Research Paper

Mendelian randomization as an approach to assess causal effects of inflammatory bowel disease on atrial fibrillation

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ABSTRACT

Background: Despite growing evidence indicating that patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) have an increased risk of atrial fibrillation (AF), owing to the potential biases of confounding effects and reverse causation, the specific relationship between IBD and AF remains controversial. The aim of this study is to determine whether there is a causal effect of IBD on AF.

Methods: A two-sample Mendelian randomization (MR) study was performed to evaluate the causal effect of IBD on AF. Statistical summaries for the associations between single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and traits of interest were obtained from independent consortia with European populations. The dataset of IBD was acquired from genome-wide association studies (GWAS), including more than 75,000 cases and controls. A GWAS with 60,620 AF cases and 970,216 controls was used to identify genetic variation underlying AF. The causal effect was estimated using the multiplicative random effects inverse-variance weighted method (IVW), followed by sensitivity analysis.

Results: Using 81 SNPs, there was no evidence to suggest an association between genetically predicted IBD and risk of AF with multiplicative random-effects IVW MR analysis (odds ratio = 1.0000, 95% confidence interval: 0.9994 1.0005, p = 0.88).

Conclusion: As opposed to current assumptions, no substantial evidence was found to support a causal role of IBD in the development of AF.

INTRODUCTION

Atrial fibrillation (AF) is the most common type of arrhythmia that causes hemodynamic disorders and thrombotic strokes. Important etiologies of AF include surgical procedures [1], hyperthyroidism [2], myocardial infarction [3], and cardiomyopathies [4]. Although the potential pathophysiologic mechanisms of AF remain controversial, there has been increasing evidence that inflammation is involved in the pathogenesis of AF [5-7]. Laboratory tests showed that inflammatory biomarkers (high-sensitivity Creactive protein) increased in patients with AF [8] and anti-inflammatory medications may reduce the morbidity of AF [9].

Characterized by chronic diarrhea, abdominal pain, and perianal bleeding, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is rising throughout the world. IBD severely impacts all aspects of life while increasing the burden on health care [10]. IBD, commonly categorized as a relapsing idiopathic inflammatory disease of ulcerative colitis (UC) and Crohn's disease (CD), is an immune-mediated chronic inflammatory disorder of the gastrointestinal tract [11]. Several recent studies have suggested a positive association between IBD and AF [12–14]. Various pathological processes such as oxidative stress, fibrosis, and apoptosis, are involved in the systemic inflammation of IBD and lead to structural and electrical remodeling of the atria, which may contribute to the development of AF [15]. Despite growing evidence indicating that patients with IBD have an increased risk of AF, owing to the potential biases of confounding effects and reverse causation [16], the specific relationship between IBD and AF remains controversial.

Mendelian randomization (MR) analysis exploits genetic variants as instrumental variables to establish a strong causal inference between exposure and risk of disease without involving potential confounders and reverse causation [17]. In this study, MR analysis was applied to evaluate the causal association between IBD and AF.

RESULTS

There is a lack of evidence to suggest an association between genetic predisposition to IBD and AF (Supplementary Table 1). As the primary estimator, the multiplicative random effect IVW model showed that genetic predisposition to IBD was not associated with the risk of AF (OR = 0.9972, 95% CI: 0.9797 1.0149, p = 0.75, Figures 1, 2). A null association was also observed using the MR-Egger (OR = 0.9998, 95% CI: 0.9594 1.0418, p = 0.99, Figures 1, 2), simple median (OR = 0.9879, 95% CI: 0.9643 1.0121, p = 0.33, Figure 1), weighted median (OR = 0.9932, 95% CI: 0.96771.0194, p = 0.61, Figure 1), RAPS (OR = 0.9987, 95%

Study

CI: 0.9806 1.0171, p = 0.89, Figure 1) and MR-PRESSO methods (OR = 0.9972, 95% CI: 0.9798 1.0149, p = 0.76, Figure 1). Causal estimates of each SNP are listed in Supplementary Table 1.

There was no evidence of substantial heterogeneity in the IVW analysis (Q = 117.1502, p = 0.0028, I² = 0.3342), and the MR-PRESSO global test of heterogeneity also demonstrated the same result, after removing rs10800309, rs2266959, and rs12946510 for heterogeneity (p = 0.76). MR-Egger regression showed no evidence of directional pleiotropy for the association between the included SNP and the risk of AF (intercept = -0.0003, 95% CI: -0.0052 0.0045, p = 0.89). The funnel plot also showed no evidence of obvious heterogeneity across the estimates (Figure 3). The results of leave-one-out sensitivity analysis showed that the null association between genetic predisposition to IBD and AF was not remarkably affected by any individual SNP (Figure 4).

DISCUSSION

Using two-sample MR analysis based on datasets from large-scale GWAS studies, our study demonstrated that genetic predisposition to IBD was not associated with the risk of AF. The findings were robust in sensitivity analyses with different instruments and statistical



Figure 1. Mendelian randomization estimates of the causal effect of inflammatory bowel disease on atrial fibrillation.



Figure 2. Scatter plot of genetic associations with atrial fibrillation against associations with inflammatory bowel disease, with causal estimates (β coefficients) of inflammatory bowel disease on atrial fibrillation estimated by inverse-variance weighted (dashed line), and MR-Egger (solid line) methods. The straight lines should be the change in the log odds of atrial fibrillation per unit increase of the log odds of inflammatory bowel disease.





