

1 **Specific type 1 diabetes risk genes underpin age-at-diagnosis and indicate joint**
2 **defects in immunity, beta-cell fragility and responses to viral infections in early-**
3 **onset disease.**

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26 **Abstract**

27 **Background**

28 Immunohistological analyses of pancreata from patients with autoimmune type 1
29 diabetes (T1D) suggest a stratification of islet pathology of both B and T lymphocyte
30 islet inflammation common in children diagnosed under age 7 years, whereas B cells
31 are rare in those diagnosed age ≥ 13 . Based on these observations, we would expect to
32 see genetic susceptibility differences between these age-at-diagnosis groups at the
33 population level. Moreover, these genetic susceptibility differences could inform us
34 on the aetiology of this most aggressive form of T1D that initiates in the first years of
35 life.

36 **Methods**

37 Using multinomial logistic regression models we tested if the known T1D loci (17
38 within the human leucocyte antigen (HLA) region and 55 others, non HLA regions)
39 had significantly stronger effect sizes in the <7 group compared to the ≥ 13 group,
40 using genotype data from 26,991 individuals (18,400 controls, 3,111 T1D diagnosed
41 <7 years of age, 3,759 at 7-13 and 1,721 at ≥ 13).

42 **Findings**

43 Six associations of the HLA class II and I genes had stronger effects in the <7 group,
44 and seven non-HLA regions, one of which functions specifically in beta cells
45 (*GLIS3*), and the other six likely affecting key T cell (*IL2RA*, *IL10*, *SIRPG*), thymus
46 (*PTPRK*) and B cell development/functions (*IKZF3*, *IL10*) or in both immune cells
47 and beta cells (*CTSH*).

48 **Interpretation**

49 In newborn children with the greatest load of certain HLA and non-HLA risk alleles,
50 inherited variants in immune and beta cells, and their inherent dysregulated response

- 51 to environmental stresses such as virus infection, combine to cause a rapid loss of
- 52 insulin production, thereby driving down the age at which T1D is diagnosed.

53 **Abbreviations**

54 **T1D:** Type 1 diabetes

55 **HLA:** Human leukocyte antigen

56 **FDR:** False discovery rate

57 **eQTL:** Expression quantitative trait loci

58 **NIDDK:** The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

59 **NIAID:** The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

60 **NHGRI:** The National Human Genome Research Institute

61 **NICHD:** The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

62 **JDRF:** The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

63 **GRID:** Genetic resource investigating diabetes

64 **IDDMGEN:** Tyypin 1 Diabetekseen Sairastuneita Perheenjäsenineen □

65 **T1DGEN:** Tyypin 1 Diabetekseen Genetiikka

66 **T1DGC:** Type 1 diabetes genetics consortium

67 **IFN:** Interferon

68 **Introduction**

69 Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is a multifactorial disease in which the insulin-producing beta
70 cells of pancreatic islets are destroyed or rendered dysfunctional by an autoimmune
71 process that often initiates in the first few months of life, causing a pre-diabetic, non-
72 symptomatic state in approximately 0.4% of children ¹. The actual diagnosis could
73 happen many years after this prodromal phase, the joint environmental and genetic
74 mechanisms of which remain ill defined, with the median age-at-diagnosis being
75 around age 11 years. Even after diagnosis there is still often sufficient endogenous
76 insulin production to lower insulin treatment and reduce the later in life complications
77 of early mortality, cardiovascular, kidney, eye and peripheral neuron disease ². The
78 exceptions to this are the children diagnosed with T1D under the age 10 years in
79 whom there is little insulin production shortly after diagnosis, as measured by
80 circulating C-peptide concentrations ^{2,3}. This subgroup represents the largest unmet
81 clinical challenge, since they suffer the greatest complications of the disease ³. Yet
82 any intervention of T1D autoimmunity in these young children must be as safe and
83 precise as possible, modulating the causative molecules, cells, pathways and
84 mechanisms. Hence we need to identify the specific mechanisms underlying early-
85 diagnosed T1D.

86 Recent evidence suggests that children diagnosed under age 7 years may have a
87 different, more aggressive form of islet inflammation (insulitis), characterised by a B
88 lymphocyte infiltrate coincident with a T cell insulitis (CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T cells), than
89 children aged 13 years and over, who have reduced B cell participation ⁴. In cases
90 diagnosed between 7 and 12 years there is a mixture of islet infiltrate phenotypes,
91 some with the “under 7” B cell infiltrate and others with “13 and over” phenotype.

92 There is already evidence that some genetic variants reduce age-at-diagnosis, which
93 provides insight into the biology of this most beta-cell destructive form of the disease
94 ⁵⁻⁸. The autoantigen-presenting genes human leukocyte antigen (HLA) class II and
95 class I are the major drivers of younger age-at-diagnosis. Class II molecules are
96 recognised by CD4⁺ T cells which provide help for CD8⁺ beta-cell cytotoxic T cells
97 and islet antigen-specific B cells. Class I molecules are expressed on beta cells,
98 upregulated during viral infection or by immune cytokines, rendering them more
99 susceptible to autoreactive CD8⁺ T cells. More recently, a genome-wide association
100 genetic analysis of age-at-diagnosis of T1D identified a locus on chromosome
101 6q22.33 that acts almost exclusively in the cases of T1D diagnosed under age 5 years
102 ⁹, encoding the protein tyrosine phosphatase receptor kappa (*PTPRK*) and thymocyte-
103 expressed molecule involved in selection (*THEMIS*) genes. However, this approach
104 has to meet the stringent genome-wide multiple testing correction criterion ($p < 5 \times$
105 10^{-8}) and informative, true signals were likely to have been missed. In the present
106 study, we analysed the association of specified known T1D gene regions, thereby
107 reducing the multiple testing burden. In addition, a biological or phenotypic prior
108 could provide greater sensitivity in the search for age-at-diagnosis-associated genes.
109 The stratification of patients into age-at-diagnosis categories according to their
110 pancreatic histology, as opposed to treating age-at-diagnosis as a continuous
111 phenotype provides us with just this opportunity.
112 Here, we analysed T1D-associated variants according to the proposed pancreatic
113 infiltrate stratification of T1D, namely the age-at-diagnosis groups, the under 7's
114 versus the 13's and over. If T1D has a particular pancreatic immunophenotype then it
115 might be expected that it could have distinct genetic features, characterised by
116 susceptibility genes with larger effects in the under 7's. Moreover, the intermediate

117 group, age-at-diagnosis 7-13 years, would have risk for these age-at-diagnosis-
118 sensitive genes lying between the under 7's and the 13's and over. Six HLA
119 haplotypes/alleles and seven non-HLA loci fulfil this risk profile informing the
120 biology of the most aggressive form of T1D, revealing a mixture of predisposition in
121 both the beta cell and immune cell compartments.

122 **Methods**

123 **Study populations**

124 Our dataset consists of 18,400 controls, 3,111 T1D cases diagnosed at <7 years (the
125 <7 group), 3,759 at ≥ 7 to <13 years (the 7-13 group) and 1,721 at ≥ 13 years (the ≥ 13
126 group). The majority of individuals are from the UK, with others from central Europe,
127 Asia-Pacific, Finland and the USA (Table 1), and comprises only unrelated
128 individuals, since related individuals were removed (Supplementary methods).

129 **Loci studied**

130 We examined eight HLA class II haplotypes and nine HLA class I classical alleles for
131 their association with T1D diagnosed at each age group, where the haplotypes and
132 classical alleles were a subset of the most protective and susceptible haplotypes
133 identified for T1D to date¹⁰ that we also found to be associated with T1D in our
134 analysis after conditioning for the other associated HLA haplotypes (logistic
135 regression Wald test $p < 0.01$). Supplementary Table 1 summarises which haplotypes
136 and classical alleles were examined, how they were defined and whether they were
137 common enough to include in our analysis, defined as at least 5 individuals from each
138 group with the classical allele/haplotype.

139 We also examined 55 loci outside the HLA, which have previously shown association
140 with T1D (Supplementary Table 2). Each locus contains an 'index' variant, chosen to
141 be the most strongly disease associated from a set of variants in linkage
142 disequilibrium (LD) that constitute a single genetic signal. We have allocated locus
143 names to each of these variants based on a candidate gene(s), but the named genes
144 may not be causal for T1D.

145 **Imputation**

146 Classical HLA alleles as well as non-HLA variants that were excluded due to variant
147 quality control filtering were imputed for analysis (Supplementary methods). Some
148 individuals were genotyped for a subset of their classical HLA alleles⁸ and therefore
149 accuracy of imputation was assessed at those classical alleles for a proportion of
150 individuals.

151 **Multinomial logistic regression**

152 In order to examine whether or not there was heterogeneity in effect size for each
153 examined variant between the <7 and ≥ 13 groups, we fitted two multinomial logistic
154 regressions per locus, one assuming identical effect sizes for the genetic variant in the
155 <7 and ≥ 13 groups and the other allowing different effect sizes between groups. A
156 comparison of how well these models fit the data allows us to test for heterogeneity in
157 effect size between the two groups. Both models were adjusted for the ten largest
158 principal components derived from the set of ImmunoChip variants passing quality
159 control filters (Supplementary methods).

160 To test stability of our results at non-HLA loci, we did four sensitivity analyses.
161 Firstly, we sampled without replacement 50% of cases and controls from each of the
162 ancestry groups in our collection. In lieu of a valid replication dataset, to assess the
163 possibility that age-at-diagnosis genetic heterogeneity was due to an unlikely chance
164 distribution of genotypes between age strata, we repeated the heterogeneity test, for
165 the 50% that were sampled and also on the remaining 50%. We performed this
166 procedure 100 times, giving us 200 heterogeneity tests and noted the proportion of
167 times the variant under consideration reached nominally significant heterogeneity
168 ($p < 0.05$). Secondly, to exclude the possibility of spurious associations due to
169 population structure in our data, we repeated the analysis but only including
170 individuals from the UK and Northern Ireland and adjusted for the five largest

171 principal components derived from ImmunoChip data in these individuals only.
172 Finally, to test sensitivity of our results to age-strata thresholds, we performed the
173 same analysis but instead compared individuals diagnosed at <6 years to the ≥ 13
174 group and also individuals diagnosed at <5 years compared to the ≥ 13 group.
175 We declared a locus differentially-associated if the heterogeneity p-value was
176 associated to a False Discovery Rate (FDR) of <0.1 . To explore whether there were
177 more age-at-diagnosis associated variants which we cannot detect in the present
178 analysis due to a lack of statistical power, we examined all loci which did not reach
179 the association threshold (FDR <0.1) and counted how many loci had the largest effect
180 in the <7 group, the intermediate effect in the 7-13 group and the smallest effect in the
181 ≥ 13 group and compared this to the expected frequency of this ordering using a
182 binomial test (Supplementary methods).

183 **Fine mapping**

184 For each non-HLA locus with strong evidence of heterogeneity between age-at-
185 diagnosis groups, as determined by Bonferroni correction, a more conservative
186 multiple-comparison correction than FDR, we fine mapped a 0.5 Mb region around
187 the index variant to identify a list of potentially causal variants for T1D diagnosed at
188 <7 years. Analysis was limited to individuals from the UK and Northern Ireland,
189 amounting to 2,888 cases diagnosed at <7 years and 11,064 controls, in order to
190 examine a homogeneous population, as fine mapping is sensitive to differences in LD
191 structure between ancestrally divergent groups. We used the GUESSFM software,¹¹
192 which carries out a Bayesian variable selection stochastic search to identify the
193 combinations of variants constituting separate genetic susceptibility to T1D. We then
194 examined whether the T1D-associated variants colocalised with expression
195 quantitative trait loci (eQTL) associations in whole blood from a dataset of over

196 30,000 individuals, gauging which genes the variants are most likely to be regulating
197 and in what direction the effects are on gene transcription and disease risk¹² (eQTL
198 statistics downloaded from <http://www.eqtlgen.org/cis-eqtls.html>) (Supplementary
199 methods).
200 The scripts used to analyse these data are available at
201 https://github.com/jinshaw16/AAD_t1d,
202 commit 1727d18c3fe2559ac527681142155b83e8294165.

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210 the JDRF (U01 DK062418, JDRF 9-2011-530).

211 **Results**

212 **Multinomial logistic regression: HLA**

213 We found six HLA haplotypes to be differentially-associated between the <7 and ≥ 13
214 group (FDR <0.1). The strongest susceptible class II effect was for the DR3-
215 DQ2/DR4-DQ8 diplotype, whilst the protective DRB1*15:01-DQB1*06:02 and
216 DRB1*07:01-DQB1*03:03 haplotypes showed greater protection from T1D in the <7
217 group compared to the ≥ 13 group. Class I alleles A*24:02 and B39*06 showed more
218 susceptibility to T1D in the <7 compared to and ≥ 13 group (Figure 1).

219 Comparison of imputed classical 4 digit HLA alleles with directly genotyped 4 digit
220 HLA alleles showed concordance of over 91% for each of gene examined
221 (Supplementary Figure 1).

222 **Multinomial logistic regression: non-HLA regions**

223 Outside the HLA, nine regions were differentially-associated between the <7 and ≥ 13
224 group (FDR <0.1), near Ikaros family zinc finger 3 (*IKZF3*), Cathepsin H (*CTSH*),
225 GLIS family zinc finger 3 (*GLIS3*), Chymotrypsinogen B1 (*CTRB1*), the third index
226 variant at interleukin 2 receptor alpha (*IL2RA*), interleukin 10 (*IL10*), Calmodulin-
227 Regulated Spectrin-Associated Protein 2 (*CAMSAP2*), Signal Regulatory Protein
228 Gamma (*SIRPG*) and *PTPRK* (Figure 2). Three of these (*IKZF3*, *CTSH* and *GLIS3*)
229 survived Bonferroni correction ($p < 0.05/55 = 0.00091$). At each locus associated with
230 FDR <0.1 , the 7-13 group had a larger effect size than the ≥ 13 group and smaller than
231 the <7 group. Given the ≥ 13 group comprises just 1,721 individuals, it is probable that
232 with increased sample size and hence statistical power, other T1D risk loci with
233 sizeable estimated effect size differences between groups might reach statistical
234 significance with regards to heterogeneity (Supplementary Figure 2). Of the 46
235 variants not satisfying an FDR <0.1 , 20 have the strongest signal in <7 s, weakest in

236 ≥ 13 s and intermediate in 7s-13s, compared to 8 occurrences in that order expected by
237 chance ($p=4.27 \times 10^{-6}$, binomial test), suggesting the presence of substantial additional
238 signal in variants that we are not able to declare show evidence individually.

239 **Stability of non-HLA results**

240 After sampling half of the cases and controls 100 times, we found that nominal
241 significance ($p < 0.05$) was observed for the heterogeneity in effect size test between
242 age-at-diagnosis groups $> 50\%$ of the time for the *IKZF3*, *CTSH*, *GLIS3*, *CTRB1* and
243 *IL2RA* (3rd index variant) loci (Supplementary Figure 3), and $> 44\%$ of the time at the
244 other FDR heterogeneous loci (*IL10*, *CAMSAP2*, *SIRPG* and *PTPRK/THEMIS*).

