

PDF issue: 2025-12-05

Distance From Public Transportation and Physical Activity in Japanese Older Adults: The Moderating Role of Driving Status

Harada, Kazuhiro ; Lee, Sangyoon ; Lee, Sungchul ; Bae, Seongryu ; Anan, Yuya ; Harada, Kenji ; Shimada, Hiroyuki

(Citation)

Health Psychology, 37(4):355-363

(Issue Date)

2018-04

(Resource Type)

journal article

(Version)

Accepted Manuscript

@American Psychological Association, 2018. This paper is not the copy of record and may not exactly replicate the authoritative document published in the APA journal. Please do not copy or cite without author's permission. The final article is available, upon publication, at: http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/hea0000583

(URL)

https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.14094/90004702



Distance from Public Transportation and Physical Activity in Japanese Older Adults: The

Moderating Role of Driving Status

Kazuhiro Harada

Kobe University & National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology

Sangyoon Lee, Sungchul Lee, Seongryu Bae, Hiroyuki Shimada

National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology

Yuya Anan

Kwassui Women's University & National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology

Kenji Harada

Chukyo University & National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology

Author Note

Kazuhiro Harada, Graduate School of Human Development and Environment, Kobe
University & Department of Preventive Gerontology, National Center for Geriatrics and
Gerontology; Sangyoon Lee, Department of Preventive Gerontology, National Center for
Geriatrics and Gerontology; Sungchul Lee, Department of Preventive Gerontology, National
Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology; Seongryu Bae, Department of Preventive Gerontology,
National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology; Yuya Anan, Faculty of Wellness Studies,
Kwassui Women's University & Department of Preventive Gerontology, National Center for
Geriatrics and Gerontology; Kenji Harada, Graduate School of Health and Sport Sciences,
Chukyo University& Department of Preventive Gerontology, National Center for Geriatrics
and Gerontology; Hiroyuki Shimada, Department of Preventive Gerontology, National Center
for Geriatrics and Gerontology.

Correspondence concerning this article should be addressed to Kazuhiro Harada,

Graduate School of Human Development and Environment, Kobe University, 3-11, Tsurukabuto, Nada, Kobe City, Hyogo 657-8501, Japan. Tel: +81-78-803-7886. E-mail address: harada@harbor.kobe-u.ac.jp

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by Strategic Basic Research Programs (RISTEX Redesigning Communities for Aged Society), Japan Science and Technology Agency; and Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists B (26750329), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.

1 Abstract

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Objective: Although previous studies have shown that good access to public transportation is positively related with physical activity, the moderators of this relationship have not been explored sufficiently in older adults. It is possible that driving status could moderate this relationship. The present study examined whether the objectively measured distance between public transportation and the home was associated with physical activity levels, and whether this association was moderated by driving status among Japanese older adults. **Methods:** In this cross-sectional study, participants (n = 2878) completed questionnaires and wore accelerometers for at least seven days, to measure their average daily step counts and minutes spent engaging in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity. Road network distances (m) between the home and the nearest bus stop or train station were measured using geographic information systems. Driving status was assessed using questionnaires. **Results:** Multiple regression analyses stratified by driving status revealed that, among non-drivers, living further away from public transportation was associated with higher step counts (β =0.08, p<0.001) and moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (β=0.06, p=0.029). Among drivers, living closer to public transportation was significantly associated with higher moderate-to-vigorous physical activity levels (β =-0.05, p=0.042). Conclusions: Despite the small effect sizes, the direction of the association between distance from public transportation and physical activity was different for current drivers and non-drivers. These findings imply that good access to public transportation does not positively relate with greater engagement in physical activity among non-driving older adults. Shorter distances to public transportation might reduce opportunities for engaging in physical activity for them. Key words: active living, aged, automobile driving, effect modifier, environment design, geographic information systems, physical activity, public transportation, residence characteristics, walking

