

# Association of lean mass with bone mineral density in young, recently diagnosed, HIV-infected patients

Juan Gallego Galiana; María J Vivancos; Francesca Gioia; Cristina Sobrino; María J Pérez-Elías; Ana Moreno; Santiago Moreno; Mónica Vázquez; José L Casado

Infectious Diseases and Rheumatology, *Hospital Ramón y Cajal, Madrid.*

## BACKGROUND

Low peak bone mass (PBM), the amount of bone at the end of skeletal maturation, is of paramount importance for a worse bone health in the future. However, the causes of a low PBM could be different in HIV-infected patients, by considering time of HIV infection or use of combination antiretroviral therapy (cART). Our objective was to evaluate the role of lean mass in young, otherwise healthy HIV-infected patients who started cART early after the diagnosis.

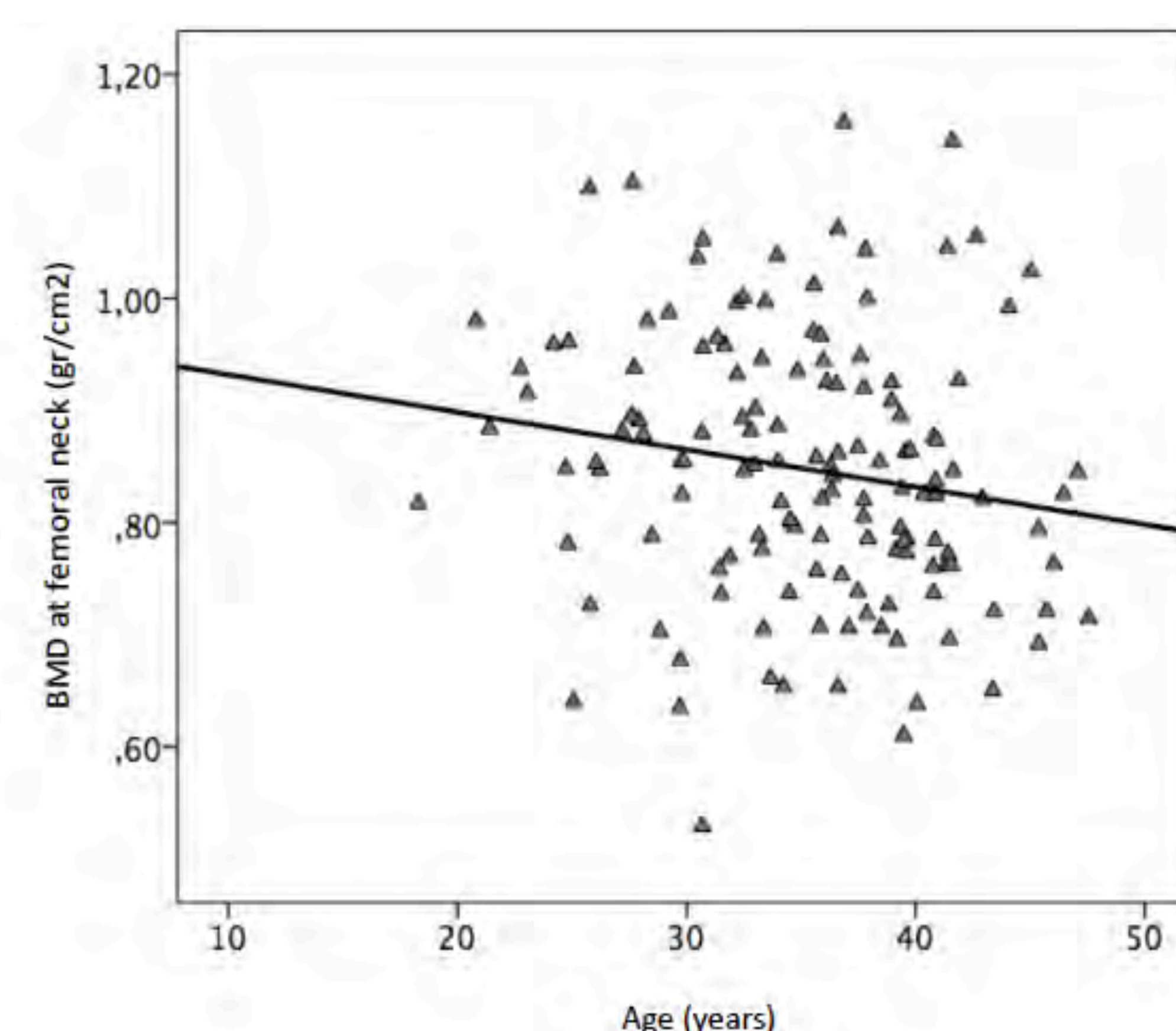
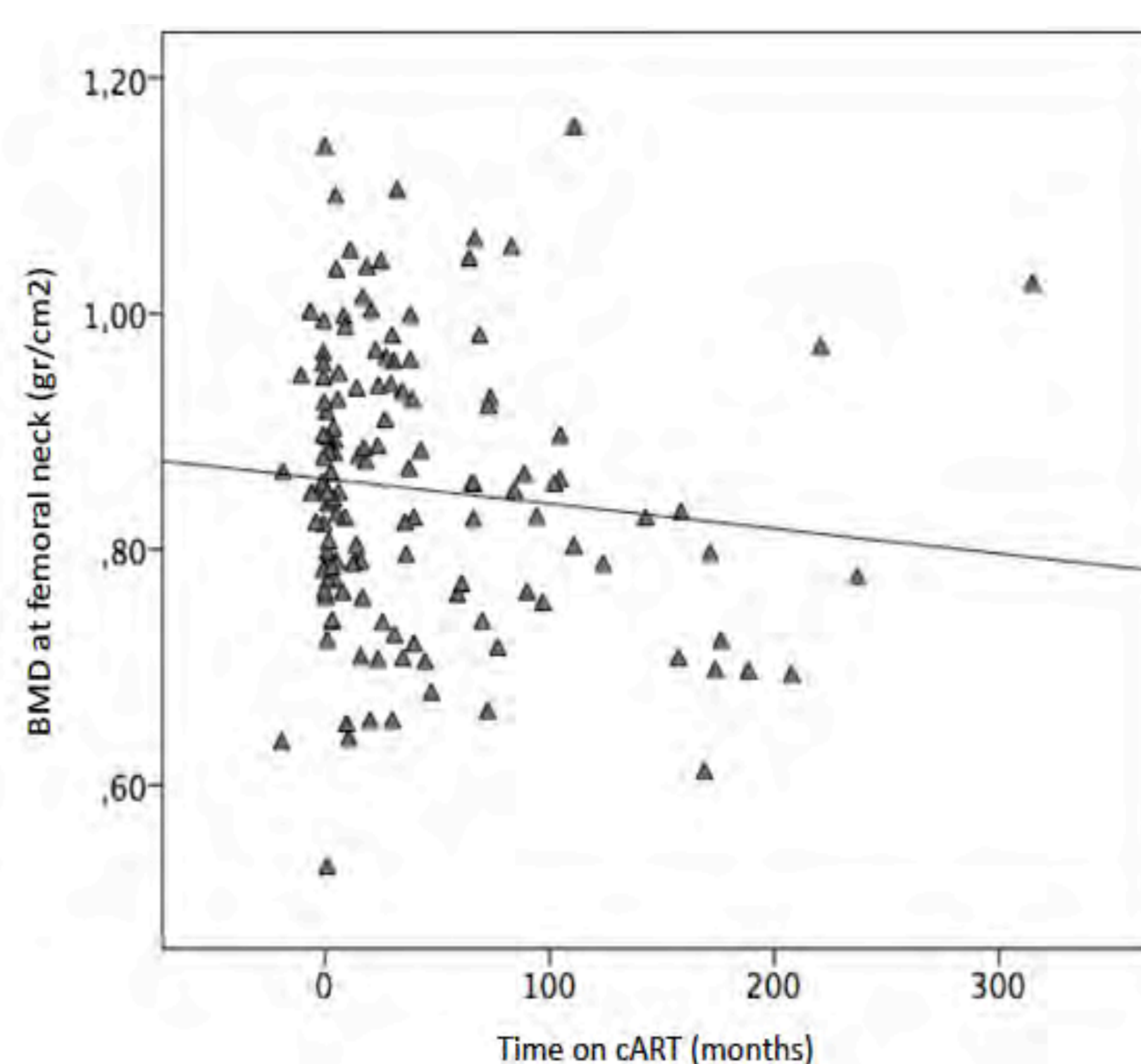
## METHODS

