes atrial-selective essential myosin light chain and has been implicated in familial atrial fibrillation<sup>46</sup>. Lastly, the *TMEM43* gene in the *SLC6A6* locus for RVESV and RVEF is a known causative gene for a fully penetrant, high risk subtype of arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC)<sup>47</sup>. These results support the role of RV imaging measurements as intermediate endophenotypes which share a genetic relationship with inherited cardiac conditions. Interestingly, other known ARVC genes such as *PKP2*, *DSG2*, *JUP*, *DSP* and *DSC2* were not prioritised by our analyses. The culprit pathogenic variants in these genes are often ultra-rare in a general population. As such, our GWAS of common variants (MAF  $\geq$  0.01) is not designed to identify such variants. Future exome-wide association studies a large sample may shine light on how these genes modulate RV phenotypic variation.

360 The association between RV structural and functional adaptation and worse heart failure  
361 outcomes in both ischaemic and non-ischaemic cardiomyopathy has been reported  
362 previously<sup>6,7,13</sup>. Although there is a paucity of data pertaining to RV parameters among the  
363 general population, large prospective studies of individuals free from clinical cardiovascular  
364 disease have reported associations between RVEF and RV mass and increased incidence of  
365 heart failure as well as between RV function and increased risk of cardiovascular death<sup>15,16</sup>.  
366 Our phenome-wide association analyses using RV PRSs shed light on the linkage between  
367 genetically determined RV phenotypic variation and the incidence of all-cause heart failure  
368 and non-ischaemic DCM. Specifically, higher genetically determined RVEF was associated  
369 with lower rates of hospitalisation for congestive heart failure and DCM, which further  
370 reinforced the importance of right ventricle in maintaining efficient circulatory physiology.  
371 This observation is overall concordant with the study by Bai et al.<sup>48</sup> which investigated the  
372 associations between cardiac imaging measurements and a wide range of outcomes including  
373 cardiac diseases.

374

375 We acknowledge some limitations in our study. Our study is of European descent and  
376 validation of our findings in more diverse cohorts is needed to assess their applicability to  
377 non-European populations. Furthermore, although we have demonstrated statistical support  
378 for the loci which are highly specific for RV phenotypic variation, future experimental  
379 studies using gene-editing techniques such as CRISPR in cellular and animal models are  
380 required to fully validate the functional significance of highlighted candidate genes and  
381 mechanisms modulating RV structure and function.

382

## 383 **Conclusion**

384

385 In this first genome-wide association study to-date of CMR-derived RV phenotypes, we  
386 report 17 genetic loci validated in a combined meta-analysis; highlight the role of cellular  
387 adhesion in determining RV phenotypic variation and indicate candidate genes linked to  
388 inherited cardiomyopathy. Altogether, the findings represent a significant advance in our  
389 understanding of the genetic architecture of RV phenotypes in a general population and  
390 provides a foundation to characterise the genetic drivers of RV remodelling in the future.

391

## 392 **Methods**

393

### 394 Study cohort

395

396 The discovery analysis was performed in the UK Biobank study. The UK Biobank is a large  
397 population-based prospective cohort study which has collected a wealth of information on  
398 health and lifestyle data, physical measurements, biological samples, and cardiac imaging  
399 phenotypes derived from CMR. This ambitious project aims to provide resources to  
400 disentangle the genetic and environmental determinants of complex diseases affecting middle  
401 and old age. The study protocol has been described in detail previously<sup>49</sup>.

402

### 403 Derivation of RV phenotypes

404

405 Four RV parameters (RVEDV, RVESV, RVSV and RVEF) were measured from the short-  
406 axis SSFP cine images of UK Biobank CMR studies acquired using 1.5 Tesla scanners. The  
407 full CMR study protocol has been published previously<sup>50</sup>. In brief, the short-axis cine images  
408 were acquired using balanced steady-state free precession (bSSFP) sequence with typical  
409 parameters of TR/TE = 2.6/1.1 ms, flip angle 80°, Grappa factor 2, slice thickness 8mm, slice



410 gap 2mm, voxel size 1.8 mm × 1.8 mm × 8 mm. The actual temporal resolution of 32 ms was  
411 interpolated to 50 phases per cardiac cycle (~20 ms).

412

413 A combination of manual segmentation and automatic annotation with a deep learning  
414 algorithm was used to extract the measurements as previously described<sup>24</sup>. In brief, the short  
415 axis cine images of the first 5,065 UK Biobank CMR studies were manually segmented by  
416 eight analysts in two core laboratories using a pre-defined standard operating procedure<sup>26</sup>.  
417 After removing poor quality images, the remaining 4,875 manually annotated studies were  
418 used to train and validate a deep convolutional neural network adapted from the U-net  
419 architecture<sup>51</sup> with the VGG-16<sup>52</sup> backbone. For training, the images were cropped to the size  
420 of 192×192 and intensity normalised to the range of [0,1]. On-the-fly data augmentation was  
421 performed by applying random translation, rotation, scaling and intensity variation to each  
422 mini-batch (20 image slices) of images. We used the Adam optimiser<sup>53</sup> with a learning rate of  
423 0.001 and iteration number of 50,000. The network was trained using TensorFlow<sup>54</sup> library in  
424 Python on a Nvidia Tesla K80 GPU. The Dice metric of automated contours vs manual  
425 contours for RV cavity was calculated in 600 CMR studies (hold-out test sample) and the  
426 Dice metric of manual contours for two human analysts was calculated in 50 CMR studies.  
427 The inter-observer variability of image-derived RV phenotypes was estimated by intra-class  
428 correlation coefficient. Exemplary CMR images annotated by manual and automatic methods  
429 are presented in Supplementary Fig. 9.

430

431 Quality control

432

433 Manually annotated CMR studies (N = 5,065) were quality checked visually by the analyst at  
434 the time of manual segmentation. Out of these 5,065 studies, 153 studies were excluded due

435 to poor image quality. The following are the reasons for exclusion: (i) incomplete coverage of  
436 the ventricles (N = 78 [51%]), (ii) blurred image due to ECG mis-triggering commonly  
437 caused by irregular R-R intervals (arrhythmia) (N = 26 [17%]), (iii) miscellaneous causes  
438 including motion artefacts due to poor breath-hold and missing short-axis images (N = 43  
439 [28%]).

440  
441 As for the automatically analysed CMR studies, the segmentation and image quality was  
442 reviewed in a bespoke image visualisation application written in R “Shiny” library<sup>55</sup>. We  
443 used a “statistical and prior knowledge” approach to select studies that required visual quality  
444 check. In this process, CMR studies with (i) outlying values (defined as values more than  
445 three interquartile range [IQR] above the first quartile or below the third quartile) before and  
446 after indexing for body surface area and height<sup>2,7</sup>, (ii) non-physiological measurements  
447 (RVEDV < 75ml and RVESV < 25ml) and, (iii) measurements within the abnormal zones as  
448 defined in the published reference ranges paper<sup>26</sup> were visually reviewed using the custom  
449 “Shiny” visualisation tool for segmentation errors, image artefacts and incomplete coverage  
450 of ventricles. As a sanity check, 5,000 automatically segmented images were reviewed  
451 visually and only five additional cases (above and beyond what we have identified in the  
452 review process of pre-selected cases) were identified as poor quality due to incomplete  
453 coverage rather than segmentation error. Therefore, the statistical and prior knowledge  
454 approach of only reviewing the segmented images with outlying and non-physiological  
455 values and measurements outside the normal bounds of reference ranges was accepted as a  
456 good compromise which is adequate to ensure the quality of output data.