SNP

Estimate (95% CI)

SNP			Estimate (95% CI)
Omitted genotype			
rs1042058	•		-0.0024 (-0.0167, 0.0120)
rs10521318			-0.0025 (-0.0169, 0.0118)
rs1062158	•		-0.0015 (-0.0159, 0.0129)
rs10758669			-0.0023 (-0.0169, 0.0122)
rs10761659			-0.0025 (-0.0171, 0.0120)
rs11209026 -	•		-0.0023 (-0.0178, 0.0131)
rs11230563			-0.0032 (-0.0176, 0.0112)
rs11564126	•		-0.0031 (-0.0175, 0.0113)
rs11597483			-0.0009 (-0.0153, 0.0136)
rs11672983	•		-0.0031 (-0.0175, 0.0113)
rs11742570 -	•		-0.0040 (-0.0186, 0.0106)
rs11879191 -	•		-0.0035 (-0.0179, 0.0110)
rs12142199	•		-0.0022 (-0.0166, 0.0122)
rs1250550	•		-0.0012 (-0.0156, 0.0132)
rs12722515 -			-0.0036 (-0.0180, 0.0107)
rs1292053	•		-0.0012 (-0.0156, 0.0132)
rs12942547	•		-0.0020 (-0.0164, 0.0125)
rs13009506 -	•		-0.0041 (-0.0186, 0.0104)
rs13019081	•		-0.0023 (-0.0167, 0.0121)
rs1456896	•		-0.0025 (-0.0169, 0.0119)
rs1516976	•		-0.0030 (-0.0174, 0.0114)
rs1517352	•		-0.0026 (-0.0170, 0.0118)
rs1558744 -	•		-0.0041 (-0.0185, 0.0104)
rs1569723 -	• •		-0.0038 (-0.0182, 0.0106)
rs17085007 -	•		-0.0038 (-0.0182, 0.0106)
rs17119	•		-0.0027 (-0.0171, 0.0117)
rs17396847			-0.0019 (-0.0162, 0.0125)
rs17694108	+		-0.0020 (-0.0164, 0.0124)
rs17835641 -	•		-0.0035 (-0.0179, 0.0108)
rs1847472	•		-0.0029 (-0.0173, 0.0114)
rs1872691 -	•		-0.0034 (-0.0178, 0.0110)
rs1991866	•		-0.0021 (-0.0165, 0.0123)
rs2024092	•		-0.0028 (-0.0172, 0.0116)
rs2155219 —	•		-0.0049 (-0.0194, 0.0096)
rs2413583		•	-0.0000 (-0.0145, 0.0145)
rs243323 🗕	•		-0.0041 (-0.0185, 0.0103)
rs259964	•		-0.0032 (-0.0176, 0.0112)
rs2816954	+		-0.0013 (-0.0157, 0.0131)
rs2823286	•		-0.0022 (-0.0166, 0.0123)
rs2836878 —	• •		-0.0054 (-0.0199, 0.0092)
rs2930047	—		-0.0023 (-0.0167, 0.0121)
rs3091316	•		-0.0030 (-0.0175, 0.0114)
rs3764147	•		-0.0030 (-0.0173, 0.0114)
rs3851228	• •		-0.0026 (-0.0170, 0.0117)
rs4246905 —	•		-0.0048 (-0.0193, 0.0097)
rs4380874			-0.0016 (-0.0160, 0.0128)
rs4409764	•		-0.0023 (-0.0169, 0.0123)
rs4626115	+		-0.0025 (-0.0168, 0.0119)
rs4656958 -	•		-0.0037 (-0.0180, 0.0107)
rs4743820 -	•		-0.0036 (-0.0180, 0.0108)
rs4921227	•		-0.0023 (-0.0168, 0.0122)
rs559928 –	•		-0.0040 (-0.0184, 0.0104)
rs6017342	•		-0.0030 (-0.0174, 0.0115)
rs6142618	• •		-0.0027 (-0.0171, 0.0117)
rs6426833 —	• •		-0.0050 (-0.0195, 0.0095)
rs6588248	+		-0.0025 (-0.0169, 0.0118)
rs6592362	• • •		-0.0027 (-0.0170, 0.0117)
rs6724516	—		-0.0023 (-0.0166, 0.0121)
rs6740462	•		-0.0030 (-0.0174, 0.0114)
rs683078	•		-0.0028 (-0.0171, 0.0116)
rs6879495 -	• •		-0.0034 (-0.0178, 0.0110)
rs6911490	•	<u> </u>	-0.0024 (-0.0169, 0.0120)
s6920220 -	+	<u> </u>	-0.0037 (-0.0181, 0.0106)
s7097656	—		-0.0014 (-0.0158, 0.0130)
s7200798	•		-0.0031 (-0.0175, 0.0112)
s7214193 -	—		-0.0039 (-0.0183, 0.0105)
s7240004			-0.0027 (-0.0171, 0.0116)
s727088	+		-0.0026 (-0.0169, 0.0118)
s7495132			-0.0025 (-0.0169, 0.0119)
s7554511			-0.0017 (-0.0162, 0.0128)
rs7608910 -		<u> </u>	-0.0042 (-0.0186, 0.0103)
s762422	•		-0.0014 (-0.0158, 0.0131)
rs7724036			-0.0021 (-0.0165, 0.0124)
rs7749278 -	+		-0.0037 (-0.0181, 0.0107)
rs7788750	+		-0.0030 (-0.0174, 0.0114)
rs8005161 -	¢		-0.0036 (-0.0180, 0.0108)
rs8107703	•		-0.0020 (-0.0164, 0.0124)
rs913678	•		-0.0031 (-0.0174, 0.0113)
rs921720			-0.0021 (-0.0165, 0.0123)
rs941823			-0.0029 (-0.0172, 0.0115)
rs9557195			-0.0029 (-0.0172, 0.0113)
33337133	-		-0.0020 (-0.0170, 0.0118)
All genotypes			-0.0028 (-0.0174 -0.0145)
IVW	•		-0.0028 (-0.0171, 0.0115)
1			
0199	(D	.0199

