eAppendix. Characteristics of cases with and controls without MRI-confirmed acute stroke

Participant characteristics*	**Cases with stroke (n = 103)**	**Controls without stroke (n = 200)**
Demographic		
Mean (SD) age, years	60.4 (10.8)	57.9 (11.0)
Female	44 (42.7)	103 (51.5)
Stroke risk factors		
Current smoker	24 (28.9)	51 (31.1)
Known current heavy ethanol intake	10 (14.9)	15 (10.4)
Mean (SD) initial systolic blood pressure, mm Hg	151.8 (31.0)	143.2 (26.2)
History of hypertension	54 (57.5)	104 (55.0)
Current use of an antihypertensive agent	49 (52.1)	105 (55.6)
Current evidence of atrial fibrillation	11 (10.9)	9 (4.6)
Mean (SD) serum LDL-cholesterol, mmol/L	2.6 (1.1)	2.8 (1.2)
Mean (SD) serum glucose, mmol/L	8.1 (7.4)	6.5 (2.5)
Mean (SD) serum creatinine, µmol/L	90.2 (52.8)	87.7 (31.9)
Neuroimaging		
Location of the acute stroke on diffusion weighted MRI		
1 = subcortical	5 (4.9)	--
2 = cortical	32 (31.1)	--
3 = deep	23 (22.3)	--
4 = cerebellar	9 (8.7)	--
5 = brainstem	10 (9.7)	--
6 = multiple	24 (23.3)	--

Participant characteristics*	**Cases with stroke (n = 103)**	**Controls without stroke (n = 200)**
Side of the acute stroke on MRI		
1 = Left	45 (43.7)	--
2 = Right	46 (44.7)	--
3 = Both	12 (11.7)	--
Evidence of old stroke on MRI	28 (27.2)	25 (12.5)
Microangiopathic changes seen on MRI	75 (72.8)	105 (52.5)
Doppler ultrasonography or MR angiography of the carotid arteries	95 (92.2)	188 (94.0)
Measured ≥ 70% carotid artery stenosis on either side	22 (23.4)	11 (5.9)
Transaminase measurements		
Median interval from MRI, days	2	17
Serum alanine aminotransferase, U/L		
Mean (SD)	29.8 (19.0)	23.5 (10.7)
95th centile	72.0	40.0
Mean (SD) serum aspartate aminotransferase, U/L		
Mean (SD)	27.8 (12.9)	23.9 (9.0)
95th centile	47.0	37.5
Mean (SD) aspartate aminotransferase:alanine aminotransferase ratio	1.1 (0.35)	1.1 (0.34)

*Data are presented as a number (%) unless otherwise indicated