

**ARIC Manuscript Proposal # 3368**

**PC Reviewed:** 3/12/18  
**SC Reviewed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Status:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Status:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Priority:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Priority:** \_\_\_\_\_

**1.a. Full Title:** Life's Simple 7 Cardiovascular Health Score and Premature Atrial Contractions: The Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) Study

**b. Abbreviated Title (Length 26 characters):** Life's Simple 7 score and PACs

**2. Writing Group:**

Writing group members: Darshan Krishnappa, Wendy Wang, Mary R. Rooney, Faye L. Norby, Niki Oldenburg, Elsayed Z. Soliman, Alvaro Alonso, Jin O-Uchi, Samuel C. Dudley, Jr., Pamela L. Lutsey, Lin Yee Chen

I, the first author, confirm that all the coauthors have given their approval for this manuscript proposal. **DK**

**First author: Darshan Krishnappa, MD**

Address: Cardiovascular Division  
Department of Medicine  
University of Minnesota Medical School  
420 Delaware St SE, MMC 508  
Minneapolis, MN, 55455

Phone: 6122297747  
E-mail: darshankrishnappa@gmail.com

**ARIC author** to be contacted if there are questions about the manuscript and the first author does not respond or cannot be located (this must be an ARIC investigator).

Name: **Lin Y Chen MD MS**  
Address: Cardiovascular Division  
Department of Medicine  
University of Minnesota Medical School  
420 Delaware St SE, MMC 508  
Minneapolis, MN, 55455

Phone: (612) 625-4401      Fax: (612) 626-4411  
E-mail: [chenx484@umn.edu](mailto:chenx484@umn.edu)

### **3. Timeline:**

We will complete analysis within 1 month of manuscript proposal approval

We will complete the first draft within 3 months of manuscript proposal approval

**4. Rationale:** Premature atrial contractions (PACs) are frequently encountered and for long have been considered a benign entity. However, more recently this assumption has been questioned because an increasing number of studies have shown an association between PACs and risk of atrial fibrillation (AF). (1–5) Further, PACs have also been found to be associated with an increased risk of stroke independent of AF, (6) though this has been postulated to be related to the occurrence of subclinical AF. The association between PACs and AF has led to increased efforts towards suppression of PACs, with elimination of PAC triggers of AF forming the basis of catheter ablation for paroxysmal AF.

Risk factors for AF include advancing age, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, valvular heart disease, heart failure and coronary artery disease. (7) These factors are thought to be associated with LA structural remodeling, thereby explaining their association with an increased risk for AF. However, their impact on PACs—which are the triggers initiating AF—is poorly understood. More recently, Conen et al. in a study analyzing 24 hour Holter recordings found an association between increasing age, history of cardiovascular disease, lower high density lipoprotein cholesterol levels and lower physical activity and PAC frequency; this study, however, was limited by the quantification of PACs based on a single 24 hour Holter recording.

Life's Simple 7 (LS7) cardiovascular score was developed by the American Heart Association and has been shown to be a powerful predictor of cardiovascular outcomes with lower scores associated with higher risk of cardiovascular disease, heart failure, AF, and stroke. (8–12) In this study we aim to identify risk factors for PACs in a community dwelling study population and assess the association between Life's Simple 7 score and PAC frequency.

### **5. Main Hypothesis/Study Questions:**

(1) To evaluate the association of Life's Simple 7 (LS7) score at visit 3 with PAC burden at visit 6. We hypothesize that compared to participants with low LS7 scores, those with optimal LS7 scores at visit 3 will have lower PAC burden at visit 6.

(2) To identify which LS7 factors at visit 3 are associated with higher PAC burden at visit 6. We hypothesize that higher BMI and lower physical activity at visit 3 will be associated with higher PAC burden at visit 6.

(3) To determine the cross-sectional (visit 6) association of LS7 risk factors obtained in late-life with PAC burden. \* We hypothesize that those with optimal LS7 scores at visit 6 will have lower PAC burden at visit 6 compared with those with low LS7 scores at visit 6.

**6. Design and analysis (study design, inclusion/exclusion, outcome and other variables of interest with specific reference to the time of their collection, summary of data analysis, and any anticipated methodologic limitations or challenges if present).**

Study design

Ho 1&2: Prospective cohort from visit 3 to visit 6 (when the Zio XT Patch device was applied).

Ho 3: Cross-sectional at visit 6.

Inclusion/Exclusion:

Participants who wore the Zio XT Patch and had complete data on the LS7 characteristics will be included in this analysis. Patients with a diagnosis of permanent atrial fibrillation will be excluded from the study. Patients with PACs on visit 3 ECG will be excluded from analysis.

