

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Blood lead levels, iron metabolism gene polymorphisms, and homocysteine: A gene-environment interaction study

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Table S1. Genotyped and imputed single-nucleotide polymorphisms analysed in the study

| SNP rs no. | Gene | Chromosome | Position |
|----------------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| Genotyped SNPs | | | |
| rs8177277 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134967520 |
| rs8177201 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134952545 |
| rs4241357 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134958253 |
| rs8177235 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134958773 |
| rs1799852 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134958412 |
| rs7638018 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134978151 |
| rs1049296 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134977044 |
| rs8177272 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134965560 |
| rs8177203 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134952715 |
| rs8177220 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134956315 |
| rs2715632 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134968520 |
| rs1358022 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134970311 |
| rs2715631 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134965579 |
| rs2715627 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134977539 |
| rs1800277 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134948845 |
| rs2071303 | <i>HFE</i> | 6 | 26199315 |
| rs707889 | <i>HFE</i> | 6 | 26203910 |
| rs2124459 | <i>CBS</i> | 21 | 43348783 |
| rs4920037 | <i>CBS</i> | 21 | 43354960 |
| rs234711 | <i>CBS</i> | 21 | 43360180 |
| rs6860725 | <i>BHMT</i> | 5 | 78455565 |
| rs558133 | <i>BHMT</i> | 5 | 78460944 |
| rs10733117 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235030490 |
| rs2185208 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235034979 |
| rs7526063 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235038621 |
| rs3820573 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235046034 |
| rs2385504 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235066279 |
| rs2385509 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235073596 |
| rs2385500 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235083531 |
| rs17599657 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235083699 |
| rs10495386 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235099431 |
| rs4659738 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235107481 |
| rs4659739 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235107536 |
| rs1805087 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235115123 |

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|---|-----------|
| rs2275565 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235115299 |
| rs10158822 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235116799 |
| rs10158222 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235117305 |
| rs1266164 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235117574 |
| rs10925261 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235119809 |
| rs3768152 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235120153 |
| rs3768156 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235122548 |
| rs1252252 | <i>MTR</i> | 1 | 235122625 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Imputed SNPs | | | |
| rs8177177 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133463195 |
| rs8177178 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133463272 |
| rs8177179 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133463457 |
| rs8177181 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133463798 |
| rs8177313 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133464102 |
| rs8177185 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133464618 |
| rs4481157 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133464684 |
| rs8177186 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133465201 |
| rs1130459 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133465283 |
| rs4459901 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133465699 |
| rs6796795 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133466222 |
| rs6785596 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133466457 |
| rs4532136 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133466885 |
| rs8177190 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133467696 |
| rs8177191 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133468139 |
| rs9880615 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133470909 |
| rs8177213 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133472227 |
| rs3811658 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133476852 |
| rs8177252 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133480174 |
| rs1880669 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133483696 |
| rs3811647 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133484029 |
| rs1525892 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133484712 |
| rs2692695 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133485454 |
| rs2718806 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133486093 |
| rs8649 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133486958 |
| rs1525890 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133489583 |
| rs1525889 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133490033 |
| rs9824452 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133492471 |

| | | | |
|------------|--------------|---|-----------|
| rs1115219 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133495017 |
| rs12595 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 133496553 |
| rs4846048 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11846252 |
| rs3737967 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11847449 |
| rs1537516 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11847861 |
| rs1537514 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11847861 |
| rs4846049 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11850365 |
| rs2274976 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11850927 |
| rs13306556 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11852110 |
| rs1476413 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11852300 |
| rs1801131 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11854476 |
| rs12121543 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11854671 |
| rs1994798 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11854755 |
| rs2066462 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11854896 |
| rs6541003 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11855867 |
| rs17421511 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11857788 |
| rs4846052 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11857951 |
| rs17421560 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11858324 |
| rs11121832 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11860120 |
| rs2066471 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11860458 |
| rs7533315 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11860683 |
| rs17037390 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11860843 |
| rs17037396 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11862047 |
| rs17037397 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11862163 |
| rs2066470 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11863057 |
| rs7553194 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11864149 |
| rs3753582 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11865542 |
| rs13306561 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11865804 |
| rs3737965 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11866451 |
| rs3737964 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11867044 |