245 In the UK-specific sensitivity analysis, six of the nine FDR heterogeneous loci from
246 the primary analysis were heterogeneous between the < 7 and ≥ 13 group ($FDR < 0.1$) in
247 this ancestry-homogeneous population, two of the loci showed no heterogeneity in
248 effect size (*CTRB1* $p=0.310$ and *CAMSAP2* $p=0.578$) and were thus removed from
249 our set of differentially-associated regions and the remaining locus, *IL10*, had a p-
250 value of 0.06, which we considered differentially associated between the < 7 and ≥ 13
251 groups, given the decrease in statistical power in this sensitivity analysis
252 (Supplementary Figure 4).

253 When changing the threshold for the early-diagnosed group to < 6 and < 5 , all seven
254 associated loci from the primary analysis and UK-specific analysis were
255 heterogeneous ($FDR < 0.1$) (Supplementary Figures 5 and 6).

256 Minor allele frequency plots by age-at-diagnosis for the seven differentially
257 associated loci that remained heterogeneous between the < 7 and ≥ 13 group in all
258 analyses are shown in Supplementary Figures 7-13, whilst Supplementary Tables 3
259 and 4 summarise the most likely causal genes at these loci.

260 **Fine mapping**

261 We fine mapped the three loci (*IKZF3*, *CTSH* and *GLIS3*) that reached Bonferroni-
262 corrected heterogeneity between age-at-diagnosis groups. The posterior probability of
263 there being one causal variant was >0.63 at each locus. All variants contained within a
264 group that has a group posterior probability of causality of >0.9 are listed in
265 Supplementary Tables 5-7, though our stringent post-imputation variant quality
266 control filtering means variants in high LD with the listed variants could also be
267 causal for T1D but were removed from the current analysis due to low quality
268 imputation at that variant.

269 The *IKZF3* locus results prioritise an LD block containing 34 variants, all of which
270 could be causal, which also effects expression of at least three genes ($p < 5 \times 10^{-150}$),
271 where the minor allele at the most likely causal variants decrease T1D risk and *IKZF3*
272 expression and also increase expression of *GSDMB* and *ORMDL3*. Colocalisation
273 analyses support the hypothesis that the disease causal variant and the eQTL causal
274 variant were the same for all three genes (posterior probability of colocalisation for
275 T1D and eQTL with *IKZF3*=0.973, *GSDMB*=0.841 and *ORMDL3*=0.846).

276 The *CTSH* locus showed evidence of colocalisation with the *CTSH* whole blood
277 eQTL (posterior probability of colocalisation=0.655); the susceptibility allele for T1D
278 is associated with more expression of *CTSH* (Figure 3).

279 There was no evidence of colocalisation between disease risk and *GLIS3* whole blood
280 eQTL (posterior probability of colocalisation=0.036), suggesting the variant might be
281 acting elsewhere to alter T1D risk.

282 **Discussion**

283 The stratification of patients by age-at-diagnosis according to islet phenotypes has
284 provided a rich source of genes, molecules and pathways with greater effects in
285 children diagnosed with T1D under age 7 years. We expected to see strong
286 differential associations with the HLA class II haplotypes, in particular the strongest
287 single susceptibility determinant in the genome, the heterozygous diplotype DR3-
288 DQ2/DR4-DQ8. Previously with smaller sample sizes and without dichotomising
289 patients into biologically-defined discrete age categories, HLA class I alleles,
290 A*24:02 and B*39:06 have been shown to be associated with younger age-at-
291 diagnosis⁵⁻⁸. Here, we show for the first time that the protective HLA class II
292 haplotypes DRB1*15:01-DQB1*06:02 and DRB1*07:01-DQB1*03:03 are less
293 prevalent amongst individuals diagnosed at <7 years compared with controls and
294 those diagnosed at ≥13 years. Therefore, the earliest and most aggressive phenotypic
295 subtype of T1D results primarily from carriage of high risk alleles and haplotypes of
296 the HLA class II and I genes, which probably act at four levels: (i) altering the T cell
297 receptor repertoire in favour of anti-islet antigen reactivity, for example preproinsulin,
298 and/or reducing the protective repertoire of T regulatory cells; (ii) providing a strong
299 autoantigen presentation environment in the islets and pancreatic draining lymph
300 nodes enabling the infiltration and cytolytic activity of CD8⁺ T cells but also by
301 disrupting B cell anergy¹³ permitting binding and presentation of autoantigen to
302 provide potent help to T cells in a self-reinforcing spiral of autoreactivity; (iii)
303 affecting the immune response to the viral infections that are involved in the disease;
304 (iv) affecting how the gut microbiome develops in early life, a system that is known
305 to affect T1D susceptibility¹⁴.

306 In addition to the HLA heterogeneity, we obtained robust evidence of differences in
307 effect size between the age-at-diagnosis groups at seven non-HLA loci. Of these loci,
308 one plausible candidate gene, *GLIS3*, most likely perturbs disease risk in the islet beta
309 cells, given the expression levels in the pancreas, lack of expression in immune cells,
310 colocalisation with type 2 diabetes risk variants¹⁵ and lack of association with other
311 autoimmune diseases (<https://genetics.opentargets.org>). This finding supports a
312 mechanism of beta-cell fragility, for example, susceptibility to apoptosis¹⁶, in which
313 increased risk of disease is encoded in the beta cell, not only in the immune system.
314 The *GLIS3* effect can be mimicked in a mouse model of non-immune diabetes by a
315 high fat diet, linking obesity as a risk factor in T1D and type 2 diabetes^{16,17}. Two of
316 the loci, *CTSH* and *IKZF3*, could act in the islets or elsewhere, whilst all of the other
317 candidate causal genes (*IL2RA*, *IL10*, *SIRPG*, *PTPRK/THEMIS*, as well as
318 *IKZF3/ORMDL3/GSDMB* and *CTSH*) have known functions in T and/or B cell
319 biology (Supplementary Table 4). This implies that in addition to HLA-susceptibility,
320 risk of T1D in the very young is also impacted by particular malfunctions in the
321 infiltrating T and B cells, leading to increased risk of autoreactivity, resulting in a
322 perfect storm of immune infiltration, antigen recognition and a rapid destruction of
323 beta cells.

324 Of the three non-HLA risk regions with the strongest evidence of heterogeneity
325 between age-at-diagnosis groups, we focus on the *IKZF3* and *CTSH* loci, which
326 colocalise with whole blood eQTLs. The region containing *IKZF3* has a complex
327 structure with a large LD block, which is associated with multiple diseases, including
328 asthma and paediatric asthma^{18, 19} (Supplementary Table 4). However, the direction
329 of effect of the risk variant is opposite in asthma to all associated autoimmune
330 diseases, including T1D, where the C allele at a variant within the haplotype,

331 rs921649 (C>T), increases susceptibility to autoimmunity, whereas the C allele is
332 protective for asthma¹⁸. Whole blood eQTL data shows the expression of 13 protein-
333 coding genes is modulated by variants in the disease-associated haplotype, with
334 *IKZF3*, *ORMDL3* and *GSDMB* the most affected¹². All three genes are expressed in
335 lymphocytes and are up- (*IKZF3*) or down-regulated (*ORMDL3*, *GSDMB*)
336 (<https://dice-database.org/>) following activation, with good biological candidacy for
337 altering disease risk. *IKZF3* is a transcriptional repressor with a key role in B-cell
338 activation and differentiation²⁰ and T cell differentiation²¹. *ORMDL3* is a central
339 regulator of sphingolipid biosynthesis²² and has also been proposed to negatively
340 regulate store-operated calcium, lymphocyte activation and cytokine production^{18,23},
341 while *GSDMB* can act as a pyroptotic protein²⁴. Therefore one or more of these genes
342 may be causal for T1D risk. Pertinent to the increased frequency of B-cell infiltration
343 in the islets of the <7 group, there is evidence that carriers of the T1D risk allele have
344 decreased anergic high affinity insulin-binding B cells in circulating blood, implying
345 some of this population may have relocated to the pancreas¹³. This loss of anergic
346 circulating B cell frequencies is also associated with the most predisposing age-at-
347 diagnosis diplotype HLA-DRB1*03:01-DQB1*02:01/DRB1*04:01-DQB1*03:02
348 compared to donors with the protective HLA class II haplotypes¹³.

349 The candidate T1D risk variants at the *CTSH* locus, for example the C allele at
350 rs2289702 (C>T), are associated with increased expression of *CTSH* RNA in multiple
351 cell types and tissues (Supplementary Table 4). The locus has previously been
352 implicated in T1D aetiology by altering sensitivity of beta cells to apoptosis²⁵, where
353 rs3825932 (C>T) was investigated, which is in low LD ($r^2=0.26$) with the disease-
354 associated variant reported here and the T1D risk allele counter-intuitively resulted in
355 protection from beta-cell apoptosis. Thus, beta-cell apoptosis may not be the primary

356 mechanism underlying disease aetiology in this region. *CTSH* functions as an
357 endopeptidase and can cleave the N-terminus of the Toll-like receptor 3 (TLR3)
358 protein, increasing its functionality²⁶. Given TLR3 is expressed in islets²⁷, it is
359 possible that the increase in *CTSH* expression associated with the T1D susceptibility
360 allele (the C allele of rs2289702) results in increased TLR3 N-terminus cleavage,
361 heightened responses to viral infections and increased release of type 1 interferon
362 (IFN). This may increase baseline risk of T1D and specifically the risk of early-
363 diagnosed T1D in individuals carrying this allele, since viral infections are more
364 frequent in childhood. There is mounting evidence that enteroviral infections
365 predispose to T1D, a type 1 IFN transcriptional signature precedes anti-islet
366 autoantibody appearance in children²⁸, and another receptor for viral RNA, MDA5
367 encoded by *IFIH1* is a proven T1D susceptibility gene with its higher IFN-inducing
368 activity increasing risk of the disease²⁹. Exposure of beta cells to type 1 IFN greatly
369 increases their HLA class I expression and susceptibility to CD8⁺ cytotoxic killing,
370 and heightened class I expression on beta cells is a hallmark phenotype of the T1D
371 pancreas³⁰.

372 Our genetic results imply a dynamic, fully integrated pathogenic collaboration
373 between the immune system, the beta cells and viral infection in the initiation and
374 rapid development of extreme insulin-deficiency starting in the first few weeks and
375 months of life in those that carry the heaviest load of age-at-diagnosis alleles.

376 Combinations of modulators of these pathways could be an effective way of
377 preventing the cessation of endogenous insulin-production.

378 **Tables and Figures**

379 **Table 1:** Characteristics of individuals included in the analysis.

| | Controls | <7 | 7-13 | >13 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| N | 18400 | 3111 | 3759 | 1721 |
| Mean age-at-diagnosis | - | 3.67 | 9.54 | 18.31 |
| Sex: Female | 9712 (52.8%) | 1495 (48.8%) | 1917 (52%) | 638 (43%) |
| Asia-Pacific | 858 (4.7%) | 22 (0.7%) | 24 (0.6%) | 34 (2%) |
| Central Europe | 1680 (9.1%) | 50 (1.6%) | 62 (1.6%) | 172 (10%) |
| Finland | 2819 (15.3%) | 100 (3.2%) | 154 (4.1%) | 438 (25.5%) |
| Northern Ireland | 478 (2.6%) | 222 (7.1%) | 248 (6.6%) | 35 (2%) |
| UK | 10586 (57.5%) | 2666 (85.7%) | 3209 (85.4%) | 922 (53.6%) |
| USA | 1979 (10.8%) | 51 (1.6%) | 62 (1.6%) | 120 (7%) |

380

381 **Figure 1:** Classical HLA alleles association with type 1 diabetes diagnosed at <7
382 years old (red circle; mean log-odds ratio age-at-diagnosis +/- 95%CI), 7-13 years old
383 (green circle; mean log-odds ratio age-at-diagnosis 7-13+/- 95%CI) and ≥ 13 years old
384 (blue circle mean log-odds ratio age-at-diagnosis >13 +/- 95%CI), from a multinomial
385 logistic regression. Left panel shows the log-odds ratios with a dashed red line
386 showing a log-odds ratio of 0. The right panel shows the association statistics from a
387 likelihood ratio test comparing a multinomial logistic regression constraining the log-
388 odds ratios from the <7 and ≥ 13 groups to be equal compared to an unconstrained
389 model. Red dotted line shows nominal significance in heterogeneity ($p < 0.05$), red
390 dashed line show Bonferroni-corrected significance in heterogeneity.

391

392 **Figure 2:** Non-HLA type 1 diabetes associated variants, showing log-odds ratios for
393 those diagnosed at <7 years old (red circle; mean log-odds ratio age-at-diagnosis +/-
394 95%CI), 7-13 years old (green circle; mean log-odds ratio age-at-diagnosis 7-13+/-
395 95%CI) and ≥ 13 years old (blue circle mean log-odds ratio age-at-diagnosis ≥ 13 +/-
396 95%CI), from a multinomial logistic regression. Left panel shows the log-odds ratios
397 with a dashed red line showing a log-odds ratio of 0. The right panel shows the
398 association statistics from a likelihood ratio test comparing a multinomial logistic
399 regression constraining the log-odds ratios from the <7 and ≥ 13 groups to be equal
400 compared to an unconstrained model. Showing only loci with a false discovery rate of
401 less than 0.1. Red dotted line shows threshold for false discovery rate of < 0.1 , red
402 dashed line shows threshold for Bonferroni-corrected heterogeneity.

403

404 **Figure 3:** Results from fine mapping the *IKZF3* and *CTSH* loci regions. Analysis
405 includes individuals from the UK and Northern Ireland only and only controls and

406 cases diagnosed at <7 years. Top panel: Gene positions (genome build 37), with
407 arrows indicating direction of transcription. Second panel, univariable early-
408 diagnosed (<7) type 1 diabetes log-odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals for each
409 of the most likely causally associated variants as prioritised by GUESSFM. Third
410 panel: $\log_e(\text{absolute eQTL z score})$ if z score>0 and $-\log_e(\text{absolute eQTL z score})$ if z
411 score<0, so direction of effect can be compared, from publically available whole
412 blood eQTL dataset of over 30,000 individuals, including only eQTLs with a p value
413 of $<5 \times 10^{-150}$ (*IKZF3* locus) and $<5 \times 10^{-50}$ (*CTSH* locus). The symbols are coloured red
414 if contained in the set of most likely causal variants, as produced by GUESSFM and
415 the shape corresponds to the gene that the variant is effecting transcription of.

416

417 **Supplementary Figure 1:** Concordance of HiBag imputed versus directly genotyped
418 classical HLA alleles. Concordance is defined as identical 4 digit HLA classical allele
419 at both chromosomes.

