



**Baker IDI Research Online**  
<http://library.bakeridi.edu.au>

This is the postprint version of the work. It is the manuscript that was accepted by the journal following peer review. It does not include the publisher's layout and pagination.

**Kikuchi H, Inoue S, Sugiyama T, Owen N, Oka K, Nakaya T, Shimomitsu T. Distinct associations of different sedentary behaviors with health-related attributes among older adults. *Prev Med* 2014;67:335-9.**

<http://hdl.handle.net/11187/2033>

Copyright © Elsevier. This file is for personal use. Further distribution is not permitted.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34

## **Title**

Distinct associations of different sedentary behaviors with health-related attributes among older adults

## **Authors**

Hiroyuki Kikuchi Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>, Shigeru Inoue, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>, Takemi Sugiyama, Ph.D.<sup>2</sup>, Neville Owen, Ph.D.<sup>3,6-8</sup>, Koichiro Oka, Ph.D.<sup>4</sup>, Tomoki Nakaya Ph.D.<sup>5</sup> and Teruichi Shimomitsu, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>1,9</sup>

## **Authors' Affiliations and Addresses**

1. Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, Tokyo Medical University,  
*6-1-1 Shinjuku Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 160-8402 Japan*
2. Sansom Institute for Health Research & School of Population Health, University of South  
Australia  
*North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000, Australia*
3. Behavioural Epidemiology Laboratory, Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute  
*Level 4, 99 Commercial Rd, Melbourne, Victoria, 3004, Australia*
4. Faculty of Sport Sciences, Waseda University  
*2-579-15 Mikajima, Tokorozawa, Saitama, 359-1192, Japan*
5. Department of Geography and Institute of Disaster Mitigation of Urban Cultural Heritage,  
Ritsumeikan University  
*58 Komatsubara Kitamachi, Kita-ku, Kyoto, Kyoto 603-8341, Japan*
6. School of Population Health, The University of Queensland  
*Level 2, Public Health Building, School of Population Health, University of Queensland,  
Herston Road Herston QLD, Brisbane, 4006, Australia*
7. Melbourne School of Population Health, the University of Melbourne  
*Level 5, 207 Bouverie Street, The University of Melbourne, Victoria 3010 Australia"*

35 8. School of Medicine, Monash University.

36 *Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University, Victoria 3800,*  
37 *Australia*

38

39 9. Japan Health Promotion and Fitness Foundation

40 *2-6-10 Dai-Tokyo-Building7F, Highashi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 105-0021, Japan*

41

42 **Email addresses**

43 HK: kikuchih@tokyo-med.ac.jp

44 SI: inoue@tokyo-med.ac.jp

45 TSU: takemi.sugiyama@unisa.edu.au

46 NO: neville.owen@bakeridi.edu.au

47 KO: koka@waseda.jp

48 TN: nakaya@lt.ritsumei.ac.jp

49 TSI: tshimo@tokyo-med.ac.jp

50

51 **Corresponding author:** Hiroyuki Kikuchi

52 Tokyo Medical University

53 6-1-1 Shinjuku Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 160-8402 Japan

54 Email: kikuchih@tokyo-med.ac.jp

55 TEL. +81-3-3351-6141, FAX.+81-3-3353-0162

56

57 **Word count:** 2,724 words for main text, 199 words for abstract

58

59

60

**61 Abstract**

62

**63 Objective**

64 Leisure-time sedentary behaviors (LTSBs) have been associated adversely with health  
65 outcomes. However, limited research has focused on different categories of LTSB. We aimed at  
66 identifying categories of LTSBs and examining their separate associations with indices of  
67 health among Japanese older adults.

**68 Methods**

69 A postal survey collected data on self-reported health, psychological distress, body mass index,  
70 moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA), LTSBs (five behaviors) and  
71 socio-demographic characteristics from 1,580 Japanese older adults (67% response rate; 65-74  
72 years) in 2010. Exploratory factor analysis was used to classify LTSBs. Odds ratios (ORs) were  
73 calculated for associations of LTSB categories with self-reported health, psychological distress,  
74 overweight, and lower MVPA. Data were analyzed in 2013.

**75 Results**

76 Two categories of LTSB: passive sedentary time (consisting of TV time, listening or talking  
77 while sitting, and sitting around) and mentally-active sedentary time (consisting of  
78 computer-use and reading books or newspapers) were identified. Higher passive sedentary time  
79 was associated with a higher odds of being overweight (OR: 1.39, [95%CI: 1.08-1.80]), and  
80 lower MVPA (1.26, [1.02-1.54]). Higher mentally-active sedentary time was associated with  
81 lower odds of lower MVPA (0.70, [0.57-0.86]).

**82 Conclusions**

83 Two types of sedentary time – passive and mentally-active – may play different roles in older  
84 adults' well-being.

## 85 **Introduction**

86 Sedentary behaviors, which are distinct from lack of moderate-to-vigorous physical  
87 activity (MVPA), are associated with increased cardio-metabolic risk (Owen et al., 2010).  
88 Studies have shown relationships between higher sitting time and indices of poorer health in  
89 general adult samples (Hamilton et al., 2007). Furthermore this relationship has been observed  
90 among older adult samples (Gardiner et al., 2011; Inoue et al., 2012). Decreasing sedentary  
91 behavior, in addition to increasing physical activity, is now considered an important strategy to  
92 reduce health risk (Hamilton et al., 2008; Owen et al., 2011).

