

# Redefining the Genetic Architecture of Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy: Role of Intermediate Effect Variants

**Running title:** *Hernandez et al.; Intermediate Effect Variants in HCM*

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## Abstract

**Background:** Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) is a genetically heterogeneous disorder primarily linked to rare variants in sarcomere genes, though recently certain non-sarcomeric genes have emerged as important contributors. Non-Mendelian genetic variants with reproducible moderate effect sizes and low penetrance —intermediate-effect variants (IEVs)—, can play a crucial role in modulating disease expression. Understanding the clinical impact of IEVs is crucial to unravel HCM's complex genetic architecture.

**Methods:** We conducted an ancestry-based enrichment analysis of 14 validated HCM genes, including the nine-core sarcomere and five non-sarcomere genes (*ALPK3*, *CSRP3*, *FHOD3*, *FLNC*, *TRIM63*). Enrichment of intermediate frequency missense variants was evaluated in 10,981 HCM cases vs 4,030 internal-controls of European-ancestry, and in 590,000 external-controls from gnomAD non-Finnish Europeans. Population-Attributable Fraction (PAF) was calculated to assess IEVs' contribution to HCM. Age-related disease penetrance, phenotypic severity (LVMWT), and major adverse cardiac events (MACE) were analyzed in 11,991 HCM cases of the whole cohort according to five genetic groups: genotype-negative, isolated IEV, monogenic, monogenic + IEV, and double monogenic.

**Results:** Fourteen IEVs in eight genes were identified in 731 individuals (6.1% of the cohort), of whom 570 patients (4.8%) had IEVs in isolation: 198 (34.7%) in sarcomeric genes and 372 (65.3%) in non-sarcomeric genes. Contribution of IEVs to HCM genetics according to PAF was estimated to be 4.9% (CI95%: 3.2%–6.7%). A significant gradient in penetrance, phenotypic severity, and MACE was observed across genetic groups. Compared to genotype-negative patients, IEV carriers displayed a younger median age at diagnosis (59 years; CI95%: 46–69 vs 61 years; CI95%: 49–70;  $p=0.0073$ ) and a higher mean LVMWT ( $18.1\pm3.7$  vs  $19.0\pm4.3$ ;  $p=0.0043$ ). IEVs also modified disease expression in individuals with monogenic variants causing a more aggressive phenotype than individuals from the Monogenic-only group with HCM onset at younger age and a higher LVMWT (all  $p<0.0001$ ), being MACE-free survival significantly lower (93.3% vs 69.3% at age 70;  $p<0.0001$ ).

**Conclusions:** IEVs are present in 6.1% of HCM cases and account for 4.8% of HCM genetic burden. IEVs also influence disease severity and outcomes, particularly when combined with monogenic disease-causing variants. Evaluation of IEVs should be considered when performing HCM genetic testing.

**Key Words:** Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy; Genetic Testing; Phenotypic Modifiers; Sarcomeric Proteins; Non-sarcomeric Genes; Intermediate-Effect Variants

## Non-standard Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACMG = American College of Medical Genetics

CI = confidence intervals

FAF = filtered allele frequency

GWAS = genome-wide association studies

HCM = hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

hiPSC = human-induced pluripotent stem cells

ICD = implantable cardioverter-defibrillator

IEV = intermediate effect variant

LVMWT = left ventricular maximum wall thickness

MACE = major adverse cardiac events

MAE = major arrhythmic events

NFE = Non-Finish European subpopulation

NGS = next generation sequencing

OR = odds ratio

P/LP = pathogenic/likely pathogenic

PAF = population attributable fraction

PCA = principal component analysis

PRS = polygenic risk score

SCD = sudden cardiac death

VUS = variant of uncertain significance



Circulation

## Clinical Perspective

### What is new?

- This study identifies and quantifies the contribution of intermediate-effect variants (IEVs) to hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) in a large, ancestrally homogeneous cohort.
- IEVs are associated with earlier age at diagnosis, greater left ventricular hypertrophy, and a higher risk of major adverse cardiac events (MACE) compared to genotype-negative cases.
- The clinical impact of IEVs is more pronounced when co-occurring with monogenic variants, modifying disease course and contributing to greater severity through a cumulative effect.

### What are the clinical implications?

- IEVs should be recognized as relevant genetic contributors in HCM, especially when interpreting genetic test results that do not meet classic Mendelian thresholds.
- Comprehensive variant assessments, including IEVs, may enhance risk stratification and clinical decision-making.
- Genetic counseling and cascade screening protocols may benefit from incorporating the potential modifying role of IEVs in affected families in the future.

## Introduction

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) is characterized by significant genetic and clinical heterogeneity. The diagnostic yield of genetic testing varies depending on the cohort studied. In most cases, the frequency of actionable positive findings does not exceed 50% being less than 30% in more recent cohorts.<sup>1–3</sup> The accuracy of variant's interpretation and comprehensiveness of the genetic study are critical factors to maximize the potential of genetic testing in inherited heart conditions.<sup>4–6</sup>

Although HCM is predominantly caused by rare pathogenic/likely pathogenic (P/LP) variants (monogenic variants) in core sarcomeric genes, structural and regulatory genes that have been recently identified also contribute to the genetic spectrum of HCM. The updated ClinGen gene-disease curation for HCM has classified several non-sarcomere genes with moderate to definitive evidence, including *ALPK3*, *CSRP3*, *FHOD3* and *TRIM63*.<sup>7</sup> Overall, variants in these non-sarcomere genes are estimated nowadays to account for 5–10% of HCM cases based on their reported prevalence in several studies.<sup>8–11</sup>

Despite these advances, a substantial proportion of the genetic basis of HCM remains unexplained. Determining whether a variant is associated with HCM is frequently challenging due to incomplete penetrance and variable expressivity, suggesting that environmental, epigenetic, and additional genetic factors play a significant role in disease expression. Recently, it has been suggested that non-rare genetic variants can modify the penetrance and phenotypic severity of HCM cases caused by rare monogenic variants.<sup>12,13</sup> These non-rare genetic variants could also potentially contribute to phenotype in HCM cases without monogenic variants commonly referred as “genotype-negative”.<sup>14</sup> Therefore, the genetic architecture of HCM can be conceptualized as a continuum. At one end there are common polymorphisms with minimal

individual impact, whose collective contribution to disease risk is beginning to be explored through polygenic risk scores (PRS).<sup>15</sup> At the other end there are rare monogenic variants with high clinical impact, characterized by high penetrance and familial aggregation. Between these extremes lies a spectrum of variants with non-negligible allele frequencies in controls—above the maximum credible frequency for the disorder—that would be enriched in HCM cases. These variants, with an intermediate effect size, can be broadly classified as intermediate effect variants (IEV).

Here, we identify and characterize the effect and contribution of IEVs in a large single-center-sequenced cohort of HCM probands, focusing on fourteen validated HCM disease-causing genes and employing a principal-component-analysis (PCA) with ancestry-matched internal and external controls. We explore the potential role of IEVs as contributors to the genetic burden of HCM and as phenotypic modifiers in the presence of monogenic variants in primary HCM genes.

## Methods

### Data Availability

Data and materials that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

### Study population and phenotypic characterization

This report adheres to the STROBE (Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology) reporting guideline that can be consulted in the Supplemental Material.

Between May 2014 and June 2024, more than 35,000 consecutive unrelated probands with different inherited cardiac conditions have been sequenced in Health in Code S.L. by Next-Generation-Sequencing (NGS). Patients with HCM and individuals with other cardiac conditions

excluding cardiomyopathies and overlapping phenotypes were selected. The HCM cohort consisted of 14,113 probands; the control cohort comprised 8,144 probands. Phenotypes were determined by the respective referring centers prior to genetic testing.

Phenotypic data were collected retrospectively from clinical records from those patients that accepted to participate and gave informed consent; IRB approval was obtained from of A Coruña/Ferrol Ethics Committee (registry COV27-061). This study adhered to the ethical principles outlined in the Declaration of Helsinki and was conducted in compliance with international ethical standards to ensure the protection, rights, and well-being of participants.

### **Variant Genotyping and Classification**

All the probands were sequenced by NGS customized sequencing libraries. The number of genes varied through time, ranging from 242 genes in the first library in 2014, to 368 genes in the latest one; libraries were regularly updated to include genes with new evidence of association with inherited cardiac diseases (Table S1).

For the variant enrichment analysis, all cases and controls in which the evaluated genes were sequenced were used. For the phenotypic characterization, only 11,991 cases that had been sequenced after 2017 were included to ensure the homogeneity of the cohort, as previous libraries did not include *ALPK3*, *CSRP3*, and *TRIM63*, facilitating consistent sequencing depth, gene coverage, and confounder detection.

Each genetic variant was classified according to tailored American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) criteria (see Detailed Methods-NGS Sequencing Methods). The pathogenicity assessment of the 1,189 variants identified in the cohort can be found in Table S2.

"HCM primary genes" were defined as those with definitive, strong, or moderate associations to HCM per current ClinGen curation, encompassing nine sarcomeric (*MYBPC3*, *MYH7*, *TNNT2*,



*TNNI3*, *TNNC1*, *ACTC1*, *TPM1*, *MYL3*, *MYL2*) and five non-sarcomeric genes (*ALPK3*, *CSRP3*, *FLNC*, *FHOD3*, *TRIM63*); HCM genocopy genes such as *TTR*, *GLA*, *PTPN11*, *LAMP2*, *PRKAG2*, *RAF1* and mitochondrial genes were not considered.

### Enrichment Analysis and IEV Selection

Enrichment analysis was performed comparing frequencies of the variants in HCM cases with both internal controls (non-cardiomyopathy cases) and external controls extracted from gnomAD (<https://gnomad.broadinstitute.org/>, version V4.1.0) as described before.<sup>16</sup> Enrichment was measured by two-sided odds ratio (OR) with 95% confidence intervals (CI), with statistical significance determined by Fisher's exact test.

