

Shift Workers Have Higher Blood Pressure Medicine Use, But Only When They Are Short Sleepers: A Longitudinal UK Biobank Study

Barbara Riegel, PhD, RN; Marguerite Daus, BSN, RN; Alicia J. Lozano, MS; Susan K. Malone, PhD, RN; Freda Patterson, PhD; Alexandra L. Hanlon, PhD

Background—Some, but not all, studies report associations between shift work and hypertension, suggesting that particular subgroups may be at risk. We examined moderating effects of sleep duration and circadian preference on the relationship between shift work and new blood pressure (BP) medicine use at follow-up.

Methods and Results—Baseline and 5-year follow-up data from the UK Biobank cohort (N=9200) were used to generate logistic regression models for shift workers and nonshift workers. The moderating effects of sleep duration (short ≤ 6 hours; adequate 7–8 hours; long ≥ 9 hours) and circadian preference (morning “larks;” intermediate; evening “owls”) at baseline were examined with new BP medicine use at follow-up, adjusting for age, sex, race, education, employment, urban/rural, cardiovascular disease family history, depression, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index. The sample was predominately middle aged (55.3 \pm 7.4), female (57.3%), and white (97.9%). Most reported adequate sleep duration (7–8 hours, 73.7%) and were intermediate type (65.3%); 8.0% were shift workers at baseline. Only 6.5% reported new BP medicine use at follow-up. Short sleep duration was a significant moderator of new BP medicine use in shift workers. Among short sleepers, shift workers had a 2.1-fold increased odds of new BP medicine use compared with nonshift workers (odds ratio=2.08, 95% CI=1.21–3.58, $P=0.008$). In those reporting adequate (odds ratio=0.82, 95% CI=0.54–1.25, $P=0.35$) and long sleep (odds ratio=0.64, 95% CI=0.11–3.54, $P=0.60$), this relationship was protective but nonsignificant. Interaction between circadian preference and shift work on BP medicine use was nonsignificant.

Conclusions—Shift workers with short sleep duration may be at risk for hypertension. (*J Am Heart Assoc.* 2019;8:e013269. DOI: 10.1161/JAHA.119.013269.)

Key Words: circadian rhythm • hypertension • risk factors • shift work schedule • sleep

Shift work professions are a cornerstone of a functioning society and rates of shift work are rising in our 24/7 society.¹ But shift workers bear a disproportionate burden of chronic diseases.² Some,^{3–6} but not all,^{7–9} studies have reported associations between shift work and hypertension, suggesting that particular subgroups of shift workers may be

more at risk than others. Specifically, a systematic review and meta-analysis of studies involving 394 793 individuals found that shift work appeared to play an important role in hypertension, but there was no significant association between working permanent night shift and the risk of hypertension.¹⁰ The dimensions of sleep identified as risk factors for hypertension in shift workers include short sleep duration,¹¹ poor sleep quality,^{4,12} and circadian disruption.^{13,14} Identifying a sleep phenotype of risk for hypertension among shift workers could inform hypertension prevention strategies.

Background

Shift work is defined as work hours that rotate to different times of the day (eg, morning, afternoon, and night shift) or work at constant but unusual hours of the day (eg, permanent night shift). In most cases, shift work involves “irregular, odd, flexible, variable, unusual, non-standard working hours” (p.563).¹⁵ In the United Kingdom (UK) where this cohort was enrolled, 17% of the populace are shift workers.¹⁶ In the

From the School of Nursing, Biobehavioral Health Sciences Department, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (B.R., M.D.); Department of Statistics, College of Science, Hutcheson Hall, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA (A.J.L., A.L.H.); Rory Meyers College of Nursing, New York University, New York, NY (S.K.M.); Department of Behavioral Health and Nutrition, College of Health Sciences, University of Delaware, Newark, DE (F.P.).

Accompanying Tables S1 through S8 are available at <https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/suppl/10.1161/JAHA.119.013269>

Correspondence to: Barbara Riegel, PhD, RN, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, 418 Curie Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19104-4217. E-mail: briegel@nursing.upenn.edu

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Clinical Perspective

What Is New?

- Particular subgroups of shift workers appear to be at risk for the development of hypertension.
- Shift workers with short sleep duration may be at risk for hypertension
- The interaction between circadian preference and shift work on blood pressure medicine use was not significant.

What Are the Clinical Implications?

- Monitor blood pressure routinely in shift workers.
- Vary blood pressure monitoring to capture work days and nonwork days.
- Ask patients about shift work and their tolerance to shift work schedules.

United States (US), 15% of citizens are shift workers.¹⁷ The UK Office of National Statistics reports that shift workers are predominantly young males (ages 16–24 years) who work two 8-hour shifts in a day, which are alternated weekly or over other intervals.¹⁸

Shift work is associated with physiological, psychosocial, and behavioral consequences that may cause cardiovascular disease (CVD) such as hypertension.¹⁰ Sleep is a pathway with both physiological and behavioral elements linking shift work to hypertension. Poor sleep quality and short sleep duration (≤ 6 hours) may stem from circadian disruption or sleeping outside of the times normally dictated by one's circadian preference as required by shift work.¹⁹ Circadian disruption has been shown to increase blood pressure (BP) in shift workers.¹³ Circadian disruption and short sleep have also been associated with hypertension risk factors including weight gain, low fruit and vegetable consumption, sedentary behavior, and smoking.^{20–28} Adequate sleep duration lowers risk beyond what is achieved by meeting recommendations for physical activity, healthy diet, alcohol consumption, and tobacco use alone.²⁹ Short sleep duration is associated with hypertension,³⁰ with prolonged intervals of short sleep particularly detrimental.³⁰ However, in a sample of adult Chinese males, short sleep duration was not associated with hypertension except when sleep quality was poor.³¹

In summary, the research conducted to date demonstrates that shift work may be a risk factor for hypertension. However, the inconsistent evidence suggests the need to identify subgroups of shift workers who are at risk. In this study we sought to determine whether sleep duration and circadian preference moderated the relationship between shift work and hypertension. We hypothesized that shift workers who were short sleepers and preferred mornings

(“larks”) would have an increase in BP medicine use at follow-up.

Methods

We examined the moderating effects of sleep duration and circadian preference on the relationship between shift work and BP medicine use at follow-up 5 years later. People with known CVD at baseline were excluded. We adjusted the analyses for age, sex, race, education, employment, urban/rural, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index. The data that support the findings of this study are available from UK Biobank but restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for the current study, and so are not publicly available. The UK Biobank study was approved by the North West Multi-centre Research Ethics Committee (reference 16/NW/0274), the England and Wales Patient Information Advisory Group, and the Scottish Community Health Index Advisory Group. All participants provided written informed consent before data collection.

Sample

Population data for these secondary analyses were collected by the UK Biobank (project # 16 153),³² a 20-year, prospective cohort study that began in 2005. Eligible participants were (1) registered users of the National Health Service, (2) aged 40 to 69 years, and (3) living within a 25-mile radius of one of the UK Biobank assessment centers.³³ Between 2006 and 2010, 503 325 eligible and consenting adults were enrolled (5.47% response rate).^{34,35} Volunteers provided informed consent and completed touchscreen questionnaires on lifestyle, environment, and medical history. From this cohort, 5-year follow-up data were collected on $\approx 20\ 000$ participants.