93 In assessing sedentary behaviors, many studies have used measures of television  
94 viewing (TV) and other screen time. TV viewing is a predominant sedentary behavior during  
95 leisure time (Sugiyama et al., 2008) and higher TV time has been consistently associated with  
96 cardiovascular disease (CVD) (Jakes et al., 2003), atherosclerosis (Kronenberg et al., 2000), the  
97 metabolic syndrome (Chang et al., 2008; Dunstan et al., 2005), and poor mental health (Hamer  
98 et al., 2010). Screen time can include watching TV, computer use, or video game playing.  
99 Higher screen time also shows significant associations with all-cause mortality (Ford, 2012),  
100 CVD events (Stamatakis et al., 2011; Warren et al., 2010), and obesity (Vandelanotte et al.,  
101 2009).

102 However, recent studies found that specific sedentary behaviors can be differently  
103 associated with MVPA and with indices of poorer health. A systematic review has shown that  
104 the associations of MVPA with sedentary time differ between TV viewing and computer use  
105 (Rhodes et al., 2012). In a study of 3,305 Singaporean adults, higher risk of cardio-metabolic  
106 diseases was associated with higher TV time, but not with computer-use and reading time  
107 (Nang et al., 2013). In a longitudinal study of 2,597 French older adults, increases in time spent  
108 using computers was associated with better cognitive performance (Kesse-Guyot et al., 2012).  
109 These findings suggest that all sedentary behaviors may not be similarly associated with health  
110 risk. Yet, limited research has examined how sedentary behaviors may be categorized into  
111 groups, and how categories of sedentary behaviors might be associated with MVPA or aspects  
112 of health and well-being. Understanding how different types of sedentary behaviors are related  
113 to health is particularly relevant to older adults, who tend to spend longer time sitting and who  
114 have greater availability of leisure time after retirement (Clark et al., 2010).

115 The aim was to identify categories of leisure time sedentary behaviors (LTSBs), and to  
116 examine their separate associations with indices of health and well-being among  
117 community-dwelling Japanese older adults.

118

## 119 **Methods**

### 120 **Participants and data collection**

121 Detailed sampling procedures were described in elsewhere (Inoue et al., 2012). Briefly,  
122 this population-based, cross-sectional study was conducted in three Japanese municipalities;  
123 Bunkyo Ward in Tokyo, Fuchu City in Tokyo, and Oyama Town in Shizuoka Prefecture. Older  
124 adults aged between 65 and 74 years old were randomly selected from the registry of residential  
125 addresses of each municipality, which were stratified by gender and age (65-69 years and 70-74  
126 years).

127 In total, 2,700 community-living older adults were identified. Of those initially  
128 identified, 2,046 returned the survey. After data cleaning, the data from 1,701 participants were  
129 deemed valid for this study (response rate: 67.3%). Among these respondents, 121 participants  
130 who had difficulty performing daily activities assessed by the Japanese 8-item Short-Form  
131 Health Survey (SF-8) (Tokuda et al., 2009) were excluded from the present analyses. The final  
132 sample size was 1,580. All data were collected from February to March 2010.

133 This study received prior approval from the Tokyo Medical University Ethics  
134 Committee.

135

### 136 **Measures**

#### 137 *Indices of health and well-being*

138 Body mass index (BMI) was derived from self-reported weight and height.  
139 Participants were categorized into normal weight (less than 25 kg.m<sup>-2</sup>) and overweight (25  
140 kg.m<sup>-2</sup> or more). Psychological distress was measured using the K6 scale (Kessler et al., 2003).  
141 The K6 scale consists of six items, including an item such as “During past 30 days, how often  
142 did you feel nervous?”. Its response format ranges from 0 (none of the time) to 4 (all of the  
143 time), with the total score ranging from 0 to 24. The K6 has been translated into Japanese and its  
144 internal consistency (Cronbach’s alpha: 0.849) (Furukawa et al., 2008) and validity (100%  
145 sensitivity and 69.3% specificity for screening mood and anxiety disorder) have been reported  
146 (Furukawa et al., 2008). Participants were categorized into lower (< 9) and higher (≥ 9)  
147 psychological distress by using the recommended cut-off point (Katsuki et al., 2011; Kawakami  
148 N, 2002). Self-reported health was assessed using an item from the SF-8 (Tokuda et al., 2009):  
149 “Overall, how would you rate your health during the past 4 weeks?” Participants responded to  
150 the statement using a 6-point scale consisting of “excellent”, “very good”, “good”, “fair”,  
151 “poor”, and “very poor”. Participants were categorized into “good” [excellent, very good, or  
152 good] and “poor” [fair, poor, or very poor] health status. For MVPA, the Japanese version of the

153 International Physical Activity Questionnaire Short-version was used (Murase, 2002).  
154 Participants were asked to report the frequency and duration of three types of physical activity:  
155 vigorous-intensity, moderate-intensity (excluding walking), and walking. Total time spent in  
156 MVPA including walking was calculated by adding these three activities together. MVPA was  
157 dichotomized at the median into lower ( $\leq 350$  min/week) and higher ( $> 350$  min/week). This  
158 classification was used because a large proportion of participants (about 75%) reported 150  
159 min/week or more of MVPA, the current recommendation for older adults (Nelson et al., 2007).