420

421 **Supplementary Figure 2:** All 55 non-HLA type 1 diabetes associated variants,
422 showing log-odds ratios for those diagnosed at <7 years old (red circle; mean log-
423 odds ratio age-at-diagnosis +/- 95%CI), 7-13 years old (green circle; mean log-odds
424 ratio age-at-diagnosis 7-13 +/- 95%CI) and ≥ 13 years old (blue circle mean log-odds
425 ratio age-at-diagnosis ≥ 13 +/- 95%CI), from a multinomial logistic regression. Left
426 panel shows the log-odds ratios with a dashed red line showing a log-odds ratio of 0.
427 The right panel shows the association statistics from a likelihood ratio test comparing
428 a multinomial logistic regression constraining the log-odds ratios from the <7 and ≥ 13
429 groups to be equal compared to an unconstrained model. Red dotted line shows
430 threshold for nominally significant heterogeneity between groups ($p < 0.05$), red solid

431 line shows threshold for false discovery rate of <0.1 , red dashed line shows threshold
432 for Bonferroni-corrected significant heterogeneity.

433

434 **Supplementary Figure 3:** Proportion of times each locus had a nominally significant
435 heterogeneity test ($p < 0.05$) when sampling 50% of the entire collection 100 times,
436 generating 200 analysis datasets.

437

438 **Supplementary Figure 4:** All 55 non-HLA type 1 diabetes associated variants
439 examined using only individuals from the UK or Northern Ireland, showing log-odds
440 ratios for those diagnosed at <7 years old (red circle; mean log-odds ratio age-at-
441 diagnosis \pm 95%CI), 7-13 years old (green circle; mean log-odds ratio age-at-
442 diagnosis 7-13 \pm 95%CI) and ≥ 13 years old (blue circle mean log-odds ratio age-at-
443 diagnosis $>13 \pm$ 95%CI), from a multinomial logistic regression. Left panel shows
444 the log-odds ratios with a dashed red line showing a log-odds ratio of 0. The right
445 panel shows the association statistics from a likelihood ratio test comparing a
446 multinomial logistic regression constraining the log-odds ratios from the <7 and ≥ 13
447 groups to be equal compared to an unconstrained model. Red dotted line shows
448 threshold for nominally significant heterogeneity between groups ($p < 0.05$), red solid
449 line shows threshold for false discovery rate of <0.1 , red dashed line shows threshold
450 for Bonferroni-corrected significant heterogeneity.

451

452 **Supplementary Figure 5:** All 55 non-HLA type 1 diabetes associated variants,
453 showing log-odds ratios for those diagnosed at <6 years old (red circle; mean log-
454 odds ratio age-at-diagnosis \pm 95%CI), 6-13 years old (green circle; mean log-odds
455 ratio age-at-diagnosis 6-13 \pm 95%CI) and ≥ 13 years old (blue circle mean log-odds

456 ratio age-at-diagnosis ≥ 13 +/- 95%CI) from a multinomial logistic regression. Left
457 panel shows the log-odds ratios with a dashed red line showing a log-odds ratio of 0.
458 The right panel shows the association statistics from a likelihood ratio test comparing
459 a multinomial logistic regression constraining the log-odds ratios from the < 6 and ≥ 13
460 groups to be equal compared to an unconstrained model. Red dotted line shows
461 threshold for nominally significant heterogeneity between groups ($p < 0.05$), red solid
462 line shows threshold for false discovery rate of < 0.1 , red dashed line shows threshold
463 for Bonferroni-corrected significant heterogeneity.

464

465 **Supplementary Figure 6:** All 55 non-HLA type 1 diabetes associated variants,
466 showing log-odds ratios for those diagnosed at < 5 years old (red circle; mean log-
467 odds ratio age-at-diagnosis +/- 95%CI), 5-13 years old (green circle; mean log-odds
468 ratio age-at-diagnosis 5-13 +/- 95%CI) and ≥ 13 years old (blue circle mean log-odds
469 ratio age-at-diagnosis ≥ 13 +/- 95%CI) from a multinomial logistic regression. Left
470 panel shows the log-odds ratios with a dashed red line showing a log-odds ratio of 0.
471 The right panel shows the association statistics from a likelihood ratio test comparing
472 a multinomial logistic regression constraining the log-odds ratios from the < 7 and ≥ 13
473 groups to be equal compared to an unconstrained model. Red dotted line shows
474 threshold for nominally significant heterogeneity between groups ($p < 0.05$), red solid
475 line shows threshold for false discovery rate of < 0.1 , red dashed line shows threshold
476 for Bonferroni-corrected significant heterogeneity.

477

478 **Supplementary Figure 7:** Minor allele frequency of the index variant near the *IKZF3*
479 gene for controls and individuals diagnosed at various ages.

480

481 **Supplementary Figure 8:** Minor allele frequency of the index variant near the *CTSH*

482 gene for controls and individuals diagnosed at various ages.

483

484 **Supplementary Figure 9:** Minor allele frequency of the index variant near the *GLIS3*

485 gene for controls and individuals diagnosed at various ages.

486

487 **Supplementary Figure 10:** Minor allele frequency of the index variant near the

488 *IL2RA* gene (third index variant) for controls and individuals diagnosed at various

489 ages.

490

491 **Supplementary Figure 11:** Minor allele frequency of the index variant near the *IL10*

492 gene for controls and individuals diagnosed at various ages.

493

494 **Supplementary Figure 12:** Minor allele frequency of the index variant near the

495 *SIRPG* gene for controls and individuals diagnosed at various ages.

496

497 **Supplementary Figure 13:** Minor allele frequency of the index variant near the

498 *PTPRK/THEMIS* genes for controls and individuals diagnosed at various ages.

499

500 **Supplementary Table 1:** Classical HLA alleles/haplotypes examined in analysis.

501

502 **Supplementary Table 2:** Non-HLA variants examined in analysis.

503

504 **Supplementary Table 3:** Non-HLA region variants with evidence of heterogeneity in
505 effect size between the <7 and ≥ 13 groups: Promoter Capture Hi-C (PCHi-C)
506 candidate genes.

507

508 **Supplementary Table 4:** Details of non-HLA variants with evidence of
509 heterogeneity in effect size between the <7 and ≥ 13 groups.

510

511 **Supplementary Table 5:** Most likely variants causally associated with T1D at the
512 *IKZF3* locus from GUESSFM fine mapping analysis.

513

514 **Supplementary Table 6:** Most likely variants causally associated with T1D at the
515 *CTSH* locus from GUESSFM fine mapping analysis.

516

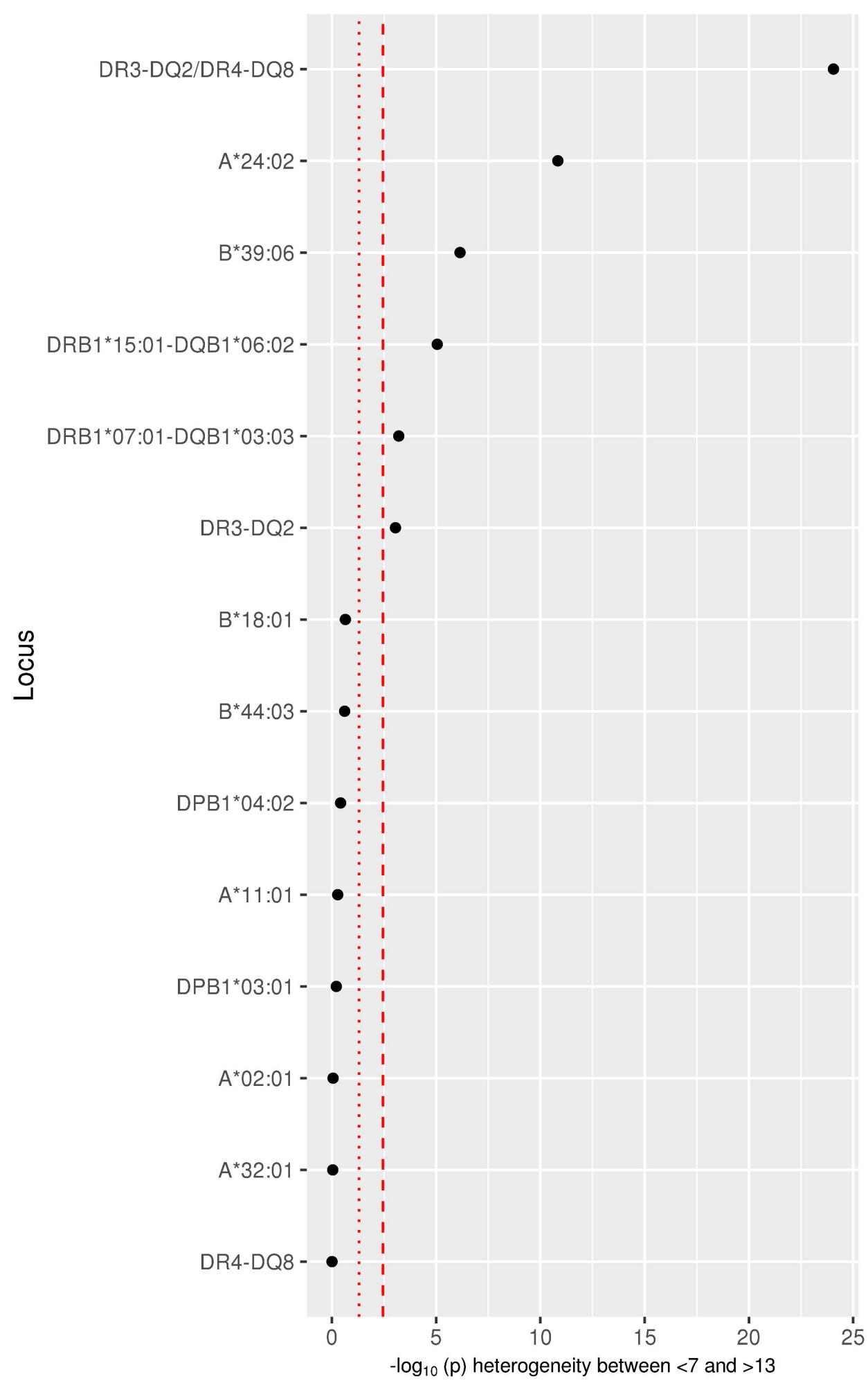
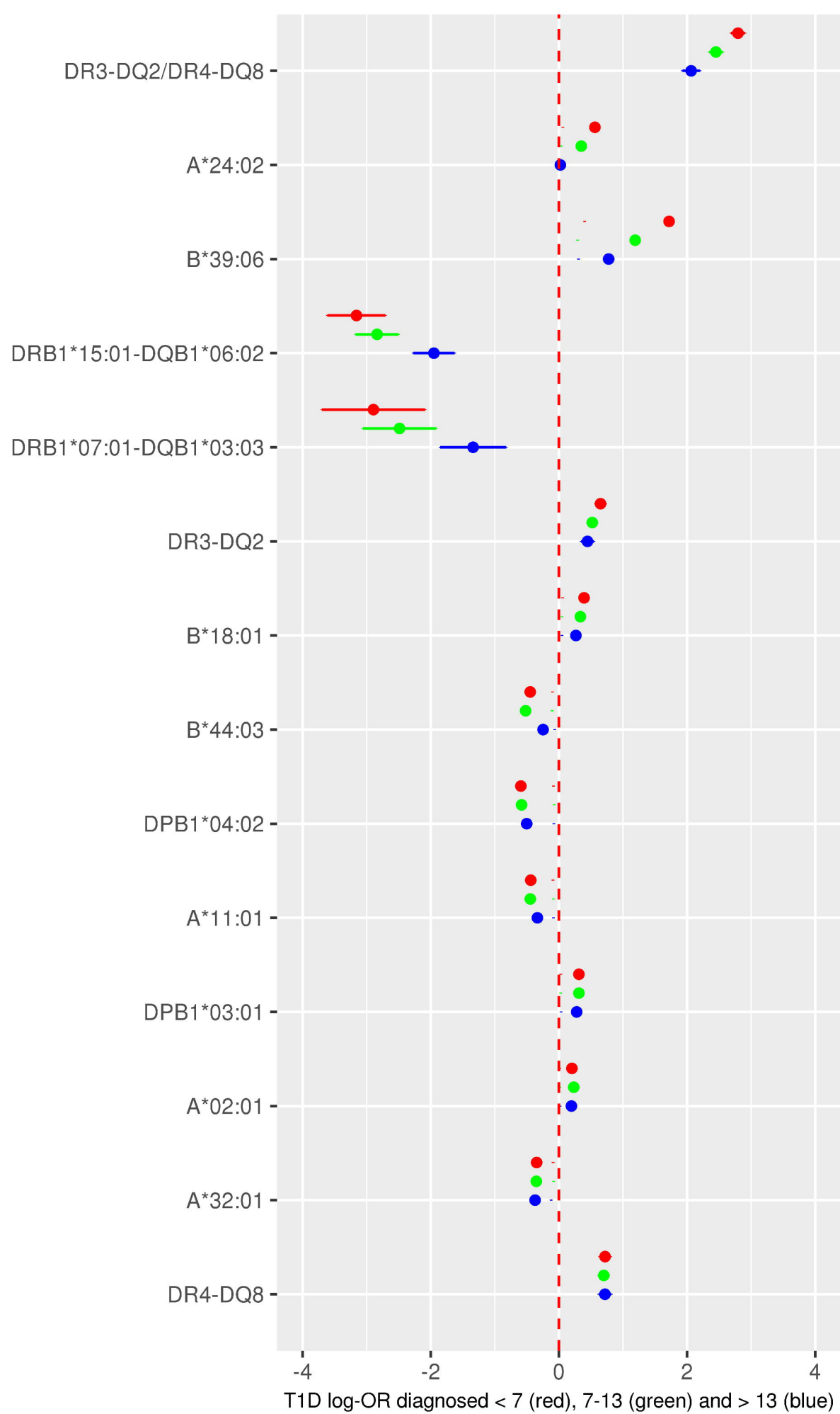
517 **Supplementary Table 7:** Most likely variants causally associated with T1D at the
518 *GLIS3* locus from GUESSFM fine mapping analysis.