Variables

Exposure: LS7 risk factors will be classified as has been done previously in ARIC (see table below).(13) LS7 will be represented in two different ways: each risk factor will be analyzed individually, and also as an overall composite score. A composite score ranging from 0-14 will be created, in which each risk factor is given points of 0, 1, or 2 for poor, intermediate, or ideal, respectively. The score will be categorized as inadequate (0-4), average (5-9), or optimum (10-14) cardiovascular health.(13)

<b>Risk factor</b>	<b>Ideal</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Poor</b>
Physical activity	≥ 150 min/week moderate or ≥ 75 min/week vigorous or ≥ 150 min/week moderate + vigorous	1-149 min/week moderate or 1-75 min/week vigorous or 1-149 min/week moderate + vigorous	None
Total cholesterol	<200 mg/dL, without medication	200-239 mg/dL or treated to <200 mg/dL	≥240 mg/dL
Blood pressure	<120/<80 mmHg, without medication	SBP 120-139 or DBP 80-89 mmHg or treated to <120/<80 mmHg	SBP ≥ 140 or DBP ≥ 90 mmHg
Body mass index	< 25 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	25-29.99 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	≥ 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Fasting blood glucose	< 100 mg/dL, without medication	100-125 mg/dL or treated to < 100 mg/dL	≥ 126 mg/dL
Smoking status	Never or quit >12 mo	Former ≤ 12 mo	Current
Diet <sup>†</sup>	4-5 components	2-3 components	0-1 components

<sup>†</sup>Responses to the modified Willet food frequency questionnaire (FFQ) were used to construct the LS7 healthy diet score based on how many of the following five diet goals are met: > 4.5 cups of fruits and vegetables per day, > 2 servings of at least 3.5 ounces of fish per week, < 1500 mg of sodium per day, < 450 kcal of sugar-sweetened beverages per week, > 3 servings of 1-oz servings of whole grain (1.1 gram of fiber per 10 grams of carbohydrate).

Outcomes

PAC burden; PAC count will be calculated based on the number of isolated, couplet, and triplet PACs [e.g. # isolated PACs + 2 \* (# couplet PACs) + 3 \* (# triplet PACs)]. PAC burden will be defined as PAC count per day.

Other confounders/covariates

Age, sex, race, center, education, alcohol intake, diet, physical activity, smoking status, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, dyslipidemia, body mass index, heart failure, left ventricular ejection fraction, drugs including betablockers, calcium channel blockers, digoxin, amiodarone, CHD, HDL cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, stroke, atrial fibrillation.

Statistical analysis

- Participant characteristics will be described using mean  $\pm$  SD for continuous variables and proportions for categorical variables, stratified by LS7 classifications.
- PAC burden will be compared across LS7 categories.
- Multinomial logistic regressions will be used to evaluate the relationship between the LS7 composite score with PAC burden, as well as for each LS7 risk factor with PAC burden individually.
  - Model 1 will be adjusted for age, sex, race/center
  - Model 2 will be adjusted for model 1 plus education, alcohol intake
  - Model 3 will be adjusted for model 2 plus prevalent CHD, HDL cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, prevalent stroke
- Inverse probability weighting will be used to account for attrition due to death or visit 6 non-attendance.
- Interactions by age (median split), race and sex will be evaluated by including cross-product terms in the models.

**7.a. Will the data be used for non-CVD analysis in this manuscript?** \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_X\_\_\_ No

**b. If Yes, is the author aware that the file ICTDER03 must be used to exclude persons with a value RES\_OTH = "CVD Research" for non-DNA analysis, and for DNA analysis RES\_DNA = "CVD Research" would be used?** \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No  
(This file ICTDER has been distributed to ARIC PIs, and contains the responses to consent updates related to stored sample use for research.)

**8.a. Will the DNA data be used in this manuscript?** \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_X\_\_\_ No

**8.b. If yes, is the author aware that either DNA data distributed by the Coordinating Center must be used, or the file ICTDER03 must be used to exclude those with value RES\_DNA = "No use/storage DNA"?** \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

**9. The lead author of this manuscript proposal has reviewed the list of existing ARIC Study manuscript proposals and has found no overlap between this proposal and previously approved manuscript proposals either published or still in active status. ARIC Investigators have access to the publications lists under the Study Members Area of the web site at: <http://www.csc.unc.edu/aric/mantrack/maintain/search/dtSearch.html>**

\_\_\_X\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**10. What are the most related manuscript proposals in ARIC (authors are encouraged to contact lead authors of these proposals for comments on the new proposal or collaboration)?**

#2966: LS7 & AF in ARIC (Garg)

#2280: Zio arrhythmia burden (Rooney)

**11.a. Is this manuscript proposal associated with any ARIC ancillary studies or use any ancillary study data?  Yes  No**

**11.b. If yes, is the proposal**

**A. primarily the result of an ancillary study (list number\* 2013.14)**

**B. primarily based on ARIC data with ancillary data playing a minor role (usually control variables; list number(s)\* \_\_\_\_\_)**