Abbreviations: *BHMT*, betaine-homocysteine S-methyltransferase; *CBS*, cystathionine beta-synthase; *HFE*, hemochromatosis protein; *MTHFR*, Methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase; *MTR*, methionine synthase; SNP, single-nucleotide polymorphism; *TF*, transferrin.

Table S2. Associations between blood lead concentrations and plasma homocysteine levels ($\mu\text{mol/L}$)^a, further adjusted for the dietary levels of vitamin B6, folate, and both

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | p-value^b |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Further adjusted for vitamin B6 | 10.72 (1.04) | 11.11 (1.05) | 11.55 (1.05) | 11.57 (1.05) | 0.0630 |
| Further adjusted for folate | 10.73 (1.04) | 11.14 (1.05) | 11.58 (1.05) | 11.60 (1.05) | 0.0574 |
| Further adjusted for both | 10.70 (1.04) | 11.10 (1.05) | 11.54 (1.05) | 11.57 (1.05) | 0.0576 |

Abbreviations: Q1, first quartile of blood lead concentrations; Q2, second quartile; Q3, third quartile; Q4, fourth quartile.

^aResults are shown as geometric means (geometric standard deviations) of homocysteine concentrations by each quartile of blood lead level.

^bBasic models were adjusted for age at the time of lead measurement, sex, alcohol drinking, tobacco smoking, education level, body mass index, time between lead and homocysteine measurements, and creatinine clearance.

Table S3. Interactions between blood lead concentrations and *TF* polymorphisms with respect to plasma homocysteine levels^a

| Lead levels | Q1 | | | Q2 | | | Q3 | | | Q4 | | | |
|------------------------------|----|-----------|---------------|----|---------|---------------|----|---------|----------------|----|---------|---------------|----------------------|
| | n | β | (95% CI) | n | β | (95% CI) | n | β | (95% CI) | n | β | (95% CI) | p-value ^b |
| rs2715632 variant allele (T) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 82 | Reference | | 75 | 0.05 | (-0.04, 0.15) | 77 | 0.09 | (-0.01, 0.18) | 73 | 0.03 | (-0.07, 0.13) | 0.3186 |
| 1–2 | 19 | -0.02 | (-0.17, 0.13) | 15 | -0.08 | (-0.24, 0.08) | 11 | 0.05 | (-0.15, 0.24) | 24 | 0.21 | (0.07, 0.34) | 0.0291 |
| <i>p</i> -value ^c | | 0.7169 | | | 0.0822 | | | 0.9976 | | | 0.0146 | | |
| rs2715631 variant allele (G) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 84 | Reference | | 75 | 0.05 | (-0.05, 0.15) | 78 | 0.09 | (-0.005, 0.18) | 73 | 0.03 | (-0.07, 0.13) | 0.2650 |
| 1–2 | 20 | -0.04 | (-0.19, 0.11) | 17 | -0.05 | (-0.20, 0.11) | 12 | -0.01 | (-0.19, 0.18) | 25 | 0.23 | (0.09, 0.36) | 0.0149 |
| <i>p</i> -value ^c | | 0.5486 | | | 0.1743 | | | 0.6951 | | | 0.0052 | | |
| rs2715627 variant allele (C) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 84 | Reference | | 76 | 0.05 | (-0.04, 0.15) | 78 | 0.09 | (-0.004, 0.18) | 73 | 0.03 | (-0.06, 0.13) | 0.2807 |
| 1–2 | 20 | -0.04 | (-0.19, 0.11) | 16 | -0.06 | (-0.22, 0.09) | 12 | -0.005 | (-0.19, 0.18) | 25 | 0.23 | (0.09, 0.36) | 0.0126 |
| <i>p</i> -value ^c | | 0.5486 | | | 0.1042 | | | 0.6951 | | | 0.0052 | | |

Abbreviations: *TF*, transferrin; Q1, first quartile; Q2, second quartile; Q3, third quartile; Q4, fourth quartile.