A PCA was performed utilizing common variants present in the sequencing library to select European ancestry probands for both cases and internal controls, to mitigate potential biases associated with the asymmetric variant frequencies across different ancestries. The Non-Finnish European (NFE) subpopulation of gnomAD was used as the external control. The estimated penetrance for each variant was calculated by comparing the allele frequency of individual variants in our HCM cohort (after PCA-based ancestry adjustment) with the background frequency of the same variants in the gnomAD-NFE population (See supplementary material for detailed methods-PCA analysis and Figure S1).<sup>17</sup>

Only missense variants in HCM primary genes were evaluated. Variants affecting splicing by previous functional studies obtained from the literature (Table S3) and probands with P/LP variants in genes considered genocopies (metabolic disorders, RASopathies, glycogen storage diseases, mitochondrial diseases, and cardiac amyloidosis) were excluded from enrichment and phenotypic analysis.

The criteria for defining IEVs were as follows:

- Intermediate range of Filter Allele Frequency (FAF) – the maximum credible genetic ancestry group allele frequency in non-bottlenecked ancestry groups in gnomAD v4.1.0:
  - Upper limit: 0.01 (threshold for considering a variant a polymorphism).
  - Lower limit: 0.00004 (the maximum credible frequency to classify a variant as monogenic for HCM primary genes).<sup>18</sup>
- Significant enrichment in cases-controls of broad European ancestry based on PCA:
  - Case count  $\geq 5$
  - Derivation external-control cohort (gnomAD-NFE):  $OR \geq 2$  and  $p < 0.05$ .
  - Replication internal-control cohort (non-cardiomyopathy cases):  $OR \geq 2$  and  $p < 0.1$ .
- Estimated penetrance below 15% and/or  $OR < 15$  (against internal controls), for excluding possible monogenic variants. This value was used as established in the specific ClinGen recommendations for evaluating risk alleles to define a variant as monogenic.<sup>19</sup>

The Population Attributable Fraction (PAF) associated with IEVs was assessed through an adjusted etiological fraction analysis (supplemental material).<sup>20</sup>

### Phenotypic Analysis according to genetic findings

The clinical variables evaluated were age-related disease penetrance (age at diagnosis), left ventricular maximum wall thickness (LVMWT), and a composite endpoint of Major Adverse Cardiac Events (MACE) that included Major Arrhythmic Events (MAE) -sudden cardiac death (SCD), aborted SCD, and appropriate Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD) shock- and Heart Failure Death (HFD) -heart failure death and cardiac transplant-.

We categorized the HCM cohort into five distinct genetic groups for phenotypic analysis:

- *Negative*: cases without candidate genetic variants that could explain the disease, including monogenic variants, variants of uncertain significance in HCM primary

genes, and IEVs. Cases harboring LP/P variants in simple heterozygosis in genes with exclusively recessive inheritance (*TRIM63*, *KLHL24*, recessive genocopy genes) were also included in this group.

- *IEV*: probands harboring an IEV in HCM primary genes in isolation.
- *Monogenic*: Probands harboring a P/LP monogenic variant in HCM primary genes in isolation.
- *Monogenic-IEV*: Probands carrying a P/LP monogenic variant in HCM primary genes *and* at least one IEV.
- *Double monogenic*: Probands harboring *two or more* P/LP monogenic variants in HCM primary genes.

Patients carrying a variant of uncertain significance (VUS), whether in isolation or in combination with other variant classes, were excluded from phenotypic and intersection analyses; VUS includes both potentially pathogenic and likely benign variants and they might introduce analytical noise and compromise interpretability.

### Statistical analysis

Continuous variables were expressed as mean  $\pm$  SD (normal distribution) or median and 25th–75th percentile (non-normal), and categorical data as frequencies (%). Continuous variables were compared using Student's t-test (two groups, normally distributed) or ANOVA (multiple groups, normally distributed) with p-values adjusted using the Benjamini–Hochberg method. For non-parametric data, the Mann–Whitney U test (two groups) or Kruskal–Wallis test (multiple groups) followed, when significant, by Dunn's post-hoc test with Bonferroni correction were applied. For categorical variables, chi-square tests were used for overall group comparisons, and when



significant, pairwise comparisons of proportions with Bonferroni-adjusted p-values were performed.

Kaplan-Meier curves and log-rank tests assessed age-related penetrance and survival; post-hoc pairwise comparisons and Cox regression (univariable and age-adjusted) were performed to address survival curve biases. The proportional hazards (PH) assumption was tested using Schoenfeld residuals. All tests were two-tailed;  $p < 0.05$  was considered significant. Analyses were performed in R Studio 4.3.2.

## Results

### IEVs selection

We identified 108 candidate missense variants which showed a FAF between 0.004% and 1% and were individually present in more than 5 HCM cases in the cohort. Using a PCA-adjusted strategy focused on European ancestry cases and controls, 66 of these variants were found to be enriched in HCM cases compared to gnomAD-NFE external controls, of which 17 were also validated through comparison with internal controls. Without restriction on European-ancestry cases, 127 candidate variants of which 69 were enriched compared to external controls and 19 versus internal controls would have been selected (Figure 1).

Three of the seventeen variants initially identified were classified as monogenic variants: *TPM1*:p.Met281Val and *MYL3*:pAla143Thr had an estimated penetrance above the established threshold of 15%, and *MYBPC3*:p.Arg502Trp had an  $OR \geq 15$  compared to internal controls (Figure 1 and Table S4). Figure 2 displays the architecture of the genetic variants identified in HCM cases, showing the correlation between the ORs (HCM cases vs internal controls) and the FAF of each variant.

Finally, 14 variants were classified as IEVs (Figure 3, Table 1, and Table S5). Of these, 10 were present in sarcomeric genes and 4 in non-sarcomeric genes. IEVs in sarcomeric genes included: four in *MYBPC3* (p.Arg1022Pro, p.Arg1036His, p.Arg1226Cys, p.Glu441Lys), two each in *MYH7* (p.Asp1652Tyr, p.Ile1927Phe) and *TNNT2* (p.Arg278Cys, p.Arg286His), and one in *MYL3* (p.Ala57Asp) and in *TNNI3* (p.Arg162). The four IEVs present in non-sarcomeric genes were: two in *FHOD3* (p.Arg637Gln and p.Arg638Trp), and one each in *FLNC* (p.Ala2430Val) and *TRIM63* (p.Cys23Tyr). Of note, 65.3% of the probands with isolated IEV had a non-sarcomeric IEV, with the most frequent variant being *FHOD3* p.Arg637Gln, present in 49.3% of probands carrying IEVs (Table S6).

The comparison of ORs calculated using internal versus external (gnomAD-NFE) controls showed similar enrichment patterns for most of the selected variants. However, variants such as *TNNI3*:p.Arg162Trp, *TNNT2*:p.Arg286His, *MYH7*:p.Asp1652Tyr, *MYBPC3*:p.Arg1226Cys, and *TRIM63*:p.Cys23Tyr exhibited greater enrichment when compared to gnomAD, potentially highlighting genetic differences between our cohort and the NFE population in gnomAD, even after PCA-based selection of European-ancestry individuals (Figure S2). Some of the variants excluded in the filtering process exhibited IEV-like enrichment in cases in our cohort ( $OR \geq 2$ ) but were not statistically significant (see Tables S7-S8 for full details).

The identification of the previously published recessive variant in *TRIM63*:p.Cys23Tyr as a IEV,<sup>11</sup> and the results of a new study suggesting that null variants in heterozygosis might be associated with HCM,<sup>21</sup> prompted us to investigate whether these type of variants could also represent an intermediate-effect genetic substrate. Enrichment analysis of these null variants in heterozygosity against gnomAD-NFE revealed a marginally significant enrichment ( $OR=2.39$ ,

CI95%:1.65–3.47,  $p<0.0001$ ), that was not validated against internal controls (OR=1.34, CI95%:0.74–2.42,  $p=0.337$ ) (Table S9), reinforcing our approach of treating cases with heterozygous null variants in *TRIM63* as negative.

### **Yield of Genetic Testing and Genetic Composition of the Cohort**

Overall results of genetic testing in the 11,991 HCM probands with complete genetic evaluation of the 14 HCM primary genes are shown in Figure 4. A P/LP monogenic variant in a HCM disease-causing gene was identified in 2,767 individuals (23.1%) while 731 (6.1%) had IEVs. Among those individuals with monogenic variants, 81.6% had a variant in a sarcomeric gene, with the two most frequently affected genes being *MYBPC3* (49.6%) and *MYH7* (23.5%). The relative contribution for each of the remaining sarcomeric genes was  $<6\%$ . Additionally, 230 cases (8.3% of the positive cases) had a single HCM disease-causing variant in a non-sarcomeric gene, with *ALPK3* and *FHOD3* being the most prevalent (4.3% and 2.0%, respectively). The remaining positive cases were explained by genocopies (4.4%; 123), or complex genotypes of multiple P/LP variants or combination of a P/LP variant with and IEV (5.8%; 156). Additionally, 557 subjects (4.7%) had a relevant VUS in isolation.

### **IEVs contribute to HCM**

A total of 570 subjects carried an IEV in isolation, representing 4.76% of the whole cohort. Using the approximation of the Population Attributable Fraction (PAF), the proportion of HCM cases in the entire cohort attributable to IEVs was estimated to be 4.91% (CI95%: 3.22-6.66%). The presence of a P/LP monogenic HCM variants in individuals with IEVs was significantly lower than in the overall cohort (13.1% vs 23.1%,  $p<0.0001$ ) providing additional evidence that IEVs contribute to HCM phenotype, because otherwise the proportion of individuals with

monogenic variants should have been similar among individuals with IEVs and the overall cohort.