\*ancillary studies are listed by number at <https://www2.csc.unc.edu/aric/approved-ancillary-studies>

**12a. Manuscript preparation is expected to be completed in one to three years. If a manuscript is not submitted for ARIC review at the end of the 3-years from the date of the approval, the manuscript proposal will expire.**

**12b. The NIH instituted a Public Access Policy in April, 2008** which ensures that the public has access to the published results of NIH funded research. It is **your responsibility to upload manuscripts to PubMed Central** whenever the journal does not and be in compliance with this policy. Four files about the public access policy from <http://publicaccess.nih.gov/> are posted in <http://www.csc.unc.edu/aric/index.php>, under Publications, Policies & Forms. [http://publicaccess.nih.gov/submit\\_process\\_journals.htm](http://publicaccess.nih.gov/submit_process_journals.htm) shows you which journals automatically upload articles to PubMed central.

## References

1. Haïssaguerre M, Jaïs P, Shah DC, Takahashi A, Hocini M, Quiniou G, et al. Spontaneous Initiation of Atrial Fibrillation by Ectopic Beats Originating in the Pulmonary Veins. *N Engl J Med*. 1998 Sep 3;339(10):659–66.
2. Wallmann D, Tüller D, Wustmann K, Meier P, Isenegger J, Arnold M, et al. Frequent atrial premature beats predict paroxysmal atrial fibrillation in stroke patients: an opportunity for a new diagnostic strategy. *Stroke*. 2007 Aug;38(8):2292–4.
3. Binici Z, Intzilakis T, Nielsen OW, Køber L, Sajadieh A. Excessive supraventricular ectopic activity and increased risk of atrial fibrillation and stroke. *Circulation*. 2010 May 4;121(17):1904–11.
4. Chong B-H, Pong V, Lam K-F, Liu S, Zuo M-L, Lau Y-F, et al. Frequent premature atrial complexes predict new occurrence of atrial fibrillation and adverse cardiovascular events. *Eur Eur Pacing Arrhythm Card Electrophysiol J Work Groups Card Pacing Arrhythm Card Cell Electrophysiol Eur Soc Cardiol*. 2012 Jul;14(7):942–7.
5. Kochhäuser S, Dechering DG, Dittrich R, Reinke F, Ritter MA, Ramtin S, et al. Supraventricular premature beats and short atrial runs predict atrial fibrillation in continuously monitored patients with cryptogenic stroke. *Stroke*. 2014 Mar;45(3):884–6.
6. Larsen BS, Kumarathurai P, Falkenberg J, Nielsen OW, Sajadieh A. Excessive Atrial Ectopy and Short Atrial Runs Increase the Risk of Stroke Beyond Incident Atrial Fibrillation. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2015 Jul 21;66(3):232–41.
7. Lau Dennis H., Nattel Stanley, Kalman Jonathan M, Sanders Prashanthan. Modifiable Risk Factors and Atrial Fibrillation. *Circulation*. 2017 Aug 8;136(6):583–96.
8. Lloyd-Jones DM, Hong Y, Labarthe D, Mozaffarian D, Appel LJ, Van Horn L, et al. Defining and setting national goals for cardiovascular health promotion and disease reduction: the American Heart Association’s strategic Impact Goal through 2020 and beyond. *Circulation*. 2010 Feb 2;121(4):586–613.
9. Ogunmoroti O, Oni E, Michos ED, Spatz ES, Allen NB, Rana JS, et al. Life’s Simple 7 and Incident Heart Failure: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis. *J Am Heart Assoc*. 2017 Jun 27;6(6).
10. Garg PK, O’Neal WT, Chen LY, Loehr LR, Sotoodehnia N, Soliman EZ, et al. American Heart Association’s Life Simple 7 and Risk of Atrial Fibrillation in a Population Without Known Cardiovascular Disease: The ARIC (Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities) Study. *J Am Heart Assoc*. 2018 Apr 12;7(8).
11. Ogunmoroti O, Michos ED, Aronis KN, Salami JA, Blankstein R, Virani SS, et al. Life’s Simple 7 and the risk of atrial fibrillation: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis. *Atherosclerosis*. 2018 Aug;275:174–81.

12. Kulshreshtha A, Vaccarino V, Judd SE, Howard VJ, McClellan WM, Muntner P, et al. Life's Simple 7 and risk of incident stroke: the reasons for geographic and racial differences in stroke study. *Stroke*. 2013 Jul;44(7):1909–14.
13. Folsom AR, Shah AM, Lutsey PL, Roetker NS, Alonso A, Avery CL, et al. American Heart Association's Life's Simple 7: Avoiding Heart Failure and Preserving Cardiac Structure and Function. *Am J Med*. 2015 Sep;128(9):970-976.e2.