For the current analysis, we started with a sample of 20 002 adults with data at the baseline and 5-year follow-up. Participants who had a history of CVD (ie, angina, stroke, or myocardial infarction; N=922) and those who used medication to treat CVD (N=4104) were excluded because of our interest in predicting the development of new hypertension. We also excluded anyone pregnant at the time of enrollment because of potential effects on sleep (N=3).³⁶ Participants with responses of “do not know” or “prefer not to answer” (N=3714) on any of the core questions (eg, shift work, sleep duration, circadian preference, and BP medicine use) were excluded. Furthermore, participants with missing data for any of the core questions or adjusting variables (age, sex, race, education, employment, urban/rural, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet,

Table 1. UK Biobank Sample Characteristics

Measure	Complete Data (N=9200)	Incomplete Data (N=2059)	P Value*	Effect Size [†]
Sociodemographic characteristics at baseline				
Age (y), mean±SD	55.3±7.4	54.8±7.2	0.006 [‡]	0.07
Sex, n (%)				
Female	5272 (57.3%)	1213 (58.9%)	0.18	0.01
Male	3928 (42.7%)	846 (41.1%)		
Race/ethnicity, n (%)				
Mixed/other	70 (0.8%)	24 (1.2%)	0.17	0.02
Asian	88 (1.0%)	26 (1.3%)		
Black	35 (0.4%)	7 (0.3%)		
White	9007 (97.9%)	1999 (97.1%)		
Missing	0	3 (0.2%)		
Education, n (%)				
Attended college	4699 (51.1%)	787 (38.2%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.03
No college	4501 (48.9%)	899 (43.7%)		
Missing	0	373 (18.1%)		
Employment status, n (%)				
Employed	6062 (65.9%)	1428 (69.4%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.17
Retired	2681 (29.1%)	460 (22.3%)		
Not employed/not retired	457 (5.0%)	106 (5.2%)		
None of the above/prefer not to answer	0	62 (3.0%)		
Missing	0	3 (0.2%)		
Shift work, n (%)				
Yes	734 (8.0%)	189 (9.2%)	0.03*	0.02
No	8466 (92.0%)	1805 (87.7%)		
Missing	0	65 (3.2%)		
Residence, n (%)				
Urban	7792 (84.7%)	1775 (86.2%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.06
Rural	1408 (15.3%)	201 (9.8%)		
Missing	0	83 (4.0%)		
Alcohol frequency intake, n (%)				
Daily or almost daily	2013 (21.9%)	437 (21.2%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.05
Three or 4 times a wk	2636 (28.7%)	528 (25.6%)		
Once or twice a wk	2361 (25.7%)	509 (24.7%)		
One to 3 times a mo	992 (10.8%)	248 (12.0%)		
Special occasions only/never	1198 (13.0%)	333 (16.2%)		
Prefer not to answer	0	1 (0.1%)		
Missing	0	3 (0.2%)		
Depression status, n (%)				
Yes	458 (5.0%)	72 (3.5%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.07
No	1293 (14.1%)	186 (9.0%)		
Unknown	7449 (81.0%)	1801 (87.5%)		
Family history of CVD, n (%)				
Yes	5089 (55.3%)	1030 (50.0%)	0.24	0.02
No	4083 (44.4%)	880 (42.7%)		
Do not know/prefer not to answer	28 (0.3%)	9 (0.4%)		

Continued

Table 1. Continued

Measure	Complete Data (N=9200)	Incomplete Data (N=2059)	P Value*	Effect Size [†]
Missing	0	140 (6.8%)		
Cardiovascular outcomes at 5-y follow-up				
Myocardial infarction, n (%)				
Yes	43 (0.5%)	14 (0.7%)	0.29	0.01
No	9153 (99.5%)	2039 (99.0%)		
Prefer not to answer	4 (0.04%)	2 (0.1%)		
Missing	0	4 (0.2%)		
Angina, n (%)				
Yes	55 (0.6%)	19 (0.9%)	0.16	0.02
No	9141 (99.4%)	2034 (98.8%)		
Prefer not to answer	4 (0.04%)	2 (0.1%)		
Missing	0	4 (0.2%)		
Stroke, n (%)				
Yes	46 (0.5%)	15 (0.7%)	0.28	0.02
No	9150 (99.5%)	2038 (99.0%)		
Prefer not to answer	4 (0.04%)	2 (0.1%)		
Missing	0	4 (0.2%)		
Any CVD event, n (%)				
Yes	135 (1.5%)	46 (2.2%)	0.03*	0.03
No	9061 (98.5%)	2007 (97.5%)		
Prefer not to answer	4 (0.04%)	2 (0.1%)		
Missing	0	4 (0.2%)		
Cardiovascular medication use at 5-y follow-up				
Cholesterol-lowering medication use, n (%)				
Yes	700 (7.6%)	244 (11.9%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.06
No	8500 (92.4%)	1811 (88.0%)		
Missing	0	4 (0.2%)		
BP medicine use, n (%)				
Yes	602 (6.5%)	223 (10.8%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.06
No	8598 (93.5%)	1832 (89.0%)		
Missing	0	4 (0.2%)		
Insulin use, n (%)				
Yes	4 (0.04%)	7 (0.3%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.04
No	9196 (99.9%)	2048 (99.5%)		
Missing	0	4 (0.2%)		
Any CVD medication use, n (%)				
Yes	1090 (11.9%)	369 (17.9%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.07
No	8110 (88.2%)	1686 (81.9%)		
Missing	0	4 (0.2%)		
Self-reported sleep measures at baseline				
Sleep duration, n (%)				
Short	1899 (20.6%)	505 (24.5%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.04
Adequate	6777 (73.7%)	1417 (68.8%)		
Long	524 (5.7%)	134 (6.5%)		
Missing	0	3 (0.2%)		

Continued

Table 1. Continued

Measure	Complete Data (N=9200)	Incomplete Data (N=2059)	P Value*	Effect Size [†]
Circadian preference, n (%)				
Morning	2359 (25.6%)	407 (19.8%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.05
Intermediate	6004 (65.3%)	1053 (51.1%)		
Evening	837 (9.1%)	226 (11.0%)		
Missing	0	373 (18.1%)		
AHA simple-7 measures at baseline				
Physical activity, n (%)				
Ideal	5636 (61.3%)	163 (7.9%)	0.27	0.02
Intermediate	3346 (36.4%)	87 (4.2%)		
Poor	10 (0.1%)	1 (0.1%)		
Do not know/prefer not to answer	208 (2.3%)	9 (0.4%)		
Missing	0	1799 (87.4%)		
Diet, n (%)				
Ideal	10 (0.1%)	0	0.05	0.02
Intermediate	4889 (53.1%)	1046 (50.8%)		
Poor	4301 (46.8%)	1010 (49.1%)		
Missing	0	3 (0.2%)		
Tobacco use at baseline, n (%)				
Ideal	5906 (64.2%)	1295 (62.9%)	0.005 [‡]	0.03
Intermediate	2766 (30.1%)	600 (29.1%)		
Poor	517 (5.6%)	158 (7.7%)		
Prefer not to answer	11 (0.1%)	3 (0.2%)		
Missing	0	3 (0.2%)		
BMI, n (%)				
Ideal	2026 (22.0%)	403 (19.6%)	<0.001 [‡]	0.05
Intermediate	3956 (43.0%)	792 (38.5%)		
Poor	3218 (35.0%)	845 (41.0%)		
Missing	0	19 (0.9%)		
BP, n (%)				
Ideal	1669 (18.1%)	347 (16.9%)	0.51	0.01
Intermediate	3719 (40.4%)	727 (35.3%)		
Poor	3543 (38.5%)	736 (35.8%)		
Missing	269 (2.9%)	249 (12.1%)		

AHA indicates American Heart Association; BMI, body mass index; BP, blood pressure; CVD, cardiovascular disease.