Cross-sectional study of HIV-infected patients younger than 40 years of age (EC 039/14; NCT02116751). A Dual X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) was performed at diagnosis or early after cART initiation. Bone mineral density (BMD) and Z and T scores were recorded for the lumbar spine (L1–L4) and femoral neck. Demographic and HIV-related factors were correlated with fat and lean mass.

## RESULTS

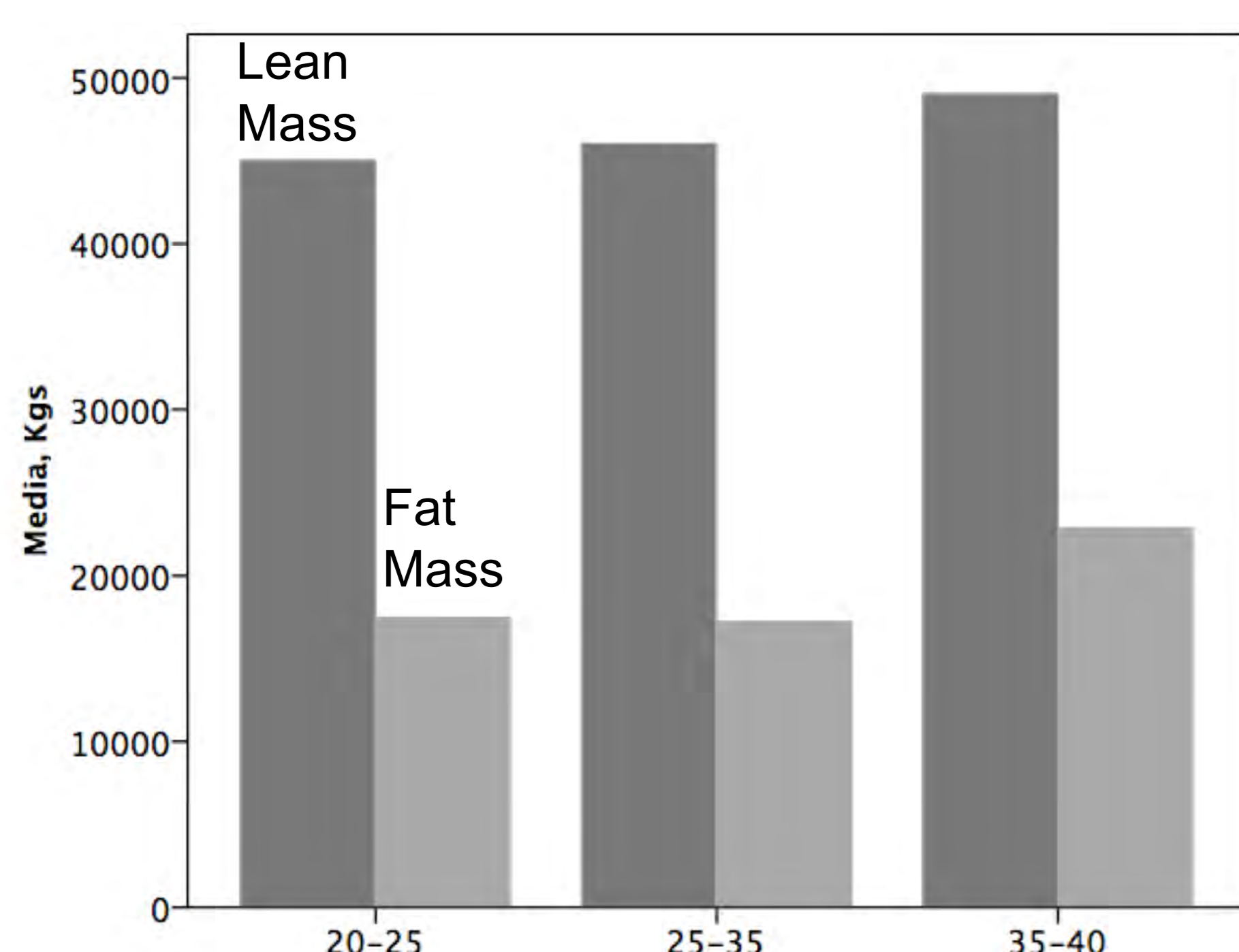
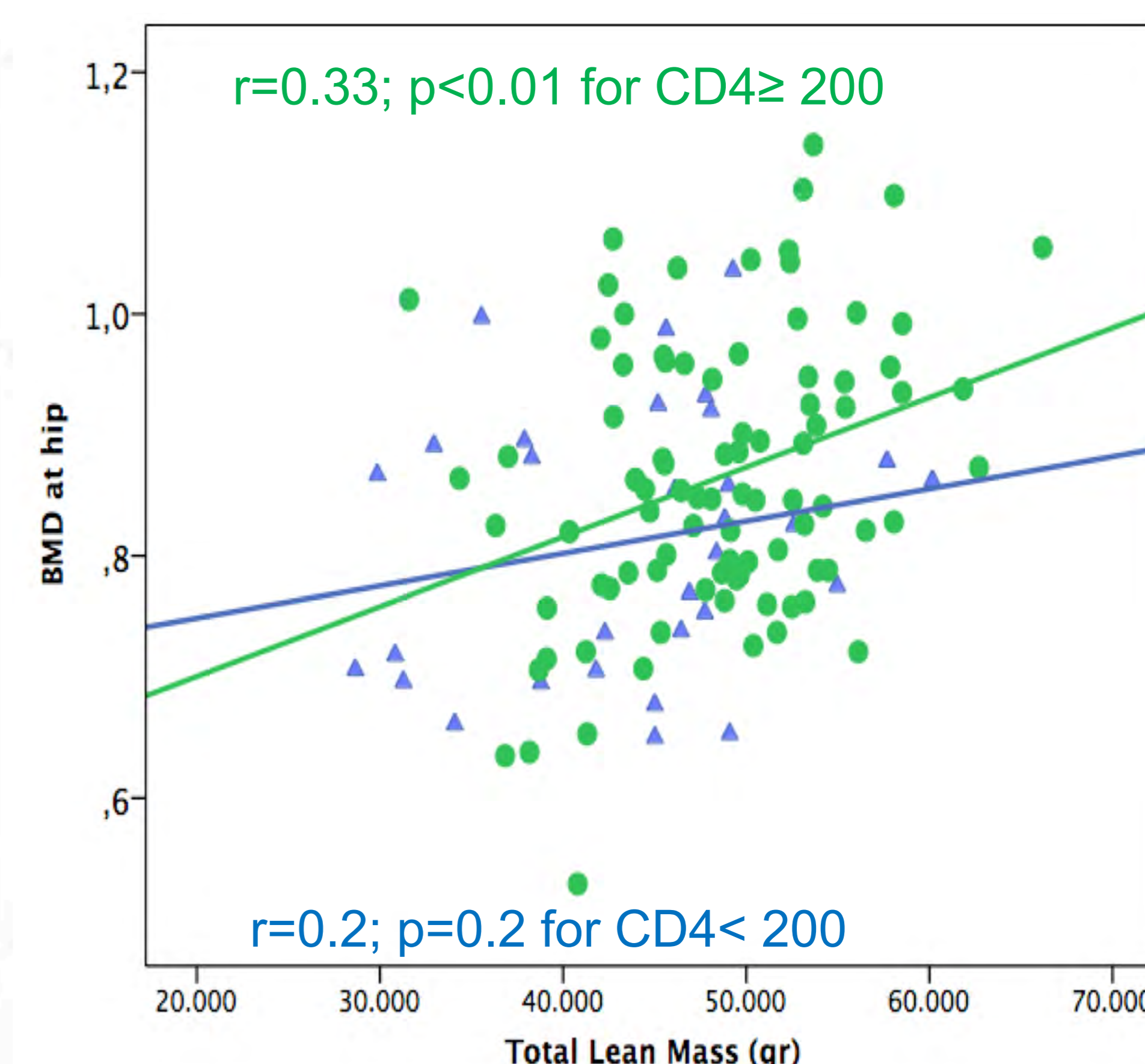
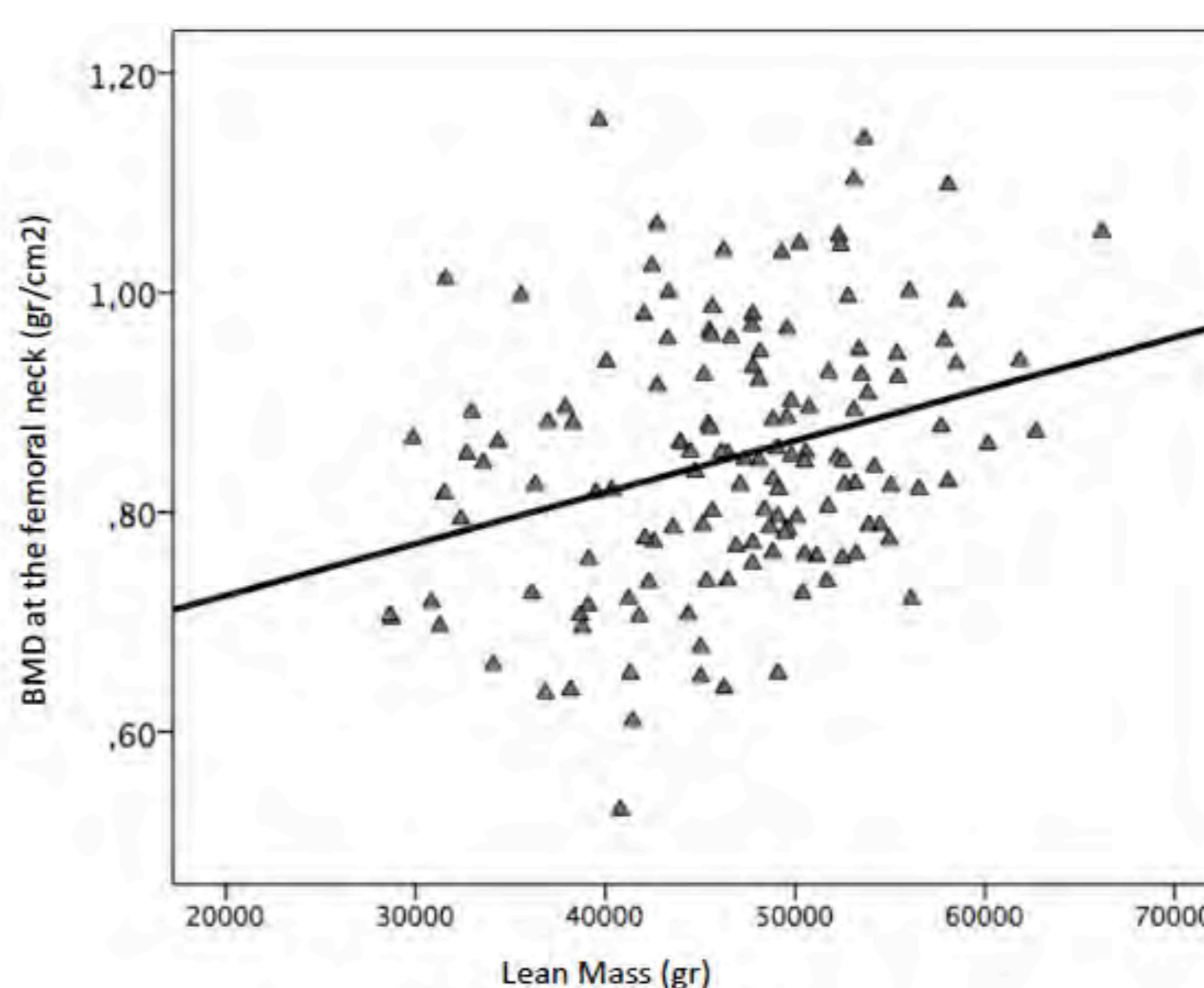
**N= 151 patients**