Furthermore, we analyzed the presence of IEVs across some well-known specific substrates for HCM, such as *MYBPC3* truncating variants (*MYBPC3tv*), *MYH7* P/LP missense variants, and *ALPK3tv* (considered low-penetrance monogenic variants). Interestingly, among *ALPK3tv* variant carriers, 5.2% also had an IEV. In contrast, the co-occurrence of IEVs was lower in *MYBPC3tv* (3.6%) and *MYH7* P/LP (3.0%) variant carriers, yet higher than the co-occurrence of other P/LP HCM variants in these groups (double-monogenic cases: 1.3% and 1.1%, respectively). A gradient in the frequency co-occurrence of IEVs was observed according to genetic substrates, increasing from highly penetrant monogenic substrates to those with lower penetrance, and reaching the higher value in cases without monogenic variants (Figure 4C).

### **IEVs influence HCM phenotype**

HCM patients were stratified into five distinct groups for phenotypic comparative analysis: Negative (n=8,091), IEV (n=570), Monogenic (n=2,434), Monogenic + IEV (n=90), and Double-Monogenic (n=46). Probands with at least one relevant VUS in a primary HCM gene and/or a disease-causing variant in genocopies or secondary genes were not considered (n=770).

The phenotypic results across groups are presented in Table 2 and Figure 5. A progressive increase in age-related penetrance was observed across the different groups, with the lowest penetrance observed in Negative individuals (median: 61 years, 25th-75th percentile: 49-70), followed by IEV (59 years, 25th-75th percentile: 46-69) and Monogenic (50 years, 25th-75th percentile: 38-62), Monogenic + IEV (46 years, 25th-75th percentile: 31-58), and the highest penetrance in the Double Monogenic (37 years, 25th-75th percentile: 21-56), these differences were statistically significant ( $p < 0.0001$ ). Pairwise comparisons between the groups demonstrated

that significant differences were maintained for all comparisons except for Monogenic + IEV compared to the Double Monogenic group ( $p=0.43$ ), which is probably explained by the lower number of observations in these two groups.

Since the *FHOD3*:p.Arg637Gln variant was identified in 50% of probands carrying IEVs, we compared its effects to the other IEVs. No significant differences were observed in age at diagnosis, MACE-free survival, or LVMWT distribution between *FHOD3*:p.Arg637Gln carriers and those with other IEVs, suggesting no distinct phenotypic impact for this variant within the cohort (Figure S3). A sensitivity analysis excluding *FHOD3*:p.Arg637Gln showed consistent differences in age at diagnosis, MACE-free survival, and LVMWT across genetic groups (all  $p<0.0001$ ). Monogenic + IEV carriers still exhibited more severe phenotypes than monogenic-only cases, demonstrating that the additive effect of IEVs is not solely driven by *FHOD3*:p.Arg637Gln (Figure S4).

Additionally, we included the *TNNI3*:p.Arg162Gln variant as a separate group, given that some previous reports have considered it monogenic, and the *MYBPC3*:p.Arg502Trp variant, which exhibited several characteristics of an IEV but was ultimately excluded and classified as monogenic in the final step of the analysis. There were no differences in age-related penetrance between IEVs, *FHOD3*:p.Arg637Gln, and *TNNI3*:p.Arg162Gln, whereas *MYBPC3*:p.Arg502Trp was significantly higher, supporting its inclusion in the monogenic group (Figure S5).

The survival analysis for MACE (Figure 6) also revealed significant differences across groups ( $p<0.0001$ ). MACE was significantly higher in the Monogenic + IEV group, compared to the Monogenic group ( $p<0.0001$ ), and similar to the Double Monogenic group ( $p=0.67$ ). Because the divergence in MACE-free survival curves beginning around age 40 and may be influenced by a decreasing number at risk and the possibility of survival bias, we performed a Cox-regression





analysis, univariable and adjusted by age-of-diagnosis (Figures S6 and S7). The results were consistent, being the Monogenic + IEV group the only category with a significant increase in MACE risk after adjustment, confirming that its effect is not driven solely by differences in age at presentation.

LVMWT also exhibited a statistically significant gradient of severity across groups ( $p < 0.0001$ ), from Negative to Double-Monogenic (Figure 6C-D). When analyzing the proportion of cases with severe ( $\text{LVMWT} > 25\text{mm}$ ) and massive ( $\text{LVMWT} > 30\text{mm}$ ) thickness, the differences between groups were both statistically significant ( $p < 0.0001$ ), with the same gradient of severity observed for the five genetic categories.

An analysis of age-related penetrance, MACE, and LVMWT stratified by sex, resulted in similar findings across genetic groups. In both sexes, adding an IEV to a monogenic variant was associated with earlier diagnosis, increased wall thickness, and higher event rates; these differences were more pronounced in females (Figures S8-S10). We observed that age-related penetrance of HCM was higher in males than in females, but this sex-effect is decreasing towards higher-burden subgroups and disappearing in the Monogenic + IEV and Double Monogenic groups (Figure S7B).

We next assessed whether the combination of a sarcomeric or non-sarcomeric IEV in carriers of only monogenic sarcomeric variants modifies disease expression (Figure S11). No statistically significant differences were observed, though a non-significant trend toward greater LVMWT ( $p = 0.063$ ) and higher MACE incidence ( $p = 0.141$ ) was noted in carriers of sarcomeric IEVs.

A spectrum of effect by zygosity was observed for 9 of the 14 IEVs identified, with a total of 28 homozygous or compound heterozygous cases described in this cohort (10 cases) or in

the literature (18 cases) (Figure 6, Table S10). The age of disease onset in patients with biallelic IEVs was significantly lower than in heterozygous cases in our cohort:  $33.34 \pm 15.20$  vs.  $55.73 \pm 17.41$  years,  $p < 0.0001$ . In addition to further evidence for their pathogenic role, these findings reinforce the low penetrance of these variants in heterozygosis and a more severe phenotype under biallelic involvement.

## Discussion

Our study focused on exploring the contribution and impact of IEVs in HCM includes the largest cohort of patients described to date analyzing this type of variant and is built on robust methodological grounds providing valuable insights into the HCM genetic landscape. We included both sarcomeric and non-sarcomeric genes with a validated association with primary HCM and our selection of IEVs was conducted using PCA-based ancestry and incorporating a dual validation approach with both internal non-cardiomyopathy controls (with a uniform sequencing approach) and large population datasets. Our study describes fourteen IEVs across nine genes that were present in 6.1% of HCM cases and shows that IEVs account for 4.8% of HCM of the overall genetic risk attributable to IEVs. We also demonstrated that IEVs influence disease severity and outcomes, particularly when combined with monogenic disease-causing variants. Both sarcomeric and non-sarcomeric IEVs modulate age-related penetrance in monogenic sarcomeric HCM, with sarcomeric IEVs exerting a more pronounced impact on hypertrophy and clinical outcomes. These contrasting effects may reflect differential synergistic interactions between each type of IEV and the monogenic sarcomeric background. These results highlight the importance of IEVs in HCM and suggest that evaluation of IEVs should be routinely considered when undertaking HCM genetic testing.

Description of IEVs in HCM is challenging because identification of these variants is highly dependent on the patient and control cohorts employed and confirming its biological influence difficult. Our study used cases and controls with the same broad ancestral background reducing the potential for bias in observed associations between genetic variants and disease traits due to differences in allele frequencies across diverse populations. While this method does not achieve the level of precision offered by genome-wide profiling in tightly matched genome-wide association studies (GWAS) studies, it enhances the accuracy of variant identification and strengthens genotype-phenotype correlations. The co-occurrence of monogenic and intermediate-effect variants (IEVs) in the same gene was rare in our cohort and, when observed, typically involved variants on separate alleles (Table S11) arguing against linkage disequilibrium as a major contributor to enrichment.



A subset of the IEVs identified in our study have also been functionally characterized through experimental studies, providing supportive to moderate evidence for their potential pathogenicity, including *MYBPC3*:p.Glu441Lys,<sup>22,23</sup> *TNNI3*:p.Arg162Trp,<sup>24–26</sup> *TNNT2*:p.Arg278Cys<sup>13,27–30</sup> and *TNNT2*:p.Arg286His.<sup>31</sup> However, the challenges in functionally validating variants of modest effect sizes are highlighted by the *MYL3*:p.Ala57Asp variant identified in our study for which no pathogenic effect was observed in heterozygous or homozygous CRISPR-Cas9-edited cardiomyocytes despite compelling human genetic evidence of its pathogenicity.<sup>32</sup> Moreover, some of the identified IEVs are in mutational hotspots and/or affect the same residue of one definitive disease-causing variants, further underlining their biological relevance (Table S12). Lastly, the analysis of biallelic cases with IEVs performed also demonstrated a clear dose-gradient effect, with homozygous or compound heterozygous carriers exhibiting significantly earlier disease onset and associated with a more severe phenotype and

worse prognosis compared to heterozygous carriers, which also supports the pathological role of these variants.

Most of the 14 selected IEVs were homogeneously enriched when comparing external and internal controls in our cohort. However, some IEVs, such as *TNNI3*:p.Arg162Trp, *TNNT2*:p.Arg286His, *MYH7*:p.Asp1652Tyr, *MYBPC3*:p.Arg1226Cys, and *TRIM63*:p.Cys23Tyr, demonstrated an increased external OR (effect sizes) compared to the internal OR. While PCA adjustment mitigates some ancestry-related biases, the internal OR serves as our primary metric to accurately assess the strength of effect when analyzing variants. Ancestry in the HCM cohort was defined using principal component analysis (PCA), a statistical technique that identifies major patterns of genetic variation across individuals. This is particularly important in multi-center cohorts with diverse backgrounds, improving downstream association analyses. Complementarily, the use of internal controls reduces the influence of population stratification and technical heterogeneity, while also accounting for cohort-specific confounders. As the internal control cohort is smaller than public reference datasets, it remains possible that some variants were conservatively filtered out and could meet IEV criteria in the future.

A further advantage of these large-scale cohorts is the identification of IEVs at low frequencies in Europeans, but which are likely much more prevalent in other ancestries based on gnomAD data (e.g. *TNNT2*:p.Arg286His in East Asians and *MYBPC3*:p.Glu441Lys in Middle East).