457

458 Sample selection

459

460 Out of 32,581 participants with available CMR studies, 29,506 European individuals free  
461 from pre-existing heart failure, myocardial infarction were included in the analysis following  
462 the quality control procedures outlined in Supplementary Fig. 1.

463

#### 464 Single-trait GWAS

465

466 The SNP-based heritability was estimated by the directly genotyped variants using the  
467 variance component method implemented in BOLT-REML software<sup>56</sup>. Single-trait GWASs  
468 were performed under an additive linear mixed-effects model using ~9.9 million well-  
469 imputed variants with MAF  $\geq$  1% and INFO  $>$  0.3 in BOLT-LMM software. The analysis  
470 models were adjusted for age, sex, height, weight, SBP corrected for anti-hypertensive  
471 medication use (by adding 15mmHg)<sup>57</sup>, phenotype-derivation method (automatic/manual),  
472 array type (UK Biobank vs UK BiLEVE array), and imaging centre. Due to the non-normal  
473 distribution, we performed the rank-based inverse normal transformation of the residuals of  
474 RV phenotypes.

475

#### 476 Multi-trait analysis

477

478 Paired multi-trait analyses of GWAS summary statistics were performed using MTAG<sup>58</sup>.  
479 MTAG boosts statistical power by capitalising on the correlated effect estimates across  
480 different traits. We paired the GWAS summary data of RVEDV with RVSV and RVESV  
481 with RVEF as input because of their strong genotypic correlations ( $r_g = 0.83$  and  $-0.67$ ,  
482 respectively). The MAF filter of 0.01 and the INFO filter of 0.3 were applied.

483

484 The cut-off for genome-wide significance was set at  $P < 2.27 \times 10^{-8}$  (conventional GWAS P  
485 value threshold of  $5 \times 10^{-8}$  divided by 2.2, effective number of tests for multiple correlated  
486 phenotypes). LD score regression (LDSC) was performed using the ldsc python package  
487 v1.0.1 using the default settings to obtain the LDSC intercept<sup>59</sup> which represents the extent of  
488 confounding from population stratification and genetic correlations<sup>60</sup>. A genomic risk locus  
489 was defined as 500kb upstream and downstream of the most significant variant. In each  
490 genomic locus, we performed clumping using plink '--clump' function with  $r^2$  threshold of  
491 0.1. Therefore, each locus may contain multiple lead SNPs and their proxies at  $r^2$  cut-off of  
492 0.1. The proportion of variance explained by the genome-wide significant variants for each  
493 RV phenotype was calculated by the difference in the adjusted  $R^2$  between the linear  
494 regression model containing all covariates plus all lead variants for the trait and the model  
495 containing only the analysis covariates.

496

497 Cross-referencing RV loci in other traits

498

499 We looked up our RV lead variants in the summary data available from a recently published  
500 genome-wide association studies<sup>22</sup> of CMR derived LV phenotypes with comparable sample  
501 size. Additionally, we cross-referenced our RV lead variants and their close proxies (LD  $r^2 \geq$   
502 0.8) in the 99% credible sets with the genome-wide association results of other traits in the  
503 Phenoscanner<sup>61</sup> database v2 (<http://www.phenoscanner.medschl.cam.ac.uk/>).

504

505 European ancestry meta-analysis

506

507 We obtained the lookup results of the RV lead variants in the UK Biobank European sample  
508 which became available at the end of our discovery analysis (N = 11,073) and Multi-Ethnic

509 Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA) (N = 1,251). In the new UK Biobank cohort, we removed  
510 individuals with relatives (third-degree or closer; Kinship coefficient  $\geq 0.044$ ) in our  
511 discovery sample to get unbiased estimates of association.

512

513 MESA is a longitudinal study of subclinical cardiovascular disease and risk factors that  
514 predict progression to clinically overt cardiovascular disease or progression of the subclinical  
515 disease. Between 2000 and 2002, MESA recruited 6,814 men and women 45 to 84 years of  
516 age from Forsyth County, North Carolina; New York City; Baltimore; St. Paul, Minnesota;  
517 Chicago; and Los Angeles. Exclusion criteria were clinical cardiovascular disease, weight  
518 exceeding 136 kg (300 lb.), pregnancy, and impediment to long-term participation. RV  
519 imaging and measurements in MESA have been previously described<sup>62</sup>.

520

521 MESA participants who consented to genetic analyses were genotyped in 2009 using the  
522 Affymetrix Human SNP array 6.0. Following genotype quality control for these data  
523 including filter on SNP level call rate  $< 95\%$ , individual level call rate  $< 95\%$ ,  
524 heterozygosity  $> 53\%$ , 897,981 SNPs remained. The University of Michigan imputation  
525 server was used for pre-phasing and imputation using the 1,000 Genomes Phase 3 integrated  
526 variant set. Among the MESA participants with RV phenotypes available, we stratified by  
527 race/ethnic group and constructed a subset of unrelated individuals by retaining at most one  
528 individual from each family. We further excluded those individuals with top principal  
529 components (PCs) of ancestry  $> 3.5$  SD from the mean within any race/ethnic group. The  
530 genetic association analysis in the European subset of MESA (N = 1,251) was conducted on  
531 the rank-based inverse normal transformed residuals model adjusted for age, sex, study site,  
532 top 3 principal components of ancestry, height, weight and medication-adjusted systolic  
533 blood pressure in ProbABELv0.5.0<sup>63</sup>. Finally, a fixed-effect meta-analysis of the association

534 summary statistics from UK Biobank discovery sample, UK Biobank additional sample and  
535 MESA European cohort was performed in GWAMA v2.2.2<sup>64</sup>.

536

537 Bioinformatic analyses

538

539 Variant-level annotation

540

541 The lead variants and their proxies at  $r^2 < 0.01$  were first filtered to 99% credible sets using  
542 the Bayesian approach previously described by Wakefield<sup>65</sup>. All variants in the 99% credible  
543 sets were interrogated with ANNOVAR<sup>66</sup> database to describe their locations and predicted  
544 function using several risk prediction tools including SIFT and PolyPhen-2. The non-  
545 synonymous variants were classified as ‘damaging’ if two or more methods predicted  
546 detrimental effects and ‘probably damaging’ if indicated by a single prediction tool. The non-  
547 coding variants were annotated with CADD (v1.6)<sup>29</sup> and RegulomeDB (v2.0)<sup>28</sup>. Variants  
548 with scaled CADD score  $> 20$  or RegulomeDB score  $\leq 1$  were considered functionally  
549 important. Finemapping of causal variants within credible sets was performed by the  
550 colocalisation analysis of GWAS and cis-eQTL signals from cardiovascular tissues (aorta,  
551 coronary artery, tibial artery, left atrial appendage and left ventricle) in GTEx (v7)<sup>67</sup> using  
552 eCaviar<sup>30</sup>. Variants with colocalisation posterior probability (CLPP) value higher than 0.01  
553 were identified as candidate causal variants. We performed the pathway enrichment analysis  
554 of GWAS signals using DEPICT<sup>31</sup> (Data-driven Expression-Prioritised Integration for  
555 Complex Traits) using the GWAS summary statistics of each RV trait as the input files with  
556 an association P value threshold of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  as recommended by the authors of DEPICT.