^aLinear regression models adjusted for age at the time of lead measurement, sex, alcohol drinking, tobacco smoking, education level, body mass index, time from lead measurement to homocysteine measurement, and creatinine clearance were used to assess the associations.

^b*p*-values were estimated within strata of genotype.

^c*p*-values were estimated within strata of lead quartile group.

Table S4. Associations between blood lead concentrations and plasma homocysteine levels^a, stratified by the presence or absence of selected single-nucleotide polymorphism variant alleles

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | p-value ^b |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| rs2715632 variant allele (T) | | | | | |
| 0 | 11.15 (1.05) | 11.80 (1.05) | 12.15 (1.05) | 11.60 (1.06) | 0.3186 |
| 1–2 | 9.70 (1.15) | 9.06 (1.14) | 10.15 (1.16) | 12.24 (1.14) | 0.0291 |
| rs2715631 variant allele (G) | | | | | |
| 0 | 11.05 (1.05) | 11.64 (1.05) | 12.09 (1.05) | 11.52 (1.06) | 0.2650 |
| 1–2 | 8.70 (1.14) | 8.46 (1.13) | 8.83 (1.14) | 11.29 (1.13) | 0.0149 |
| rs2715627 variant allele (C) | | | | | |
| 0 | 11.03 (1.05) | 11.65 (1.05) | 12.06 (1.05) | 11.49 (1.06) | 0.2807 |
| 1–2 | 8.70 (1.14) | 8.43 (1.13) | 8.99 (1.14) | 11.42 (1.13) | 0.0126 |

Abbreviations: Q1, first quartile; Q2, second quartile; Q3, third quartile; Q4, fourth quartile.

^aResults are shown as geometric means (geometric standard deviations).

^bLinear regression models adjusted for age at the time of lead measurement, sex, alcohol drinking, tobacco smoking, education level, body mass index, time from lead measurement to homocysteine measurement, and creatinine clearance were used to assess the associations.

Table S5. Imputed single-nucleotide polymorphisms in *TF* and *MTHFR* found to interact with lead levels versus homocysteine levels with the 2 df joint test^a

| SNP rs no. | Gene | Chr | Position | MAF | β (main) | SE (main) | β (int) | SE (int) | 1 df <i>p</i> -value | 2 df <i>p</i> -value |
|------------|--------------|-----|-----------|------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| rs2718806 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134968791 | 0.10 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.0084 | 0.0265 |
| rs8649 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134969648 | 0.10 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.0084 | 0.0265 |
| rs1525890 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134972281 | 0.10 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.0084 | 0.0265 |
| rs1115219 | <i>TF</i> | 3 | 134977715 | 0.10 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.0084 | 0.0265 |
| rs4846049 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11784631 | 0.16 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.6934 | 0.0450 |
| rs1801131 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11788742 | 0.16 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.6727 | 0.0482 |
| rs12121543 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11788937 | 0.15 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.4773 | 0.0385 |
| rs1994798 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11789021 | 0.17 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.6513 | 0.0423 |
| rs6541003 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11790133 | 0.16 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.6727 | 0.0483 |
| rs4846052 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11792217 | 0.16 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.6727 | 0.0483 |
| rs3737964 | <i>MTHFR</i> | 1 | 11801310 | 0.11 | 0.09 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.2949 | 0.0361 |

Abbreviations: Chr, chromosome; df, degree-of-freedom; int, interaction; MAF, minor allele frequency; *MTHFR*, Methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase; SE, standard error; SNP, single-nucleotide polymorphism; *TF*, transferrin.

Figure Legend

Figure S1. Linkage disequilibrium in the selected *TF* region