160

### 161 *Leisure-time sedentary behaviors*

162 Leisure time sedentary behaviors (LTSBs) were determined from participants'  
163 self-reported frequency and average duration (minutes/day) over the past 7 days. Participants  
164 were asked about five types of LTSBs – television viewing, computer use, reading books or  
165 newspapers, listening or talking while sitting, and sitting around. These question items were  
166 translated into Japanese from an Australian questionnaire on LTSBs (Salmon et al., 2003). The  
167 questionnaire is known to have good test-retest reliability (ICC= 0.56–0.82) and acceptable  
168 validity (correlation with a three-day log:  $r = 0.2$ – $0.4$ ) (Salmon et al., 2003).

169

### 170 *Covariates*

171 Age and gender were obtained from the registry of residential addresses of each  
172 municipality. Educational attainment (years of education), employment status (working hours  
173 per week), and living arrangement (living with others, living alone) were obtained through  
174 self-report by each respondent. Participants were categorized according to education (up to  
175 high school [ $< 13$  years], college degree or more [ $\geq 13$  years]) and working hours (none or  
176 part-time work [ $< 35$  hours/week], full-time work [ $\geq 35$  hours/week]).

177

### 178 **Statistical Analysis**

179 Exploratory factor analysis was used to classify these five LTSBs. A non-orthogonal  
180 rotation method was employed as extracted factors may be correlated to each other. The number  
181 of factors was decided based on Kaiser's Eigenvalue ( $> 1$ ), scree plot, and the ease of  
182 interpretation. For each LTSB category, total sedentary time was calculated and dichotomized  
183 using median, as its distribution was expected to be skewed.

184 Multivariate logistic regressions were employed to calculate the odds ratios (ORs) and  
185 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) of lower MVPA for each category of LTSBs, adjusting for  
186 gender, age, municipality, living arrangement, education, and employment status. Additional

187 analysis using a cut-off value of 150 min.wk-1 for MVPA were conducted.

188 Then, multivariate logistic regressions were employed to calculate ORs for indices of  
189 poorer health , i.e. overweight, higher psychological distress and lower self-reported health.

190 The ORs of being poorer in health status for higher sedentary time in each LTSB category were  
191 calculated, adjusting for gender, age, municipality, living arrangement, education, and  
192 employment status (Model 1), then further adjusting for MVPA (Model 2).

193 For sensitivity analysis, logistic regression analyses were repeated after changing the  
194 cut-off value between both categories of LTSB. i.e., analyses were performed with different  
195 thresholds of passive sedentary time (3 hours/day instead of 1 hour/day) and mentally-active  
196 sedentary time (1 hour/day instead of 3 hours/day).

197 Before the multiple logistic regression analyses, we calculated Hosmer-Lemeshow's  
198 goodness of fit test, of which the null hypothesis is that the distribution fits the data. All  
199 statistical analyses were performed in 2013 by using STATA software (version 12); the level of  
200 significance was set at  $p < 0.05$ .

201

## 202 **Results**

203 Table 1 shows the characteristics of participants. The sample consisted of 52 % men,  
204 and the mean age of participants was 69.5 years. About the same number of participants from  
205 each of the three municipalities participated in the study.

206 Factor analysis extracted two factors of LTSBs: one consisting of TV (factor loading:  
207 0.45), sitting around (0.38), and listening or talking while sitting (0.30); and, the other  
208 consisting of computer use (0.37) and reading books or newspapers (0.31). The former was  
209 interpreted as "passive sedentary behavior" and the latter "mentally-active sedentary behavior".  
210 The two-factor solution explained 88% of the total variance. Correlation between the two  
211 factors was 0.60.

212 Table 2 shows the summary statistics for the categories of LTSBs. On average,  
213 participants reported 3.62 hours/day of passive and 1.25 hours/day of mentally-active sedentary  
214 behaviors. Television viewing time accounted for 70% of the total passive sedentary time, and  
215 three quarters of mentally-active sedentary time was spent for reading books or newspapers.

216 Each behavioral category was dichotomized using the median. For passive sedentary  
217 behavior, 3 hours/day or less was categorized as lower, and more than 3 hours/day as higher.  
218 For mentally-active sedentary behavior, 1 hour/day or less was categorized as lower, and more  
219 than 1 hour/day as higher.