The fact that genetic findings impact phenotypic expression in HCM is widely recognized. HCM patients with monogenic sarcomeric variants have been reported to present a higher risk of complications than sarcomere-negative patients.<sup>33</sup> Additionally, the presence of multiple sarcomere mutations has been linked with a poorer prognosis.<sup>34</sup> However, the variability clinical course observe within and between sarcomeric genes, and the possible modifying effects

of additional genetic and non-genetic factors, have complicated genetic risk stratification.<sup>35,36</sup>

Furthermore, non-sarcomeric genes contribute to HCM clinical heterogeneity, often showing a less penetrant or milder phenotype than the majority of sarcomeric genetic substrates.<sup>10</sup>

Here we describe the contribution of IEVs to HCM phenotypic expression showing a robust gradient of severity in LVMWT, MACE and median age at diagnosis according to genetic findings. Gene-elusive HCM was associated with a milder disease phenotype, characterized by smaller LVMWT, lower age-related penetrance, and a more favorable prognosis compared to cases with known sarcomeric monogenic variants while carriers of IEVs in isolation exhibited an intermediate phenotype compared with the other groups. Furthermore, the presence of an IEV in combination with a known monogenic variant significantly modified the clinical course and expression, underscoring the crucial role of IEVs as key modifiers with potential implications for risk stratification and clinical management in affected individuals and their families.

Interestingly, the modifying effect of IEVs appeared more pronounced in females, potentially reflecting greater sensitivity to genetic burden and a corresponding attenuation of baseline sex-related differences in age at diagnosis, severity of hypertrophy, and MACE risk. The additive effect of multiple variants may, in part, override or mask the modulatory effect of sex on disease expression. One possible explanation is that in individuals carrying both monogenic and intermediate-effect variants, the genetic burden may be sufficiently high to dominate the phenotypic outcome, thereby reducing the relative influence of sex-dependent modifiers such as hormonal or epigenetic factors.

Using the population attributable fraction (PAF) weighing each variant's frequency by its estimated penetrance, we estimated that IEVs collectively could contribute to near 5% of the HCM burden in our cohort. Despite limitations inherent in accurately determining the penetrance

of IEVs, this approximation provides a valuable and reasonably valid estimate of the overall contribution of IEVs to HCM and how routine examination of IEVs can improve current HCM genetic testing. However, it should be noticed that these variants probably do not drive disease in most individuals by their own but rather contribute to HCM expression within a liability threshold model, acting as necessary factors for disease manifestation through interactions with other genetic and environmental factors.

A recent study from the SHaRe registry has also evaluated the role of low-penetrant variants in modulating HCM phenotype.<sup>13</sup> While the approach used for variant selection in that study has some similarities with ours, particularly regarding the intermediate frequency range and significance thresholds used, there were a number of key methodological differences in our study. We utilized the FAF instead of MAF to accurately identify variants present at low frequency across all ancestries. We also performed an ancestry-based analysis and validated findings with both gnomAD external controls and ancestry-matched internal controls which is critical for accurate variant selection. Lastly, we included non-sarcomeric genes.

As a result, only four IEVs were shared by both studies: *TNNT2*:p.Arg278Cys, *MYL3*:p.Ala57Asp, *MYBPC3*:p.Arg1022Pro and *MYBPC3*:p.Glu441Lys. In our opinion, the relatively low concordance between our study and SHaRe's is related with the methodological differences across both studies (Table S13). Firstly, our approaches for assessing variant frequency in control populations differed. For instance, the variants *MYH7*:p.Asp1652Tyr, *TNNI3*:p.Arg162Trp, and *TNNT2*:p.Arg286His selected in our study, were enriched in the SHaRe study but excluded due to rarity based on overall gnomAD MAF, though these IEVs were in the intermediate frequency range in non-NFE FAFs. Conversely, the *MYBPC3*:p.Asn1327Lys variant, selected in the SHaRe work, was excluded in our analysis due to low FAF (as well as a

lack of significant enrichment compared to our internal controls). Notably, this variant is highly enriched in individuals of Ashkenazi descent (this bottleneck population is not included in FAF calculations), suggesting that a population-specific analysis may be required for validation of this variant.

Three of the variants identified in the SHaRe study in *MYBPC3*:p.Arg810His, p.Asp610His, and p.Asp605Asn, showed borderline significance when we compared the HCM cohort with our internal controls. This discrepancy might arise from random stochastic effects due to minor ancestry differences between the cohorts or, more likely, from limitations in statistical power. The point estimates of ORs for these variants were broadly similar between analyses, suggesting that our internal controls do not demonstrate a *lack* of enrichment, but rather an underpowered ability to detect it. Establishing significance and effect size thresholds is essential for the inclusion and validation of IEVs, but we cannot rule out that some variants—particularly those with borderline significance—could qualify as IEVs in future studies with larger datasets.

However, the main reason for discrepancy in the number of individuals with IEVs emerges from the larger number of genes analyzed in our study. The inclusion of non-sarcomere genes increased the proportion of cases with IEVs from 2.1-2.5% (for sarcomeric IEVs in both studies) to 6.1%. The importance of including non-sarcomeric genes in the analysis of IEVs is highlighted by the fact that while non-sarcomeric IEVs accounted for one-third of the identified IEVs, they were present in two-thirds of probands carrying IEVs. Non-sarcomeric genes may play a more significant role in this non-Mendelian inheritance pattern than sarcomeric genes, despite explaining a relatively small percentage of Mendelian monogenic cases.

While some of these genes—such as *TRIM63*, *ALPK3*, *CSRP3*, and *FHOD3*—have been associated with differing inheritance patterns (autosomal dominant, recessive, or semidominant), we applied a uniform, threshold-based framework to assess phenotypic impact across all genes. This strategy avoids binary assumptions about inheritance, aligning with recent insights that penetrance and expressivity lie along a spectrum and may be more variant-specific than gene-specific, especially for non-truncating variants.

Finally, while our study focused on individuals of non-Finnish European ancestry to ensure unbiased results through ancestry homogeneity, the contribution and distribution of IEVs may differ across ancestral backgrounds. This highlights that genetic architecture is not uniform across populations, and that generalization of these findings should be made with consideration of ancestral context.



## Limitations

For IEV analysis, we focused on 14 primary genes with strong or moderate evidence according to recent ClinGen curation. Although *ACTN2* and *JPH2* meet moderate-evidence criteria, they were excluded due to their negligible representation in our cohort (0% and 0.02%, respectively), in line with their low diagnostic yield in other large studies. We acknowledge this as a limitation of our gene selection approach.

The deliberate exclusion of HCM genocopy genes from enrichment and phenotypic analyses may have resulted in the omission of cases where these genes contributed to phenotype or MACE, although their distinct clinical behavior justified this decision.

Our analysis focused on genes with established HCM associations, which may have limited the detection of IEVs in emerging candidate genes or genes not yet linked to HCM. While this conservative approach enhanced interpretability, it may have missed additional



contributors to disease risk. Broader genomic strategies will be needed to fully define the IEV landscape in HCM.

We did not perform functional studies to confirm the functional effect of the IEVs identified in our study. However, we believe this limitation is mitigated by the large number of patients studied and the robust methodology employed in our study. Additionally, we did not incorporate PRS into our analysis, which are increasingly recognized to influence phenotypic expression in HCM. Future studies should integrate PRS, IEVs and monogenic variants to fully assess the contribution of genetics to HCM expression.

## Conclusions

IEVs constitute a key component of the spectrum of HCM genetic architecture accounting for nearly 5% of the overall disease burden based on population attributable fraction. IEVs influence disease severity and outcomes, particularly when combined with monogenic disease-causing variants. Evaluation of IEVs should be considered when performing HCM genetic testing

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**Table 1. IEVs. Variant Enrichment, Odds Ratios, and Estimated Penetrance compared to Internal and External Control Groups**

IEV	gnomAD FAF. Pop,	Variant Cases (PCA)	Variant Internal Controls (PCA)	gnomAD NFE AC/AN	OR Internal controls (PCA) (IC95%). p value	OR gnomAD NFE (IC95%). p value	Estimated Penetrance NFE	ClinVar Classification	Functional Evidence	Enriched in Other Cohort	ClinGen Risk Allele Curated Evidence
<i>MYBPC3</i> p.Arg1022Pro	0.000054 NFE	17/10,973	1/4,029	78/1,179,572	6.61 (1.04-275.14) p=0.036	11.71 (6.49-19.98) p=1.88E-12	2.34%	Conflicting	NO	YES	Very Strong
<i>MYBPC3</i> p.Arg1036His	0.000079 NFE	17/10,974	1/4,028	111/1,179,840	6.24 (0.98-260.64) p=0.058	8.23 (4.63-13.79) p=2.54E-10	1.64%	Conflicting	NO	NO	Strong
<i>MYBPC3</i> p.Arg1226Cys	0.000068 SAS	18/10,973	1/4,029	15/1,179,896	6.61 (1.04-275.14) P=0.036	64.51 (30.72-137.73) p=4.13E-23	12.88%	Uncertain Significance	NO	NO	Strong
<i>MYBPC3</i> p.Glu441Lys	0.002053 MID	19/10,972	2/4,027	124/1,179,668	3.49 (0.84-30.89) p=0.085	8.24 (4.79-13.42) p=2.29E-11	1.64%	Conflicting	YES, supp	YES	Very Strong
<i>MYH7</i> p.Asp1652Tyr	0.000090 AMR	39/10,952	2/4,028	49/1,180,058	7.17 (1.86-61.37) p=5.82E-04	42.88 (27.40-66.65) p=9.73E-44	8.55%	Uncertain Significance	NO	NO	Strong
<i>MYH7</i> p.Ile1927Phe	0.000058 MID	10/10,981	0/4,030	52/1,180,052	7.34 (0.52-159.21) p=0.071	10.33 (4.68-20.56) p=1.88E-07	2.06%	Uncertain Significance	NO	NO	Strong
<i>MYL3</i> p.Ala57Asp	0.000774 MID	11/10,980	0/4,030	78/1,180,010	8.07 (0.46-144.74) p=0.044	6.20 (2.73-12.39) p=3.23E-05	1.51%	Conflicting	NO	YES	Very Strong
<i>NNI3</i> p.Arg162Trp	0.000075 SAS	13/10,978	0/4,030	23/1,179,988	9.54 (0.72-202.70) p=0.026	30.38 (14.13-62.51) p=3.97E-14	6.07%	Conflicting	YES, supp	YES	Very Strong
<i>NNT2</i> p.Arg278Cys	0.000604 NFE	76/10,915	6/3,893	758/1,179,234	4.52 (1.98-12.71) p=2.23E-05	5.41 (4.21-6.86) p=1.21E-29	1.08%	Conflicting	YES, mod	YES	Very Strong
<i>NNT2</i> p.Arg286His	0.000277 EAS	21/10,970	1/4,027	23/1,178,912	7.71 (1.24-318.48) p=0.015	49.06 (25.81-92.99) p=4.30E-25	9.79%	Uncertain Significance	YES, supp	YES	Very Strong
<i>RHOD3</i> p.Arg637Gln	0.003818 NFE	333/10,649	22/4,007	4616/1,179,896	5.76 (3.74-9.33) p=2.64E-24	3.98 (3.54-4.45) p=1.51E-89	0.78%	Conflicting	NO	NO	Strong
<i>RHOD3</i> p.Arg638Trp	0.000947 NFE	59/10,927	5/4,024	1174/1,179,828	4.35 (1.76-13.89) p=1.94E-04	2.71 (2.05-3.52) p=6.59E-11	0.54%	Conflicting	NO	NO	Strong
<i>FLNC</i> p.Ala2430Val	0.000144 NFE	27/10,963	2/4,028	192/1,180,024	4.96 (1.25-43.02) p=0.011	7.57 (4.86-11.36) p=1.04E-14	1.51%	Conflicting	NO	NO	Strong