* $P < 0.05$.

[†]Effect sizes based on Cohen's d (small: 0.20, medium 0.50, large: 0.80) for continuous variables and Cramer's V (negligible to weak: 0–0.20, moderate: 0.20–0.39, strong: 0.40–1) for categorical variables.

[‡] $P < 0.01$.

smoking, and body mass index) were excluded (N=2059), leaving 9200 participants in the final analytic sample. Although statistically significant differences between participants with complete and incomplete data were observed for some of the study variables (Table 1), this is likely because of our large sample size and high power to detect even the slightest difference. As a result, Cohen's d and Cramer's V

effect sizes, as appropriate, were calculated. Cohen's d were interpreted as small (0.20), medium (0.50), and large (0.80).³⁷ According to Rea and Parker,³⁸ Cramer's V was interpreted as negligible to weak (0–0.20), moderate (0.20–0.39), and strong (0.40–1). As such, effect sizes were deemed small or weak for all study variables, indicating negligible differences between participants with complete and incomplete data.

Thus, all analyses in this study reflect data from 9200 participants with complete information for all core questions and covariates.

Measurement

Shift workers were identified based on the question “Does your work involve shift work?”. Responses were coded as yes (always, usually, sometimes) or no (never/rarely). The outcome of interest was new-onset hypertension, measured as self-reported BP medicine newly prescribed during the course of follow-up. Responses were coded as yes or no.³² Sleep duration was estimated by participant responses at baseline to the query “About how many hours sleep do you get in every 24 hours? (Please include naps).” Sleep duration was coded as a 3-level variable (short ≤ 6 hours; adequate 7–8 hours; or long ≥ 9 hours).³⁹ Circadian preference was estimated from participant responses to the query “Do you consider yourself to be . . . definitely a morning person, more a morning than evening person, more an evening than a morning person, definitely an evening person.” Responses were coded into a 3-level variable: morning (definitely morning), intermediate (more a morning than evening person, more an evening than morning person), or evening (definitely evening).⁴⁰

Covariates (age, sex, race, education, employment, urban/rural, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index) were self-reported. Race was adjusted as a covariate because short-sleeping black shift workers, but not short-sleeping white shift workers, have been found to have an increased odds of hypertension.¹¹ Family history of CVD was coded as yes if at least 1 biological parent reported heart disease, stroke, or high BP and was otherwise coded as no. Depression was coded as a dichotomous variable. Participants reporting a “probable recurrent major depression” either severe or moderate or a “single probable major depression episode” were coded as yes for depression.

Analysis

Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as means and standard deviations for continuous variables and percentages and frequencies for categorical variables. Moderation analysis with sleep duration and circadian preference as the moderators was used to evaluate the relationship between shift workers and new BP medicine at 5-year follow-up. The primary effect of interest was the interaction between the moderators (sleep duration, circadian preference) and the predictor (shift worker) on newly prescribed BP medicine at 5-year follow-up. If the interaction was statistically significant, separate stratified logistic regression models

according to shift work status were completed to aid with interpretation of the results. Of note, the Firth bias correction was applied to all stratified models because of small cells for adjusting variables. All analyses were conducted with SAS Version 9.4 (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC). Statistical significance was prespecified at a $P < 0.05$.

Results

The final sample of 9200 adults with complete data was mostly white, middle-aged, employed females and more than half had attended college (Table 1). Shift work was reported by 8.0% of this sample. About one fourth reported inadequate (ie, short or long) sleep duration and 9.1% identified as evening-type (“owls”). Fewer than 2% of the sample reported any CVD event (eg, angina, stroke, and myocardial infarction) at follow-up but 6.5% reported the new use of a BP medicine at the 5-year follow-up.

We observed statistically significant moderating effects of the 3-level sleep duration variable on the relationship between shift work and new BP medicine use at 5-year follow-up (Table 2). In the stratified models, among short sleepers, those reporting shift work had a 2.1-fold increased odds of using a new BP medicine as compared with those without shift work (Table 3: odds ratio=2.08, 95% CI=1.21–3.58, $P=0.008$). This relationship was protective among adequate (odds ratio=0.82, 95% CI=0.54–1.25, $P=0.35$) and long

Table 2. Model Results for BP Medication Use at 5YFU Regressed on the Interaction of 3-Level Sleep Duration and Shift Work and Their Main Effects (N=9200)

Variable	OR*	95% CI	P Value
Shift work			
Shift work	0.78	0.51–1.18	0.24
No shift work	REF	REF	REF
Sleep duration			
Short	0.98	0.79–1.22	0.88
Adequate	REF	REF	REF
Long	0.87	0.58–1.28	0.47
Sleep duration \times shift work			
Short sleep—shift work	2.49	1.27–4.86	0.008 [†]
Adequate sleep—no shift work	REF	REF	REF
Long sleep—shift work	0.74	0.09–6.03	0.78

BP indicates blood pressure; OR, odds ratio; REF, reference category; 5YFU, 5-year follow-up.

*Model was adjusted for age, sex, race, education, employment status, urban/rural, family history of cardiovascular disease, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index.

[†] $P < 0.01$.

Table 3. Relationship Between Shift Work and the Odds of New BP Medication Use at 5YFU Among Short Sleepers (N=1899)

Variable	OR*	95% CI	P Value
Shift work			
Shift work	2.08	1.21–3.58	0.008 [†]
No shift work	REF	REF	REF

BP indicates blood pressure; OR, odds ratio; REF, reference category; 5YFU, 5-year follow-up.

*Model was adjusted for age, sex, race, education, employment status, urban/rural, family history of cardiovascular disease, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index.

[†] $P<0.01$.

sleepers (odds ratio=0.64, 95% CI=0.11–3.54, $P=0.60$), but was not statistically significant (Tables 4 and 5, respectively).

While the interaction between circadian preference and shift work was statistically significant for morning-type (Table 6, $P=0.04$), shift work was not a significant predictor of new BP medicine use in models stratified by circadian preference (Tables 7 through 9). However, the odds ratios are in different directions for each group (ie, increased odds in larks and owls, and protective in intermediate circadian preference types) (Figures 1 and 2). Of note, model results for all adjusting variables have been provided in Tables S1 through S8.

