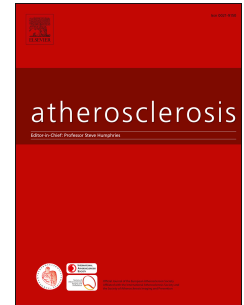


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Sex-specific trajectories of measures of cardiovascular health during childhood and adolescence: A prospective cohort study

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1 **Sex-specific trajectories of measures of cardiovascular health during childhood and adolescence: A**
2 **prospective cohort study**

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Keywords: sex-specific; cardiovascular; childhood; adolescence; longitudinal

21 **Abstract**

22 *Background and aims:* Sex differences in measures of cardiovascular health in adults are well
23 documented. However, the sex-specific aetiology of cardiovascular health across childhood and
24 adolescence is poorly understood.

25 *Methods:* We examined sex differences in trajectories of 11 measures of cardiovascular health from
26 birth to 18 years, in a contemporary birth cohort study in England (N participants per outcomes:
27 662-13,985, N repeated measures per outcome: 1,831-112,768). Outcomes were measured over
28 varying time spans from birth or mid-childhood to age 18 and with different numbers of repeated
29 measures per outcome. Analyses were performed using fractional polynomial and linear spline
30 multilevel models.

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