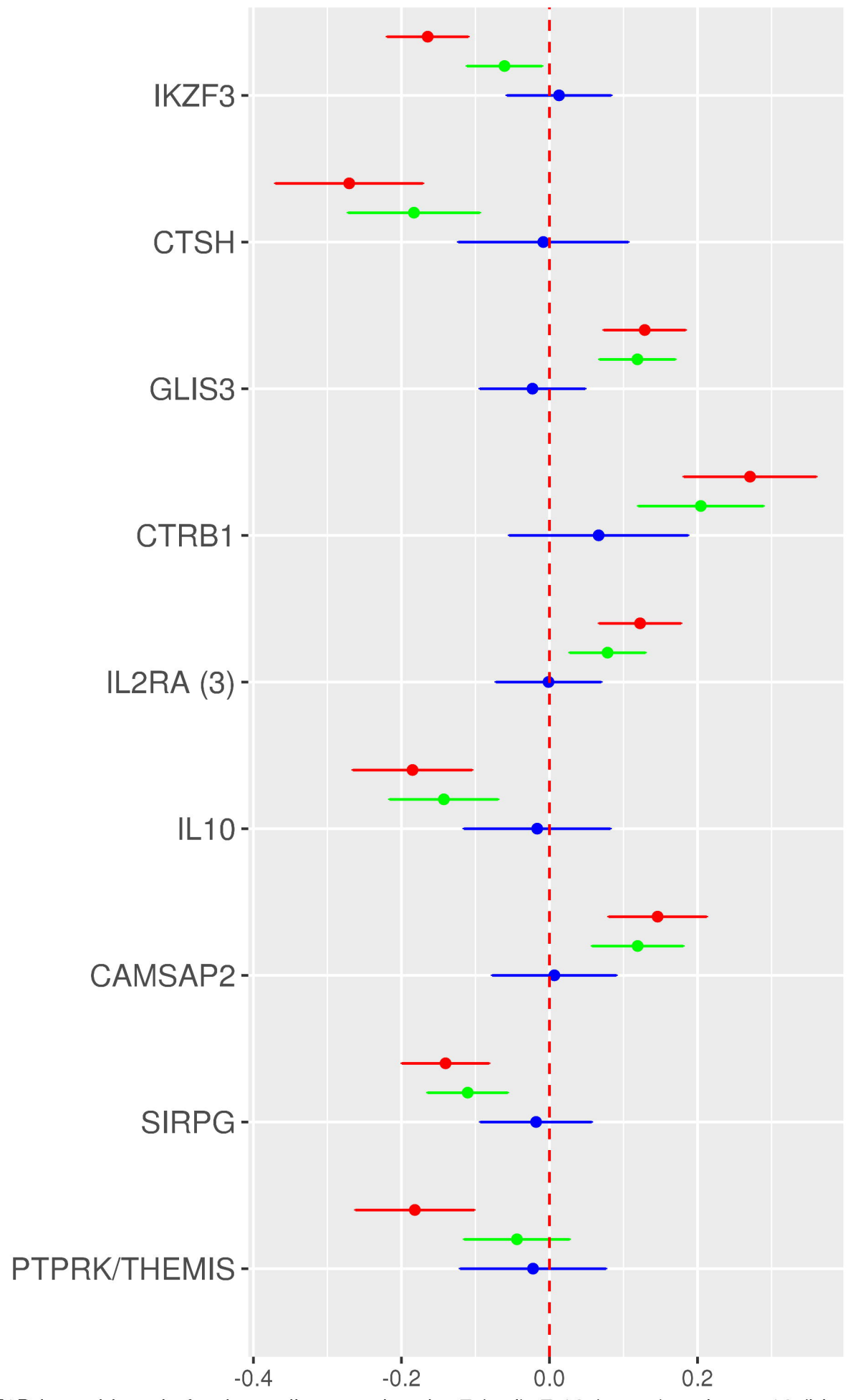
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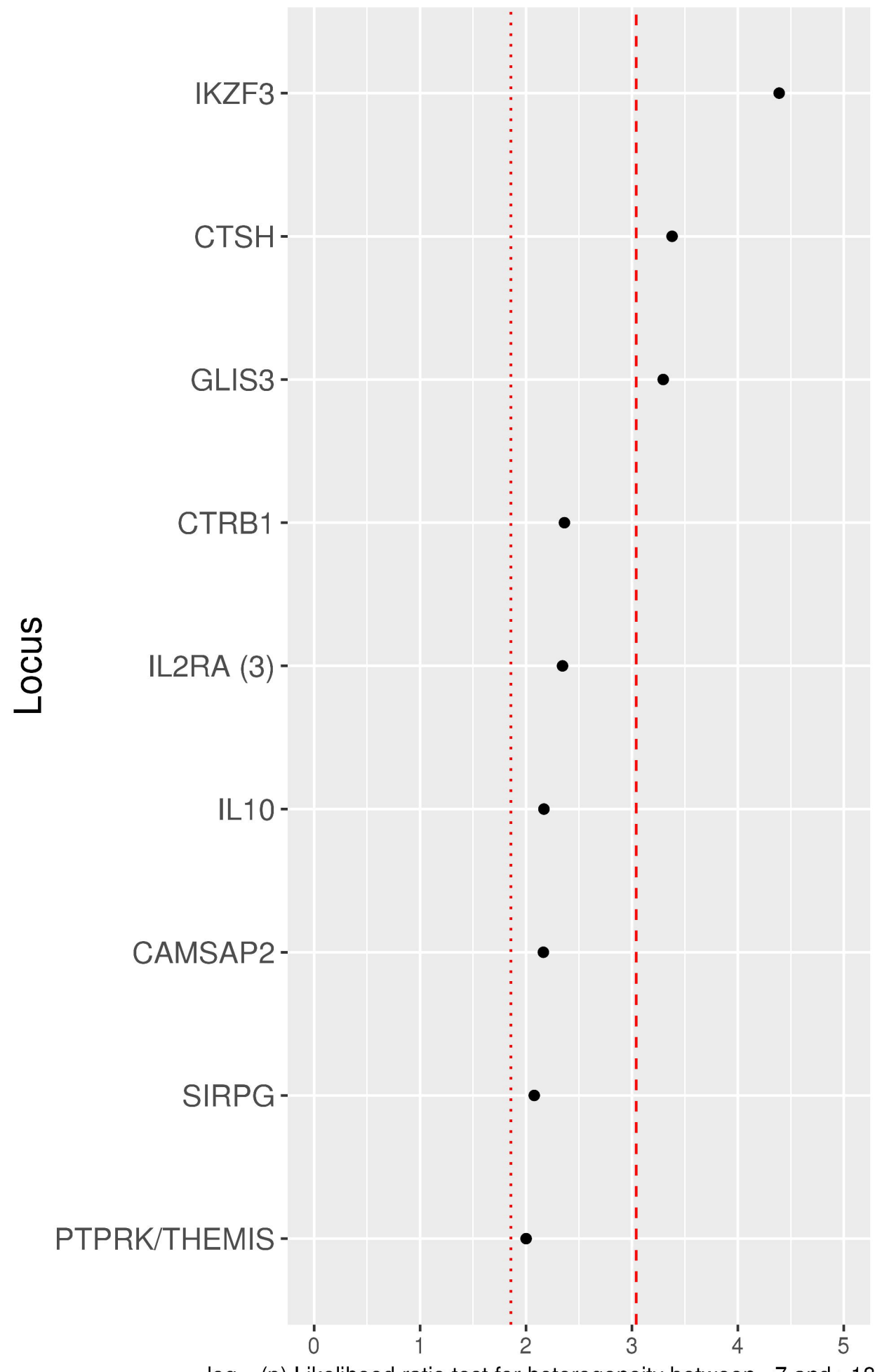
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T1D log-odds ratio for those diagnosed under 7 (red), 7-13 (green) and over 13 (blue)



$-\log_{10}(p)$ Likelihood ratio test for heterogeneity between <7 and >13

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log-odds ratio (<7)

Whole blood eQTL log z-score

Position along chromosome 17

Gene name
GSDMB
IKZF3
ORMDL3

Tag group
rs8067378.G

Gene
GSDMA
GSDMB
IKZF3
ORMDL3
PGAP3

Tag group
rs8067378.G
nogroup

log-odds ratio (<7)