Discussion

The purpose of this study was to examine the moderating effects of sleep duration and circadian preference on the relationship between shift work and new BP medicine use at 5-year follow-up. In this large population sample, 6.5% of the sample reported new BP medicine use 5 years later. This percentage of new BP medicine use over a relatively short period of time underscores the growing burden of

Table 4. Relationship Between Shift Work and the Odds of New BP Medication Use at 5YFU Among Adequate Sleepers (N=6777)

Variable	OR*	95% CI	P Value
Shift work			
Shift work	0.82	0.54–1.25	0.35
No shift work	REF	REF	REF

BP indicates blood pressure; OR, odds ratio; REF, reference category; 5YFU, 5-year follow-up.

*Model was adjusted for age, sex, race, education, employment status, urban/rural, family history of cardiovascular disease, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index.

Table 5. Relationship Between Shift Work and the Odds of New BP Medication Use at 5YFU Among Long Sleepers (N=524)

Variable	OR*	95% CI	P Value
Shift work			
Shift work	0.64	0.11–3.54	0.60
No shift work	REF	REF	REF

BP indicates blood pressure; OR, odds ratio; REF, reference category; 5YFU, 5-year follow-up.

*Model was adjusted for age, sex, race, education, employment status, urban/rural, family history of cardiovascular disease, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index.

hypertension, particularly among older adults.^{41,42} Reducing hypertension rates hinges on identifying at-risk subgroups and on developing effective nonpharmacologic interventions for these at-risk groups. Our results suggest that shift workers who are short sleepers might be an at-risk group worth targeting for intervention.

Prospective studies have reported that shift work is associated with incident hypertension in some, but not all, studies⁴³ (for a review). Disparate findings stem from different definitions of shift work, different durations of participants' exposure to shift work, and the inclusion of different covariates in the data analyses in these prospective studies. Additionally, the "healthy worker effect" may explain the lack of significant associations between shift work and hypertension in some studies.⁴⁴ The "healthy worker effect" explains

Table 6. Model Results for BP Medication Use at 5YFU Regressed on the Interaction of Circadian Preference and Shift Work and Their Main Effects (N=9200)

Variable	OR*	95% CI	P Value
Shift work			
Shift work	0.80	0.51–1.25	0.32
No shift work	REF	REF	REF
Circadian preference			
Morning	0.97	0.79–1.19	0.74
Intermediate	REF	REF	REF
Evening	1.05	0.77–1.44	0.75
Circadian preference × shift work			
Morning—shift work	2.05	1.02–4.13	0.04 [†]
Intermediate—no shift work	REF	REF	REF
Evening—shift work	1.26	0.47–3.40	0.65

BP indicates blood pressure; OR, odds ratio; REF, reference category; 5YFU, 5-year follow-up.

*Model was adjusted for age, sex, race, education, employment status, urban/rural, family history of cardiovascular disease, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index.

[†] $P<0.01$.

Table 7. Relationship Between Shift Work and the Odds of New BP Medication Use at 5YFU Among Morning Types (N=2359)

Variable	OR*	95% CI	P Value
Shift work			
Shift work	1.53	0.88–2.67	0.14
No shift work	REF	REF	REF

BP indicates blood pressure; OR, odds ratio; REF, reference category; 5YFU, 5-year follow-up.

*Model was adjusted for age, sex, race, education, employment status, and urban/rural, Family history of cardiovascular disease, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index.

insignificant associations between shift work and hypertension because shift workers diagnosed with chronic conditions, such as hypertension, retire or transition to nonshift work, and the remaining shift workers are healthier than their same-aged nonshift worker counterparts.⁴⁴ Short-sleeping shift workers were found to have a greater odds of new-onset BP medicine use at follow-up compared with short-sleeping nonshift workers in this UK population sample. Others have reported that short sleep was a significant predictor of incident hypertension in black, but not white, female shift workers.⁷ Our finding extends the link between short sleep and shift work with new BP medication use to middle-aged white males and females in the United Kingdom. Our finding suggests that a subgroup of shift workers (eg, short sleepers) are at greater risk for new BP medicine use than other shift workers (eg, adequate sleepers) and that intervening to promote adequate sleep duration among shift workers may be an important prevention strategy.

The increased odds for new BP medicine use in short-sleeping shift workers compared with short-sleeping nonshift workers at follow-up suggests that circadian disruption contributes to new BP medicine use above and beyond short sleep duration. Well-controlled laboratory studies have provided consistent evidence for a biological pathway linking circadian disruption to hypertension. These studies have

Table 8. Relationship Between Shift Work and the Odds of New BP Medication Use at 5YFU Among Intermediate Types (N=6004)

Variable	OR*	95% CI	P Value
Shift work			
Shift work	0.83	0.53–1.29	0.40
No shift work	REF	REF	REF

BP indicates blood pressure; OR, odds ratio; REF, reference category; 5YFU, 5-year follow-up.

*Model was adjusted for age, sex, race, education, employment status, urban/rural, family history of cardiovascular disease, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index.

shown that circadian disruption, induced by simulating shift work, increases nocturnal sympathetic nervous system activation independently from sleep restriction alone in healthy young adults.^{45,46} This laboratory evidence has been corroborated in shift workers by evidence of an elevated BP and heart rate along with reduced heart rate variability and incomplete BP recovery following a 12-hour shift of night work.⁴⁷ Although some well-controlled laboratory studies have demonstrated an increase in BP during simulated shift work conditions,⁴⁵ others have not.⁴⁶ Yet, well-controlled laboratory studies are devoid of environmental and behavioral factors that may also contribute to sympathetic nervous stimulation in shift workers, such as exposure to light, noise, caffeine consumption, and occupational stress during the night.⁴⁸ Collectively, these biological, environmental, and behavioral factors are plausible pathways that support an increased odds of new BP medicine use in short-sleeping shift workers compared with short-sleeping nonshift workers.

Circadian preference moderated the relationship between shift work and new BP medicine use; however, the odds of new BP medicine use in shift workers with morning preferences were not significantly different from shift workers with evening preferences. Although not significantly different, shift workers with an evening preference were less likely to report new BP medicine use at follow-up and shift workers with a morning preference were more likely to report new BP medicine use at follow-up. The opposing relationship between morning and evening shift workers with new BP medicine use in our sample may stem from the effect of circadian preference on sleep duration, sleep quality, and sleep regularity in shift workers. Morning-preference shift workers have reported shorter sleep duration, poorer sleep quality, and greater sleep irregularity when working night shifts compared with evening-preference shift workers.⁴⁹ Sleep duration, sleep quality, and sleep regularity have been reported to improve by eliminating night work for shift workers with morning preferences and by eliminating early morning work for shift workers with evening preferences.⁵⁰

Table 9. Relationship Between Shift Work and the Odds of New BP Medication Use at 5YFU Among Evening Types (N=837)

Variable	OR*	95% CI	P Value
Shift work			
Shift work	1.21	0.49–2.96	0.68
No shift work	REF	REF	REF

BP indicates blood pressure; OR, odds ratio; REF, reference category; 5YFU, 5-year follow-up.

*Model was adjusted for age, sex, race, education, employment status, urban/rural, family history of cardiovascular disease, depression status, alcohol intake, physical activity, diet, smoking, and body mass index.