Figure 4. Mendelian randomization leave-one-out sensitivity analysis for inflammatory bowel disease on atrial fibrillation. Estimate is indicated by Odds Ratio (OR). SNP, Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms; CI, Confidence Interval; IVW, Inverse-Variance Weighted. models. The datasets used for both SNP IBD and SNP AF estimates were acquired from European studies with a similar population, which minimized the possibility of population stratification bias. Using both the GWAS and the Immunochip associations, SNP IBD associations were estimated in a combined analysis, comprising 20,700 Crohn's disease, 17,865 ulcerative colitis, and 37,747 healthy controls [18]. A total of 34,740,186 genetic variants from six contributing studies of European ancestry were tested to estimate SNP AF associations, identifying 111 genomic regions with at least 1 genetic variant associated with AF ($P < 5 \times 10^{-8}$) [19].

Several studies have shown that patients with IBD have a higher risk of developing AF [15, 20], especially during the active stage of IBD [13]. Using a populationbased cohort study, You-Jung Choi and his colleagues identified 1,120 AF cases. Multivariable Cox regression indicated that patients with IBD had a 36% higher risk of AF than controls [15]. A systematic review and metaanalysis suggested that as compared to controls, IBD patients were at a 2.2-fold increased risk of developing AF [20]. This increased risk of AF in IBD, although not entirely understood, has been proposed to have different underlying pathophysiologies. Myocardial inflammation and fibrosis seem to be the pivotal factors [21]. Inflammatory processes and oxidative stress lead to cardiomyocyte necrosis, with subsequent electrical and structural remodeling [22]. Other than idiopathic electrophysiological abnormalities, left atrial volume and mechanical function degeneration were detected using echocardiography in patients with UC, indicating that structural changes also could lead to the development of AF [23].

In this study, MR analysis was performed as it can control potential confounders and avoid reverse causation. MR analysis did not provide sufficient evidence to support a positive causal effect of IBD on the risk of AF. The lack of a genetic causal effect of IBD with the risk of AF suggested that the positive linkage between the presence of IBD and the risk of developing AF demonstrated in previous observational studies may have been the residual confounding due to common risk factors. IBD and AF share several lifestyle modifiable risk factors. Increased risk for IBD was found in patients with habits of smoking and alcohol intake [24, 25]. On the other hand, it is well established that alcohol not only does not extend cardioprotection to AF but is also an important risk factor for AF [26]. A systematic review also showed that high alcohol intake was associated with an increased incidence of AF [27]. In addition, as an immunoregulatory factor, vitamin D deficiency leads to dysbiosis of gut microbiome and cause severe

colitis [28–30]. In another aspect, vitamin D supplementation was found to prevent the occurrence of postoperative AF [31]. From the perspective of therapeutic drugs, there were cases reported that several patients with IBD had incidences of AF after taking azathioprine, indicating that medication may be another potential confounder for the association between IBD and AF [32, 33].

The null association found in our study could be explained by several interpretations. First, there may not be sufficient power to support a significant association between IBD and AF. Our MR analysis has 80% power to detect small effect sizes for the development of AF. However, with our tight confidence intervals, a very small effect of IBD on AF could not be excluded. Second, IBD susceptibility variants tended to be associated with both higher and lower risk of AF, which may cancel the causal effect, resulting in a null association. However, leave-one-out sensitivity analysis showed that the null association was not remarkably affected by any individual SNP. Third, some individuals in the datasets for IBD may have been taking medication, which may distort the relationship between IBD and AF.

Given that heterogeneous allele frequencies in more diverse populations may lead to bias in the genetic study, it is better to restrict MR analyses to homogeneous ethnic populations [34]. As reported in the GWAS summary datasets, cases and controls were of European ancestry. Principal components analysis was performed to resolve geographic stratification, as well as Jewish and non-Jewish ancestry [18]. The effect of bias is expected to be negligible given the population has the same ethnic backgrounds. Also while removing participants with arrhythmia from the analyses to avoid assessment bias, the AF polygenic risk score was no longer correlated with heart valve disorders, heart failure, and ischemic heart disease, suggesting that these additional associations were mediated through AF.