220

---

221 INSERT TABLES 1 & 2 ABOUT HERE

222

223 Figure 1 shows the adjusted ORs of having lower levels of MVPA for each category of LTSBs.  
224 Higher passive sedentary time was associated with higher odds of lower MVPA (OR=1.26,  
225 95%CI: 1.02-1.54), whereas higher mentally-active sedentary time was associated with lower  
226 odds of lower MVPA (OR=0.70, 95%CI: 0.57-0.86). An additional analysis using a cut-off  
227 value of 150 min.wk-1 for MVPA showed the odds ratios for this definition of ‘insufficient’  
228 MVPA (less than 150 min.wk-1) to be 1.22 (95%CI=0.96-1.55) for higher passive sedentary  
229 time, and 0.59 (0.46-0.75) for mentally-active sedentary time.

230 Table 3 shows the adjusted odds ratios for indices of the health and well-being for each  
231 category of LTSBs. Higher passive sedentary time was associated with a higher odds of being  
232 overweight and being higher psychological distress. However, the association between higher  
233 passive sedentary time and psychological distress became non-significant after MVPA  
234 adjustment in Model 2. Passive sedentary time was not associated with self-reported health. No  
235 significant association was found between mentally-active sedentary time and any of these  
236 health-related indices. It should be noted that the ORs in Model 1 and 2 were about the same for  
237 overweight and higher psychological distress, but some attenuation by MVPA was observed for  
238 self-reported health.

239

---

240 INSERT FIGURE 1 and TABLE 3 ABOUT HERE

---

241

242

243 In sensitivity analysis, changing thresholds of passive sedentary time from 3 hours/day  
244 to 1 hour/day did not significantly affect the findings. However, changing the thresholds of  
245 mentally-active sedentary time from 1 hour/day to 3 hours/day show differential associations.  
246 Older adults in spending more than 3 hours/day (n=123) for mentally-active sedentary time  
247 have significantly higher psychological distress (OR=2.23, 95%CI: 1.17 -4.24). Point estimates  
248 of other health indices were shifted to positive association between higher mentally-active  
249 sedentary time and being overweight (OR=1.23, 95%CI: 0.79 -1.93) and lower self-reported  
250 health (OR=1.32, 95%CI: 0.81 -2.17).

251

## 252 **Discussion**

253 This study identified two different types of leisure-time sedentary behaviors: one is  
254 passive activity including watching TV, talking and just sitting; the other is mentally active,

255 involving reading or using computer. Passive and mentally-active sedentary times were  
256 differently associated with MVPA and health indices among community-dwelling Japanese  
257 older adults. Higher passive sedentary time, the majority of which was spent watching TV, was  
258 associated with a higher likelihood of being overweight, greater psychological distress, and  
259 lower MVPA. In contrast, higher mentally-active sedentary time was positively associated with  
260 MVPA, but not associated with any of the health-related attributes. The present study has  
261 reported findings that are broadly consistent with those of these previous studies.

262 Passive sedentary time was associated with overweight, while no such associations  
263 were found for mentally-active sedentary time. Both passive and mentally-active sedentary  
264 time could involve common physiological mechanisms with sedentary behaviors, such as lower  
265 energy expenditure (Newton et al., 2013). It has been shown that light-intensity physical  
266 activity is negatively associated with overall sedentary time (Healy et al., 2008), but the  
267 relationship may differ between passive and mentally-active sedentary time. Since  
268 light-intensity physical activity is known to be beneficial to older adults' health (Buman et al.,  
269 2010), future research needs to examine comprehensive behavioral relationships between  
270 sedentary behaviors and light, moderate and vigorous physical activity.

271 In addition, mentally-active sedentary time may involve beneficial processes that  
272 mitigate the deleterious impact of sitting for older adults. For example, reading time may  
273 provide mental stimulation to that improves cognitive performance capacities, which help older  
274 adults to be supportive of other engagements and activity (Cunningham and Stanovich, 2001;  
275 Gallucci et al., 2009). Furthermore, computer use may improve social interaction access to  
276 health care services (Cotten et al., 2013), and total quality of life (White et al., 1999). There are  
277 likely to be health-related benefits from reducing overall sedentary time; however, initiatives to  
278 promote older adults' health may most usefully emphasize reducing passive sedentary time.

279 The sensitivity analysis showed different association between mentally-active  
280 sedentary time and health indices. Similar to passive sedentary time, more time in  
281 mentally-active sedentary time was negatively associated with health-related attributes. A study  
282 among 2,650 middle-aged Australian adults also showed too much computer use was  
283 associated with overweight and physical inactivity (Vandelanotte et al., 2009). Therefore, it  
284 may be important to avoid spending too much time for both mentally-active sedentary time and  
285 passive sedentary time. At the present time, total amount of mentally-active sedentary time is  
286 not as long as the amount of passive sedentary time. However, it would be expected that the  
287 time spent in computer use is increasing among older adults.

288 Regarding the association between LTSBs and MVPA, passive sedentary time showed

289 a negative association, suggesting a complementary relationship between these behaviors. In  
290 contrast, those who spent longer time in reading and computer use were also likely to engage in  
291 longer MVPA. A recent meta-analysis also found the same pattern of relationships (Rhodes et  
292 al., 2012). Specific reasons for these differences remain to be explored. It may be the case that  
293 mentally-active sedentary time is linked to older adults' social interaction (Cotten et al., 2013),  
294 older adults who engage in mentally-active sedentary behavior may have higher social  
295 participation, which can involve leisure-time and community activities.