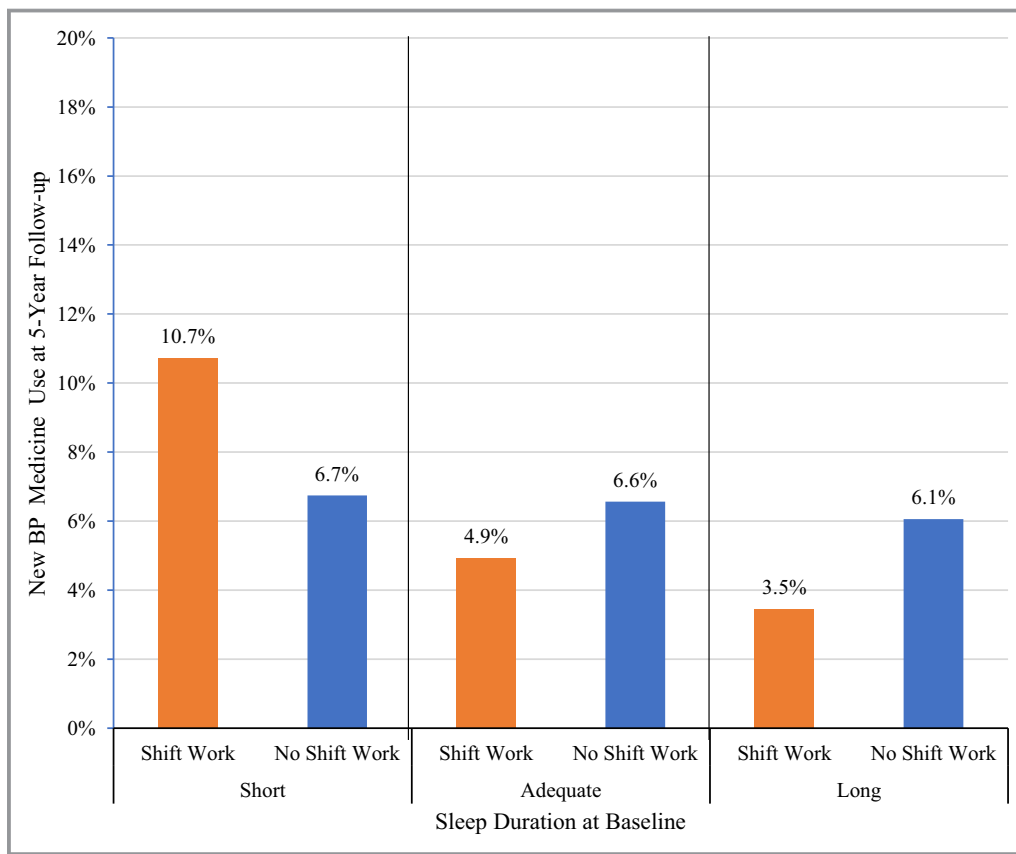


Figure 1. Percent of UK Biobank participants with new blood pressure (BP) medicine use at 5-year follow-up according to shift work status stratified by sleep duration (N=9200).

Thus, adjusting shift work according to circadian preference can yield sleep health benefits. Whether or not similar benefits for reducing hypertension may be garnered for shift workers is uncertain. Alves et al⁵¹ found that shift workers with less irregular sleep patterns report more physical activity and less sedentary behavior compared with shift workers with more irregular sleep patterns. More work is needed to determine whether aligning shift work with circadian preferences reduces new BP medicine use and hypertension-related risk behaviors.

Limitations

These analyses were limited by several factors. All variables were measured using self-reported data, which is only moderately correlated with objectively measured sleep duration.^{52,53} The duration, frequency, and specific types of shifts worked were not included in these data. Our analyses were restricted to a predominately white population, so results need to be replicated in other racial and ethnic groups. Although we restricted analyses to participants reporting no BP medicine use at baseline, it is possible that some participants had untreated hypertension at enrollment. Future

analyses should include objective measures of sleep and healthcare provider confirmation of new-onset hypertension. Other limitations include a possible underestimation of hypertension risk because not every increase in BP needs to be treated pharmacologically. Also, we were not able to control for external factors that may influence BP medicine use, such as the regularity of healthcare appointments, provider prescribing practices, and/or the overall healthcare delivery system. Those who visit the doctor more often are more likely to receive treatment for their hypertension. Furthermore, it was not possible to break down the medications to individual medication classes, so we cannot confirm that a specific compound was initiated for the treatment of hypertension, but this is what the participants were told. Another limitation is that the data set did not allow us to distinguish between behavioral short sleep duration and short sleep duration because of other reasons. We also did not control for sleep-disordered breathing, a common cause of poor sleep quality and a known cause of hypertension in middle- and older-aged adults.⁵⁴ Finally, a limitation of the UK Biobank data is that only 5.47% of eligible individuals participated in the study. Future research is needed to explore the match between circadian preference and the shift

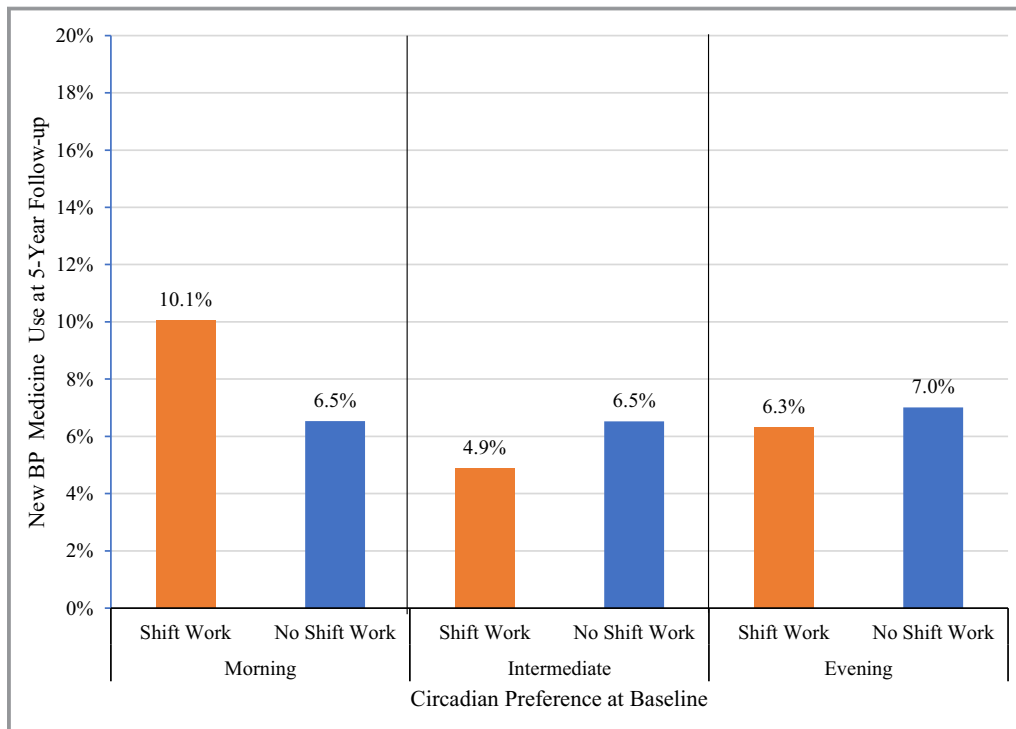


Figure 2. Percent of UK Biobank participants with new blood pressure (BP) medicine use at 5-year follow-up according to shift work status stratified by circadian preference (N=9200).

worked, as we did not have data available to answer this specific question.