Compared to traditional observational studies, MR analysis is less prone to potential confounding and avoids reverse causation because genetic variation is allocated at conception, and thus, it can strengthen the evidence for causal inference. The null association may be subjected to potential biases if key assumptions are violated. However, the estimation of a false negative effect is attributed to a complicated pattern in the distribution of biases. As these biases rarely neutralize each other, there is a higher chance to estimate a false positive effect than a false negative one. Considering these asymmetry-related biases, the null association found in this study may provide more robust evidence to support no or very little effect of IBD on AF. This investigation on AF susceptibility provides a broad perspective of the relationship between IBD and the development of AF. The clinical applicability of our study is mainly from a therapeutic perspective. Given the null association found in this study, large uncertainty about the potential therapeutic benefits was raised, suggesting that the intention to decrease AF or AF towards the disease (such as stroke) using the treatment for IBD may unlikely be successful and should not be prioritized in future trials.

Our study has several limitations. First, it is unlikely to remove all potential horizontal pleiotropy from the study, which may result in biased estimation of causal inference [35], however, no pleiotropic effect was detected in the MR-Egger regression, MR-PRESSO, or heterogeneity test. Second, given the necessity of identical gene-exposure associations across datasets, two-sample MR analysis should be sufficiently homogeneous, which may be violated in practice [36]. Third, causal effect size may not be treated reliably as it is biased when a causal effect does exist, but the bias decreases as the causal estimate tend to unity. In this investigation, a "null" causal effect was obtained; therefore the bias should not be large. Fourth, there is no easy way to assess the instrument strength of each SNP and statistical power to obtain casual association estimates of a certain size using binary exposures.

CONCLUSIONS

In this study, two-sample MR analysis did not provide convincing evidence to support a causal effect of IBD on the risk of AF.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study design and data sources

A two-sample MR approach was used to investigate the causal effect of IBD on AF (Figure 5), using summarylevel data from public genome-wide association studies (GWAS). Details of the dataset used to evaluate the association between genetic variants, IBD and AF are listed in Table 1. Given that genetic variants may exhibit different pleiotropic effects in trans-ancestry cases, estimated associations derived from individuals with the same ancestry may prevent the bias of population admixture [37]. The dataset summary was acquired from GWAS [38] which allows secondary analysis through copying and redistributing the material in any medium or format [39]. Since the analysis was based on the dataset of a published study containing no personal identifications, no ethical approval was required.

Selection of genetic variants

Summary statistics for SNPs related to IBD were acquired from public GWAS summary datasets. The individuals in this dataset were of European ancestry. More than 75,000 cases and controls were included to identify potential IBD loci that met genome-wide significance thresholds [18]. The p-value threshold used for instrument selection was $5x10^{-8}$. LD proxies were defined using 1000 genomes European sample data. To avoid double counting of the effects of a particular causal variant, strict linkage disequilibrium (LD) thresholds were used. A minor allele frequency (MAF) threshold of 0.3 for palindromic SNPs was allowed. The clumping threshold was specified as $r^2 < 0.001$ over a





Contribution	Trait	Trait Sample size Number of Au SNPs		Author	PMID	Population
Exposure	Inflammatory bowel disease	76,312	14,378	Jostins L	23128233	European
Outcome	Atrial fibrillation	1,030,836	33,519,037	Nielsen JB	30061737	European

Table 1. Description of contributing studies.

10kb region, resulting in 112 extracted instruments. Phenoscanner [40] was used to exclude SNPs (n = 28)which may affect outcome with multiple traits at genome-wide significance level of p < 5.0×10^{-8} : 13 **SNPs** (rs1050152, rs10516487, rs10781499, rs13387729, rs2412970, rs2488389, rs2950835, rs3197999, rs35675666, rs4072037. rs7657746. rs798502, and rs8062405) were associated with body mass index and fat-free mass; 8 SNPs (rs108499, rs1363907. rs907611. rs2382817. rs516246. and rs6673002) rs6062504, rs17293632, were associated with heart rate, blood pressure, and coronary artery disease; 6 SNPs (rs1893217, rs3024505, rs6908425, rs6927022, rs7911264, and rs9170) were associated with diabetes; and 1 SNP (rs12654812) was associated with chronic kidney disease. Also, using MR pleiotropy residual sum and outlier (MR-PRESSO), three SNPs (rs10800309, rs2266959, and rs12946510) were identified as horizontal pleiotropic outliers and removed. The characteristics and associations with IBD of the remaining 81 SNPs used as instruments in the MR analysis are shown in Supplementary Table 2. The instrumental variable explained 9.0% of the variance in the liability of the IBD exposure.

Outcomes

Summary statistics for the 81 SNPs related to AF were acquired from public GWAS summary datasets. The dataset was from six contributing studies, including 1,030,836 individuals of European ancestry (60,620 AF cases vs. 970,216 controls) [19]. Cases with AF were identified by the International Classification of Diseases (Tenth Revision, ICD-10: I48; Ninth Revision, ICD-9 code 427.3).