557

558 Gene-level annotation

559

560 *Transcriptome-wide association study*

561

562 We investigated the influence of our GWAS variants on gene expression and splicing using  
563 the multi-tissue transcriptome datasets from Genotype-Tissue Expression project (GTEx  
564 v8)<sup>68</sup>. In this analysis, we estimated the genetically regulated gene expression and splicing  
565 using the S-MultiXcan tool<sup>32</sup> which integrates the evidence from the GWAS summary data  
566 and expression and splicing quantitative trait loci studies across multiple tissues to prioritise  
567 candidate genes. We corrected the P values for multiple testing by adjusting for the number  
568 of genes x the effective number of tests for correlated RV phenotypes (2.2).

569

570 *Gene-based association study*

571

572 Genome-wide gene-based association analysis was performed using Multi-marker Analysis  
573 of GenoMic Annotation (MAGMA v1.07b)<sup>33</sup>. In MAGMA, the variants in raw genotype data  
574 were first assigned to the genes based on the overlap of their genomic location with a gene  
575 window of 35kb upstream and 10kb downstream to include regulatory elements. Rare  
576 variants with MAF < 0.01 were inputted into the model as burden scores. The association  
577 between variants in gene units and RV phenotypes was tested by principal component  
578 regression adjusted for the same covariates as the primary GWAS analysis. The MAGMA  
579 values were corrected for multiple testing by adjusting for the number of genes x the effective  
580 number of tests for correlated RV phenotypes (2.2).

581

582 *Hi-C analysis*

583

584 Long-range chromatin interaction analysis was performed using the Hi-C data in FUMA<sup>69</sup>  
585 web-based platform v1.3.3c. In the chromatin interaction analysis, we only considered target  
586 genes with evidence of significant enhancer-promoter interactions at FDR < 1x10<sup>-6</sup> in the left  
587 and right ventricular and aortic tissues. The analysis was filtered to our regulatory GWAS  
588 variants with RegulomeDB score ≤ 5 (where low scores indicate greater evidence of  
589 functional significance) locating within these enhancer and promoter regions obtained from  
590 the Roadmap Epigenomic project<sup>70</sup>.

591

592 Finally, all candidate genes were ranked based on evidence from:

- 593 i. presence of damaging coding variant in the loci;
- 594 ii. genes prioritised by S-MultiXcan analyses in expression and splicing quantitative trait  
595 loci (eQTL and sQTL) datasets;
- 596 iii. availability of knockout model from International Mouse Phenotyping Consortium  
597 (<http://www.mousephenotype.org/>) and the Mouse Genome Informatics database  
598 (<http://www.informatics.jax.org/>);
- 599 iv. targets genes from Hi-C data;
- 600 v. genes locating within the 100kb window of the lead variant
- 601 vi. genes prioritised by MAGMA

602

603 *Enrichment and pathway analyses*

604

605 Functional enrichment and pathway characterisation of candidate genes in the validated RV  
606 loci were done in the g:profiler tool which leverages on the diverse sources of biological  
607 evidence including Gene Ontology (GO), Human Phenotype Ontology (HPO), Reactome,  
608 KEGG and Wikipathway<sup>71</sup>. We used the candidate genes supported by at least 2 lines of



609 evidence (as described above) as g:Profiler input. In g:profiler, multiple-testing correction  
610 was performed by the bespoke ontology-focused g:SCS (Set Counts and Sizes) method<sup>72</sup> at  
611 5% threshold.

612

### 613 *Phenome-wide association scan*

614

615 We conducted PheWASs using the polygenic risk scores of each RV phenotype derived from  
616 the lead and secondary variants of genome-wide significant loci validated in the meta-  
617 analysis. Logistic regression adjusted for age, sex and the first five genetic principal  
618 components was performed to test for the associations between each polygenic risk score and  
619 a total of 1041 phenotypes with prevalence of  $\geq 200$  cases in the remaining UK Biobank  
620 sample excluding the RV GWAS discovery cohort and their relatives (third-degree or closer  
621 with Kinship coefficient  $\geq 0.044$ ) ( $n = 354,307$ ). The PheWAS phenotypes were derived from  
622 ICD-10, ICD-9 and OPCS4 codes from hospital episode data, death reports, and self-reported  
623 medical history which were last updated on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Out of 1041 phenotypes, 1029  
624 phenotypes were defined according to the phecode system as previously described<sup>73</sup> and 12  
625 cardiovascular phenotypes (hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, heart failure, myocardial  
626 infarction, CAD, non-ischaemic DCM, other inherited cardiomyopathy, stroke, atrial  
627 fibrillation/flutter, bradyarrhythmia, ventricular tachycardia, insertion of implantable  
628 cardioverter-defibrillator and congenital heart disease) were manually curated using the  
629 ICD10, ICD9 and OPCS4 codes detailed in Supplementary Table 15. Multiple testing  
630 correction by adjusting for 1041 phenotypes and 2.2 (effective number of tests for correlated  
631 RV phenotypes) yielded a significant p value threshold of  $2.2 \times 10^{-5}$  (0.05/2290).

632

### 633 **Acknowledgements**

634

635 This research has been conducted using the UK Biobank Resource under Application 2964.

636 The authors wish to thank all UK Biobank participants and staff. Dr Aung recognizes the

637 National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Integrated Academic Training programme

638 which supports his Academic Clinical Lectureship post. Professors Piechnik, Neubauer and

639 Petersen acknowledge the British Heart Foundation for funding the manual analysis to create

640 a cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging reference standard for the UK Biobank imaging

641 resource in 5000 CMR scans (PG/14/89/31194). Prof. Petersen also acknowledges support

642 from the “SmartHeart” Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council programme

643 grant (EP/P001009/1). Professors Piechnik and Neubauer are supported by the Oxford

644 National Institute for Health Research Biomedical Research Centre and the Oxford British

645 Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence. This work was part of the portfolio of

646 translational research of the National Institute for Health Research Biomedical Research

647 Centre at Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry; Dr Aung, Professors

648 Munroe and Petersen acknowledge support from this center. This project was enabled

649 through access to the Medical Research Council eMedLab Medical Bioinformatics

650 infrastructure, supported by the Medical Research Council (grant No. MR/L016311/1). The

651 UK Biobank was established by the Wellcome Trust medical charity, the Medical Research

652 Council, the Department of Health, the Scottish Government, and the Northwest Regional

653 Development Agency. It has also received funding from the Welsh Assembly Government

654 and the British Heart Foundation. MESA and the MESA SHARe projects are conducted and

655 supported by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) in collaboration with

656 MESA investigators. Support for MESA is provided by contracts 75N92020D00001,

657 HHSN268201500003I, N01-HC-95159, 75N92020D00005, N01-HC-95160,

658 75N92020D00002, N01-HC-95161, 75N92020D00003, N01-HC-95162, 75N92020D00006,

659 N01-HC-95163, 75N92020D00004, N01-HC-95164, 75N92020D00007, N01-HC-95165,  
660 N01-HC-95166, N01-HC-95167, N01-HC-95168, N01-HC-95169, UL1-TR-000040, UL1-  
661 TR-001079, UL1-TR-001420. Funding for SHARe genotyping was provided by NHLBI  
662 Contract N02-HL-64278. Genotyping was performed at Affymetrix (Santa Clara, California,  
663 USA) and the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT (Boston, Massachusetts, USA) using the  
664 Affymetrix Genome-Wide Human SNP Array 6.0. Also supported in part by the National  
665 Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, CTSI grant UL1TR001881, and the National  
666 Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease Diabetes Research Center (DRC)  
667 grant DK063491 to the Southern California Diabetes Endocrinology Research Center. RV  
668 phenotyping in MESA was funded by National Institutes of Health K24 HL103844 and R01  
669 HL086719.

