

Cardiovascular and Respiratory Health in Rural Madagascar



Mandena, Madagascar

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Using surveys and standard health measurements, we explored trends in cardiovascular and respiratory health. These data contribute to an ongoing study of community health in this village, in the context of changing environments, lifestyles, and behaviors.

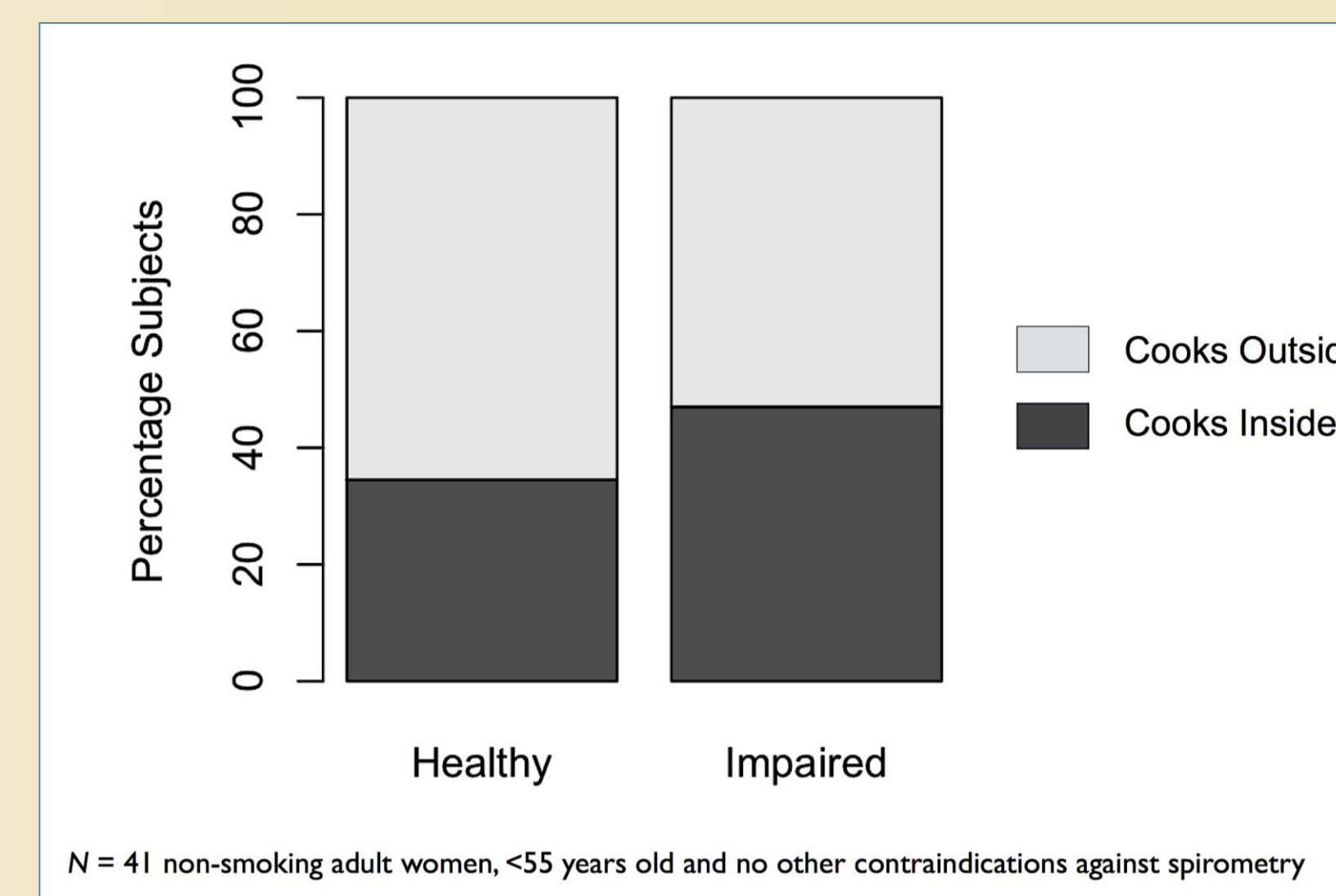
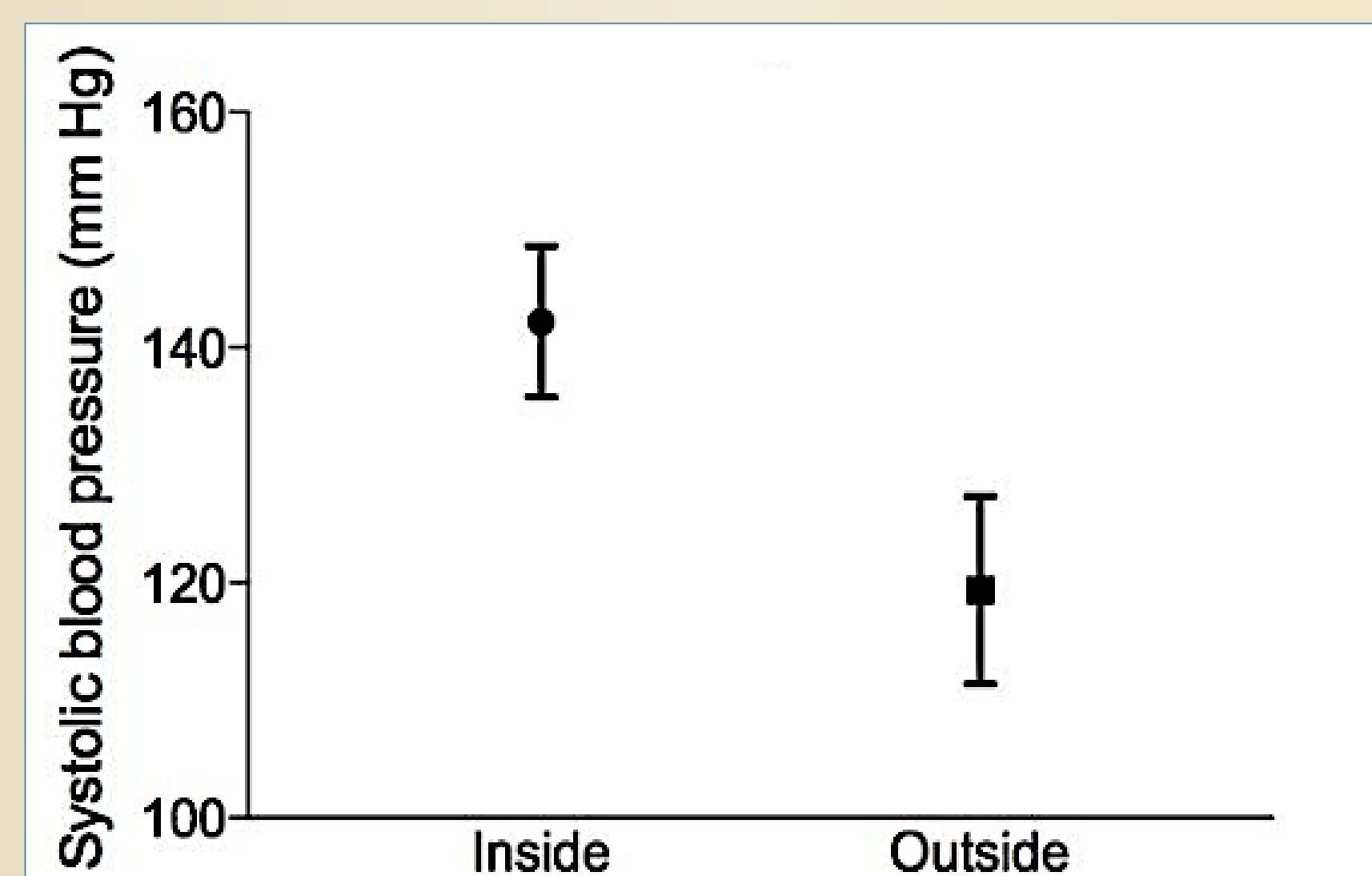
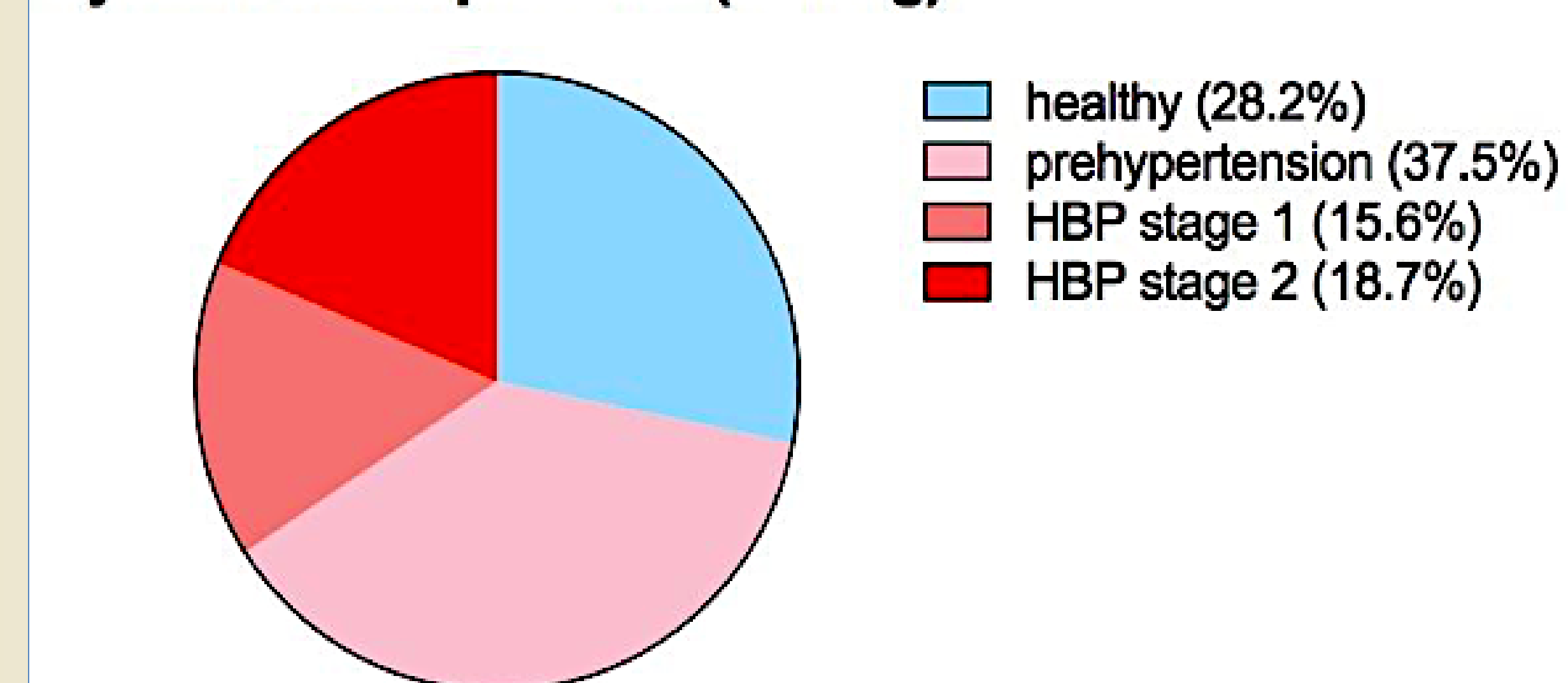
PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Collect data on blood pressure and BMI
- Conduct spirometry
- Correlate health parameters to behavior and household air quality
- Investigate causes of hypertension observed from previous studies



Conducting Spirometry to Test Lung Function

Systolic blood pressure (mm Hg)



METHODOLOGY

- Enrolled participants through random household sampling and convenience sampling
- Conducted general health survey
 - Collected data on age, gender, occupation, and other survey questions
- Measured temperature, blood pressure, height, and weight
- Conducted spirometry on eligible individuals
- Survey participants rewarded with a toothbrush
- Local nurse on-site to deliver rapid malaria test, provide prescriptions and referrals for further medical care

CONCLUSIONS

- Hypertension is surprisingly common
- Some indication that women who cook inside have higher blood pressure and poorer lung health
- Next steps...
 - Continue to look into possible causes for high hypertension levels
 - Find a way to improve health of the head cooks through education and ventilation or improved cookstoves

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Working with Malagasy Interpreters to Collect Health Survey Data and Measure Blood Pressure

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