Perspective

These results underscore the increasing prevalence and health burden of hypertension, and suggest that short sleep duration in shift workers may contribute to this burden. Our finding that short-sleeping shift workers had an increased odds of a new need to take a BP medicine on follow-up has several clinical implications. First, clinicians should consider questioning patients about their exposure to shift work. Second, ask shift-working patients about their tolerance to shift work schedules in terms of sleep duration, sleep quality, and sleep regularity. Third, BP monitoring for shift workers should include checking BP on work days and after nonwork days.⁴³ Fourth, interventions to promote sleep health for shift workers are needed.

Current demands for a 24/7 society and growth in the percentage of people reporting shift work suggest that the success of policies limiting the number of night shift personnel to safely perform essential tasks will be challenging to promote. Nonetheless, eliminating economic policies that incentivize night shift work may ensure that the burden of chronic diseases linked to shift work is not disproportionately shouldered by the socioeconomically disadvantaged. Future

research that advances our understanding of the relationships between circadian disruption and CVD risk in shift workers may guide equitable interventions by aligning work schedules according to preferences.

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Disclosures

None.

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SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

Table S1. Model results for BP medication use at 5YFU regressed on the interaction of 3-level sleep duration and shift work and their main effects (N=9,200).

<i>Variable</i>	<i>OR#</i>	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>P-value</i>
Shift Work			
Shift Work	0.78	0.51-1.18	0.24
No Shift Work	REF	REF	REF
Sleep Duration			
Short	0.98	0.79-1.22	0.88
Adequate	REF	REF	REF
Long	0.87	0.58-1.28	0.47
Sleep Duration x Shift Work			
Short Sleep – Shift Work	2.49	1.27-4.86	0.01**
Adequate Sleep – No Shift Work	REF	REF	REF
Long Sleep – Shift Work	0.74	0.09-6.03	0.78
Age (years)	1.06	1.04-1.08	<0.001**
Sex			
Female	REF	REF	
Male	1.93	1.61-2.31	<0.001**
Race/Ethnicity			
Mixed/Other	1.13	0.40-3.18	0.82
Asian	1.36	0.57-3.24	0.49
Black	2.69	0.91-7.89	0.07
White	REF	REF	
Education			
Attended College	0.82	0.69-0.97	0.02*
No College	REF	REF	
Employment Status			
Employed	0.99	0.63-1.53	0.95
Retired	0.92	0.58-1.46	0.72
Not Employed/Not Retired	REF	REF	
Residence			
Urban	REF	REF	
Rural	0.90	0.70-1.15	0.39
Family History of CVD			
Yes	1.28	1.08-1.52	0.005**
No	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	1.75	0.59-5.25	0.32
Depression Status			
Yes	1.62	1.03-2.55	0.04*
No	REF	REF	
Unknown	1.46	1.12-1.92	0.006**
Alcohol Frequency Intake			
Daily or almost daily	0.82	0.62-1.10	0.19
Three or four times a week	0.77	0.58-1.02	0.07
Once or twice a week	0.64	0.48-0.86	0.003**
One to three times a month	0.69	0.48-0.99	0.04*
Special occasions only/Never	REF	REF	
Physical Activity			
Ideal	0.71	0.08-5.98	0.75
Intermediate	0.82	0.10-6.94	0.86
Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	0.61	0.07-5.53	0.66
Diet			
Ideal	2.00	0.24-16.48	0.52

	Intermediate	1.01	0.85-1.20	0.91
	Poor	REF	REF	
Tobacco Use				
	Ideal	0.79	0.56-1.12	0.18
	Intermediate	0.86	0.60-1.23	0.40
	Poor	REF	REF	
	Do not know/Prefer not to answer	0.73	0.09-6.14	0.78
Body Mass Index (BMI)				
	Ideal	0.29	0.22-0.39	<0.001**
	Intermediate	0.51	0.42-0.61	<0.001**
	Poor	REF	REF	

‡ Model was adjusted for baseline age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, employment status, urban/rural residence, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol frequency intake, physical activity, diet, tobacco use, and body mass index.

BP=blood pressure, REF=reference category, OR=odds ratio, CI=confidence interval

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$

Table S2. Model results for BP medication use at 5YFU regressed on the interaction of circadian preference and shift work and their main effects (N=9,200).

<i>Variable</i>	<i>OR#</i>	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>P-value</i>
Shift Work			
Shift Work	0.80	0.51-1.25	0.32
No Shift Work	REF	REF	REF
Circadian Preference			
Morning	0.97	0.79-1.19	0.74
Intermediate	REF	REF	REF
Evening	1.05	0.77-1.44	0.75
Circadian Preference x Shift Work			
Morning – Shift Work	2.05	1.02-4.13	0.04*
Intermediate – No Shift Work	REF	REF	REF
Evening – Shift Work	1.26	0.47-3.40	0.65
Age (years)	1.06	1.04-1.08	<0.001**
Sex			
Female	REF	REF	
Male	1.92	1.61-2.29	<0.001**
Race/Ethnicity			
Mixed/Other	1.10	0.39-3.08	0.86
Asian	1.43	0.60-3.41	0.42
Black	2.90	0.99-8.48	0.05
White	REF		
Education			
Attended College	0.81	0.68-0.97	0.02*
No College	REF	REF	
Employment Status			
Employed	1.00	0.65-1.55	0.99
Retired	0.93	0.58-1.47	0.75
Not Employed/Not Retired	REF	REF	
Residence			
Urban	REF	REF	
Rural	0.90	0.71-1.16	0.42
Family History of CVD			
Yes	1.28	1.08-1.52	0.005**
No	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	1.83	0.61-5.47	0.28
Depression Status			
Yes	1.62	1.03-2.54	0.04*
No	REF	REF	
Unknown	1.46	1.12-1.92	0.006**
Alcohol Frequency Intake			
Daily or almost daily	0.83	0.62-1.11	0.21
Three or four times a week	0.77	0.59-1.02	0.07
Once or twice a week	0.65	0.48-0.86	0.003**
One to three times a month	0.70	0.49-0.99	0.046*
Special occasions only/Never	REF	REF	
Physical Activity			
Ideal	0.70	0.08-5.89	0.74
Intermediate	0.81	0.10-6.82	0.85
Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	0.60	0.07-5.44	0.65
Diet			
Ideal	2.02	0.25-16.68	0.51

Tobacco Use	Intermediate	1.01	0.85-1.20	0.90
	Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer				
Body Mass Index (BMI)				

#Model was adjusted for baseline age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, employment status, urban/rural residence, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol frequency intake, physical activity, diet, tobacco use, and body mass index.

BP=blood pressure, REF=reference category, OR=odds ratio, CI=confidence interval

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$

Table S3. Relationship between shift work and the odds of new BP medication use at 5YFU among short sleepers (N=1,899).