Whole blood eQTL log z-score

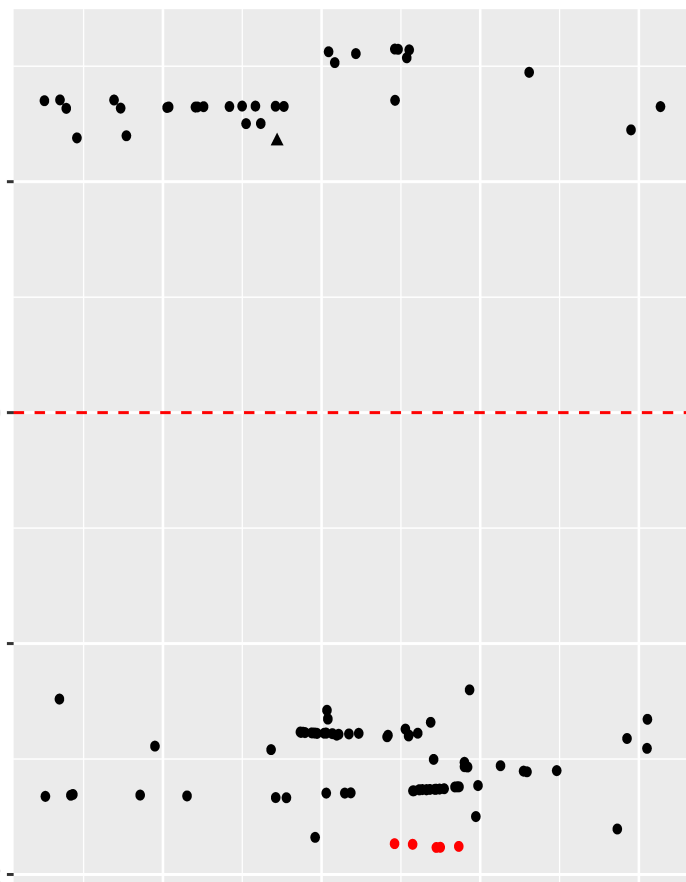
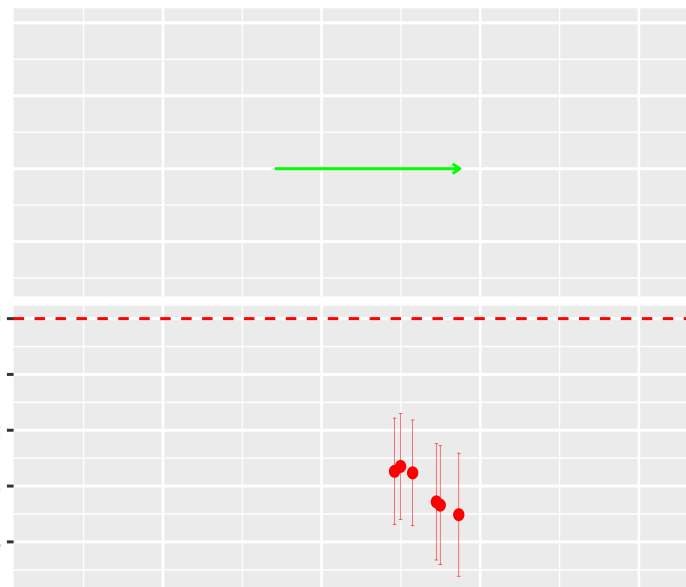
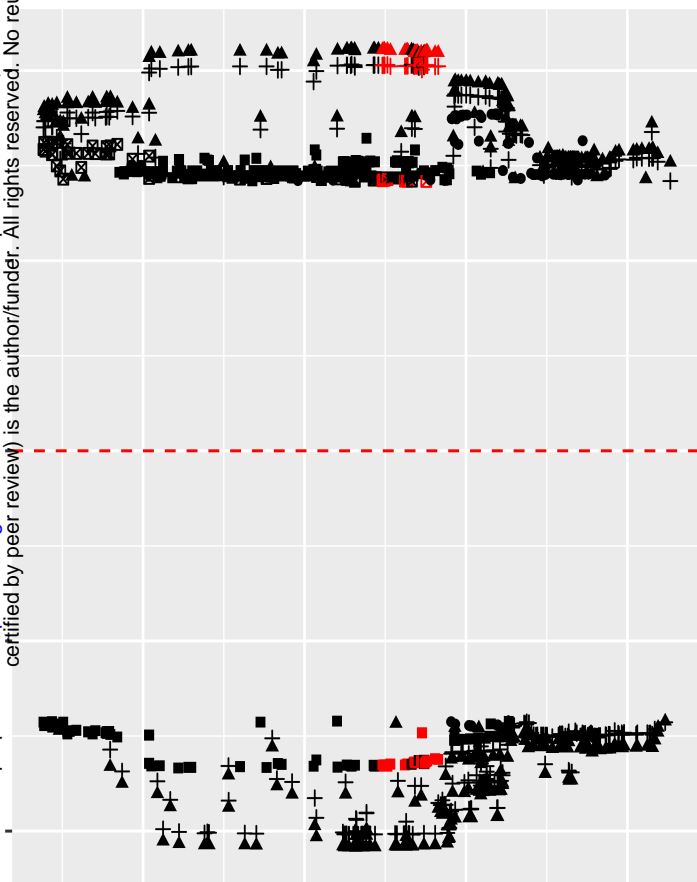
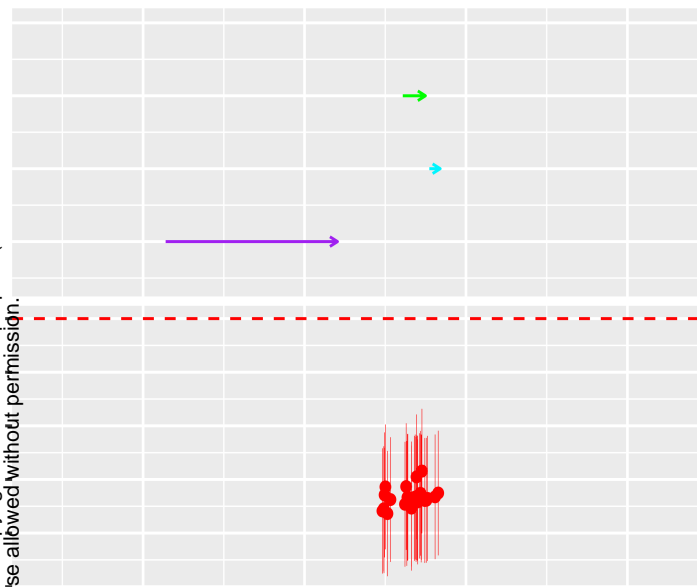
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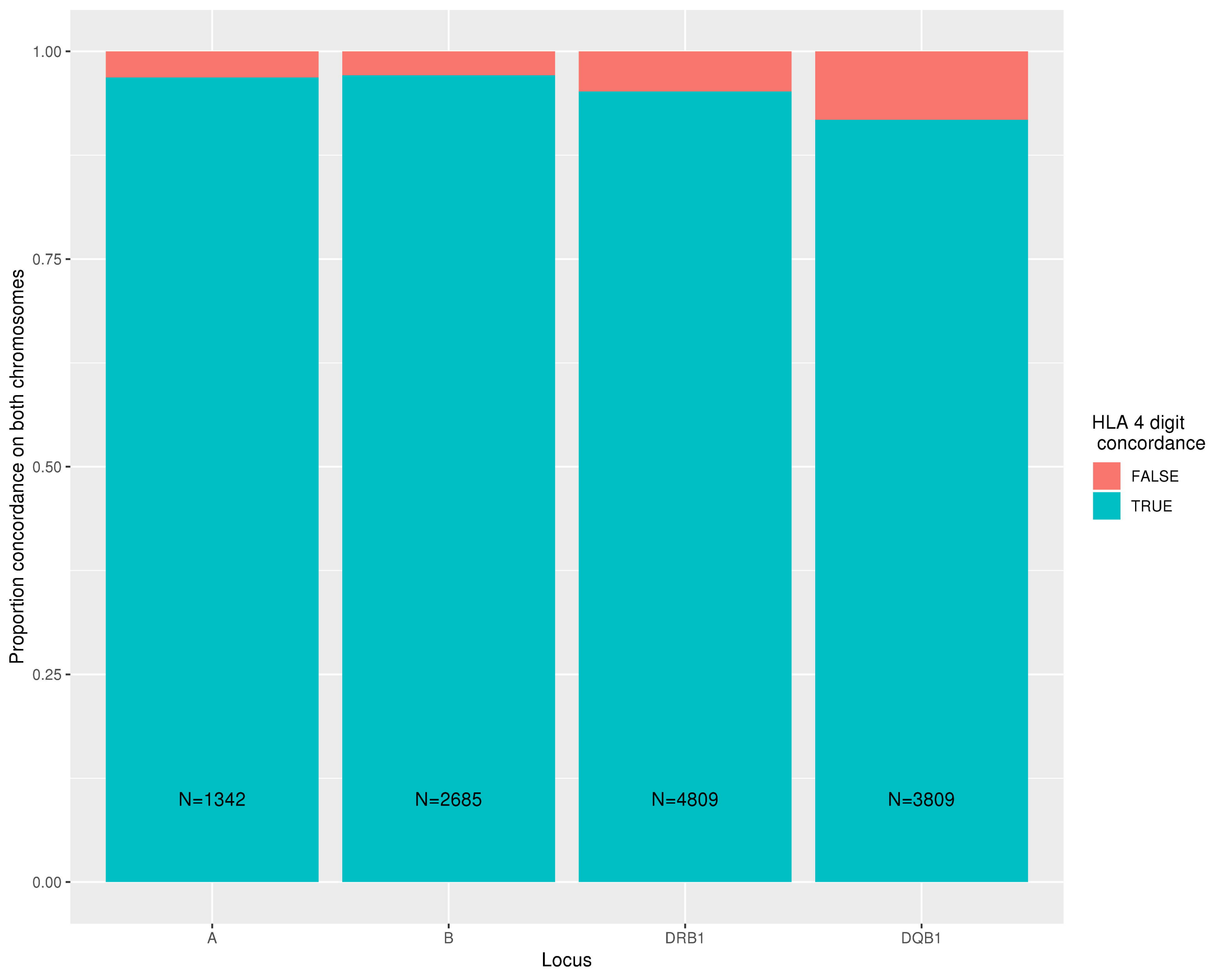
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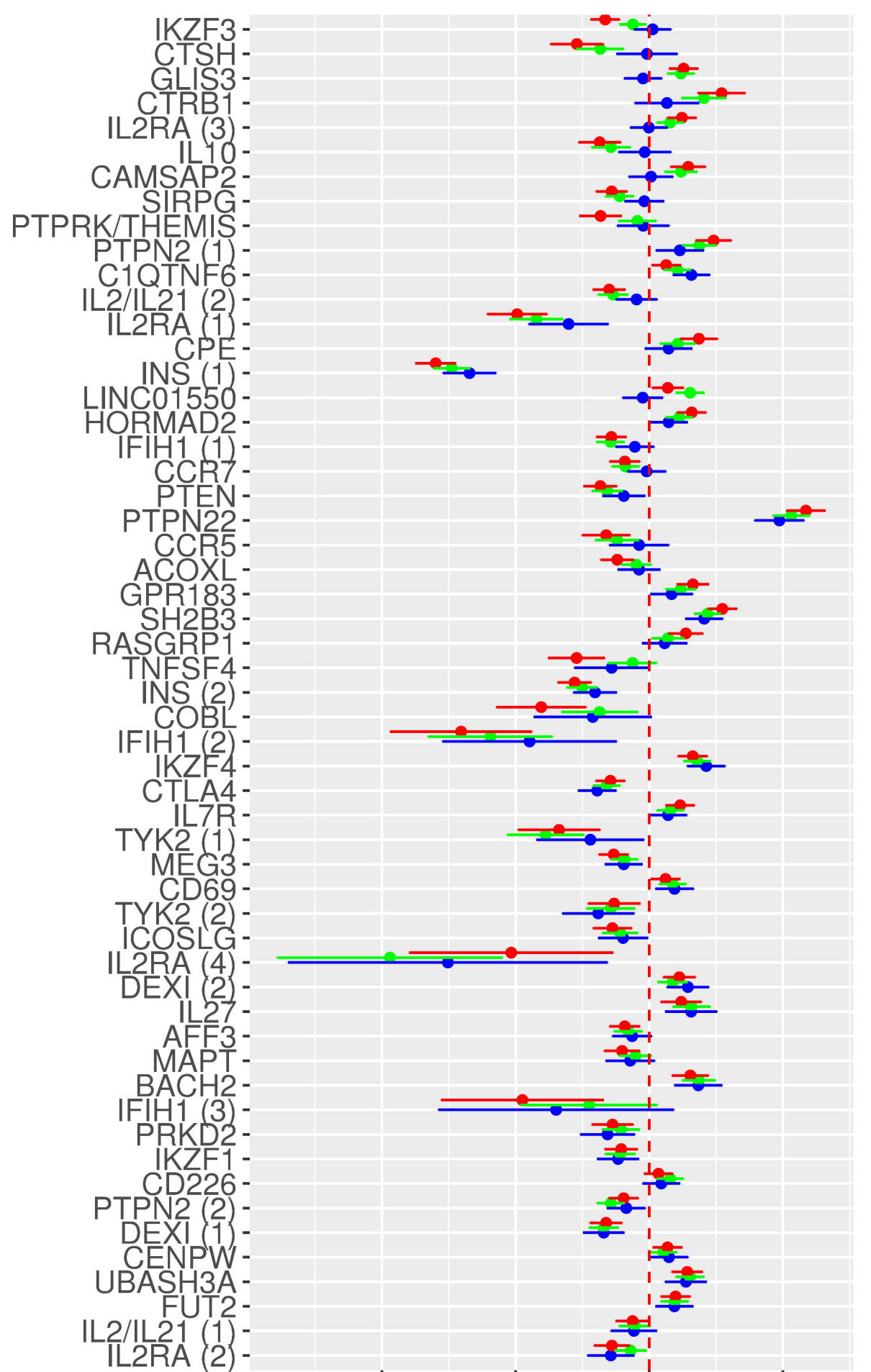
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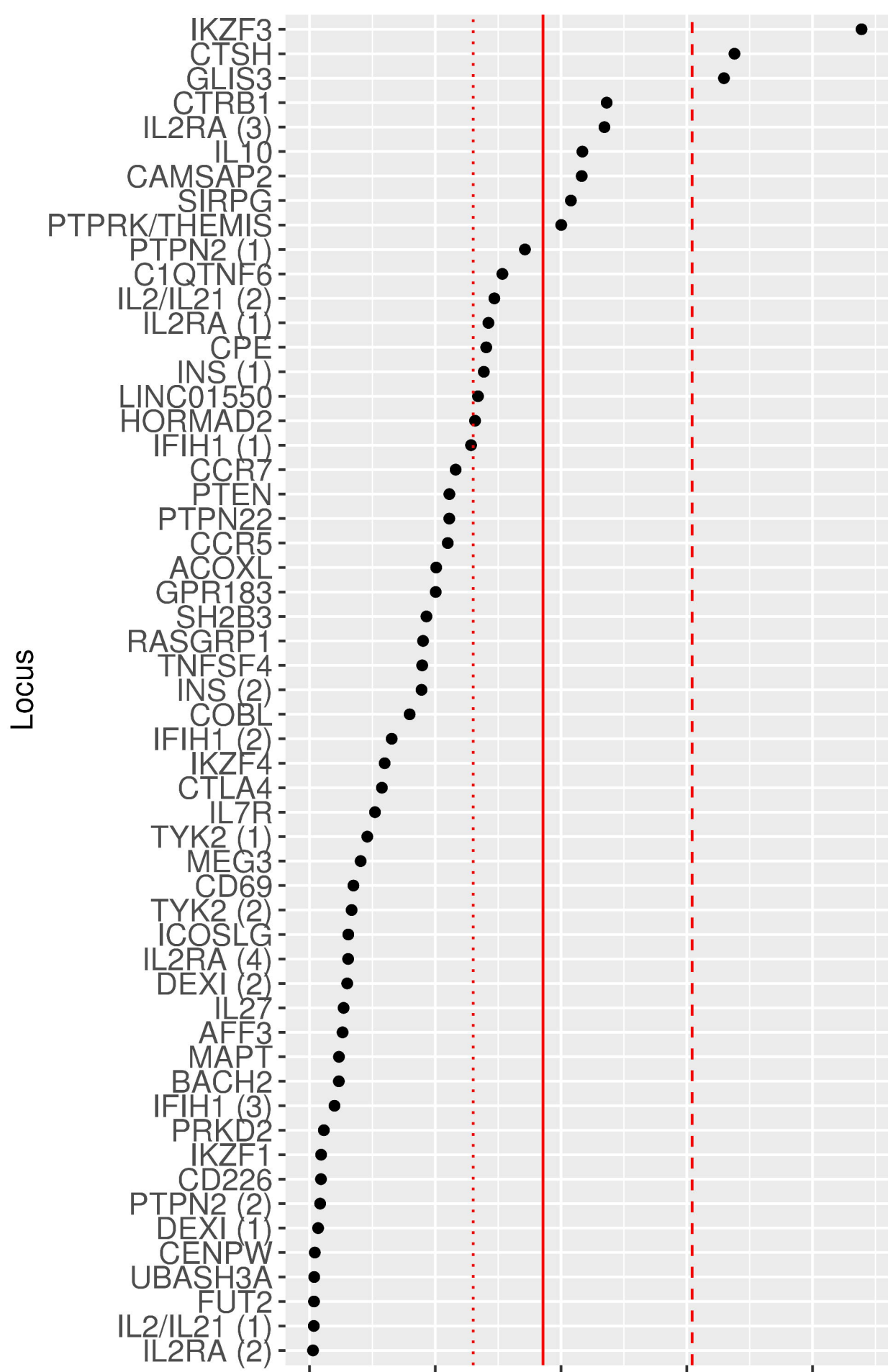
Gene
CTSH
IREB2