296 Some limitations of our study should be considered. First, all data were collected using  
297 self-report measures (van Uffelen et al., 2011). Second, a cross-sectional survey does not allow  
298 interpretations of the direction of causality. Reverse causality should be considered, especially  
299 for some variables such as BMI and self-reported health. Third, a relatively high proportion  
300 (75%) of our study participants reported levels of physical activity that could be classified as  
301 sufficient for health benefits. This may represent an over estimate by our participants, or may  
302 reflect some form of reporting or social-desirability bias. Fourth, our study did not have data on  
303 sitting time in cars, which is a known health risk behavior (McCormack and Virk, 2014). Since  
304 about half of the participants were working, this may have confounded the relationships  
305 examined in the study. Future studies with such information, as well as information on other  
306 components of sedentary time, will help to better understand how multiple domains of  
307 sedentary behaviors are related to older adults' health.

308 A strength of our study is that we recruited community-dwelling older adults  
309 randomly-selected from three different localities (urban, suburban, and regional), and assessed  
310 the association between multiple sedentary behavior and several health-related attributes. The  
311 response rate to our survey and the availability of complete data was acceptable (59%). Our  
312 findings add important empirical information for targeting specific type of sedentary behaviors  
313 for preventing sedentary behaviors-related chronic diseases among older adults, which is  
314 particularly important in our aging world.

315

## 316 **Conclusions**

317 Passive and mentally-active sedentary time may play different roles in the physical and  
318 mental well-being of older adults. This findings suggest that passive sedentary behaviors  
319 (including TV viewing time), rather than total sedentary time, might have to be targeted in  
320 interventions for maintaining and enhancing older adults' health. Future studies need to focus  
321 not only on overall sitting time, but also types of sedentary behavior in examining the health  
322 impact of sitting. Research seeking to understand mechanisms through which different types of

323 sedentary behaviors influence health is also warranted.

324

325

326

**327 Acknowledgements**

328           This study was supported by the Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B): 25282209  
329 from the Japan Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Science and Technology. Sugiyama  
330 is supported by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (NHMRC)  
331 Program funding (#569940). Owen is supported by NHMRC Program Grant (#569940) and a  
332 Senior Principal Research Fellowship (1003960). Sugiyama and Owen are supported by the  
333 Victorian Government's OIS Program. All authors have no other conflicts of interest, including  
334 related directorships, stock holdings, or contracts

335

336  
337  
338  
339  
340  
341  
342  
343  
344  
345  
346  
347  
348  
349  
350  
351  
352  
353  
354  
355  
356  
357  
358  
359  
360  
361  
362  
363  
364

## REFERENCES

- Buman, M.P., Hekler, E.B., Haskell, W.L., Pruitt, L., Conway, T.L., Cain, K.L., Sallis, J.F., Saelens, B.E., Frank, L.D., et al., 2010. Objective light-intensity physical activity associations with rated health in older adults. *Am J Epidemiol* 172:1155-65.
- Chang, P.C., Li, T.C., Wu, M.T., Liu, C.S., Li, C.I., Chen, C.C., Lin, W.Y., Yang, S.Y., Lin, C.C., 2008. Association between television viewing and the risk of metabolic syndrome in a community-based population. *BMC Public Health* 8:193.
- Clark, B.K., Sugiyama, T., Healy, G.N., Salmon, J., Dunstan, D.W., Shaw, J.E., Zimmet, P.Z., Owen, N., 2010. Socio-demographic correlates of prolonged television viewing time in Australian men and women: the AusDiab study. *J Phys Act Health* 7:595-601.
- Cotten, S.R., Anderson, W.A., McCullough, B.M., 2013. Impact of internet use on loneliness and contact with others among older adults: cross-sectional analysis. *J Med Internet Res* 15:e39.
- Cunningham, A.E., Stanovich, K.E., 2001. What reading does for the mind. *Journal of Direct Instruction* 1:137-49.
- Dunstan, D.W., Salmon, J., Owen, N., Armstrong, T., Zimmet, P.Z., Welborn, T.A., Cameron, A.J., Dwyer, T., Jolley, D., et al., 2005. Associations of TV viewing and physical activity with the metabolic syndrome in Australian adults. *Diabetologia* 48:2254-61.
- Ford, E.S., 2012. Combined television viewing and computer use and mortality from all-causes and diseases of the circulatory system among adults in the United States. *BMC Public Health* 12:70.
- Furukawa, T., Kawakami, N., Saitoh, M., Ono, Y., Nakane, Y., Nakamura, Y., Tachimori, H., Iwata, N., Uda, H., et al., 2008. The performance of the Japanese version of the K6 and K10 in the World Mental Health Survey Japan. *Int J Methods Psychiatr Res* 17:152-8.
- Gallucci, M., Antuono, P., Ongaro, F., Forloni, P.L., Albani, D., Amici, G.P., Regini, C., 2009. Physical activity, socialization and reading in the elderly over the age of seventy: what is the relation with cognitive decline? Evidence from "The Treviso Longeva (TRELONG) study". *Arch Gerontol Geriatr* 48:284-6.
- Gardiner, P.A., Healy, G.N., Eakin, E.G., Clark, B.K., Dunstan, D.W., Shaw, J.E., Zimmet, P.Z.,

