

# Long term follow-up of adolescents with white coat hypertension

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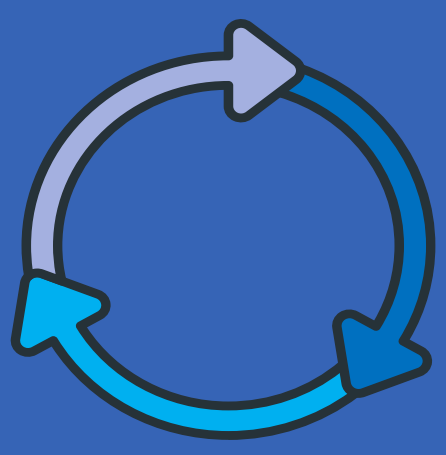


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## Aim of the study

The aim of the study was to re-evaluate young adults who were diagnosed with white coat hypertension (WCH) during adolescence



## Material and methods

The study included 58 participants – 34 patients diagnosed with WCH during adolescence and 24 normotensive controls.

All patients underwent complete hypertension diagnosis evaluation including:

- Anthropometric measurements
- Office blood pressure and ABPM measurements
- Biochemical tests
- Hypertension-mediated organ damage (HMOD) assessment (LVMI, cIMT, PWV)

## Results

At the time of WCH diagnosis, left ventricular hypertrophy (LVH) was present in 4/34 (11.8%), increased cIMT in 4/34 (11.8%) and increased PWV in 19/34 (55.9%). In the control group those findings were 2/24 (8%), 0/9, and 14/24 (58.3%), respectively. After follow-up, 21/34 (61.8%) maintained WCH or normalized BP, while 13/34 (38.2%) developed sustained hypertension (SH).