<i>Variable</i>	<i>OR#</i>	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>P-value</i>
Shift Work			
Shift Work	2.08	1.21-3.58	0.008*
No Shift Work	REF	REF	REF
Age (years)	1.05	1.02-1.08	0.003**
Sex			
Female	REF	REF	
Male	1.85	1.28-2.67	0.001**
Race/Ethnicity			
Mixed/Other	2.34	0.58-9.42	0.23
Asian	0.99	0.25-4.01	0.99
Black	1.66	0.26-10.63	0.59
White	REF	REF	
Education			
Attended College	1.10	0.77-1.59	0.59
No College	REF	REF	
Employment Status			
Employed	0.97	0.42-2.28	0.95
Retired	0.90	0.36-2.27	0.83
Not Employed/Not Retired	REF	REF	
Residence			
Urban	REF	REF	
Rural	0.70	0.39-1.25	0.23
Family History of CVD			
Yes	1.15	0.81-1.64	0.45
No	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	1.48	0.23-9.51	0.68
Depression Status			
Yes	1.43	0.57-3.57	0.44
No	REF	REF	
Unknown	1.25	0.73-2.15	0.41
Alcohol Frequency Intake			
Daily or almost daily	0.75	0.43-1.33	0.33
Three or four times a week	0.57	0.33-1.00	0.05
Once or twice a week	0.49	0.27-0.87	0.01*
One to three times a month	0.38	0.18-0.83	0.01*
Special occasions only/Never	REF	REF	
Physical Activity			
Ideal	0.26	0.03-2.48	0.24
Intermediate	0.31	0.03-2.98	0.31
Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	0.29	0.03-3.33	0.32
Diet			
Ideal	1.98	0.05-85.14	0.72
Intermediate	1.03	0.72-1.46	0.87
Poor	REF	REF	
Tobacco Use			
Ideal	0.83	0.41-1.65	0.59
Intermediate	0.69	0.33-1.42	0.31
Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	2.78	0.26-29.68	0.40
Body Mass Index (BMI)			

Ideal	0.18	0.09-0.37	<0.001**
Intermediate	0.47	0.32-0.68	<0.001**
Poor	REF	REF	

Model was adjusted for baseline age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, employment status, urban/rural residence, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol frequency intake, physical activity, diet, tobacco use, and body mass index.

BP=blood pressure, REF=reference category, OR=odds ratio, CI=confidence interval

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$

Table S4. Relationship between shift work and the odds of new BP medication use at 5YFU among adequate sleepers (N=6,777).

<i>Variable</i>	<i>OR[‡]</i>	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>P-value</i>
Shift Work			
Shift Work	0.82	0.54-1.25	0.35
No Shift Work	REF	REF	REF
Age (years)	1.06	1.04-1.08	<0.001**
Sex			
Female	REF	REF	
Male	1.99	1.61-2.45	<0.001**
Race/Ethnicity			
Mixed/Other	1.02	0.27-3.85	0.98
Asian	1.91	0.69-5.27	0.21
Black	4.34	1.30-14.46	0.02*
White	REF	REF	
Education			
Attended College	0.79	0.64-0.96	0.02*
No College	REF	REF	
Employment Status			
Employed	0.96	0.56-1.64	0.88
Retired	0.97	0.55-1.69	0.91
Not Employed/Not Retired	REF	REF	
Residence			
Urban	REF	REF	
Rural	0.95	0.72-1.26	0.73
Family History of CVD			
Yes	1.38	1.13-1.69	0.002**
No	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	2.58	0.72-9.20	0.14
Depression Status			
Yes	1.82	1.06-3.11	0.03*
No	REF	REF	
Unknown	1.62	1.18-2.24	0.003*
Alcohol Frequency Intake			
Daily or almost daily	0.84	0.59-1.18	0.32
Three or four times a week	0.88	0.63-1.22	0.44
Once or twice a week	0.74	0.52-1.04	0.08
One to three times a month	0.91	0.60-1.37	0.64
Special occasions only/Never	REF	REF	
Physical Activity			
Ideal	1.05	0.03-34.25	0.98
Intermediate	1.24	0.04-40.64	0.90
Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	1.00	0.03-35.13	0.99
Diet			
Ideal	4.11	0.59-28.59	0.15
Intermediate	0.99	0.82-1.21	0.94
Poor	REF	REF	
Tobacco Use			
Ideal	0.68	0.46-1.02	0.06
Intermediate	0.86	0.57-1.29	0.46
Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	0.42	0.02-9.95	0.59
Body Mass Index (BMI)			

Ideal	0.36	0.26-0.50	<0.001**
Intermediate	0.55	0.44-0.67	<0.001**
Poor	REF	REF	

Model was adjusted for baseline age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, employment status, urban/rural residence, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol frequency intake, physical activity, diet, tobacco use, and body mass index.

BP=blood pressure, REF=reference category, OR=odds ratio, CI=confidence interval

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$

Table S5. Relationship between shift work and the odds of new BP medication use at 5YFU among long sleepers (N=524).

<i>Variable</i>	<i>OR[‡]</i>	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>P-value</i>
Shift Work			
Shift Work	0.64	0.11-3.54	0.60
No Shift Work	REF	REF	REF
Age (years)	1.08	1.00-1.15	0.04*
Sex			
Female	REF	REF	
Male	1.71	0.80-3.66	0.17
Race/Ethnicity			
Mixed/Other	2.53	0.11-59.29	0.56
Asian	1.64	0.04-72.18	0.80
White	REF	REF	
Education			
Attended College	0.36	0.16-0.81	0.01*
No College	REF	REF	
Employment Status			
Employed	1.20	0.35-4.11	0.78
Retired	0.46	0.12-1.81	0.27
Not Employed/Not Retired	REF	REF	
Residence			
Urban	REF	REF	
Rural	1.62	0.65-4.07	0.30
Family History of CVD			
Yes	0.77	0.38-1.56	0.46
No	REF	REF	
Depression Status			
Yes	1.13	0.26-4.86	0.87
No	REF	REF	
Unknown	0.85	0.31-2.34	0.75
Alcohol Frequency Intake			
Daily or almost daily	0.87	0.29-2.60	0.81
Three or four times a week	0.50	0.16-1.55	0.23
Once or twice a week	0.52	0.17-1.55	0.24
One to three times a month	0.41	0.10-1.71	0.22
Special occasions only/Never	REF	REF	
Physical Activity			
Ideal	1.40	0.65-3.03	0.39
Intermediate	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	0.52	0.03-10.70	0.67
Diet			
Intermediate	1.38	0.67-2.85	0.39
Poor	REF	REF	
Tobacco Use			
Ideal	2.20	0.43-11.30	0.34
Intermediate	0.77	0.13-4.55	0.77
Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer			
Body Mass Index (BMI)			
Ideal	0.09	0.02-0.41	0.002**
Intermediate	0.24	0.11-0.55	0.001**
Poor	REF	REF	

[‡] Model was adjusted for baseline age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, employment status, urban/rural residence, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol frequency intake, physical activity, diet, tobacco use, and body mass index. BP=blood pressure, REF=reference category, OR=odds ratio, CI=confidence interval * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$

Table S6. Relationship between shift work and the odds of new BP medication use at 5YFU among morning types (N=2,359).