<i>TRIM63</i> p.Cys23Tyr	0.000115 AMR	23/ 10,963	2/ 3,899	27/ 1,180,042	4.98 (1.25-43.11) p=0.012	45.84 (25.09-83.19) p=6.95E-27	9.15%	NA	NO	NO	Strong
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Negative (no identified variants), IEV (Intermediate Effect Variants in isolation), Monogenic (single pathogenic variant), Monogenic + IEV (both a monogenic and an IEV variant), and Double Monogenic (two monogenic variants). LVMWT = Left Ventricular Maximal Wall Thickness. MACE=Combined endpoint of sudden cardiac death, aborted arrest, appropriate ICD shock, heart failure death, cardiac transplant, and death related to a cardiovascular procedure.



# Circulation

**Table 2. Clinical characteristics according to genetic findings**

	<b>Negative n = 8,091</b>	<b>IE n = 570</b>	<b>Monogenic n = 2,434</b>	<b>Monogenic + IE n = 90</b>	<b>Double Monogenic n = 46</b>	<b>p value</b>	<b>Total cohort n = 11,231</b>
Sex (male)	66.34% (5,311/8,006)	63.56% (361/568)	63.76% (1,534/2,406)	56.18% (50/89)	53.49% (23/43)	0.12	65.51% (7,279/11,112)
Age of diagnosis [25th-75th percentile]	61 [49-70]	59 [46-69]	50 [38-62]	46 [31-58]	37 [21-56]	<0.0001	58 [46-69]
Follow-up (years)	6.96±7.42	7.69±7.66	9.82±9.02	14.20±9.02	11.50±15.20	<0.0001	7.91±8.15
LVMWT (mm)	18.10±3.74	19.00±4.31	20.70±4.99	22.20±5.23	25.00±6.91	<0.0001	18.86±4.31
LVMWT > 25 mm (%)	5.87% (196/3,339)	11.11% (35/315)	18.81% (218/1,159)	31.91% (15/47)	45.83% (11/24)	<0.0001	9.73% (475/4,884)
LVMWT > 30 mm (%)	1.17% (39/3,339)	3.81% (12/315)	7.16% (83/1,159)	8.51% (4/47)	37.50% (9/24)	<0.0001	3.01% (147/4,884)
MACE (%)	2.43% (184/7,562)	3.48% (19/545)	3.52% (78/2,212)	12.19% (10/82)	10% (4/40)	<0.0001	2.83% (295/10,441)
MAE (%)	2.26% (171/7,562)	2.38% (13/545)	2.93% (65/2,212)	12.19% (10/82)	5% (2/40)	<0.0001	2.49% (261/10,441)
HFD (%)	0.17% (13/7,562)	0.73% (4/545)	0.45% (10/2,212)	0.00% (0/40)	5.00% (2/40)	<0.0001	

Negative (no identified variants), IEV (Intermediate Effect Variants in isolation), Monogenic (single pathogenic variant), Monogenic + IEV (both a monogenic and an IEV variant), and Double Monogenic (two monogenic variants). LVMWT = Left Ventricular Maximal Wall Thickness. MACE = Major cardiac events; combined endpoint of MAE and HFD. MAE= major arrhythmic events; combined endpoint of sudden cardiac death, aborted arrest, and appropriate ICD shock. HFD=heart failure death; combined endpoint of heart failure death and cardiac transplant.



## Figure Legends

### Figure 1. Study IEVs selection flow chart and methodology for filtering and selection of IEVs

A. Methodology for variant selection and cohort composition: Global numbers for cases and controls, both before and after selecting the NFE using PCA, the genes targeted for exploration, and the criteria applied for variant filtering. B. Selection and Validation of IEV: Comparison of Strategies and Enrichment Analysis with Internal and External Controls, Global and PCA analysis: Venn diagram illustrating the overlap in variants identified by the global and PCA-adjusted strategies. Numbers represent the count of variants meeting specified criteria for each strategy and their overlap. C. Simplified IEV Filtering and Selection.



### Figure 2. Architecture of variants identified in the HCM cohort

A. Genetic variants identified in the study, with the Filtered Allele Frequency (FAF) in gnomAD v4.1 version in the X axis, and the enrichment (Odds Ratio, OR) of the variants in HCM cases compared to internal controls (using PCA analysis) in the Y axis. Black dots correspond to the variants that were significantly enriched ( $OR \geq 1$ ) after PCA validation, selecting individuals of European ethnicity in HCM cases and internal controls, and using gnomAD NFE data. Blue line represents the linear regression line for the model of the variants enriched in our study ( $OR = 10^{0.386 \cdot FAF^{-0.465}}$ ;  $R^2 = 0.725$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ), and red line for the variants not significantly enriched ( $OR = 10^{-1.080 \cdot FAF^{-0.417}}$ ;  $R^2 = 0.629$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). B. Intermediate Effect Variants (IEV), defined as those significantly enriched in HCM cases compared to internal and external controls, with an  $OR \geq 2$ . Red dots represent variants validated in both global and PCA (NFE) analysis, and grey

dots variants not significantly enriched in this last analysis. C. Monogenic Variants, defined as those with a FAF  $< 5 \times 10^{-5}$  (0.005%) and significantly enriched in HCM cases compared to internal and external controls, with an  $OR \geq 2$ . Green dots represent variants validated in both global and PCA (NFE) analysis. D. Near Monogenic Variants (green dots), defined as those with a FAF between  $FAF > 5 \times 10^{-5}$  (0.005%) and 0.01 (1%), enriched in HCM cases with an  $OR \geq 2$ , but an estimated penetrance  $> 15\%$  or an internal  $OR \geq 15$  (with a high penetrance to be considered IEV). E. Small effect variants, defined as those with a  $FAF > 0.01$  (1%), significantly enriched in HCM cases with an  $OR \geq 1$ . Blue dots represent variants that were validated in both global and PCA (NFE) analysis, and grey dots variants not significantly enriched in internal PCA analysis. See Tables S4-S5 and S7-S8 for full details.



### Figure 3. Selected intermediate-effect variants

Selected intermediate effect variants (IEVs) with enrichment in HCM cases (European ancestry) versus internal controls and gnomADv4.1-NFE. Odds ratios (OR) of HCM cohort compared to internal controls, variant classifications in ClinVar (Feb 2025), minor allele frequencies (MAF) in gnomADv4.1 populations and additional evidence of pathogenicity – numbers of biallelic cases and prior functional validation studies in human-induced pluripotent stem cells (hiPSC) derived cardiomyocytes or animal models (see Table S10-S11 for details).

### Figure 4. Results of genetic testing

A. Genetic testing results in the Whole Cohort. B. Contribution of each gene among cases with positive genetic results: sarcomeric (blue bars), primary non-sarcomeric (red bars), and phenocopy genes (yellow bars). C. Proportion of P/LP variants (diagnostic yield) in the whole

cohort compared with carriers of IEVs. D. Co-occurrence rate of a second monogenic variant and IEVs in different genetic subpopulations.