Mean age (years, range)	35.3 (18-40)
Younger than 30 yrs (%)	20%
Sex male, n (%)	129 (85%)
Risk practices for HIV infection, n (%)	
IDUs	13 (9%)
MSM	103 (68%)
HCV coinfection, n (%)	9 (6%)
Mean BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	24.2 (17.7-31.8)
Nadir CD4+ count (cells/mL)	337 (196-430)
HIV RNA level pre-cART (log copies/ml)	4,78 (4,3-5,3)
Time of HIV diagnosis (months, IQR)	41.3 (11-97)
Time on cART at DXA (months, IQR)	9 (0-52)
No TAR at DXA	52 (34%)
cART	
TDF+PI	13%
TDF+Non Nucleoside	58%
No TDF	29%
Mean eGFR (ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> )	102,2 (57-155)
Mean 25-hydroxyvitamin D (ng/ml)	27 (6,4-67,2)
Mean PTH (pg/ml)	48,9 (15,2-130)
Total Fat (Kgs)	18.37 (13.1-22.2)
Total lean mass (kgs)	46.36 (42-51.7)
DXA	
BMD femoral neck (gr/cm <sup>2</sup> )	0.847 (0.53-1.16)
BMD lumbar spine L1-L4	0.969 (0.26-1.32)
Femoral neck	
Osteopenia	38%
Osteoporosis	1%
Z score < -2	2%
Spine	
Osteopenia	39%
Osteoporosis	9%
Z score < -2	16%



BMD at hip was significantly correlated with age ( $r=-0.21$ ), BMI ( $r=0.25$ ), nadir CD4+ ( $r=0.22$ ) and with lean mass in all the body areas (lean mass to height squared ratio;  $r=0.32$ ;  $p<0.01$ ) but not with fat mass, whereas BMD in spine was correlated only with lean mass ( $r=0.22$ ), and not with age ( $p=0.059$ ), CD4+ nadir, BMI ( $p=0.16$ ), or rest of variables.

Of note, in patients with a recent diagnosis who had not initiated cART, the strongest correlation was observed between BMD at hip and lean mass ( $r=0.41$ ;  $p<0.01$ ), with a trend for CD4+ count nadir ( $r=0.28$ ;  $p=0.06$ ). Moreover, the importance of lean mass was different in patients with a CD4 count nadir above or below 200 cells/mL.



## CONCLUSIONS

**In young, recently diagnosed HIV-infected patients, lean mass is one of the most important factors determining the peak bone mass, more important than time of HIV infection or nadir CD4+ count.**