670

## 671 **Contributions**

672

673 N.A. conceived the study, designed the methodology, performed manual and automated  
674 segmentation of CMR studies, carried out genetic and bioinformatic analyses, and drafted  
675 and finalised the manuscript. J.D.V. conceived the study and revised the manuscript. C.Y.  
676 and A.M. performed statistical analysis of MESA data. J.I.R., K.D.T., J.AC.L., D.A.B.  
677 substantively revised the manuscript. K.F. performed manual segmentation of CMR studies.  
678 M.M.S. performed manual segmentation of CMR studies and contributed to the writing of  
679 specific sections. S.K.P. and S.N. supervised CMR image segmentation and acquired  
680 funding. S.E.P. and P.B.M. conceived the study, designed the methodology, provided  
681 supervision, acquired funding and edited the manuscript. All authors read the paper and  
682 contributed to its final form.

683

684

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860 Table 1. Genomic loci identified for CMR-derived RV phenotypes

CMR phenotypes	Locus name	Lead variant	Co-localised variant <sup>†</sup>	CHR	Position (hg19)	EA	NEA	EAF	BETA Discovery	SE Discovery	P Discovery	BETA Meta-analysis	SE Meta-analysis	P Meta-analysis
<b>RVEDV</b>	<b><i>OBSCN</i><sup>††</sup></b>	<b>rs12126782*</b>	<b>rs78529941</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>228613648</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>0.64</b>	<b>-0.051</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>1.37E-09</b>	<b>-0.047</b>	<b>0.007</b>	<b>2.19E-11</b>
<b>RVEDV</b>	<b><i>TTN</i><sup>a</sup></b>	<b>rs2042995</b>	<b>rs967507, rs16866380</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>179558366</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>0.070</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>1.50E-13</b>	<b>0.053</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>7.27E-11</b>
RVEDV	<i>SLC6A6</i>	rs754020	rs754020	3	14306081	T	C	0.45	-0.050	0.010	1.80E-09	-0.034	0.008	9.67E-06
<b>RVEDV</b>	<b><i>AK097794</i></b>	<b>rs2276773</b>	<b>rs6792449</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>158287455</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>-0.049</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>8.61E-10</b>	<b>-0.041</b>	<b>0.007</b>	<b>5.28E-10</b>
RVEDV	<i>BC038750</i>	rs752650	rs2714972	4	120632387	T	C	0.65	-0.050	0.010	1.40E-08	-0.032	0.008	4.62E-05
RVEDV	<i>LUC7L2</i>	rs144567740	–	7	139099813	T	G	0.80	-0.060	0.010	1.20E-08	-0.038	0.008	5.22E-06
RVEDV	<i>BAG3</i>	rs11199043	rs4751742	10	121367249	A	G	0.52	-0.047	0.008	5.11E-09	-0.033	0.007	5.97E-07
<b>RVEDV</b>	<b><i>ATXN2</i><sup>b</sup></b>	<b>rs35350651</b>	<b>rs7137828</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>111907431</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>AC</b>	<b>0.49</b>	<b>-0.060</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>9.80E-15</b>	<b>-0.055</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>8.42E-13</b>
<b>RVEDV</b>	<b><i>PTPN11</i></b>	<b>rs11066320</b>	<b>rs11066320</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>112906415</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>-0.050</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>2.90E-11</b>	<b>-0.045</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>7.89E-09</b>
RVEDV	<i>RBL2</i>	rs375730363	–	16	53440590	CT T	C	0.58	-0.050	0.010	8.60E-09	-0.040	0.008	3.07E-07
<b>RVEDV</b>	<b><i>GOSR2</i></b>	<b>rs76774446</b>	<b>rs78033733</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>45046368</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>0.86</b>	<b>-0.070</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>1.50E-08</b>	<b>-0.072</b>	<b>0.009</b>	<b>1.77E-16</b>
RVEDV	<i>ACTN4</i>	rs11083473	–	19	39179934	A	G	0.45	-0.046	0.008	6.50E-09	-0.033	0.007	8.21E-07
<b>RVESV</b>	<b><i>OBSCN</i><sup>††</sup></b>	<b>rs12126782*</b>	<b>rs78529941</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>228613648</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>0.64</b>	<b>-0.060</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>4.40E-13</b>	<b>-0.056</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>2.18E-12</b>
<b>RVESV</b>	<b><i>TTN</i><sup>c</sup></b>	<b>rs2042995</b>	<b>rs2366920</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>179558366</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>0.080</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>4.00E-18</b>	<b>0.062</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>8.07E-14</b>
<b>RVESV</b>	<b><i>SLC6A6</i><sup>d</sup></b>	<b>rs9856926</b>	<b>rs2128163, rs13061705</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14280450</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>-0.060</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>1.40E-15</b>	<b>-0.049</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>2.18E-10</b>
<b>RVESV</b>	<b><i>AK097794</i></b>	<b>rs2276773</b>	<b>rs6792449</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>158287455</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>-0.060</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>1.60E-13</b>	<b>-0.053</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>8.38E-12</b>
RVESV	<i>CAMK2D</i>	rs55754224	–	4	114428714	C	T	0.74	0.060	0.010	7.20E-10	0.044	0.008	6.58E-08
<b>RVESV</b>	<b><i>PALLD</i><sup>††</sup></b>	<b>rs11357121</b>	<b>rs12509709</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>169847115</b>	<b>TA</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.060</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>4.60E-09</b>	<b>0.049</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>7.87E-09</b>