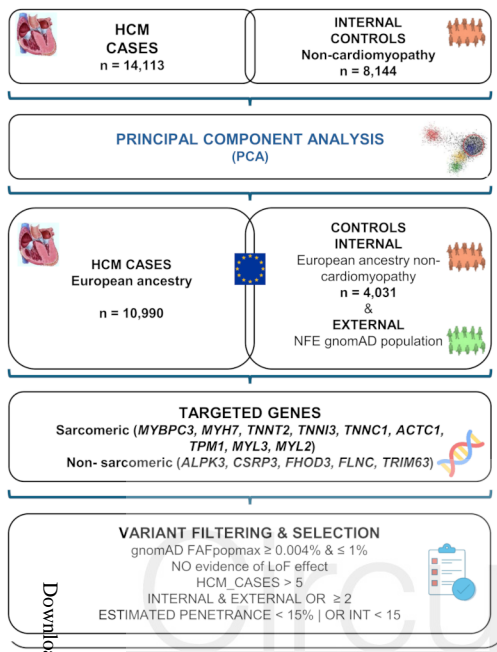
**Figure 5: Age of diagnosis, survival free of MACE, and LVMWT according to genetic groups**

A. Kaplan-Meier curves showing the age-related penetrance. B. Kaplan-Meier MACE-free survival. C. Violin-plots of left ventricular maximal wall thickness (LVMWT); black dots represent mean LVMWT. D. Proportion of individuals with severe LV hypertrophy (LVMWT > 25; left) and massive LV hypertrophy (LVMWT > 30; right)

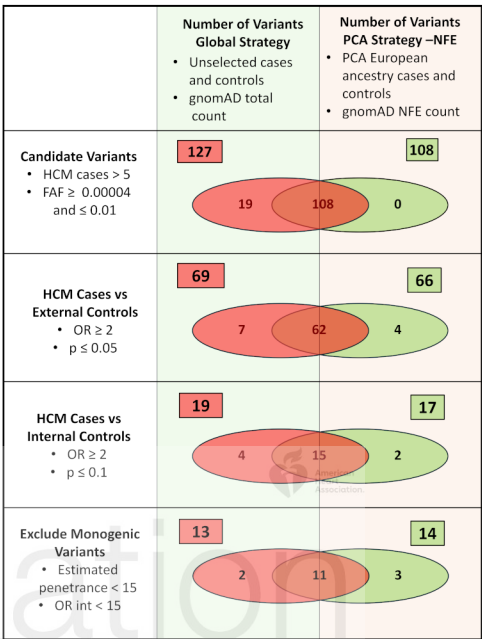
**Figure 6: Age of diagnosis according to IEVs zygosity (biallelic vs heterozygous carriers)**

Age of diagnosis in nine IEVs as described in the literature or in our cohort in homozygous/compound-heterozygous carriers, compared with heterozygous carriers; Light blue bars represent homozygous/compound heterozygous carriers; grey bars represent heterozygous carriers (see Table S10 for details)

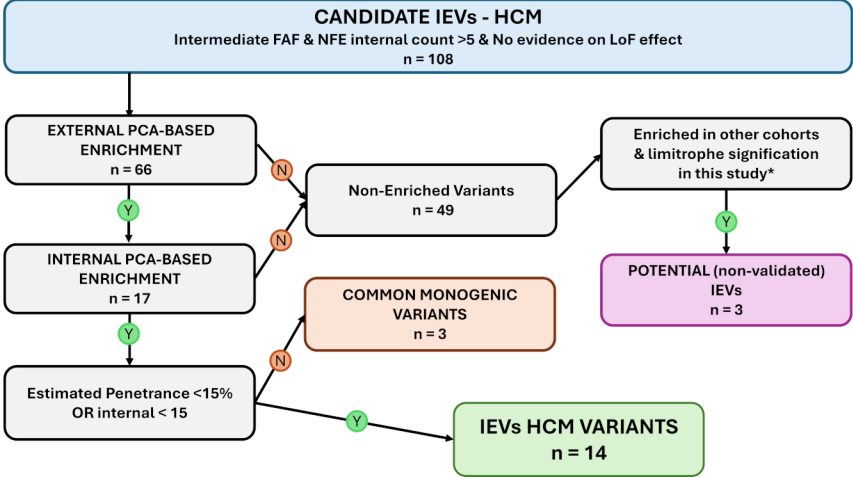
# A COHORTS AND FILTERING PROCESSES

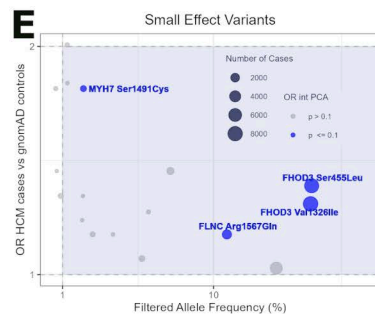
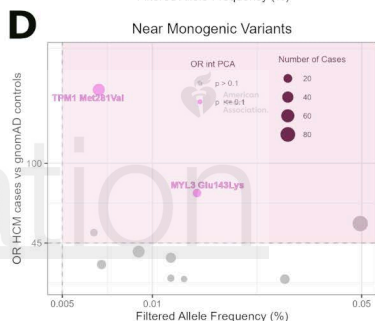
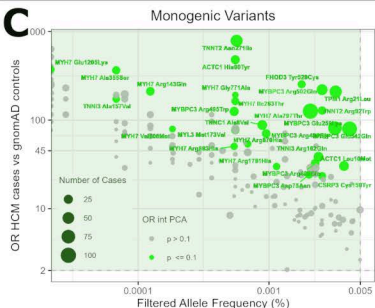
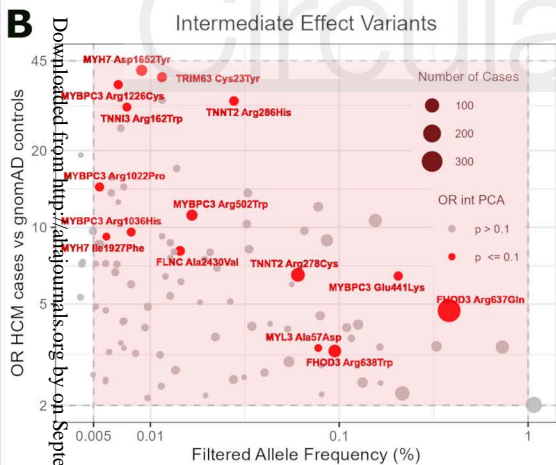
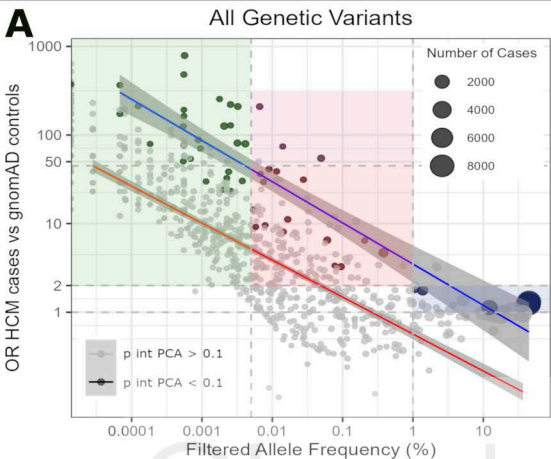


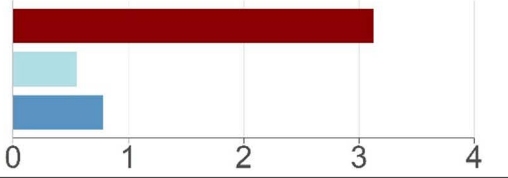


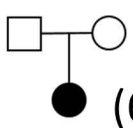
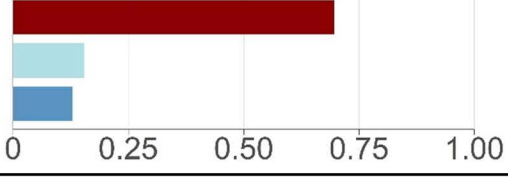
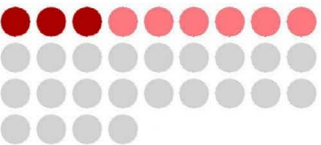
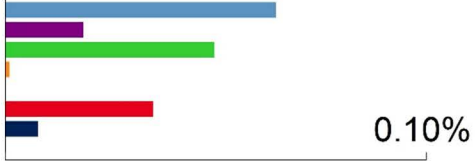

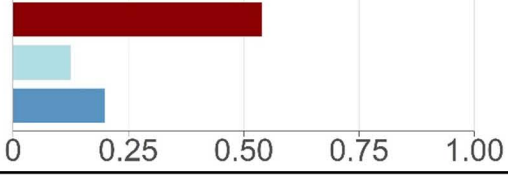


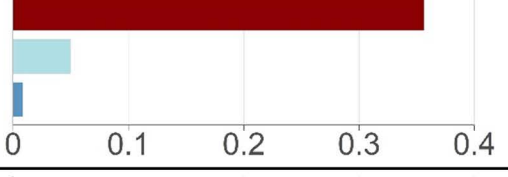

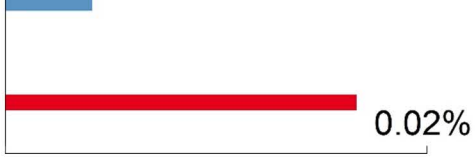
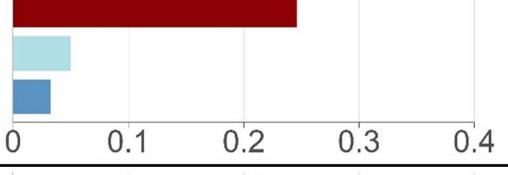

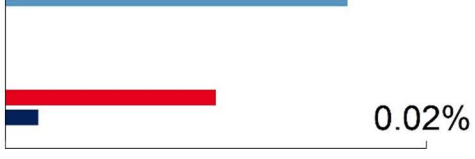
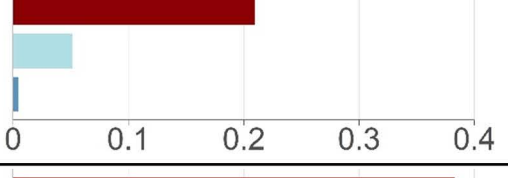

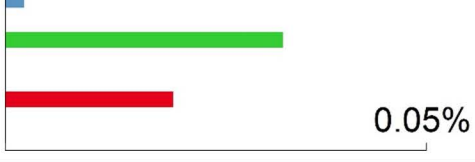
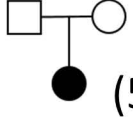


