Selection of controls in HEIRS

Controls for the Clinical Exam visit were selected from participants in the Initial Screening who had 1) neither the C282Y nor H63D allele and 2) both TS and SF in the eligible range. Eligible ranges for men were TS between 20 and 34 and SF between 87 and 247. Eligible ranges for women were TS between 16 and 28 and SF between 19 and 121. Among participants eligible to be controls, a subset was selected which was frequency matched in a 1:1 ratio to the group of provisional cases and C282Y homozygotes. Variables used for the frequency matching were: Field Center (UAB, UCI, Howard, KP-Portland, KP-Hawaii, LHSC and Toronto), age group (24-44, 45-64, and 65+), and date of Initial Screening visit.

Potential control participants who could not be contacted, or who were contacted and refused to participate, were replaced. New potential controls were selected using frequency matching in a 1:1 ratio to the group of the potential controls who refused. Variables used for this frequency matching were: Field Center (as above), age group (as above), date of Initial Screening, gender and race/ethnicity.