<b>RVESV</b>	<b>BAG3<sup>e</sup></b>	<b>rs72840788</b>	<b>rs4751742</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>121415685</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>0.080</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>2.70E-17</b>	<b>0.069</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>1.10E-16</b>
<b>RVESV</b>	<b>ATXN2<sup>f</sup></b>	<b>rs35350651</b>	<b>rs4766578</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>111907431</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>AC</b>	<b>0.49</b>	<b>-0.060</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>7.90E-15</b>	<b>-0.056</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>5.16E-13</b>
<b>RVESV</b>	<b>PTPN11</b>	<b>rs11066320</b>	<b>rs11066320</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>112906415</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>-0.050</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>5.20E-10</b>	<b>-0.045</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>1.36E-08</b>
RVESV	<i>RBL2</i>	rs61400540	rs61400540	16	53442606	G	A	0.68	-0.050	0.010	1.10E-08	-0.037	0.008	3.74E-06
<b>RVESV</b>	<b>GOSR2</b>	<b>rs17608766</b>	<b>rs17608766</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>45013271</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>0.85</b>	<b>-0.080</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>6.10E-12</b>	<b>-0.085</b>	<b>0.009</b>	<b>2.76E-22</b>
RVESV	<i>FHOD3</i>	rs503274	rs561021	18	34253745	C	T	0.30	-0.050	0.010	2.80E-09	-0.042	0.008	1.64E-07
RVESV	<i>ACTN4</i>	rs554462699	rs28488032	19	39164393	AT T	A	0.52	-0.050	0.010	1.20E-09	-0.034	0.008	1.06E-05
RVESV	<i>RSPH6A</i>	rs10402263	rs10412574	19	46313758	G	C	0.65	-0.050	0.010	3.00E-09	-0.039	0.008	7.01E-07
RVSV	<i>TTN</i>	rs2303838	rs967507	2	179444939	C	T	0.83	0.061	0.010	3.13E-09	0.039	0.009	8.62E-06
<b>RVSV</b>	<b>SLC35F1</b>	<b>rs3951016</b>	<b>rs6912208</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>118559658</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>0.050</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>3.10E-09</b>	<b>0.049</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>2.92E-10</b>
RVSV	<i>LUC7L2</i>	rs144567740	–	7	139099813	T	G	0.80	-0.057	0.010	1.13E-08	-0.041	0.009	1.49E-06
<b>RVSV</b>	<b>ATXN2</b>	<b>rs653178</b>	<b>rs7137828</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>112007756</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>-0.052</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>1.62E-11</b>	<b>-0.050</b>	<b>0.006</b>	<b>2.53E-15</b>
<b>RVSV</b>	<b>PTPN11</b>	<b>rs11066320</b>	<b>rs11066320</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>112906415</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>-0.047</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>2.39E-09</b>	<b>-0.044</b>	<b>0.006</b>	<b>1.15E-11</b>
<b>RVEF</b>	<b>CLCNKA</b>	<b>rs9442216</b>	<b>rs10927878</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16353400</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0.048</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>3.77E-09</b>	<b>0.046</b>	<b>0.007</b>	<b>9.09E-11</b>
<b>RVEF</b>	<b>OBSCN<sup>††</sup></b>	<b>rs78529941</b>	<b>rs55756479</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>228551488</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>0.62</b>	<b>0.050</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>3.50E-10</b>	<b>0.050</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>1.45E-10</b>
<b>RVEF</b>	<b>TTN<sup>g</sup></b>	<b>rs2042995</b>	–	<b>2</b>	<b>179558366</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>-0.066</b>	<b>0.009</b>	<b>1.62E-12</b>	<b>-0.059</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>5.59E-14</b>
<b>RVEF</b>	<b>SLC6A6<sup>h</sup></b>	<b>rs55834511</b>	<b>rs9856926,</b> <b>rs11715111</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14273414</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>0.79</b>	<b>0.070</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>5.30E-13</b>	<b>0.070</b>	<b>0.009</b>	<b>2.05E-16</b>
<b>RVEF</b>	<b>AK097794</b>	<b>rs2276773</b>	<b>rs6792449</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>158287455</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>0.050</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>5.20E-09</b>	<b>0.054</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>2.89E-12</b>
<b>RVEF</b>	<b>HSPA4</b>	<b>rs72801474</b>	<b>rs72801474</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>132444128</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>-0.075</b>	<b>0.013</b>	<b>2.05E-08</b>	<b>-0.069</b>	<b>0.011</b>	<b>1.17E-09</b>
RVEF	<i>SLC23A1</i>	rs6876106	rs10063949	5	138710030	G	A	0.71	-0.050	0.010	2.10E-09	-0.038	0.008	2.24E-06
<b>RVEF</b>	<b>PLEC</b>	<b>rs11786896</b>	<b>rs11786896</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>145018354</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>-0.110</b>	<b>0.020</b>	<b>4.20E-09</b>	<b>-0.113</b>	<b>0.016</b>	<b>6.21E-12</b>
<b>RVEF</b>	<b>TPM2</b>	<b>rs2789750</b>	–	<b>9</b>	<b>35683473</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>0.060</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>8.40E-11</b>	<b>0.048</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>5.71E-09</b>
<b>RVEF</b>	<b>AK311445<sup>††</sup></b>	<b>rs12006440</b>	<b>rs12006440</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>107703337</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>0.140</b>	<b>0.020</b>	<b>2.40E-09</b>	<b>0.117</b>	<b>0.017</b>	<b>1.84E-11</b>

<b>RVEF</b>	<b><i>SVIL</i><sup>††</sup></b>	<b>rs11007712</b>	<b>rs10826702</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>30009340</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>-0.060</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>8.50E-09</b>	<b>-0.046</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>4.93E-08</b>
<b>RVEF</b>	<b><i>BAG3</i></b>	<b>rs72840788</b>	–	<b>10</b>	<b>121415685</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>-0.090</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>8.00E-19</b>	<b>-0.081</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>6.33E-22</b>
RVEF	<i>CCDC85C</i> <sup>††</sup>	rs79884713	–	14	99987456	G	A	0.98	-0.160	0.030	3.70E-09	-0.092	0.025	1.81E-04
<b>RVEF</b>	<b><i>GOSR2</i></b>	<b>rs17608766</b>	–	<b>17</b>	<b>45013271</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>0.85</b>	<b>0.067</b>	<b>0.011</b>	<b>1.15E-09</b>	<b>0.071</b>	<b>0.009</b>	<b>4.52E-14</b>
<b>RVEF</b>	<b><i>FHOD3</i></b>	<b>rs501740</b>	<b>rs2644266</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34244174</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.060</b>	<b>0.010</b>	<b>5.90E-11</b>	<b>0.054</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>4.97E-11</b>

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862 *The locus name indicates the nearest annotated gene. Single-trait analysis was performed in a conventional genome-wide association framework*  
863 *using BOLT-LMM. Multi-trait analysis was performed by a joint-analysis of the summary statistics of correlated phenotypes using MTAG*  
864 *(multi-trait analysis of GWAS). The loci additionally supported by the combined meta-analysis at  $P_{\text{meta-analysis}} < 5 \times 10^{-8}$  are highlighted in bold.*  
865 *CMR, cardiovascular magnetic resonance; RVEDV, right ventricular end-diastolic volume; RVESV, right ventricular end-systolic volume;*  
866 *RVEF, right ventricular ejection fraction; CHR, chromosome; EA, effect allele; NEA, non-effect allele; EAF, effect allele frequency in UKBB*  
867 *cohort; SE, standard error*

868 *The effect size (BETA) represents the change in rank-transformed phenotype per effect allele.*

869 *<sup>a</sup>rs143720616 is an independent variant in this locus. <sup>b</sup>rs2339905 is an independent variant in this locus. <sup>c</sup>rs4894062 and rs115150884 are*  
870 *independent variants in this locus. <sup>d</sup>rs13061705 is an independent variant in the locus. <sup>e</sup>rs10718041 is an independent variant in the locus.*

871 *<sup>f</sup>rs2339905 is an independent variant in this locus. <sup>g</sup>rs10930846 is an independent variant in this locus. <sup>h</sup>rs758925815 is an independent variant*  
872 *in this locus.*

873 *\*The nearest gene is HIST3H3 but the lead variant (rs12126782) is in high LD ( $r^2$  0.75) with rs78529941 (OBSCN locus) associated with RVEF.*

874 *<sup>†</sup>Co-localisation of GWAS variants and cis-eQTL variants was performed in eCaviar; <sup>††</sup>Loci showing some RV specificity.*

875

876 **Figure Legends**

877

878 Figure 1. Flowchart of analysis strategy for RV GWASs

879 *RVEDV, right ventricular end-diastolic volume; RVESV, right ventricular end-systolic*  
880 *volume; RVSV, right ventricular stroke volume; RVEF, right ventricular ejection fraction;*  
881 *UKBB, UK Biobank; CMR, cardiovascular magnetic resonance; IVNT, rank-based inverse*  
882 *normal transformation; MAF minor allele frequency; INFO, imputation quality score; LD,*  
883 *linkage disequilibrium; GCTA, genome-wide complex trait analysis; LV, left ventricle;*  
884 *PheWAS, phenome-wide association study; PRS, polygenic risk score; SIFT, Sorting*  
885 *Intolerant From Tolerant score; PolyPhen-2, Polymorphism Phenotyping score 2; CADD,*  
886 *Combined Annotation Dependent Depletion score; eCaviar, eQTL and GWAS Causal*  
887 *Variants Identification in Associated Regions tool; MTAG, multi-trait analysis of genome-*  
888 *wide association; MAGMA, Multi-marker Analysis of GenoMic Annotation; KO, knockout;*  
889 *Hi-C, long-range chromatic interaction*