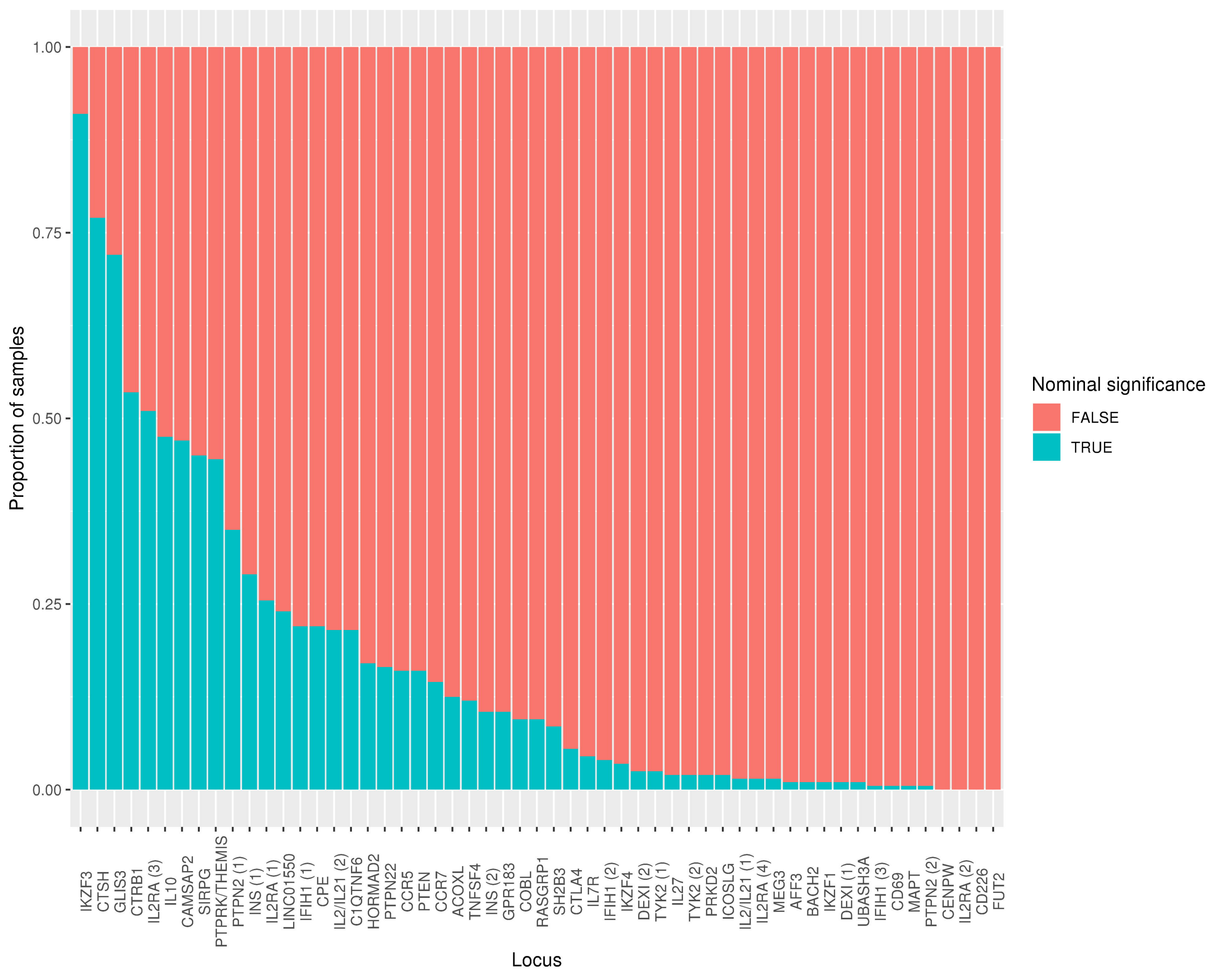


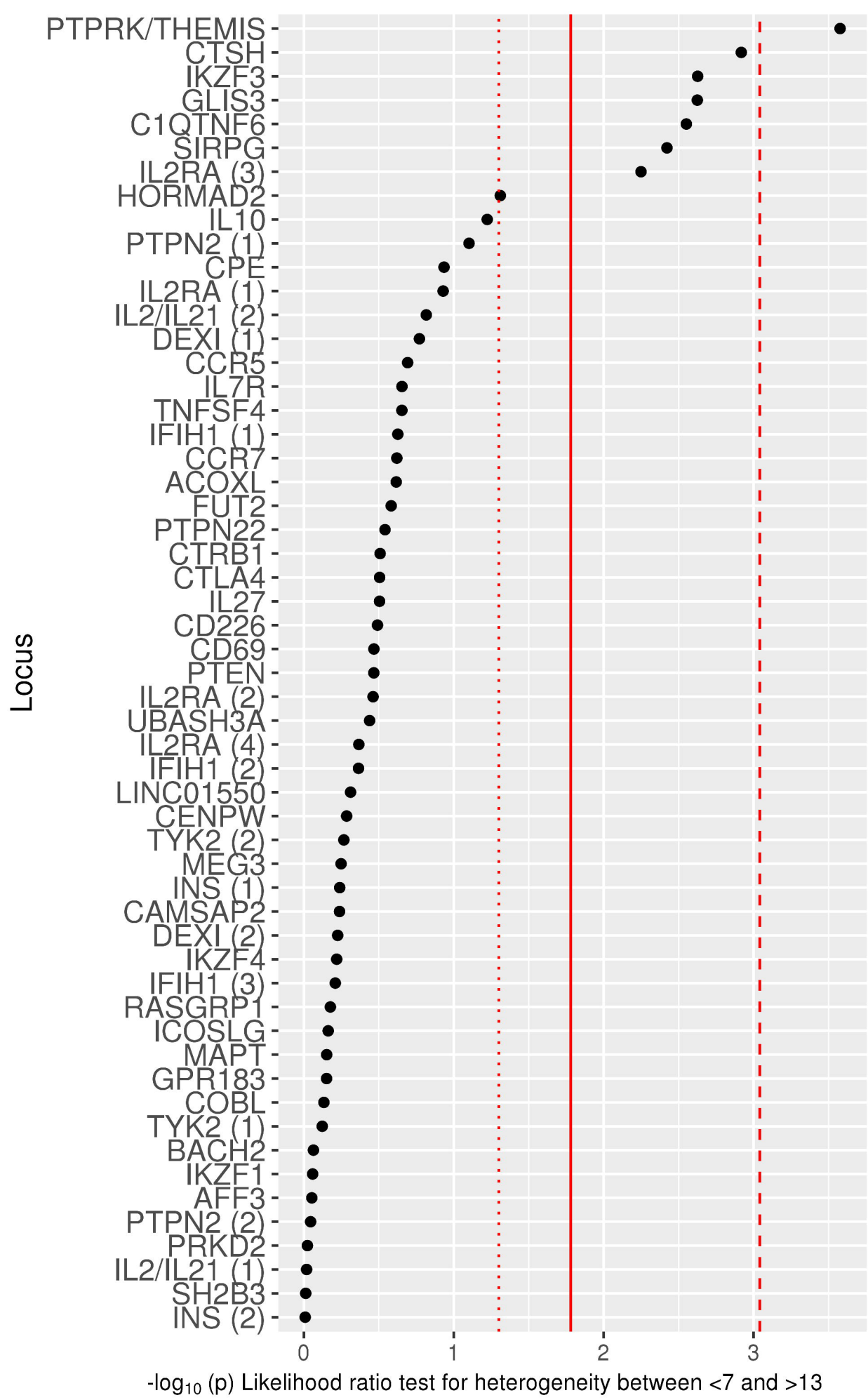
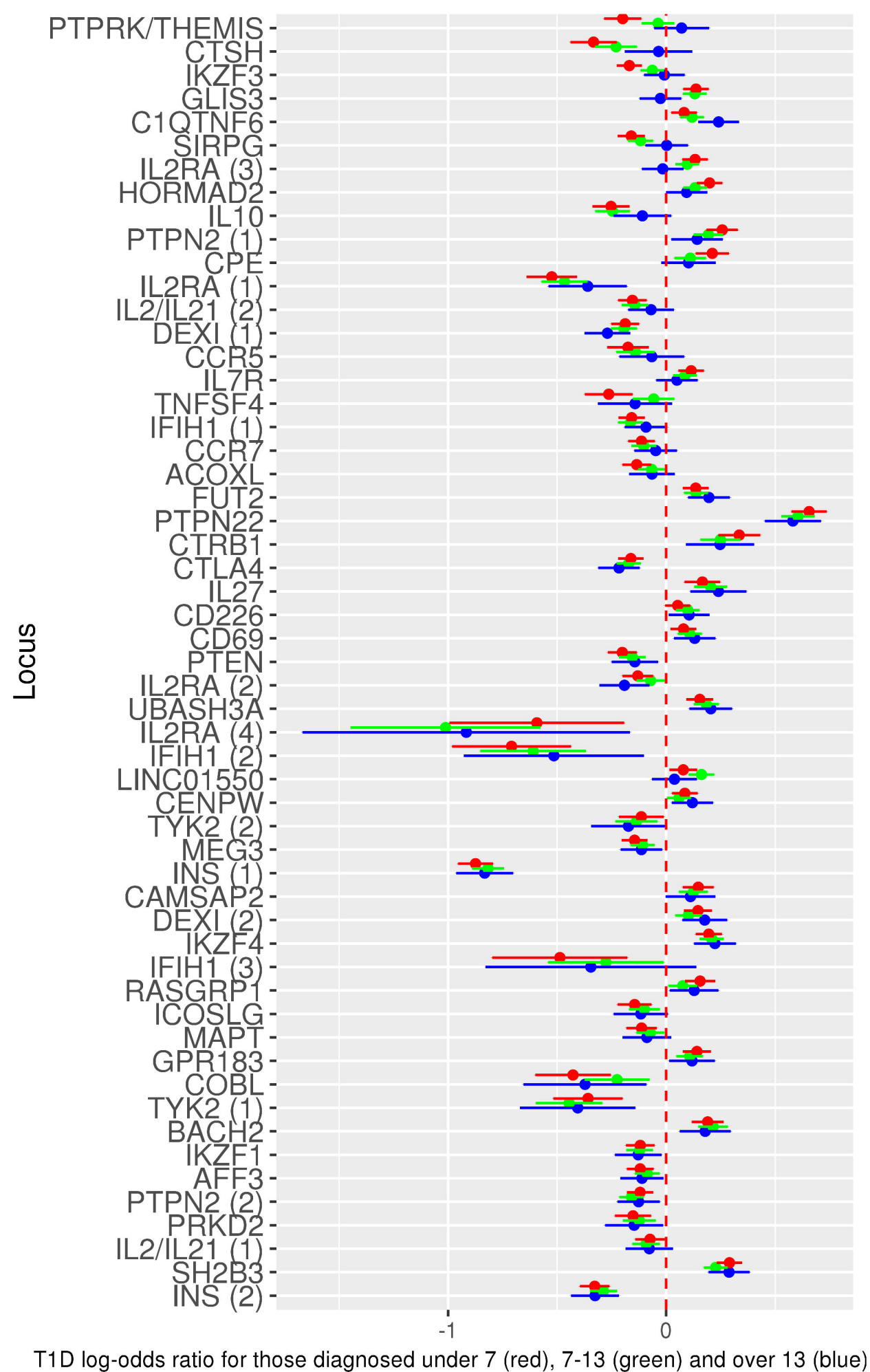


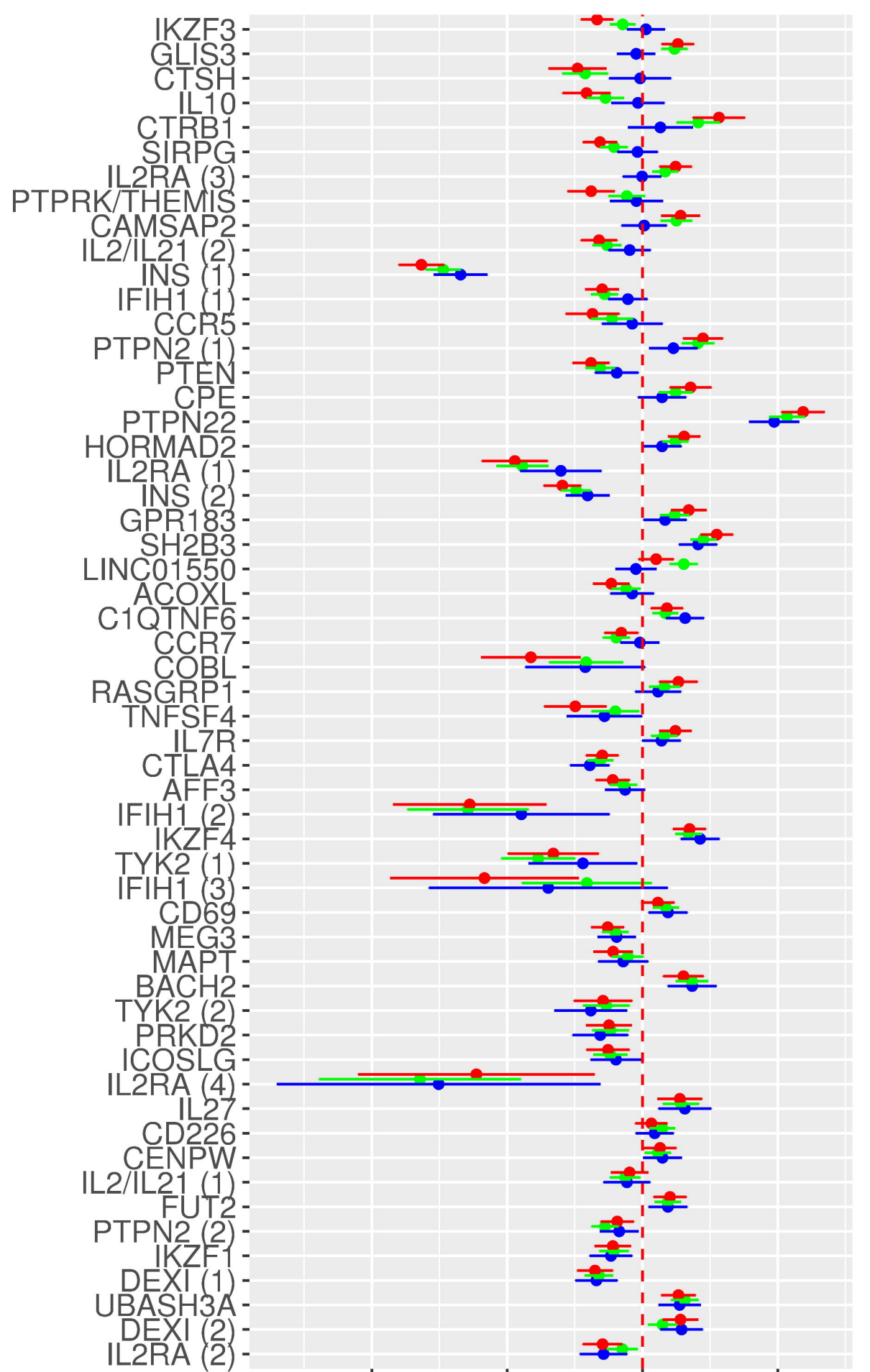
T1D log-odds ratio for those diagnosed under 7 (red), 7-13 (green) and over 13 (blue)



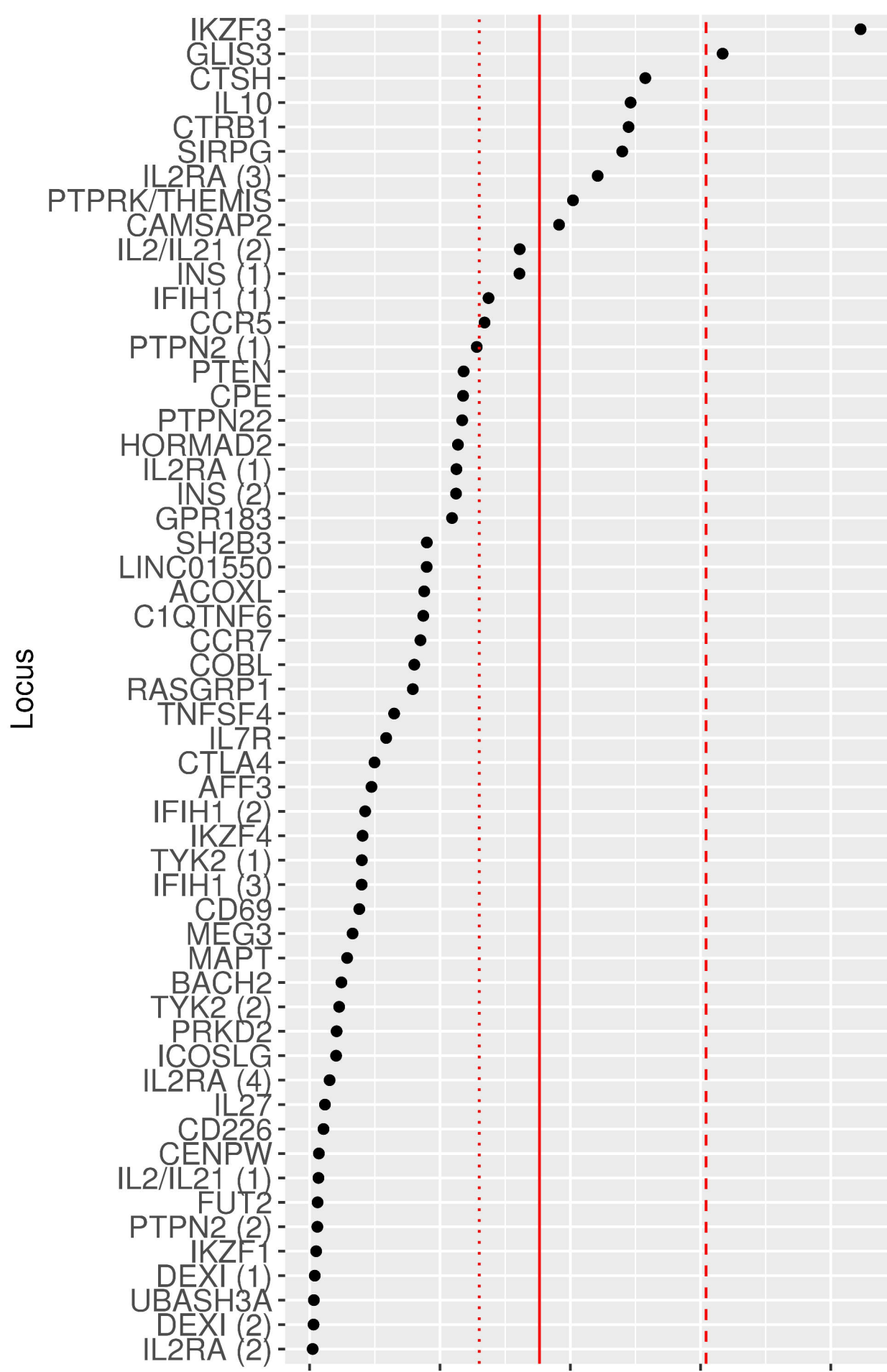
$-\log_{10}(p)$ Likelihood ratio test for heterogeneity between <7 and >13