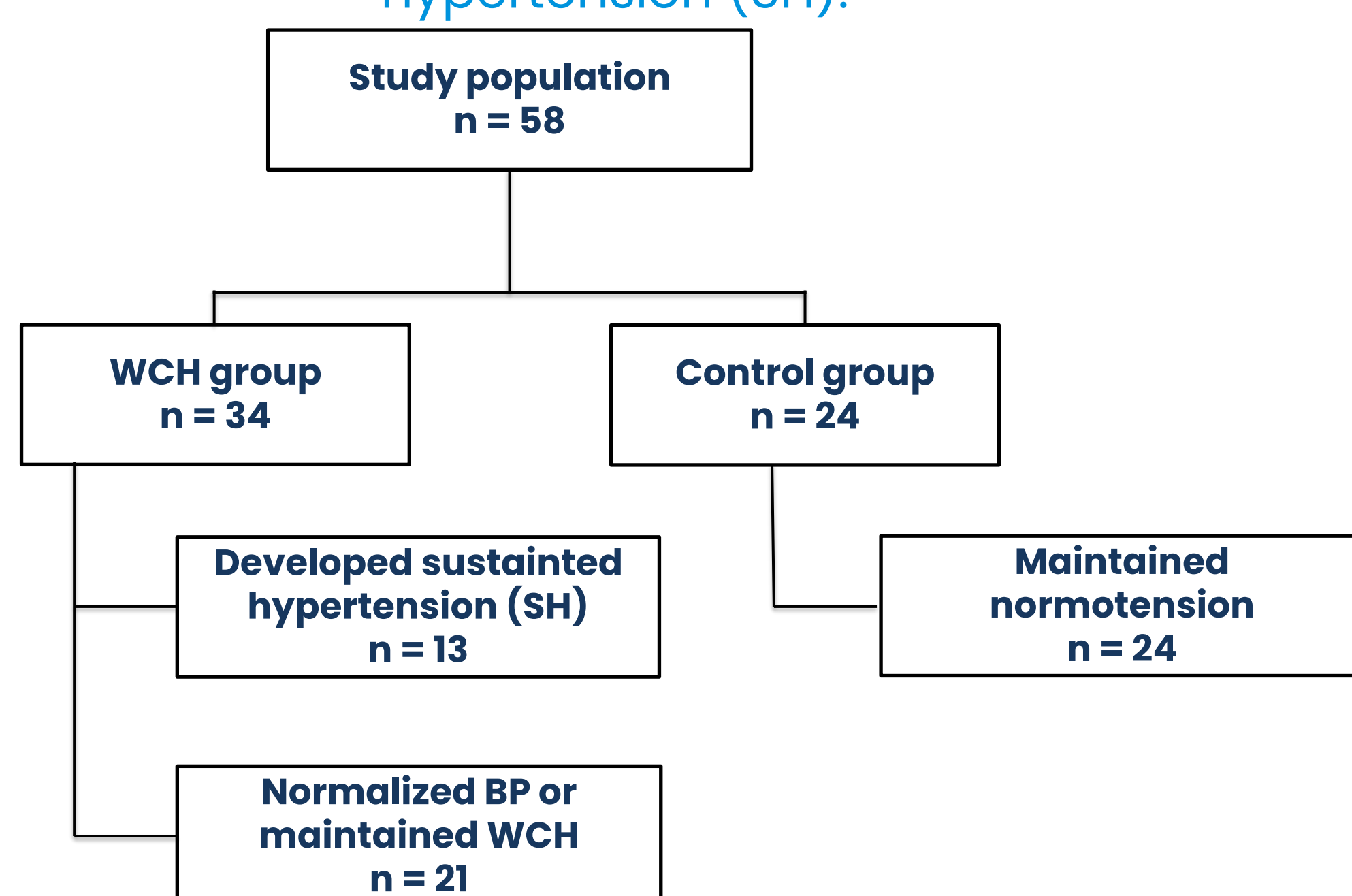


Fig. 1. Flow chart of the study

At follow-up, LVH was present in 3/21 (14.3%), increased cIMT in 1/21 (4.8%) and increased PWV in 3/21 (14.3%) of WCH/normotensive group, and in 3/13 (23.1%), 0/13 (0%), and 4/13 (30.8%) of SH patients, respectively. In the control group those values were 0/24 (0%), 0/24 (0%), and 2/24 (8.3%).