- 365 Owen, N., 2011. Associations between television viewing time and overall sitting time with the  
366 metabolic syndrome in older men and women: the Australian diabetes obesity and lifestyle study.  
367 *J Am Geriatr Soc* 59:788-96.
- 368 Hamer, M., Stamatakis, E., Mishra, G.D., 2010. Television- and screen-based activity and mental  
369 well-being in adults. *Am J Prev Med* 38:375-80.
- 370 Hamilton, M.T., Hamilton, D.G., Zderic, T.W., 2007. Role of low energy expenditure and sitting in  
371 obesity, metabolic syndrome, type 2 diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. *Diabetes* 56:2655-67.
- 372 Hamilton, M.T., Healy, N.G., Dunstan, D.W., Zderic, T.W., Owen, N., 2008. Too little exercise and  
373 too much sitting: Inactivity physiology and the need for new recommendations on sedentary  
374 behavior. *Current Cardiovascular Risk Reports* 2:292-98.
- 375 Healy, G.N., Wijndaele, K., Dunstan, D.W., Shaw, J.E., Salmon, J., Zimmet, P.Z., Owen, N., 2008.  
376 Objectively measured sedentary time, physical activity, and metabolic risk: the Australian  
377 Diabetes, Obesity and Lifestyle Study (AusDiab). *Diabetes Care* 31:369-71.
- 378 Inoue, S., Sugiyama, T., Takamiya, T., Oka, K., Owen, N., Shimomitsu, T., 2012. Television viewing  
379 time is associated with overweight/obesity among older adults, independent of meeting physical  
380 activity and health guidelines. *J Epidemiol* 22:50-6.
- 381 Jakes, R.W., Day, N.E., Khaw, K.T., Luben, R., Oakes, S., Welch, A., Bingham, S., Wareham, N.J.,  
382 2003. Television viewing and low participation in vigorous recreation are independently  
383 associated with obesity and markers of cardiovascular disease risk: EPIC-Norfolk  
384 population-based study. *Eur J Clin Nutr* 57:1089-96.
- 385 Katsuki, F., Takeuchi, H., Konishi, M., Sasaki, M., Murase, Y., Naito, A., Toyoda, H., Suzuki, M.,  
386 Shiraishi, N., et al., 2011. Pre-post changes in psychosocial functioning among relatives of  
387 patients with depressive disorders after Brief Multifamily Psychoeducation: a pilot study. *BMC*  
388 *Psychiatry* 11:56.
- 389 Kawakami N, T.A., Shimazu A, Kobayashi Y, 2002. Promotion of preventive measures against  
390 suicide in a place of work. (Final report of the National Project Team. Supported by the Research  
391 Grant for Industrial Safety and Health (in Japanese)). Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.
- 392 Kesse-Guyot, E., Charreire, H., Andreeva, V.A., Touvier, M., Hercberg, S., Galan, P., Oppert, J.M.,  
393 2012. Cross-sectional and longitudinal associations of different sedentary behaviors with

- 394 cognitive performance in older adults. *PLoS ONE* 7:e47831.
- 395 Kessler, R.C., Barker, P.R., Colpe, L.J., Epstein, J.F., Gfroerer, J.C., Hiripi, E., Howes, M.J.,  
396 Normand, S.L., Manderscheid, R.W., et al., 2003. Screening for serious mental illness in the  
397 general population. *Arch Gen Psychiatry* 60:184-9.
- 398 Kronenberg, F., Pereira, M.A., Schmitz, M.K., Arnett, D.K., Evenson, K.R., Crapo, R.O., Jensen,  
399 R.L., Burke, G.L., Sholinsky, P., et al., 2000. Influence of leisure time physical activity and  
400 television watching on atherosclerosis risk factors in the NHLBI Family Heart Study.  
401 *Atherosclerosis* 153:433-43.
- 402 McCormack, G.R., Virk, J.S., 2014. Driving towards obesity: A systematized literature review on  
403 the association between motor vehicle travel time and distance and weight status in adults. *Prev*  
404 *Med* 66C:49-55.
- 405 Murase, N.K., T. Ueda, C. Inoue, S. Shimomitsu, T, 2002. Validity and reliability of Japanese  
406 version of International Physical Activity Questionnaire. *Journal of Health and Welfare*  
407 *Statistics* 49:1-9.
- 408 Nang, E.E., Salim, A., Wu, Y., Tai, E.S., Lee, J., Van Dam, R.M., 2013. Television screen time, but  
409 not computer use and reading time, is associated with cardio-metabolic biomarkers in a  
410 multiethnic Asian population: a cross-sectional study. *Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act* 10:70.
- 411 Nelson, M.E., Rejeski, W.J., Blair, S.N., Duncan, P.W., Judge, J.O., King, A.C., Macera, C.A.,  
412 Castaneda-Sceppa, C., 2007. Physical activity and public health in older adults:  
413 recommendation from the American College of Sports Medicine and the American Heart  
414 Association. *Circulation* 116:1094-105.
- 415 Newton, R.L., Jr., Han, H., Zderic, T., Hamilton, M., 2013. The energy expenditure of sedentary  
416 behavior: a whole room calorimeter study. *PLoS ONE* 8:e63171.
- 417 Owen, N., Healy, G.N., Matthews, C.E., Dunstan, D., 2010. Too much sitting: the population health  
418 science of sedentary behavior. *Exerc Sport Sci Rev* 38:105-13.
- 419 Owen, N., Sugiyama, T., Eakin, E.E., Gardiner, P.A., Tremblay, M.S., Sallis, J.F., 2011. Adults'  
420 sedentary behavior determinants and interventions. *Am J Prev Med* 41:189-96.
- 421 Rhodes, R.E., Mark, R.S., Temmel, C.P., 2012. Adult sedentary behavior: a systematic review. *Am J*  
422 *Prev Med* 42:e3-28.