890

891 Figure 2. Manhattan plots of genomic loci associated with CMR-derived RV phenotypes

892

893 *The red line indicates the genome-wide significant threshold at  $P < 2.27 \times 10^{-8}$ .*  
894 *RVEDV, right ventricular end-diastolic volume; RVESV, right ventricular end-systolic*  
895 *volume; RVSV, right ventricular stroke volume; RVEF, right ventricular ejection fraction*

896

897 Figure 3. Pleiotropic associations between the RV GWAS variants and other traits

898

899 *The left semicircle represents the RV GWAS loci and the right semicircle represents*  
900 *previously reported GWAS traits in the Phenoscanner database.*

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902 *GWAS, genome-wide association studies; CV, cardiovascular; CVD, cardiovascular disease;*  
903 *DCM, dilated cardiomyopathy*

904

905 Figure 4. Enrichment of genes associated with RV phenotypes in g:Profiler

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907 *Gene sets and pathways results were corrected for multiple testing by the g:Profiler “sets*  
908 *counts and sizes” method at 5% threshold.*

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910 *GO: BP, Gene Ontology Biological Process; GO:CC, Gene Ontology Cellular Component;*  
911 *MF, Molecular Function; KEGG, Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes pathway*

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913 Figure 5. Phenome-wide association analysis of RV polygenic risk scores

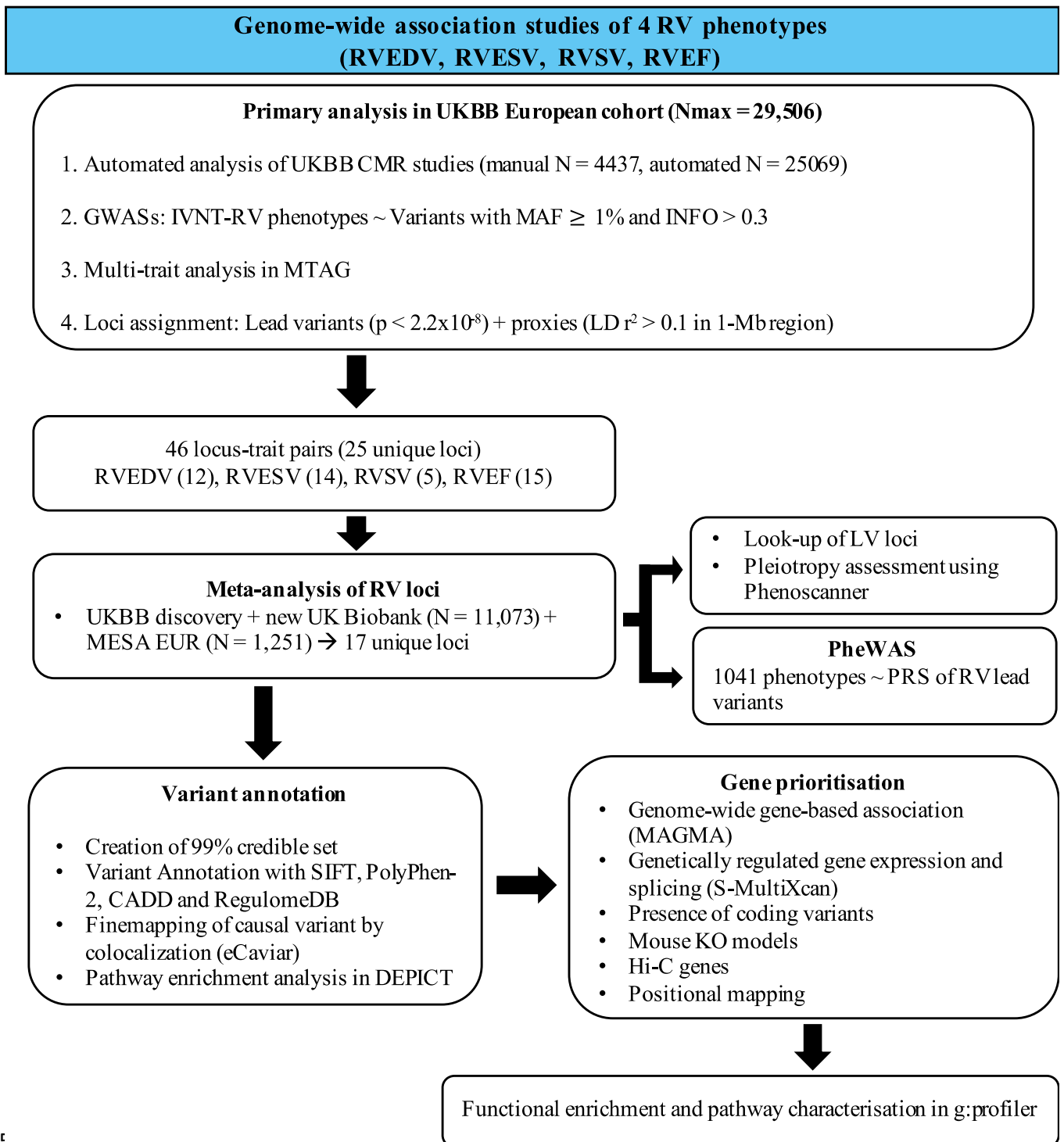
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915 *A total of 1041 phenotypes were evaluated for associations with RV polygenic risk scores*  
916 *adjusted for age, sex and the first 5 genetic principal components by logistic regression. The*  
917 *red line represents the significant threshold after accounting for multiple testing ( $-\log_{10}$  of*  
918  *$2.2 \times 10^{-5}$ ). The upright triangles indicate positive correlations and the inverted triangles*  
919 *indicate negative correlations.*

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921 *RVEDV, right ventricular end-diastolic volume; RVESV, right ventricular end-systolic*  
922 *volume; RVSV, right ventricular stroke volume; RVEF, right ventricular ejection fraction;*  
923 *NOS, not otherwise specified*