<i>Variable</i>		<i>OR[‡]</i>	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>P-value</i>
Shift Work				
	Shift Work	1.53	0.88-2.67	0.14
	No Shift Work	REF	REF	
Age (years)		1.04	1.01-1.07	0.02*
Sex				
	Female	REF	REF	
	Male	1.80	1.28-2.53	0.001**
Race/Ethnicity				
	Mixed/Other	0.77	0.04-13.63	0.86
	Asian	1.85	0.47-7.33	0.69
	Black	2.47	0.12-53.26	0.55
	White	REF	REF	
Education				
	Attended College	0.59	0.42-0.83	0.002**
	No College	REF	REF	
Employment Status				
	Employed	2.13	0.73-6.24	0.25
	Retired	2.24	0.74-6.75	0.15
	Not Employed/Not Retired	REF	REF	
Residence				
	Urban	REF	REF	
	Rural	1.10	0.70-1.71	0.69
Family History of CVD				
	Yes	2.03	1.44-2.88	<0.001**
	No	REF	REF	
	Do not know/Prefer not to answer	0.57	0.03-11.61	0.55
Depression Status				
	Yes	1.95	0.89-4.28	0.10
	No	REF	REF	
	Unknown	1.35	0.81-2.26	0.88
Alcohol Frequency Intake				
	Daily or almost daily	0.87	0.52-1.47	0.53
	Three or four times a week	0.89	0.54-1.46	0.32
	Once or twice a week	0.46	0.26-0.80	0.008**
	One to three times a month	0.85	0.45-1.61	0.61
	Special occasions only/Never	REF	REF	
Physical Activity				
	Ideal	1.63	0.03-79.38	0.87
	Intermediate	1.91	0.04-93.35	0.75
	Poor	REF	REF	
	Do not know/Prefer not to answer	1.19	0.02-66.74	0.81
Diet				
	Ideal	4.11	0.43-39.34	0.21
	Intermediate	0.97	0.70-1.34	0.84
	Poor	REF	REF	
Tobacco Use				
	Ideal	1.01	0.44-2.31	0.48
	Intermediate	1.43	0.62-3.33	0.40
	Poor	REF	REF	
	Do not know/Prefer not to answer	6.75	0.44-104.42	0.18
Body Mass Index (BMI)				

Ideal	0.43	0.26-0.71	0.01*
Intermediate	0.61	0.43-0.87	0.006**
Poor	REF	REF	

‡ Model was adjusted for baseline age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, employment status, urban/rural residence, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol frequency intake, physical activity, diet, tobacco use, and body mass index.

BP=blood pressure, REF=reference category, OR=odds ratio, CI=confidence interval

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$

Table S7. Relationship between shift work and the odds of new BP medication use at 5YFU among intermediate types (N=6,004).

<i>Variable</i>	<i>OR#</i>	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>P-value</i>
Shift Work			
Shift Work	0.83	0.53-1.29	0.40
No Shift Work	REF	REF	REF
Age (years)	1.07	1.05-1.09	<0.001**
Sex			
Female	REF	REF	
Male	1.97	1.58-2.46	<0.001**
Race/Ethnicity			
Mixed/Other	1.69	0.61-4.66	0.31
Asian	1.52	0.49-4.76	0.47
Black	4.00	1.34-11.91	0.01*
White	REF	REF	
Education			
Attended College	0.89	0.72-1.10	0.29
No College	REF	REF	
Employment Status			
Employed	0.78	0.47-1.32	0.36
Retired	0.68	0.40-1.18	0.17
Not Employed/Not Retired	REF	REF	
Residence			
Urban	REF	REF	
Rural	0.85	0.62-1.16	0.30
Family History of CVD			
Yes	1.16	0.94-1.44	0.17
No	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	4.18	1.27-13.71	0.02*
Depression Status			
Yes	1.66	0.94-2.94	0.08
No	REF	REF	
Unknown	1.60	1.14-2.24	0.006**
Alcohol Frequency Intake			
Daily or almost daily	0.80	0.55-1.16	0.23
Three or four times a week	0.71	0.49-1.02	0.06
Once or twice a week	0.73	0.51-1.05	0.09
One to three times a month	0.58	0.36-0.92	0.02*
Special occasions only/Never	REF	REF	
Physical Activity			
Ideal	0.20	0.03-1.59	0.13
Intermediate	0.23	0.03-1.84	0.17
Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	0.19	0.02-1.73	0.14
Diet			
Ideal	3.52	0.12-100.50	0.46
Intermediate	1.03	0.84-1.27	0.78
Poor	REF	REF	
Tobacco Use			
Ideal	0.67	0.44-1.02	0.06
Intermediate	0.72	0.46-1.11	0.14
Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	0.47	0.02-10.34	0.63
Body Mass Index (BMI)			

Ideal	0.30	0.21-0.43	<0.001**
Intermediate	0.50	0.40-0.63	<0.001**
Poor	REF	REF	

Model was adjusted for baseline age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, employment status, urban/rural residence, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol frequency intake, physical activity, diet, tobacco use, and body mass index.

BP=blood pressure, REF=reference category, OR=odds ratio, CI=confidence interval

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$

Table S8. Relationship between shift work and the odds of new BP medication use at 5YFU among evening types (N=837).

<i>Variable</i>	<i>OR[‡]</i>	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>P-value</i>
Shift Work			
Shift Work	1.21	0.49-2.96	0.68
No Shift Work	REF	REF	REF
Age (years)	1.06	1.01-1.11	0.01*
Sex			
Female	REF	REF	
Male	1.85	1.06-3.24	0.03*
Race/Ethnicity			
Mixed/Other	0.83	0.04-19.58	0.91
Asian	1.83	0.23-14.57	0.57
Black	1.95	0.03-125.23	0.75
White	REF	REF	
Education			
Attended College	1.10	0.64-1.90	0.73
No College	REF	REF	
Employment Status			
Employed	0.74	0.26-2.11	0.57
Retired	0.69	0.20-2.31	0.54
Not Employed/Not Retired	REF	REF	
Residence			
Urban	REF	REF	
Rural	0.81	0.36-1.80	0.60
Family History of CVD			
Yes	0.69	0.41-1.18	0.18
No	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	1.02	0.02-60.94	0.99
Depression Status			
Yes	1.08	0.24-4.91	0.92
No	REF	REF	
Unknown	1.22	0.53-2.80	0.64
Alcohol Frequency Intake			
Daily or almost daily	0.95	0.39-2.32	0.92
Three or four times a week	0.74	0.31-1.77	0.50
Once or twice a week	0.60	0.24-1.52	0.28
One to three times a month	1.30	0.50-3.39	0.59
Special occasions only/Never	REF	REF	
Physical Activity			
Ideal	0.84	0.49-1.44	0.52
Poor	REF	REF	
Do not know/Prefer not to answer	1.44	0.33-6.25	0.63
Diet			
Ideal	1.27	0.03-63.27	0.91
Intermediate	0.96	0.57-1.64	0.89
Poor	REF	REF	
Tobacco Use			
Ideal	1.22	0.52-2.89	0.64
Intermediate	0.64	0.26-1.60	0.34
Poor	REF	REF	
Body Mass Index (BMI)			
Ideal	0.03	0.002-0.35	0.005**
Intermediate	0.36	0.21-0.64	<0.001**
Poor	REF	REF	

Model was adjusted for baseline age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, employment status, urban/rural residence, family history of CVD, depression status, alcohol frequency intake, physical activity, diet, tobacco use, and body mass index.
BP=blood pressure, REF=reference category, OR=odds ratio, CI=confidence interval
* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$