- 423 Salmon, J., Owen, N., Crawford, D., Bauman, A., Sallis, J.F., 2003. Physical activity and sedentary  
424 behavior: a population-based study of barriers, enjoyment, and preference. *Health Psychol*  
425 22:178-88.
- 426 Stamatakis, E., Hamer, M., Dunstan, D., 2011. Screen-based entertainment time, all-cause  
427 mortality, and cardiovascular events: population-based study with ongoing mortality and  
428 hospital events follow-up. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 57:292 - 99.
- 429 Sugiyama, T., Healy, G.N., Dunstan, D.W., Salmon, J., Owen, N., 2008. Is television viewing time a  
430 marker of a broader pattern of sedentary behavior? *Ann Behav Med* 35:245-50.
- 431 Tokuda, Y., Okubo, T., Ohde, S., Jacobs, J., Takahashi, O., Omata, F., Yanai, H., Hinohara, S.,  
432 Fukui, T., 2009. Assessing items on the SF-8 Japanese version for health-related quality of life: a  
433 psychometric analysis based on the nominal categories model of item response theory. *Value*  
434 *Health* 12:568-73.
- 435 van Uffelen, J.G., Heesch, K.C., Hill, R.L., Brown, W.J., 2011. A qualitative study of older adults'  
436 responses to sitting-time questions: do we get the information we want? *BMC Public Health*  
437 11:458.
- 438 Vandelandotte, C., Sugiyama, T., Gardiner, P., Owen, N., 2009. Associations of leisure-time internet  
439 and computer use with overweight and obesity, physical activity and sedentary behaviors:  
440 cross-sectional study. *J Med Internet Res* 11:e28.
- 441 Warren, T.Y., Barry, V., Hooker, S.P., Sui, X., Church, T.S., Blair, S.N., 2010. Sedentary behaviors  
442 increase risk of cardiovascular disease mortality in men. *Med Sci Sports Exerc* 42:879-85.
- 443 White, H., McConnell, E., Clipp, E., Bynum, L., Teague, C., Navas, L., Craven, S., Halbrecht, H.,  
444 1999. Surfing the Net in Later Life: A Review of the Literature and Pilot Study of Computer Use  
445 and Quality of Life. *Journal of Applied Gerontology* 18:358-78.

446

447

448

Table1. Characteristic of study participants

	Total (n=1,580)	
	n or mean	(%) or ( $\pm$ SD)
Gender		
Men	826	(52.3)
Women	754	(47.7)
Age (years)	69.5	( $\pm$ 2.9)
Municipality		
Bunkyo	510	(32.3)
Fuchu	546	(34.6)
Oyama	524	(33.2)
Living arrangements		
Living with others	1,400	(88.6)
Living alone	180	(11.4)
Educational attainment		
College degree or more	991	(62.7)
Up to high school	589	(37.3)
Working hours (hours/week)		
Full-time work ( $\geq$ 35)	646	(40.9)
None or part-time work (<35)	934	(59.1)
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )		
<25.0	1,267	(80.2)
$\geq$ 25.0	313	(19.8)
Psychological Distress (K6 score)		
Higher ( $\geq$ 9)	94	(5.9)
Normal (<9)	1,486	(94.1)
Self-reported health		
Excellent or good	1,340	(84.8)
Fair or poor	241	(15.3)
MVPA (min/week)		
<350	788	(49.9)
$\geq$ 350	792	(50.1)

BMI: Body mass index, K6: Kessler's 6-item psychological distress scale

MVPA: Moderate-to-vigorous physical activity

Data are from the cross-sectional survey in 2010 among Japanese older adults (Japan).

Table 2. Time spent in leisure time sedentary behaviors (hours/day)

Types of leisure time sedentary behaviors	Mean	(SD)	Median	(25th-75th percentile)
Passive Sedentary Time	3.62	(2.89)	3.00	(1.64-5.00)
Television or DVD viewing	2.52	(2.12)	2.00	(1.00-3.00)
Listening to music or talking while sitting	0.62	(0.88)	0.33	(0.00-1.00)
Sitting around and doing nothing special	0.47	(1.08)	0.00	(0.00-0.50)
Mentally-Active Sedentary Time	1.25	(1.42)	1.00	(0.43-1.71)
Computer and internet use	0.29	(0.82)	0.00	(0.00-0.14)
Reading books or newspapers	0.94	(1.05)	0.67	(0.33-1.00)

Data are from the cross-sectional survey in 2010 among Japanese older adults (Japan).