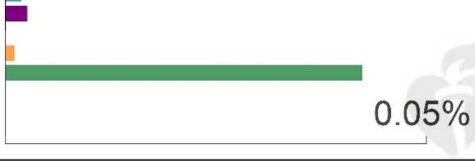

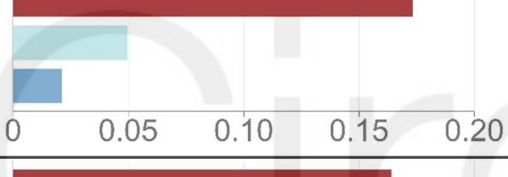

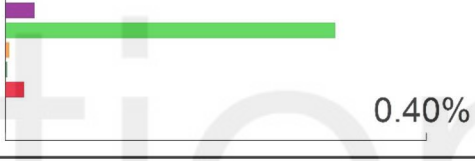


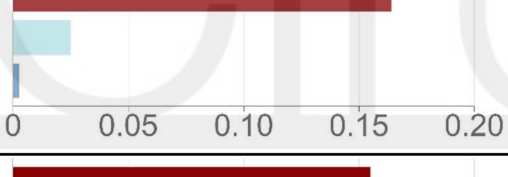


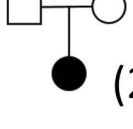
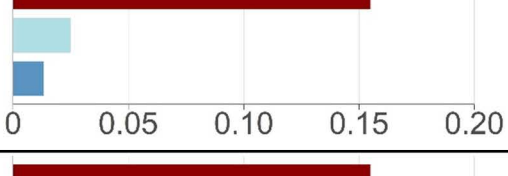

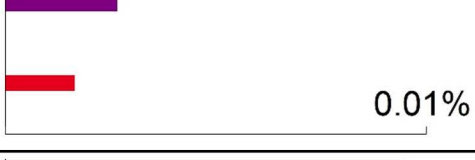
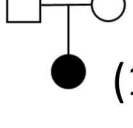
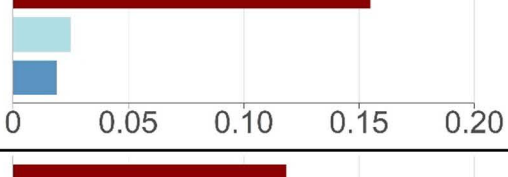

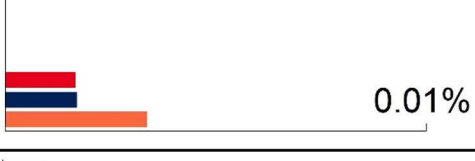
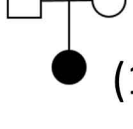
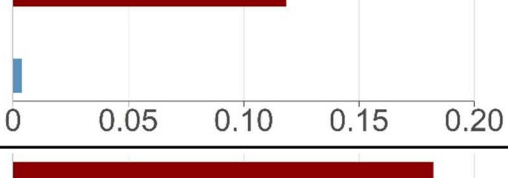

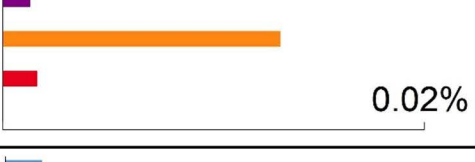
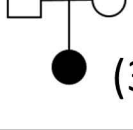
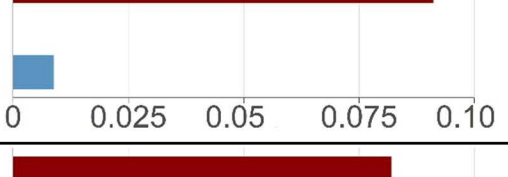

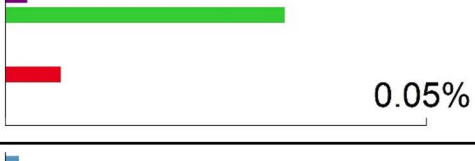
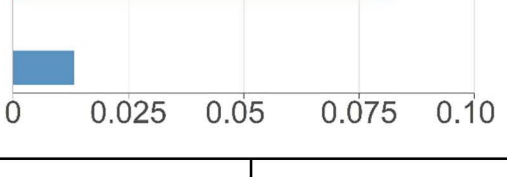

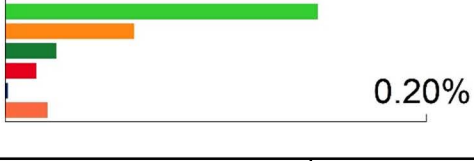
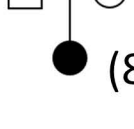

# B COMPARISON IN IEVs FILTERING PROCESSES GLOBAL STRATEGY vs PCA-BASED STRATEGY



# C SIMPLIFIED VARIANT FILTERING & SELECTION





Variant	HCM / Controls	OR	ClinVar	gnomAD MAFs	Other evidence
<i>FHOD3</i> p.Arg637Gln		5.8		 0.40%	 (6)
<i>TNNT2</i> p.Arg278Cys		4.5		 0.10%	
<i>FHOD3</i> p.Arg638Trp		4.4		 0.10%	
<i>MYH7</i> p.Asp1652Tyr		7.2		 0.02%	
<i>FLNC</i> p.Ala2430Val		5.0		 0.02%	
<i>TRIM63</i> p.Cys23Tyr		5.0		 0.05%	 (5)
<i>TNNT2</i> p.Arg286His		7.7		 0.05%	
<i>MYBPC3</i> p.Glu441Lys		3.5		 0.40%	 (4) 
<i>MYBPC3</i> p.Arg1226Cys		6.6		 0.02%	 (2)
<i>MYBPC3</i> p.Arg1022Pro		6.6		 0.01%	 (1)
<i>MYBPC3</i> p.Arg1036His		6.2		 0.01%	 (1)
<i>TNNI3</i> p.Arg162Trp		9.5		 0.02%	 (3)
<i>MYH7</i> p.Ile1927Phe		7.3		 0.05%	
<i>MYL3</i> p.Ala57Asp		8.1		 0.20%	 (8) 

Legends

HCM / Controls

HCM (European)

Internal controls (European)