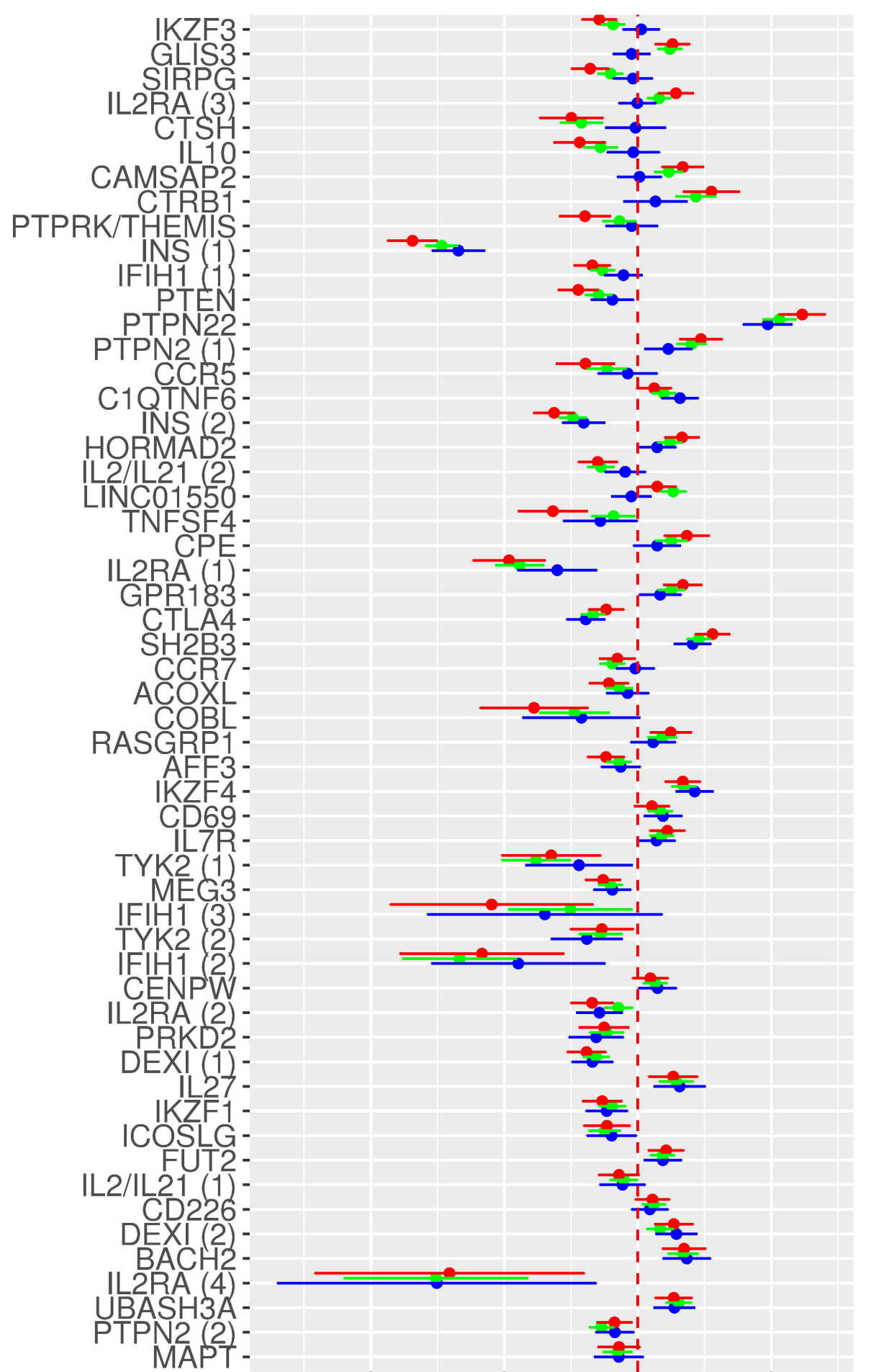




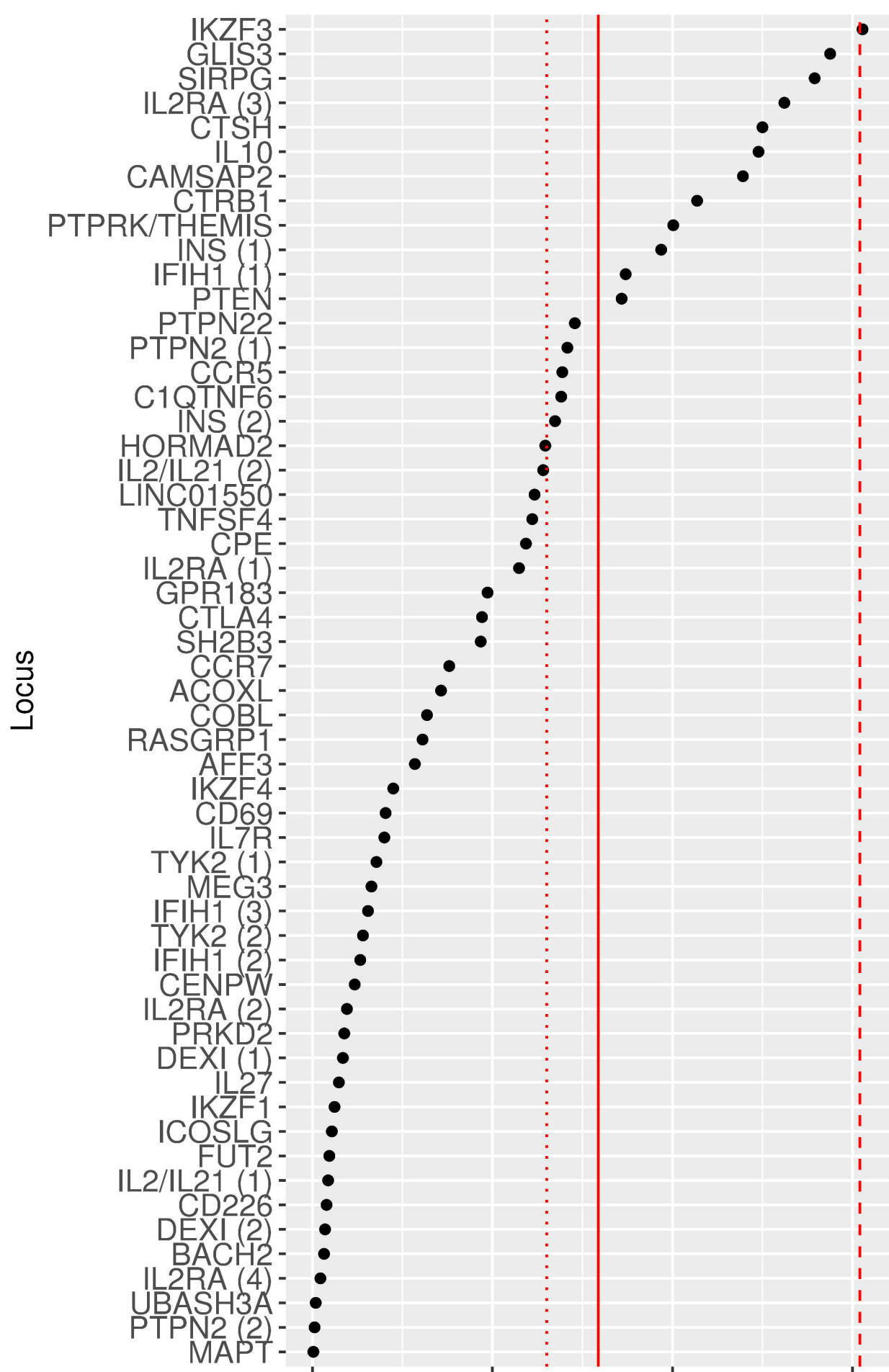
T1D log-odds ratio for those diagnosed under 6 (red), 6-13 (green) and over 13 (blue)



$-\log_{10}(p)$ Likelihood ratio test for heterogeneity between <6 and >13

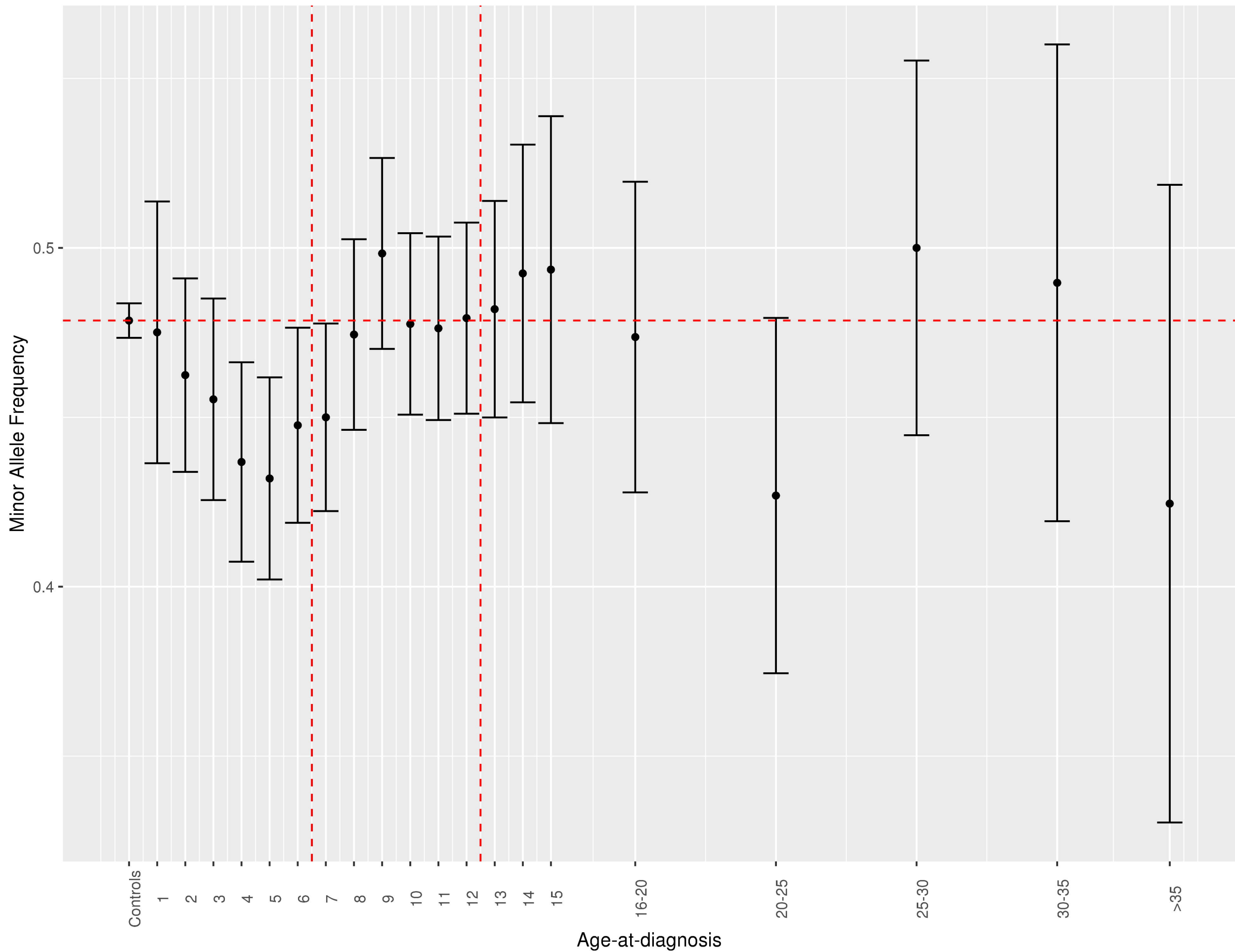


T1D log-odds ratio for those diagnosed under 5 (red), 5-13 (green) and over 13 (blue)