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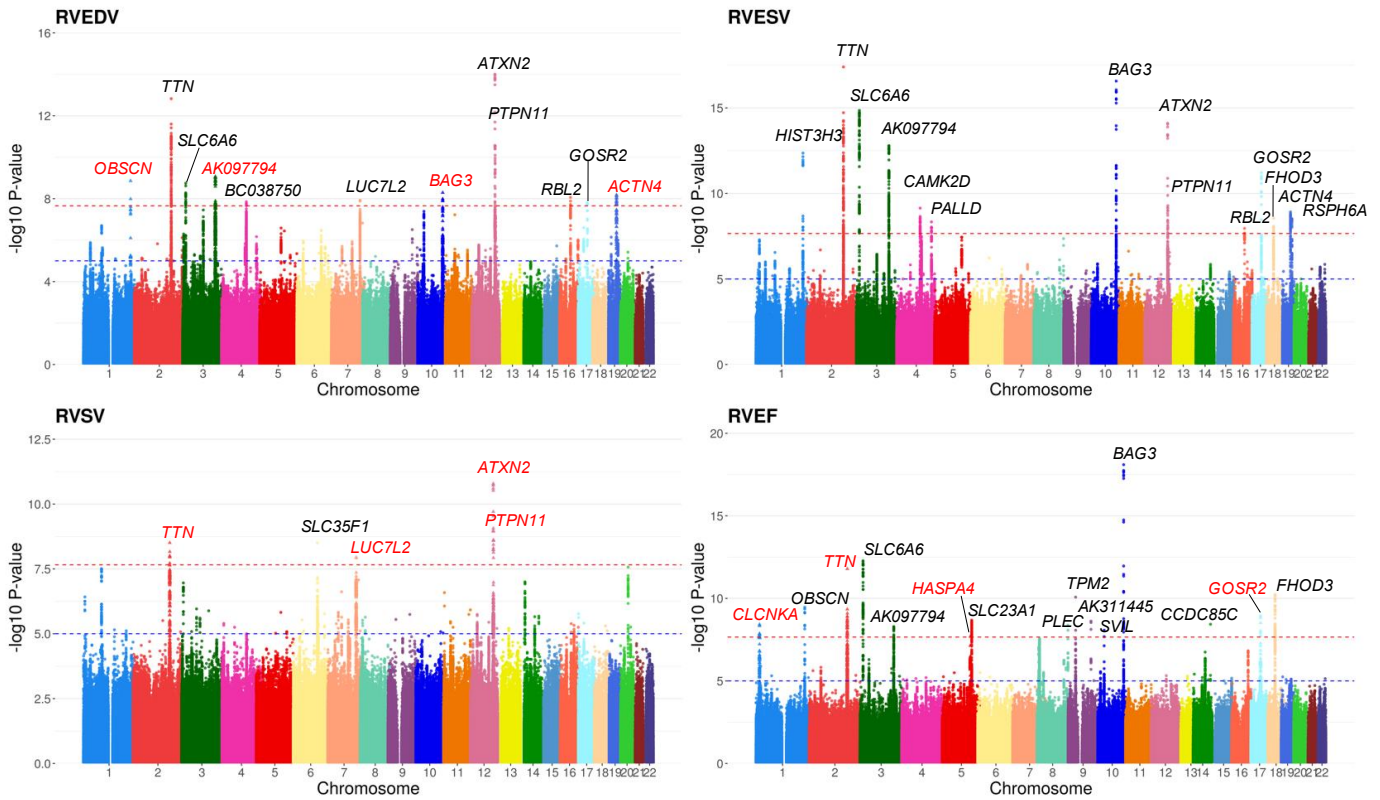
Figure 1. Flowchart of analysis strategy for RV GWASs

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 929 *volume; RSVV, right ventricular stroke volume; RVEF, right ventricular ejection fraction;*  
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 931 *normal transformation; MAF minor allele frequency; INFO, imputation quality score; LD,*  
 932 *linkage disequilibrium; GCTA, genome-wide complex trait analysis; LV, left ventricle;*  
 933 *MESA, Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis; EUR; European; PheWAS, phenome-wide*  
 934 *association study; PRS, polygenic risk score; SIFT, Sorting Intolerant From Tolerant score;*



935 *PolyPhen-2, Polymorphism Phenotyping score 2; CADD, Combined Annotation Dependent*  
 936 *Depletion score; eCaviar, eQTL and GWAS Causal Variants Identification in Associated*  
 937 *Regions tool; MTAG, multi-trait analysis of genome-wide association; MAGMA, Multi-*  
 938 *marker Analysis of Genomic Annotation; KO, knockout; Hi-C, long-range chromatic*  
 939 *interaction*

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944 Figure 2. Manhattan plots of genomic loci associated with CMR-derived RV phenotypes

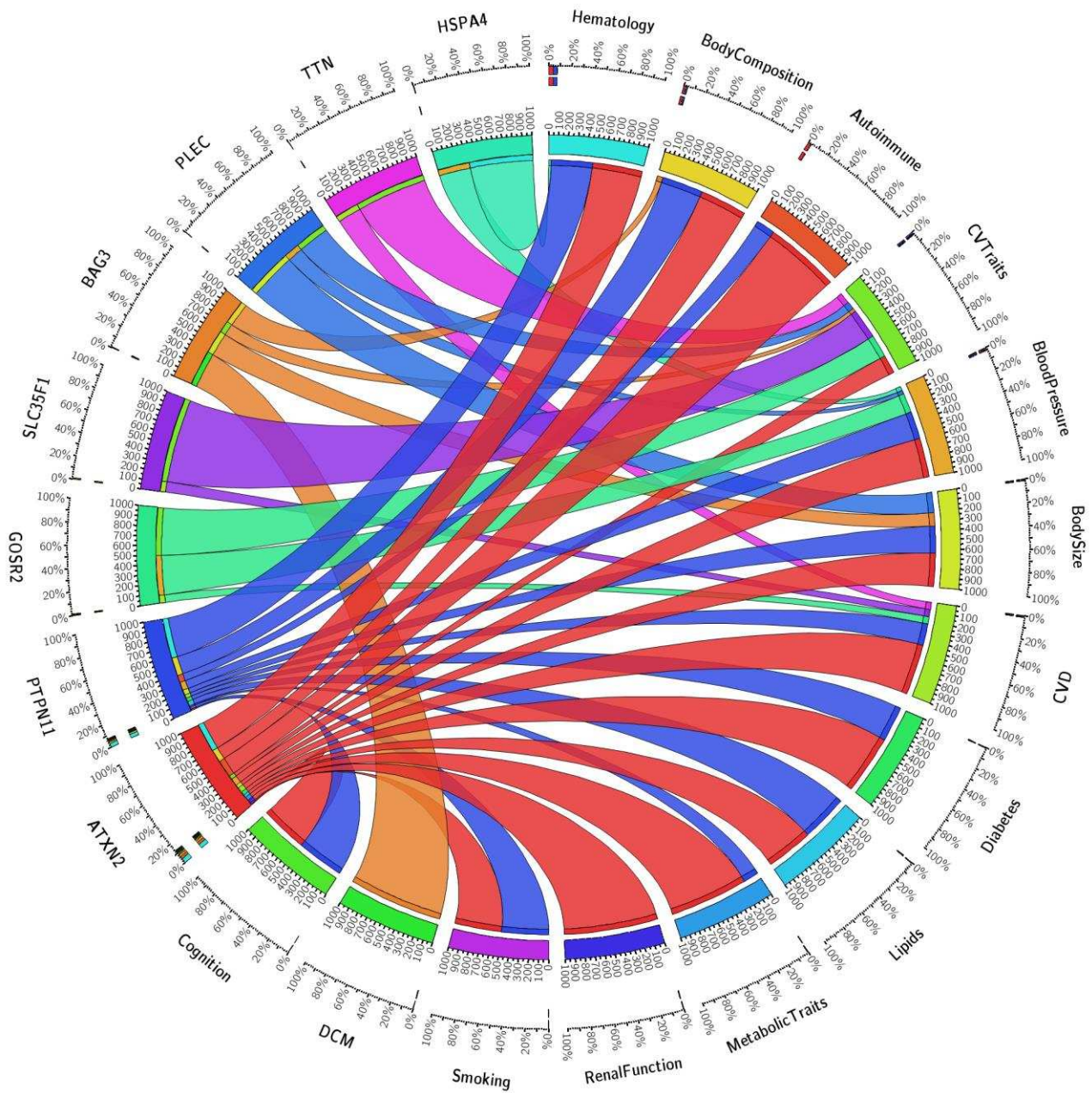
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946 *The red line indicates the genome-wide significant threshold at  $P < 2.27 \times 10^{-8}$ . The loci*  
 947 *discovered by the multi-trait analysis are shown in red.*

948 *RVEDV, right ventricular end-diastolic volume; RVESV, right ventricular end-systolic*  
 949 *volume; RVSV, right ventricular stroke volume; RVEF, right ventricular ejection fraction*