gnomADv4.1-NFE

ClinVar

Pathogenic

Likely Pathogenic

Uncertain Significance

Likely Benign

Benign

gnomAD

Non-Finnish European

African

Middle Eastern

South Asian

East Asian

American

Finnish

Ashkenazi

Functional validation

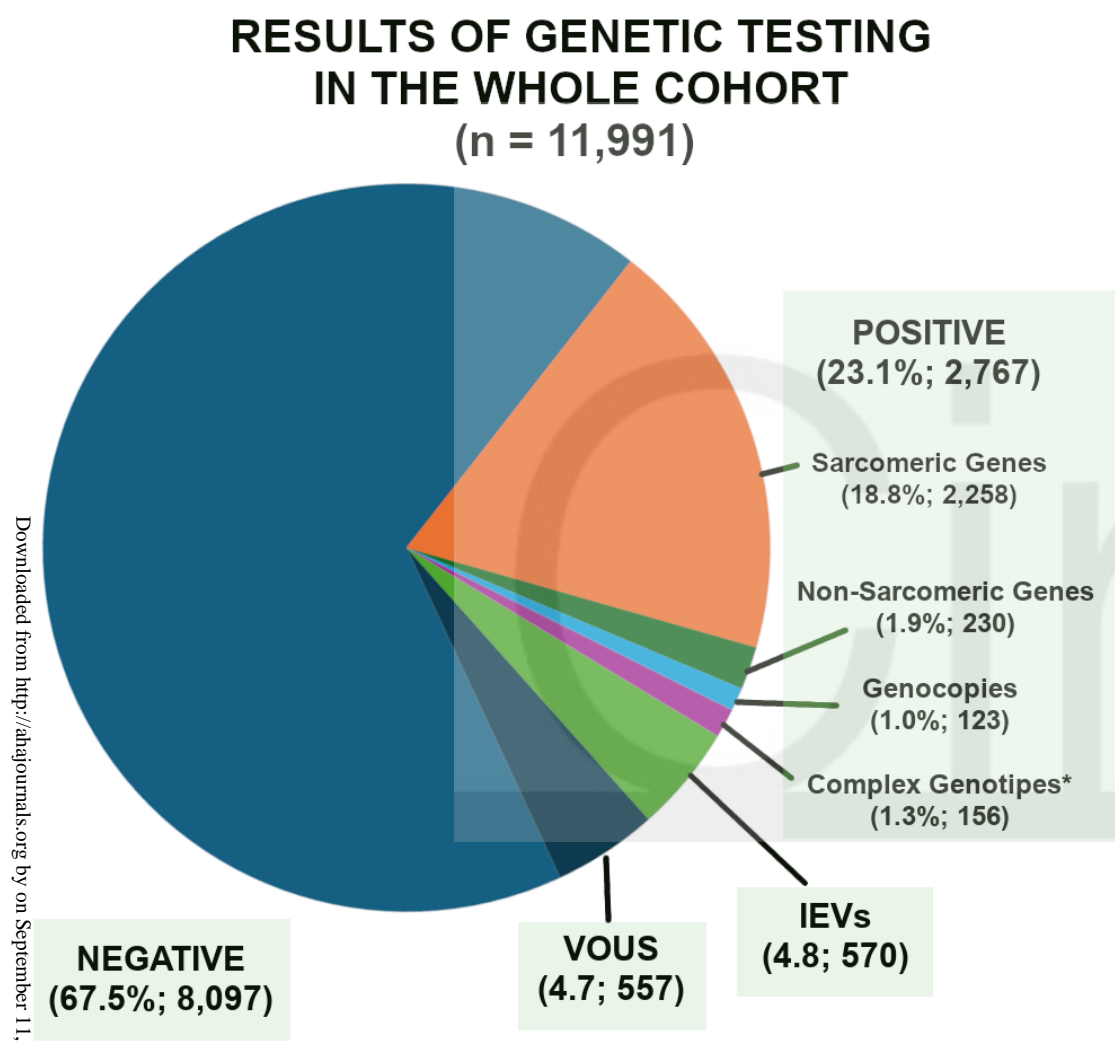
iPSC-CMs -> pathogenic

iPSC-CMs -> no effect

Zebrafish model

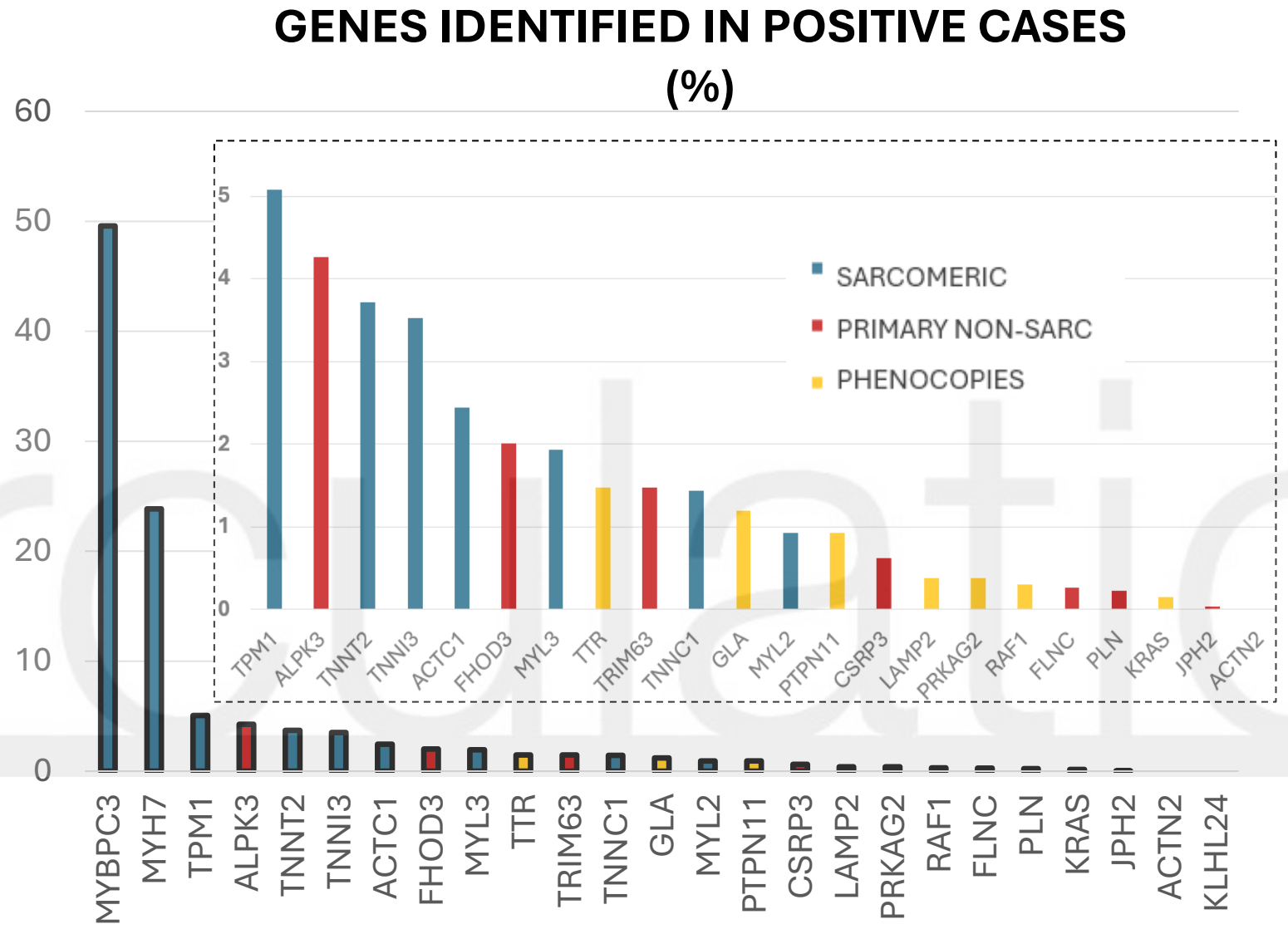
Biallelic cases (number)

A

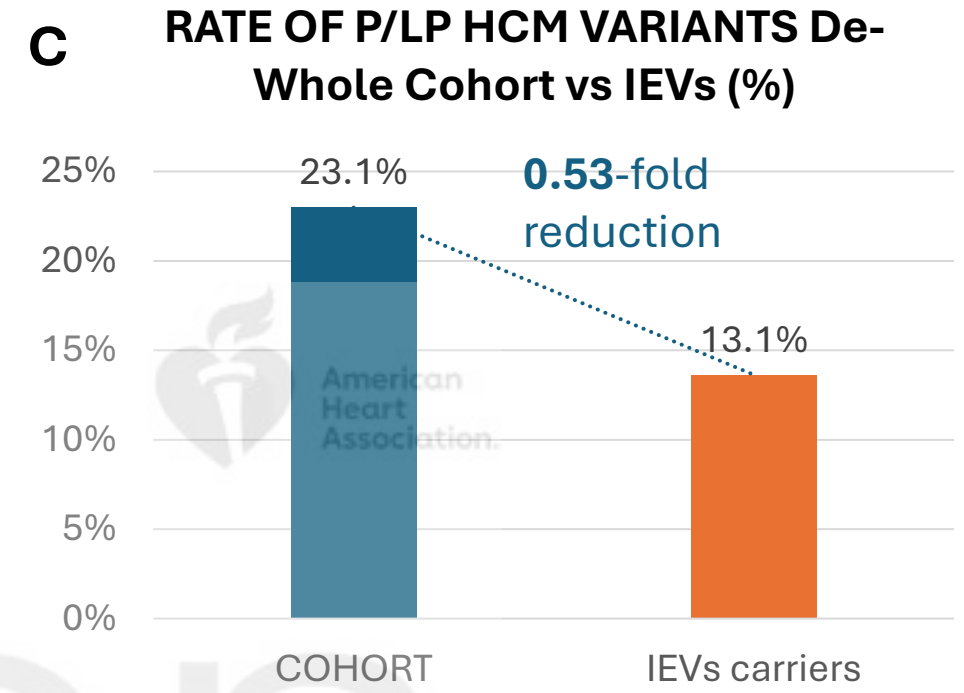


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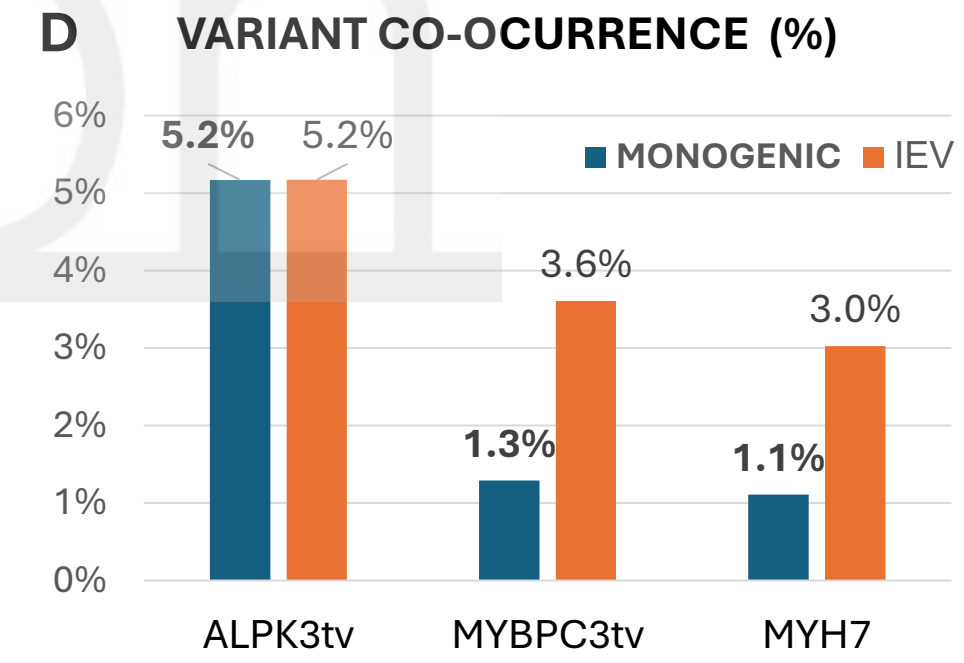
B



C

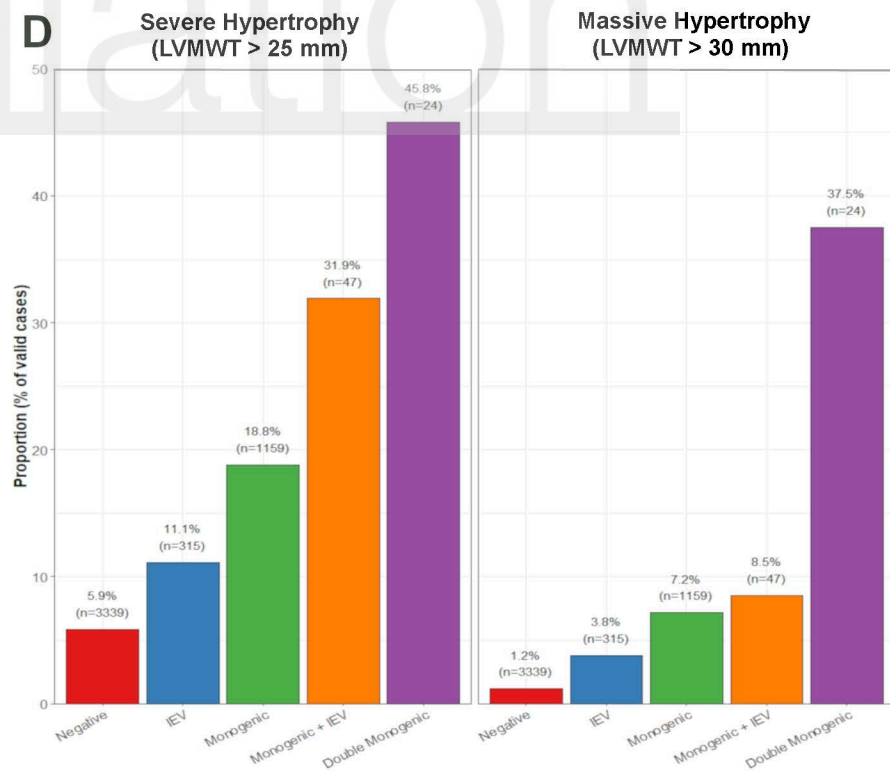


D





# A





# Age of Diagnosis according to Zygosity in IEVs