Statistical analysis

A two-sample MR approach was employed to estimate the causal effect of IBD on AF using summarized data of the SNP-AF and SNP-IBD associations. Using SNPs as instrumental variables (IV), MR analysis rests on the following three key assumptions in this study: The first assumption is that the SNPs must be associated with exposure (IBD). The second assumption is that the SNP

should not be associated with confounders of the association between risk factors and outcomes. The third assumption is that the SNPs should affect the outcome (AF) only through the risk factor (IBD). Based on these assumptions, unconfounded associations can be estimated by controlling for potential confounders and reverse causation. Multiplicative random-effects inverse-variance weighted (IVW) MR analyses were performed. The effect estimate was set as the IVW mean of ratio estimates from two or more instruments using first-order weights [41]. To limit the bias of pleiotropy effects [42], a sensitivity analysis was conducted with MR-Egger, simple median, weighted median, robust adjusted profile score (RAPS) [43], and MR-PRESSO [35] methods of MR analyses. The intercept test for MR-Egger was used to detect "directional" pleiotropic effects [43]. Despite a weaker power to avoid detecting a null association, the MR-Egger method provides a more robust estimate of potential violations of the standard instrumental variable assumptions in the presence of directional pleiotropy [44]. The weighted median approach allows the IV assumptions to be violated in a more general way. The weighted median estimator for combining data on multiple genetic variants into a single causal estimate is consistent even when up to 50% of the information comes from invalid instrumental variables [45]. The RAPS proposed a consistent and asymptotically normal estimator by adjusting the profile score [46]. The idiosyncratic pleiotropy was tackled by robustifying the adjusted profile score. Using MR-PRESSO [35], horizontal pleiotropic outliers were identified and a pleiotropy-corrected estimate was reported. Heterogeneity between SNPs in the IVW analysis was assessed using the Q statistic and I^2 index [47]. In addition, a leave-one-out analysis was performed to evaluate the influence of outlying or pleiotropic SNPs [48]. The associations between genetically predicted IBD and AF were presented as log odds ratios (OR) with their 95% confidence intervals (CIs) per unit increase in the log OR of IBD [49]. Using a web-based application (http://cnsgenomics.com/shiny/mRnd/), with a sample size of 76,312, MR analysis has 80% power at an alpha rate of 5% to detect an OR of 1.07 per log odds of IBD. The alpha level for statistical significance for causal effects was defined as less than 0.05 (two-sided).

Data were processed using STATA software version 16 (StataCorp, TX, USA) and R 3.2.5 (R Development Core Team). MR-PRESSO is a bootstrap method dependent on random number generation (RNG). The RNG seed used in R was set at 6.

Data availability statements

The dataset that would be necessary to interpret, replicate were provided [18, 19].

Availability of data and material

Included in 'Method' section.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Conceptualization, LaiTe Chen; Data curation, LaiTe Chen; Formal analysis, LaiTe Chen; Methodology, LaiTe Chen; Project administration, GuoSheng Fu and ChenYang Jiang; Resources, LaiTe Chen, GuoSheng Fu and ChenYang Jiang; Software, LaiTe Chen; Supervision, GuoSheng Fu and ChenYang Jiang; Validation, GuoSheng Fu and ChenYang Jiang; Visualization, LaiTe Chen; Writing – original draft, LaiTe Chen; Writing – review and editing, GuoSheng Fu and ChenYang Jiang.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Supplementary Tables

SNP	Beta	SE	p-value
rs1042058	-0.0775	0.0958	0.4186
rs10521318	-0.0424	0.0896	0.6357
rs1062158	-0.1723	0.0843	0.0409
rs10758669	-0.0217	0.0471	0.6451
rs10761659	-0.0121	0.0428	0.7767
rs11209026	-0.0059	0.0196	0.7625
rs11230563	0.0496	0.0846	0.5581
rs11564126	0.0260	0.0743	0.7260
rs11597483	-0.1413	0.0622	0.0231
rs11672983	0.0488	0.1005	0.6275
rs11742570	0.0267	0.0371	0.4712
rs11879191	0.0545	0.0693	0.4320
rs12142199	-0.0880	0.0880	0.3173
rs1250550	-0.1594	0.0724	0.0278
rs12722515	0.1418	0.0964	0.1412
rs1292053	-0.2752	0.0960	0.0042
rs12942547	-0.0648	0.0630	0.3033
rs13009506	0.0536	0.0484	0.2687
rs13019081	-0.0509	0.0707	0.4712
rs1456896	-0.0371	0.0798	0.6421
rs1516976	0.0333	0.1019	0.7440
rs1517352	-0.0387	0.0907	0.6698
rs1558744	0.0850	0.0615	0.1669
rs1569723	0.1652	0.0949	0.0818
rs17085007	0.1221	0.0830	0.1412
rs17119	-0.0225	0.0909	0.8049
rs17396847	-0.1128	0.0786	0.1513
rs17694108	-0.0933	0.0764	0.2222
rs1847472	0.0227	0.0994	0.8192
rs1872691	0.0477	0.0676	0.4803
rs2024092	-0.0009	0.0753	0.9903
rs2155219	0.0850	0.0482	0.0782
rs2413583	-0.1309	0.0501	0.0089
rs243323	0.1358	0.0770	0.0778
rs259964	0.0469	0.0850	0.5808
rs2816954	-0.2728	0.0973	0.0051
rs2823286	-0.0355	0.0525	0.4992
rs2836878	0.0813	0.0424	0.0549
rs2930047	-0.1093	0.1062	0.3035
rs3091316	0.0150	0.0644	0.8159

Supplementary Table 1. Causal estimate with MRegger and multiplicative random effects IVW (each SNP and overall effect).