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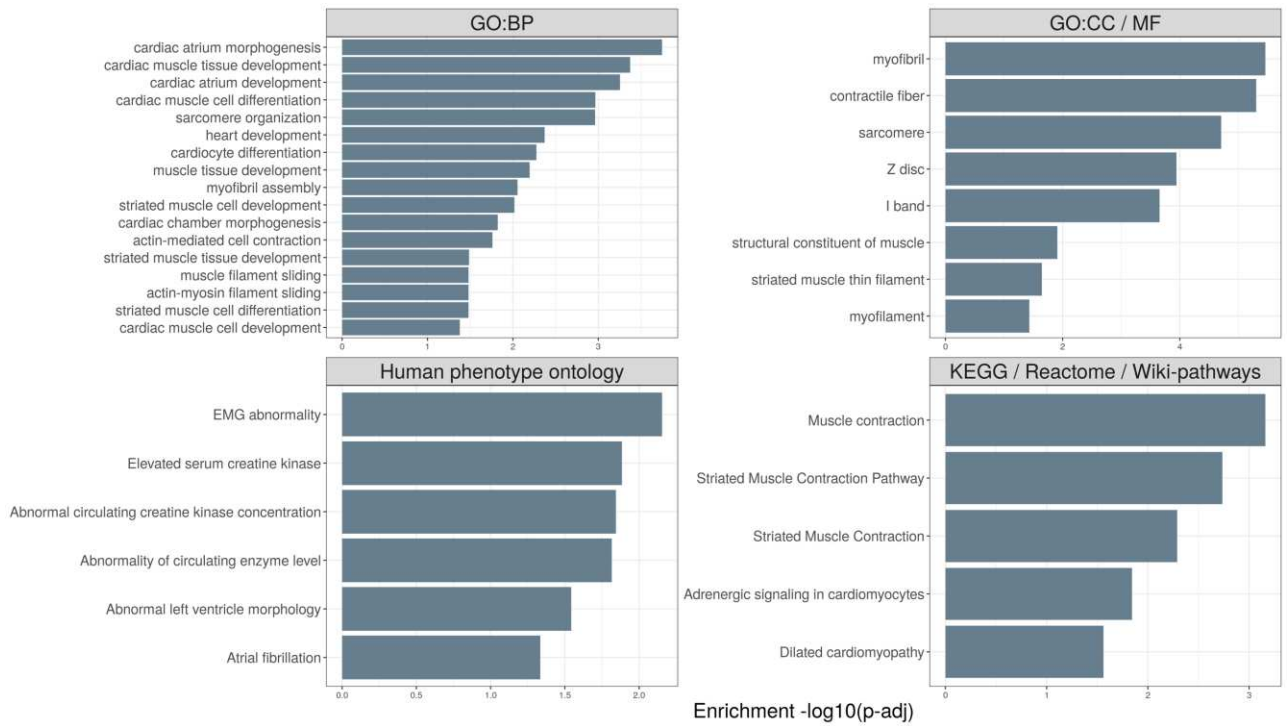


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Figure 3. Pleiotropic associations between the RV GWAS variants and other traits  
*The left semicircle represents the RV GWAS loci and the right semicircle represents previously reported GWAS traits in the PhenoScanner database.*

*GWAS, genome-wide association studies; CV, cardiovascular; CVD, cardiovascular disease; DCM, dilated cardiomyopathy*

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Figure 4. Enrichment of genes associated with all RV phenotypes in g:Profiler

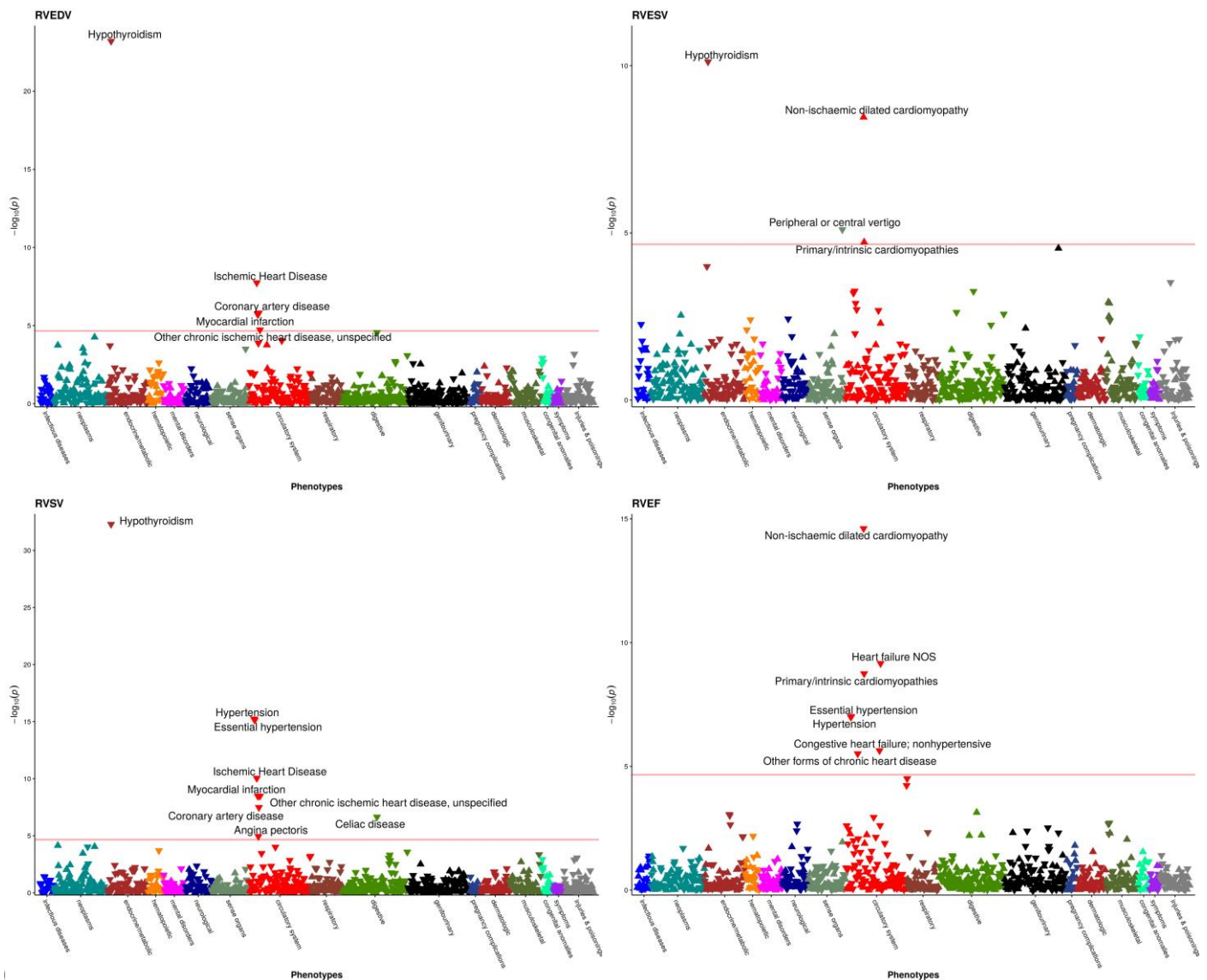
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*Gene sets and pathways results were corrected for multiple testing by the g:Profiler “sets counts and sizes” method at 5% threshold. The results are available in a tabular format in Supplementary Table 13.*

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GO: BP, Gene Ontology Biological Process; GO:CC, Gene Ontology Cellular Component; MF, Molecular Function; KEGG, Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes pathway

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1003 Figure 5. Phenome-wide association analysis of RV polygenic risk scores

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