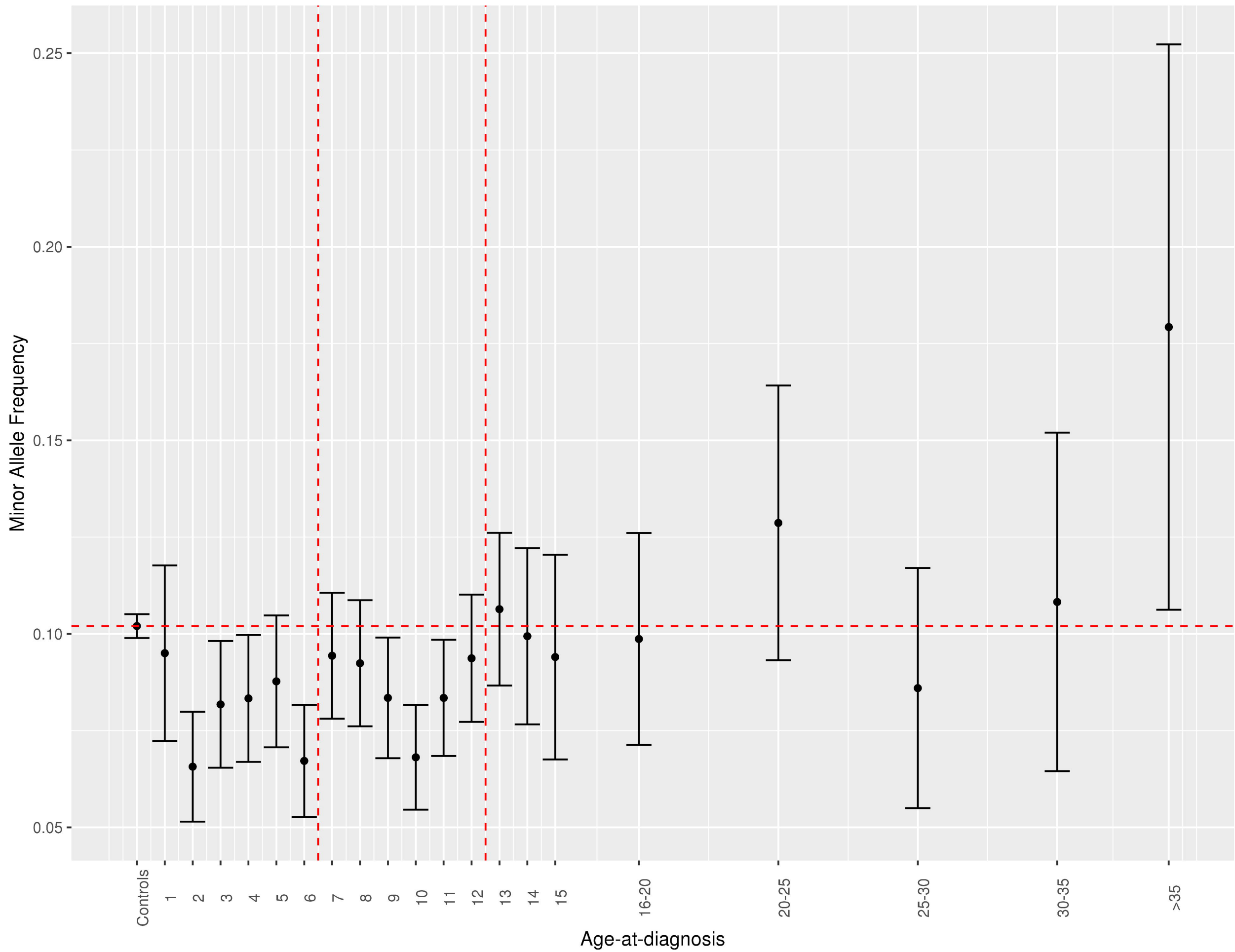


$-\log_{10}(p)$ Likelihood ratio test for heterogeneity between <5 and >13

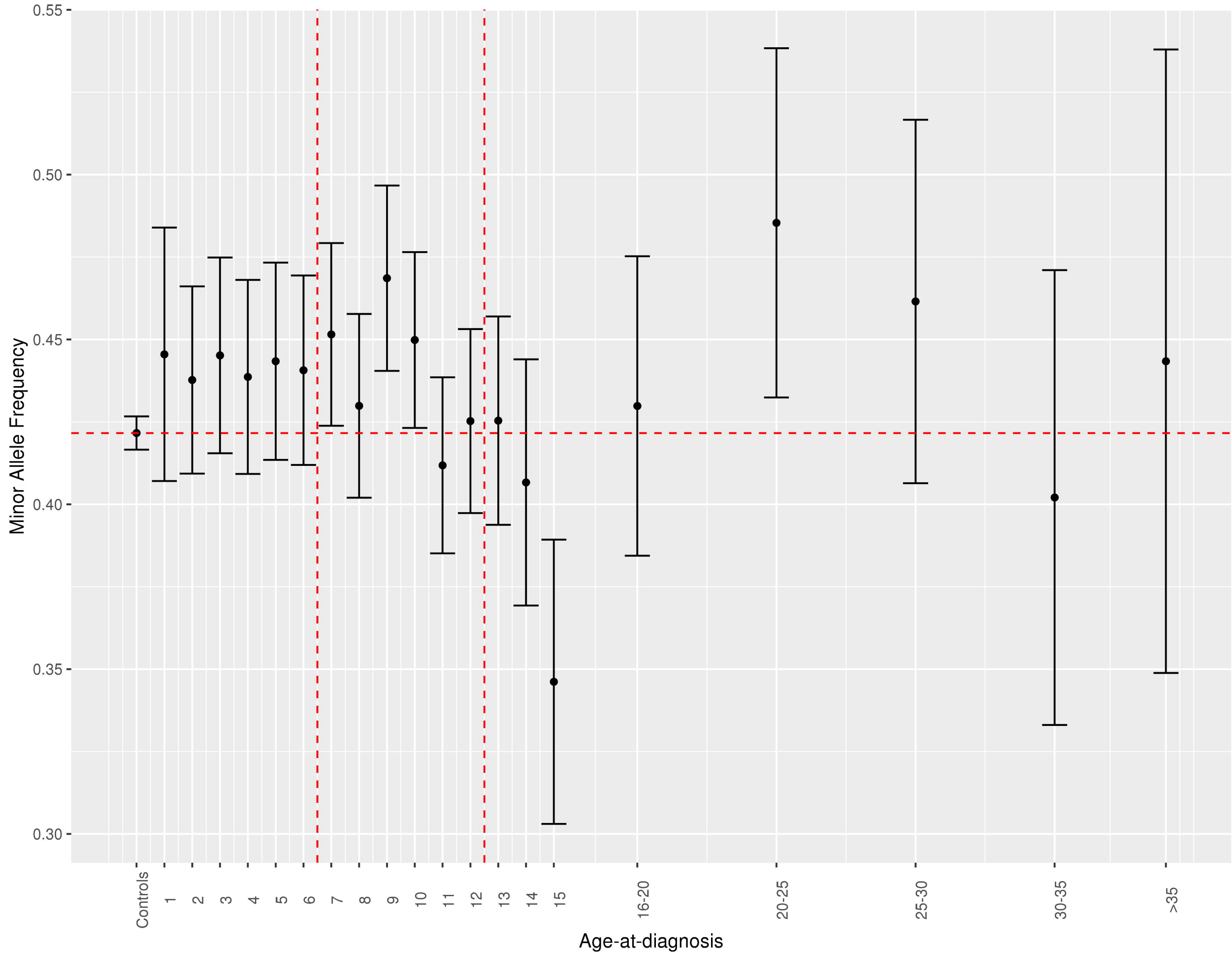
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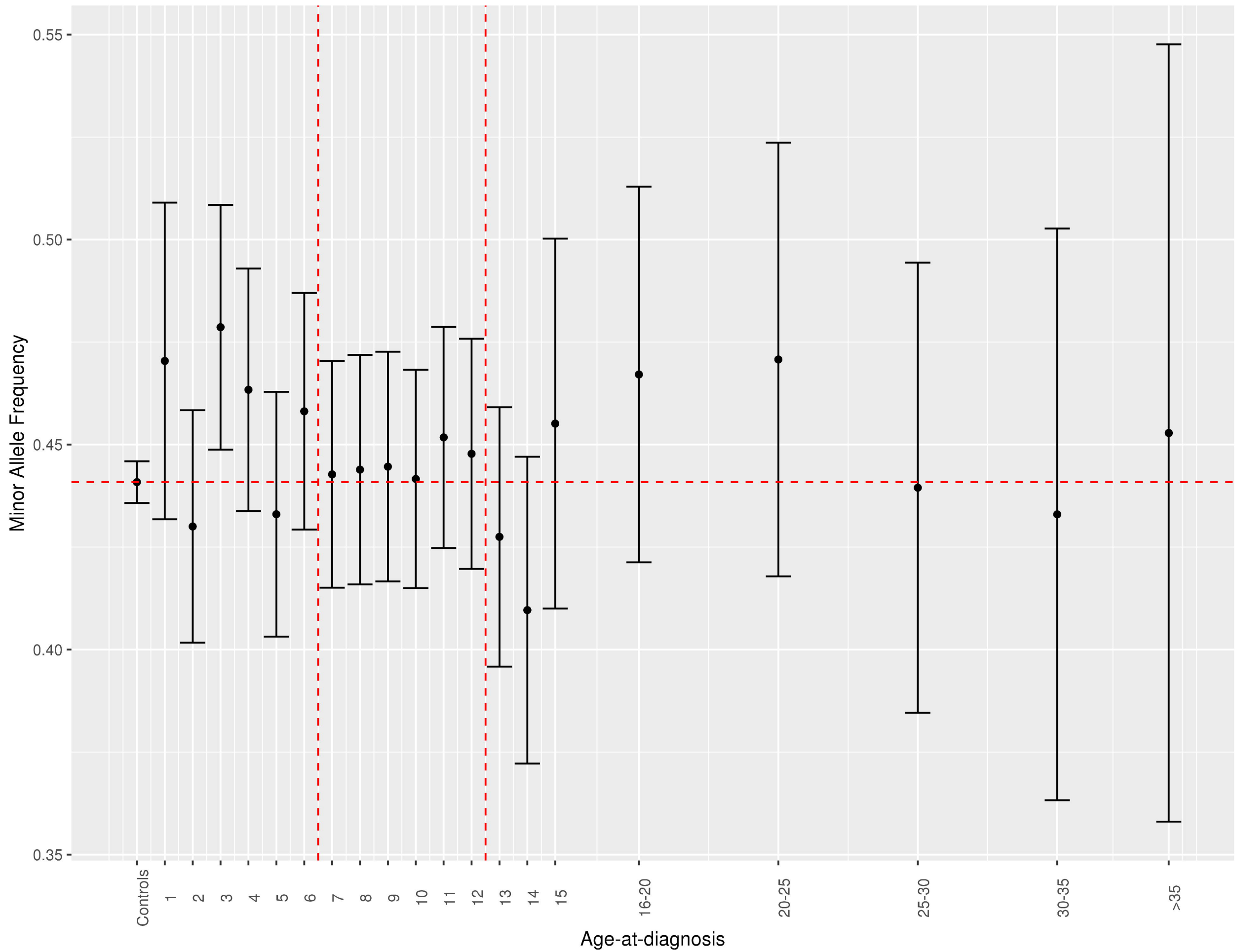
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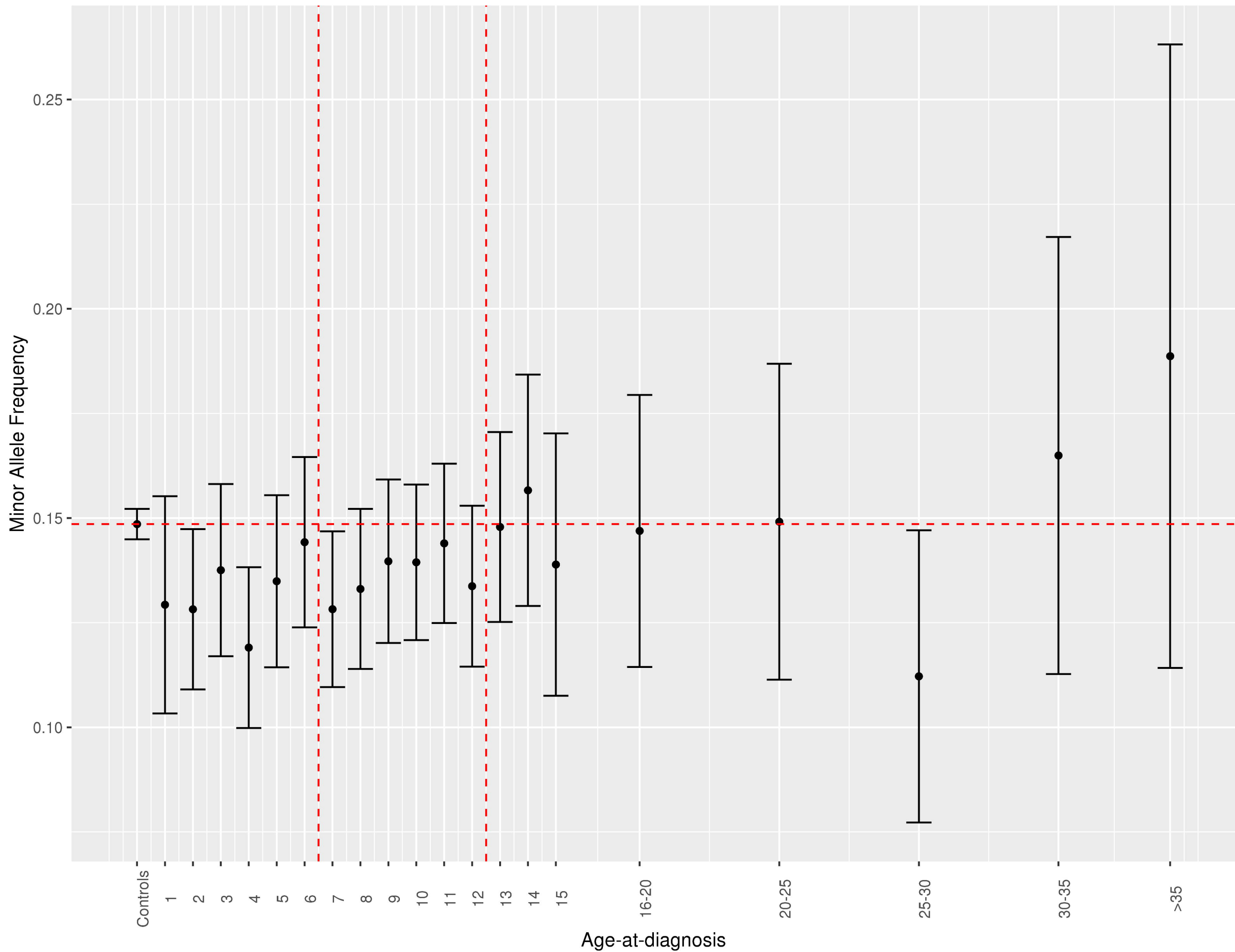
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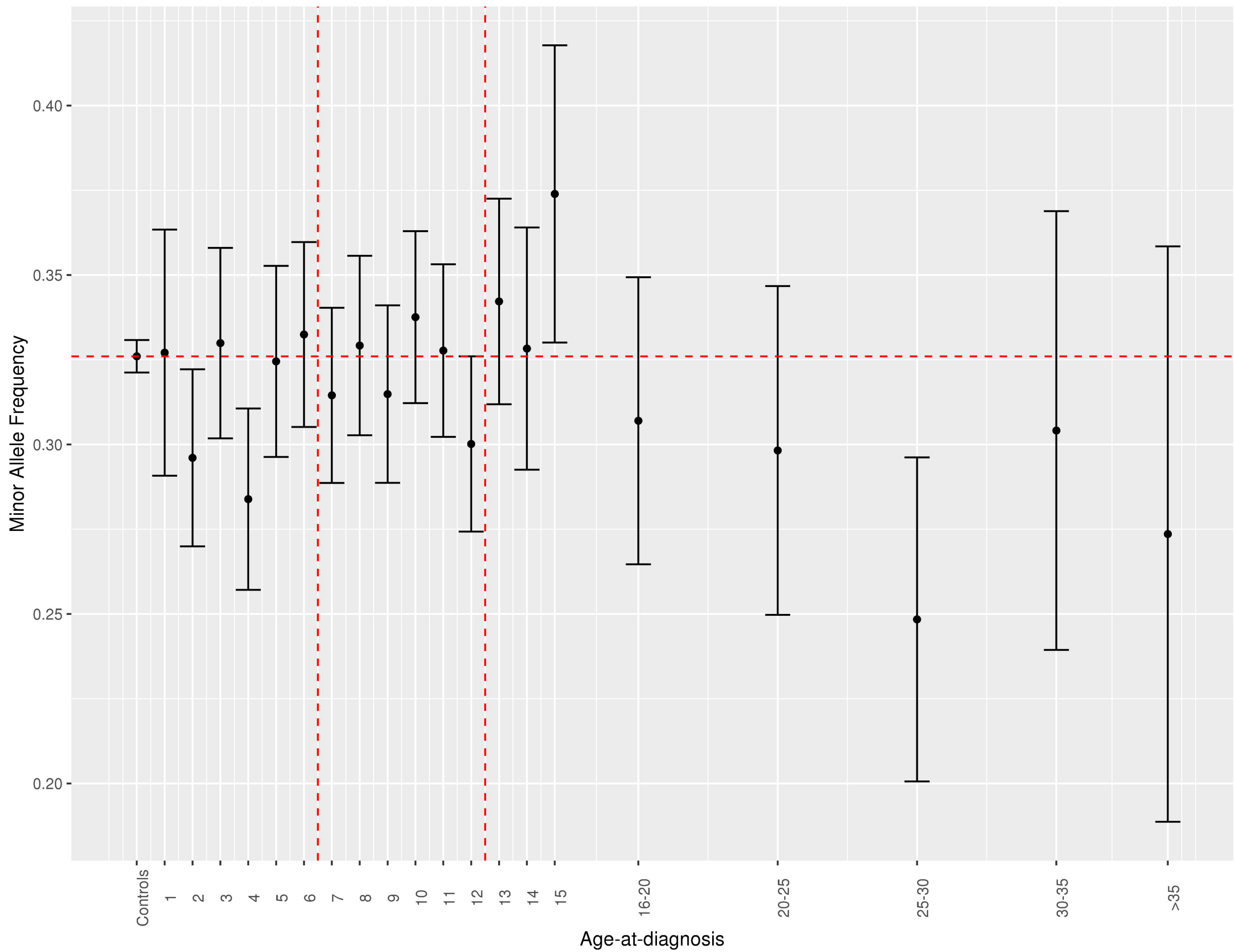
IL2RA (3)



IL10



SIRPG



PTPRK/THEMIS