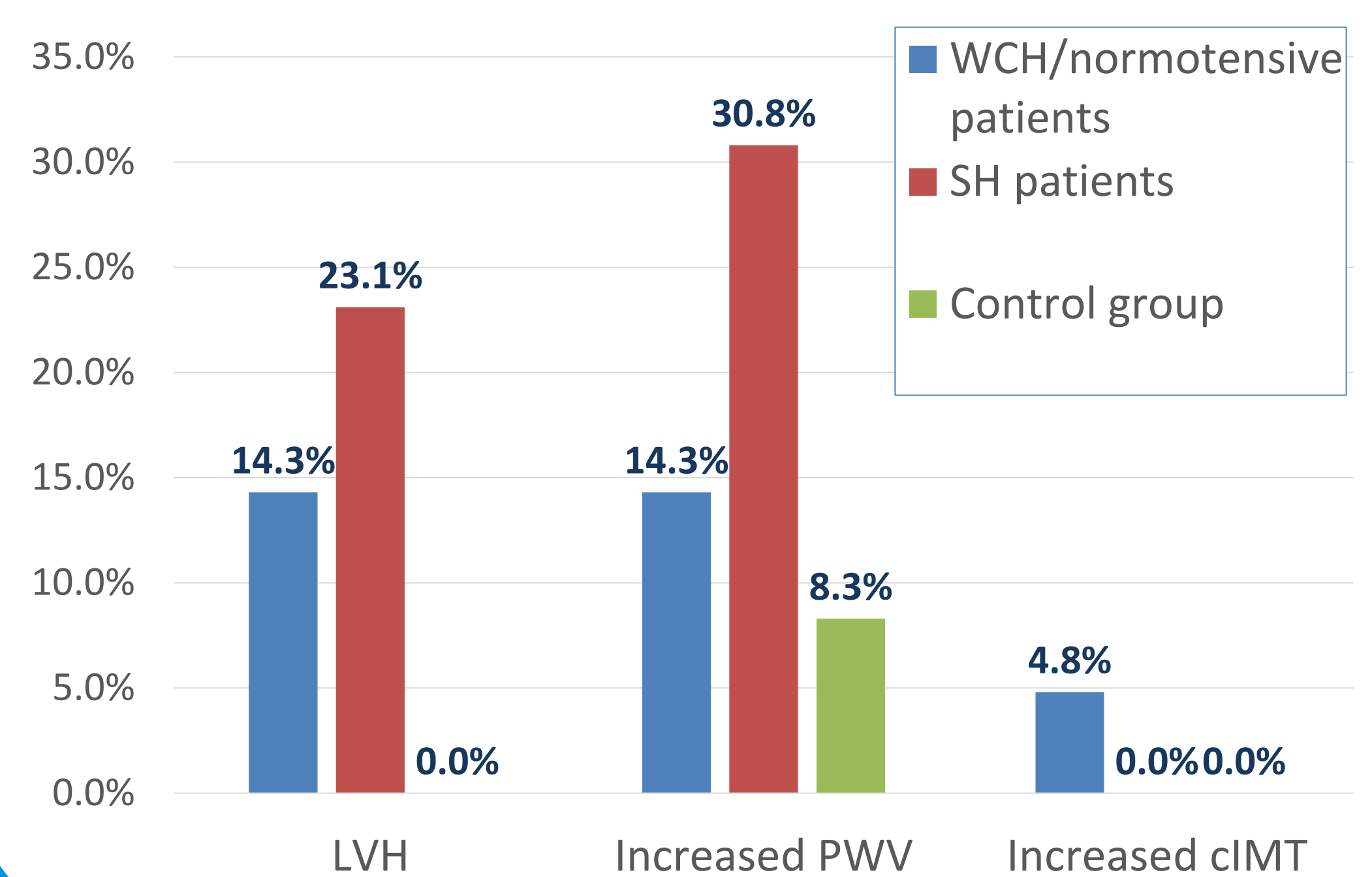


Fig. 2. HMOD prevalence in study groups at the end of follow-up

SH group showed greater increases in waist circumference, LDL cholesterol, fasting glucose, central systolic blood pressure (cSBP), augmentation pressure (AugPress), PWV, cIMT, and LVMI compared to WCH/normotensive group. However, the only significant difference between baseline and follow-up was found for increase of LVMI values (35.38 to 42.63 g/m<sup>2.7</sup> vs 33.90 to 35.78 g/m<sup>2.7</sup> in the WCH/normotension group;  $p < 0.05$ ).

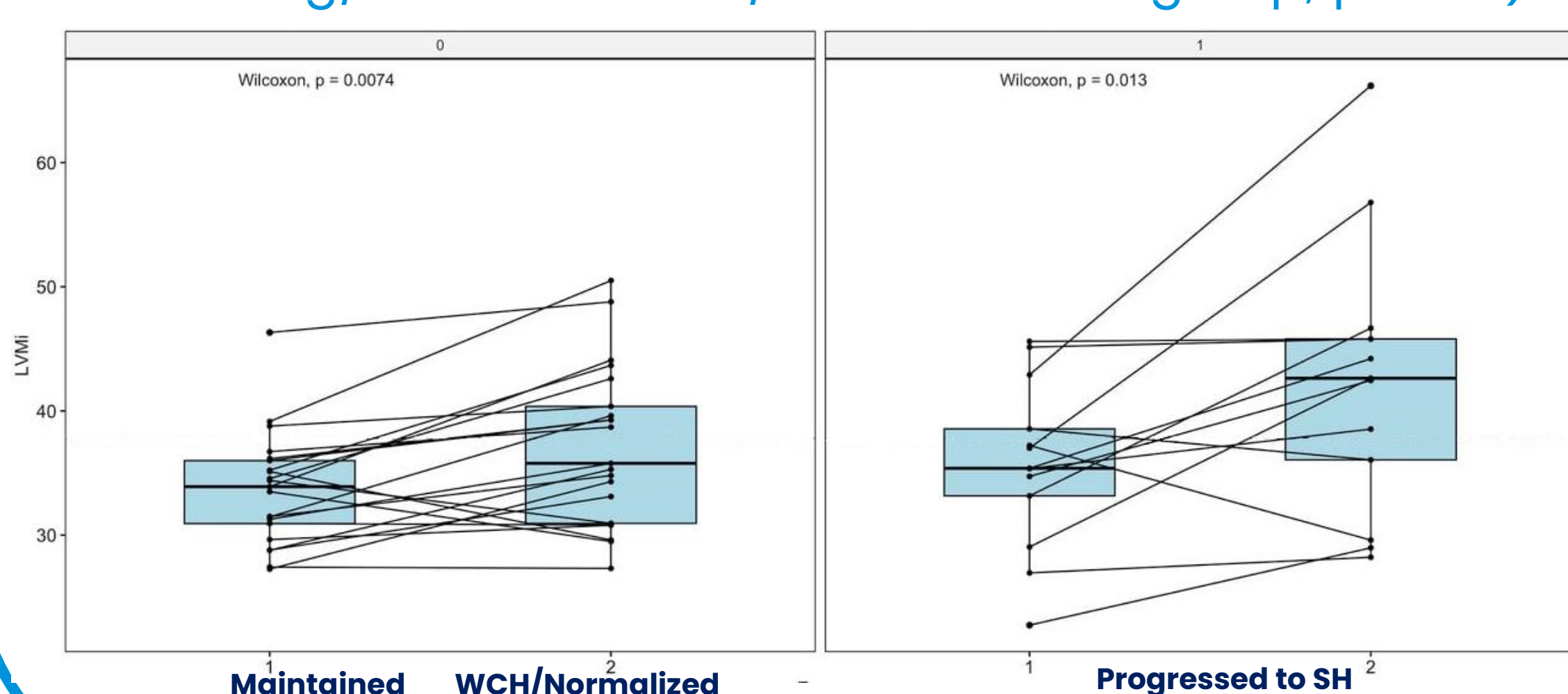


Fig. 3. LVMI value change between baseline and follow-up

Patients who maintained WCH or normalized BP exhibited significantly lower ABPM systolic blood pressure (SBP) and AugPress values both at baseline ( $p = 0.004$ ,  $p = 0.061$ , respectively) and at follow-up ( $p = 0.040$ ,  $p = 0.009$ , respectively). These differences were more pronounced at follow-up:

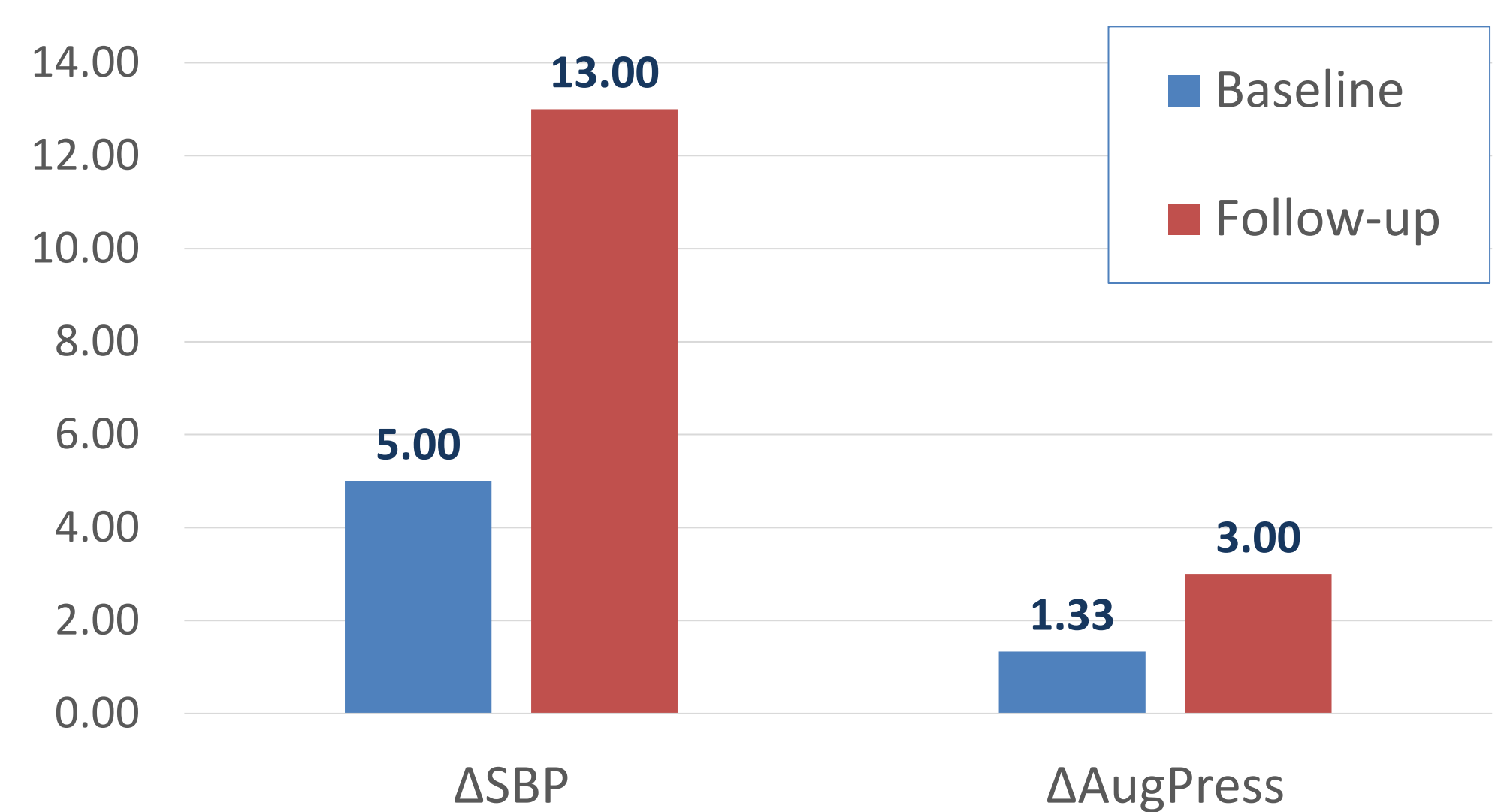


Fig. 4. Difference of ABPM SBP and AugPress values between WCH/Normalized BP group and SH group at baseline and at follow-up

## Conclusions

- A substantial proportion of adolescents diagnosed with WCH progress to SH in young adulthood.
  - Some of those patients presented with concurrent development of HMOD.
- Our study suggests a potential prognostic value of selected parameters, including ABPM SBP, AugPress, PWV, and LVMI in predicting development of SH and HMOD.