rs3764147	0.0173	0.0866	0.8415
rs3851228	-0.0252	0.0857	0.7687
rs4246905	0.0890	0.0506	0.0784
rs4380874	-0.1229	0.0731	0.0927
rs4409764	-0.0169	0.0385	0.6604
rs4626115	-0.0532	0.0893	0.5513
rs4656958	0.1620	0.1027	0.1147
rs4743820	0.1519	0.1036	0.1427
rs4921227	-0.0224	0.0481	0.6421
rs559928	0.1718	0.0886	0.0523
rs6017342	0.0067	0.0585	0.9090
rs6142618	-0.0235	0.0997	0.8140
rs6426833	0.1137	0.0540	0.0352
rs6588248	-0.0338	0.0798	0.6714
rs6592362	-0.0312	0.1093	0.7751
rs6724516	-0.0978	0.0978	0.3173
rs6740462	0.0383	0.1079	0.7224
rs683078	-0.0091	0.1018	0.9286
rs6879495	0.0796	0.0847	0.3475
rs6911490	-0.0343	0.0686	0.6171
rs6920220	0.1063	0.0793	0.1798
rs7097656	-0.1681	0.0784	0.0320
rs7200798	0.0651	0.1064	0.5406
rs7214193	0.2440	0.1105	0.0273
rs7240004	-0.0165	0.1034	0.8733
rs727088	-0.0535	0.1025	0.6014
rs7495132	-0.0468	0.0886	0.5973
rs7554511	-0.0538	0.0498	0.2797
rs7608910	0.0663	0.0526	0.2074
rs762422	-0.1105	0.0637	0.0830
rs7724036	-0.0501	0.0594	0.3992
rs7749278	0.0873	0.0749	0.2433
rs7788750	0.0356	0.1049	0.7345
rs8005161	0.0828	0.0779	0.2883
rs8107703	-0.1603	0.1011	0.1129
rs913678	0.0601	0.1110	0.5880
rs921720	-0.0804	0.0770	0.2964
rs941823	0.0062	0.0957	0.9482
rs9557195	-0.0318	0.0804	0.6928
All - IVW			
(multiplicative	-0.0028	0.0090	0.7527
random effects)	0.0002	0.0210	0.9913
All - MR Egger MR-PRESSO	-0.0002 -0.0028	0.0210	0.9913
MIK-LKE220	-0.0028	0.0090	0.7330

Abbreviation: MR, Mendelian Randomization; IVW, Inverse-Variance Weighted; SE, Standard Error; SNPs, Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms.