Table 3. Associations of health-related attributes with leisure time sedentary behavior categories

		Overweight		Higher psychological distress		Lower self-reported health		
		OR	(95% C I)	OR	(95% C I)	OR	(95% C I)	
Passive sedentary time	Model 1	Lower	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	
		Higher	1.40*	(1.08 - 1.80)	1.55**	(1.00 - 2.39)	1.11	(0.84 - 1.48)
	Model 2	Lower	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)
		Higher	1.39*	(1.08 - 1.79)	1.53	(0.99 - 2.36)	1.08	(0.81 - 1.43)
Mentally-active sedentary time	Model 1	Lower	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	
		Higher	0.87	(0.68 - 1.13)	0.76	(0.49 - 1.17)	0.79	(0.59 - 1.06)
	Model 2	Lower	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)
		Higher	0.88	(0.68 - 1.14)	0.77	(0.50 - 1.20)	0.83	(0.62 - 1.11)

OR: Odds ratio, CI : Confidence interval, \* significantly different at  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* significantly different at  $p < 0.01$

Model 1: Adjusted for gender, age, municipality, living arrangements, education, and employment status.

Model 2: Adjusted for gender, age, municipality, living arrangements, education, employment status and moderate-to-vigorous physical activity

Data are from the cross-sectional survey in 2010 among Japanese older adults (Japan).

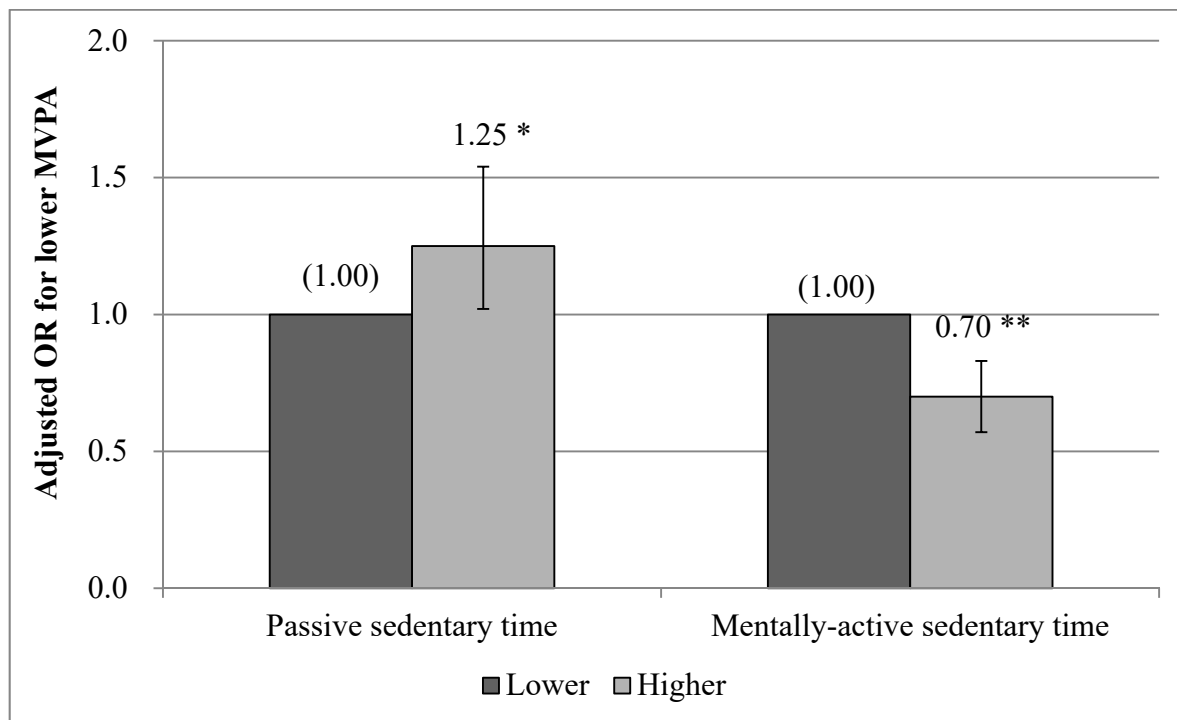


Figure 1. Adjusted ORs and 95% confidence intervals of lower MVPA levels by types of leisure time sedentary behaviors

(MVPA: moderate-to-vigorous physical activity. OR: Odds ratio. All ORs were adjusted for gender, age, municipality, living arrangements, education, and employment status. \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , Data are from the cross-sectional survey in 2010 among Japanese older adults.)

**Disclosure of funding**

This study was supported by the Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B): 25282209 from the Japan Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Science and Technology. Owen is supported by a National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (NHMRC) Program Grant (#569940), a Senior Principal Research Fellowship (1003960) and by the Victorian Government's Operational Infrastructure Support program.

**Conflict of Interest Statement**

The authors declare that there are no conflict of interest.