CND		E	Effects on in	flammator	y bowel disea	Effects on atrial fibrillation						
SNP	EA	OA	EAF	Beta	SE	p-val	EA	OA	EAF	Beta	SE	p-val
rs1042058	С	Т	0.5920	0.0710	0.0112	2.0900×10 ⁻¹⁰	С	Т	0.5930	-0.0055	0.0068	0.4176
rs10521318	Т	С	0.0846	-0.1273	0.0210	1.4100×10-9	Т	С	0.0982	0.0054	0.0114	0.6323
rs1062158	Т	С	0.6290	0.0807	0.0114	1.2100×10 ⁻¹²	Т	С	0.6156	-0.0139	0.0068	0.0420
rs10758669	А	С	0.6510	-0.1613	0.0115	7.8800×10 ⁻⁴⁵	А	С	0.6473	0.0035	0.0076	0.6418
rs10761659	G	А	0.5430	0.1565	0.0111	8.4700×10 ⁻⁴⁵	G	А	0.5433	-0.0019	0.0067	0.776
rs11209026	А	G	0.0670	-0.7095	0.0263	8.1300×10 ⁻¹⁶¹	А	G	0.0625	0.0042	0.0139	0.762
rs11230563	Т	С	0.3460	-0.0827	0.0116	9.0300×10 ⁻¹³	Т	С	0.3456	-0.0041	0.0070	0.560
rs11564126	G	А	0.0310	0.3418	0.0342	1.6700×10 ⁻²³	G	А	0.0187	0.0089	0.0254	0.726
rs11597483	G	А	0.3460	0.1125	0.0114	5.2400×10 ⁻²³	G	А	0.3382	-0.0159	0.0070	0.0229
rs11672983	А	G	0.3920	0.0677	0.0113	2.4800×10-9	А	G	0.3709	0.0033	0.0068	0.621
rs11742570	С	Т	0.6050	0.1834	0.0113	3.4600×10 ⁻⁵⁹	С	Т	0.6020	0.0049	0.0068	0.472
rs11879191	А	G	0.2030	-0.1212	0.0138	2.0400×10 ⁻¹⁸	А	G	0.1995	-0.0066	0.0084	0.427
rs12142199	А	G	0.8110	-0.0977	0.0150	7.5900×10 ⁻¹¹	А	G	0.7787	0.0086	0.0086	0.3184
rs1250550	А	С	0.3240	-0.0966	0.0121	1.1900×10 ⁻¹⁵	А	С	0.3596	0.0154	0.0070	0.028
rs12722515	А	С	0.1510	-0.0903	0.0155	5.8200×10-9	А	С	0.1860	-0.0128	0.0087	0.141
rs1292053	G	А	0.4460	0.0698	0.0109	1.7700×10 ⁻¹⁰	G	А	0.4415	-0.0192	0.0067	0.003
rs12942547	G	А	0.4200	-0.1080	0.0112	5.5100×10 ⁻²²	G	А	0.4374	0.0070	0.0068	0.300
rs13009506	Т	G	0.5230	0.1363	0.0110	3.4700×10 ⁻³⁵	Т	G	0.5188	0.0073	0.0066	0.268
rs13019081	С	А	0.3750	-0.0962	0.0113	3.0000×10 ⁻¹⁷	С	А	0.3864	0.0049	0.0068	0.471
rs1456896	Т	С	0.6880	0.0889	0.0119	9.7500×10 ⁻¹⁴	Т	С	0.6607	-0.0033	0.0071	0.644
rs1516976	С	Т	0.1340	-0.0962	0.0166	5.7700×10-9	С	Т	0.1345	-0.0032	0.0098	0.743
rs1517352	С	А	0.6000	0.0749	0.0113	3.2800×10 ⁻¹¹	С	А	0.6094	-0.0029	0.0068	0.669
rs1558744	А	G	0.3990	0.1106	0.0112	2.6300×10 ⁻²³	А	G	0.4146	0.0094	0.0068	0.164
rs1569723	А	С	0.7410	-0.0811	0.0124	6.5500×10 ⁻¹¹	А	С	0.7363	-0.0134	0.0077	0.082
rs17085007	С	Т	0.1830	0.1048	0.0144	3.7500×10 ⁻¹³	С	Т	0.1761	0.0128	0.0087	0.142
rs17119	А	G	0.7860	0.0935	0.0141	3.0700×10-11	А	G	0.7892	-0.0021	0.0085	0.807
rs17396847	А	G	0.3850	-0.0877	0.0119	1.6900×10 ⁻¹³	А	G	0.3888	0.0099	0.0069	0.152
rs17694108	А	G	0.2820	0.1008	0.0129	5.8500×10 ⁻¹⁵	А	G	0.2952	-0.0094	0.0077	0.220
rs17835641	С	G	0.5230	-0.0683	0.0110	4.8800×10 ⁻¹⁰	С	G	0.5058	-0.0085	0.0066	0.202
rs1847472	А	С	0.3450	-0.0704	0.0116	1.1000×10-9	А	С	0.3485	-0.0016	0.0070	0.819
rs1872691	А	G	0.1800	-0.1258	0.0146	5.5900×10 ⁻¹⁸	А	G	0.1860	-0.0060	0.0085	0.480
rs1991866	С	G	0.5780	-0.0672	0.0112	1.6500×10-9	С	G	0.5768	0.0092	0.0068	0.173
rs2024092	А	G	0.2150	0.1089	0.0136	1.2300×10 ⁻¹⁵	А	G	0.2046	-0.0001	0.0082	0.992
rs2155219	Т	G	0.5090	0.1389	0.0111	4.2400×10 ⁻³⁶	Т	G	0.4977	0.0118	0.0067	0.075
rs2413583	Т	С	0.1670	-0.1818	0.0152	4.4000×10 ⁻³³	Т	С	0.1590	0.0238	0.0091	0.009
rs243323	G	А	0.3110	-0.0935	0.0120	6.1200×10 ⁻¹⁵	G	А	0.2911	-0.0127	0.0072	0.080
rs259964	G	А	0.5360	-0.0788	0.0111	1.0100×10 ⁻¹²	G	А	0.5428	-0.0037	0.0067	0.577
rs2816954	А	Т	0.8490	0.0935	0.0167	2.4000×10-8	А	Т	0.8248	-0.0255	0.0091	0.005
rs2823286	А	G	0.2920	-0.1410	0.0124	9.2800×10 ⁻³⁰	А	G	0.2920	0.0050	0.0074	0.499
rs2836878	А	G	0.2670	-0.1771	0.0129	7.2700×10 ⁻⁴³	А	G	0.2795	-0.0144	0.0075	0.055
rs2930047	С	Т	0.3820	0.0650	0.0113	1.0300×10-8	С	Т	0.3599	-0.0071	0.0069	0.300
rs3091316	А	G	0.2780	-0.1134	0.0124	5.2600×10 ⁻²⁰	А	G	0.2947	-0.0017	0.0073	0.813

Supplementary Table 2. Characteristics of the 81 SNPs related to atrial fibrillation and inflammatory bowel disease.

rs3764147	G	А	0.2480	0.0923	0.0128	5.6300×10 ⁻¹³	G	А	0.2116	0.0016	0.0080	0.8410
rs3851228	Т	А	0.0730	0.1586	0.0213	1.0800×10 ⁻¹³	Т	А	0.0646	-0.0040	0.0136	0.7694
rs4246905	С	Т	0.7090	0.1483	0.0125	2.8000×10-32	С	Т	0.7063	0.0132	0.0075	0.0771
rs4380874	С	Т	0.5950	-0.0944	0.0113	7.1300×10 ⁻¹⁷	С	Т	0.5863	0.0116	0.0069	0.0925
rs4409764	G	Т	0.5090	-0.1714	0.0110	1.0300×10 ⁻⁵⁴	G	Т	0.5111	0.0029	0.0066	0.6653
rs4626115	Т	С	0.1380	0.1053	0.0155	1.1000×10 ⁻¹¹	Т	С	0.1471	-0.0056	0.0094	0.5536
rs4656958	G	А	0.6860	0.0691	0.0119	6.8000×10 ⁻⁹	G	А	0.6692	0.0112	0.0071	0.1152
rs4743820	Т	С	0.7020	0.0705	0.0122	6.4500×10 ⁻⁹	Т	С	0.6987	0.0107	0.0073	0.1444
rs4921227	G	А	0.3290	0.1476	0.0116	6.1900×10 ⁻³⁷	G	А	0.3332	-0.0033	0.0071	0.6473
rs559928	С	Т	0.8210	0.0949	0.0144	4.1900×10 ⁻¹¹	С	Т	0.7930	0.0163	0.0084	0.0528
rs6017342	С	А	0.5300	0.1196	0.0125	1.4300×10 ⁻²¹	С	А	0.5194	0.0008	0.0070	0.9054
rs6142618	G	А	0.5640	0.0682	0.0110	6.0500×10 ⁻¹⁰	G	А	0.5726	-0.0016	0.0068	0.8142
rs6426833	А	G	0.5420	0.1222	0.0110	2.0200×10-28	А	G	0.5181	0.0139	0.0066	0.0359
rs6588248	G	Т	0.5370	0.0827	0.0110	4.9800×10 ⁻¹⁴	G	Т	0.5250	-0.0028	0.0066	0.6768
rs6592362	G	А	0.7520	-0.0705	0.0126	2.3200×10-8	G	А	0.7281	0.0022	0.0077	0.7697
rs6724516	А	G	0.7200	0.0797	0.0126	2.2300×10-10	А	G	0.7400	-0.0078	0.0078	0.3209
rs6740462	А	С	0.7390	0.0705	0.0126	2.3500×10 ⁻⁸	А	С	0.7245	0.0027	0.0076	0.7198
rs683078	С	Т	0.4830	-0.0658	0.0110	2.4300×10-9	С	Т	0.4458	0.0006	0.0067	0.9300
rs6879495	Т	С	0.5310	0.0779	0.0111	2.4600×10 ⁻¹²	Т	С	0.5172	0.0062	0.0066	0.3498
rs6911490	С	Т	0.7920	-0.1196	0.0138	3.8000×10 ⁻¹⁸	С	Т	0.7696	0.0041	0.0082	0.6222
rs6920220	А	G	0.2060	0.1035	0.0134	1.0100×10 ⁻¹⁴	А	G	0.2107	0.0110	0.0082	0.1770
rs7097656	С	Т	0.8020	0.1059	0.0139	2.0500×10-14	С	Т	0.7826	-0.0178	0.0083	0.0329
rs7200798	А	G	0.5270	0.0630	0.0110	1.2700×10 ⁻⁸	А	G	0.5493	0.0041	0.0067	0.5448
rs7214193	G	А	0.2230	-0.0742	0.0132	1.6000×10 ⁻⁸	G	А	0.2062	-0.0181	0.0082	0.0277
rs7240004	G	А	0.3840	-0.0667	0.0116	9.8100×10 ⁻⁹	G	А	0.3794	0.0011	0.0069	0.8758
rs727088	А	G	0.5160	-0.0654	0.0112	4.6500×10 ⁻⁹	А	G	0.5122	0.0035	0.0067	0.6051
rs7495132	Т	С	0.1090	-0.1196	0.0185	9.4800×10 ⁻¹¹	Т	С	0.1125	0.0056	0.0106	0.5987
rs7554511	А	С	0.2750	-0.1487	0.0125	1.2400×10 ⁻³²	А	С	0.2957	0.0080	0.0074	0.2757
rs7608910	G	А	0.3940	0.1312	0.0112	8.6500×10 ⁻³²	G	А	0.3655	0.0087	0.0069	0.2064
rs762422	А	G	0.6160	-0.1177	0.0112	6.5200×10 ⁻²⁶	А	G	0.6072	0.0130	0.0075	0.0818
rs7724036	Т	С	0.0944	0.2038	0.0190	1.0300×10 ⁻²⁶	Т	С	0.0786	-0.0102	0.0121	0.3971
rs7749278	С	Т	0.4680	0.0882	0.0110	8.4500×10 ⁻¹⁶	С	Т	0.4791	0.0077	0.0066	0.2439
rs7788750	Т	С	0.0459	0.1630	0.0261	4.4400×10 ⁻¹⁰	Т	С	0.0397	0.0058	0.0171	0.7342
rs8005161	Т	С	0.0887	0.1450	0.0190	2.3500×10 ⁻¹⁴	Т	С	0.0907	0.0120	0.0113	0.2894
rs8107703	А	G	0.9460	-0.1622	0.0252	1.1900×10 ⁻¹⁰	А	G	0.9233	0.0260	0.0164	0.1135
rs913678	С	Т	0.3380	-0.0649	0.0118	4.5900×10 ⁻⁸	С	Т	0.3322	-0.0039	0.0072	0.5932
rs921720	G	А	0.6090	0.0883	0.0113	6.7100×10 ⁻¹⁵	G	А	0.6170	-0.0071	0.0068	0.2985
rs941823	С	Т	0.7580	0.0805	0.0128	3.8400×10 ⁻¹⁰	С	Т	0.7326	0.0005	0.0077	0.9530
rs9557195	С	Т	0.2280	-0.1008	0.0133	2.3700×10 ⁻¹⁴	С	Т	0.2095	0.0032	0.0081	0.6936

Abbreviation: EA, Effect Allele; OA, Other Allele; EAF, effect allele frequency; SE, standard error; SNP, single nucleotide polymorphism.