26	Distance from Public Transportation and Physical Activity in Japanese Older Adults: The
27	Moderating Role of Driving Status
28	The health benefits of physical activity among older adults have been established by
29	substantial research evidence. Current physical activity guidelines recommend that older
30	adults should engage in physical activity to promote healthy living (Nelson et al., 2007; World
31	Health Organization, 2010). However, the level of physical activity is lower in older adults as
32	compared to that in younger adults (e.g., Inoue, Ohya, Tudor-Locke, et al., 2011). Therefore,
33	it is a public health priority to developing effective strategies to promote physical activity
34	among older adults. In order to develop effective promotional strategies, it is necessary to
35	identify modifiable factors associated with physical activity (Sallis, Owen, & Fotheringham,
36	2000). In particular, the ecological model (Sallis et al., 2006) proposes the importance of
37	environmental influences on physical activity, because environmental factors can have
38	longer-term effects on larger populations than individual factors can. Environmental attributes
39	represent an emerging area of physical activity research, and numerous previous studies have
40	identified environmental correlates of physical activity among adults, such as access to
41	outdoor physical activity facilities, diversity of land use mix, and residential density (e.g.,
42	Saelens & Handy, 2008). Because environmental correlates of physical activity among older
43	adults are different from those among younger adults (e.g., Shigematsu et al., 2009), it is
44	necessary to conduct research focusing on older adults to develop effective strategies to
45	promote physical activity among them.
46	Among various environmental factors, good access to public transportation (e.g.,
47	access to a bus stop and train station) is commonly examined as an environmental factor in
48	physical activity studies. The Physical Activity Neighborhood Environment Scale (Sallis et al.,
49	2010), which is one of the commonly used measure of perceived environment, includes an
50	item assessing public transportation. The International Physical Activity and Environment

Network study (Adams et al., 2014) also measured public transportation objectively as a component of the physical activity environment. Across various countries, people with good access to public transportation are more physically active than those without good access are (Sallis et al., 2009). Longitudinal studies have revealed that good access to public transportation is positively associated with physical activity level (e.g., Cleland, Timperio, & Crawford, 2008; Knuiman et al., 2014). A meta-analysis also showed that good access to public transportation is positively associated with physical activity among older adults (Cerin et al., 2017).

To derive a better understanding of the environmental influences (e.g., influences of

access to public transportation) on physical activity among older adults, it is necessary to examine moderators (effect modifier) (Cerin et al., 2017). Driving status could be a moderator (effect modifier) in the relationship between public transportation and physical activity among older adults. It can be expected that drivers are less likely to use public transportation than non-drivers are; therefore, it is possible that access to public transportation is more closely associated with physical activity level among non-drivers than among drivers. However, only a few previous studies have shown that the relationship between access to public transportation and physical activity was moderated by driving status (Kamada et al., 2009; Cerin et al., 2016). One study from the United States failed to find evidence for the moderating role of driving status (Ding et al., 2004). Thus, further examinations are necessary to determine the moderating role of driving status on the relationship between access to public transportation and physical activity.

Furthermore, in some cases, such as in areas with sufficiently developed public transportation systems, good access to public transportation might not necessarily be associated with higher physical activity levels in older adults. Previous studies have argued that the use of public transportation can help increase physical activity because people have to

76 walk to and from the bus stop/train stations and their destinations (Besser & Dannenberg, 77 2005; Rissel, Curac, Greenaway, & Bauman, 2012). Thus, it could be assumed that extremely good access to public transportation would not be helpful to increase transportation-related 78 79 physical activity, as the distance individuals have to walk would be shorter. Indeed, contrary 80 to the findings of the meta-analysis, previous studies from Japan, where the public 81 transportation network is adequately matured and its utilization is much higher than it is in 82 Western countries (Japan Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, 2012), 83 have not found positive relationships between access to public transportation and physical 84 activity among older adults (Inoue, Ohya, Odagiri et al., 2011; Saito, Oguma, Inoue, Tanaka, 85 & Kobori, 2013; Tsunoda et al., 2012). Instead, Tsunoda et al. (2012) revealed that Japanese 86 older adults who perceive their public transportation favorably are actually less likely to walk 87 ≥150 minutes in a week than are those who do not. However, while these Japanese studies 88 have assessed access to public transport and physical activity level only through self-reports of participants (Inoue, Ohya, Odagiri et al., 2011; Saito et al., 2013; Tsunoda et al., 2012), a 89 90 Hong Kong study (Cerin et al., 2016) measured them using objective methods. Cerin et al. 91 (2016) found that good access to public transportation was negatively associated with the 92 physical activity level among older adults who did not own cars. These Asian studies (Cerin et 93 al., 2016; Tsunoda et al., 2012) imply that adequate access, rather than good access, to public 94 transportation might be more desirable in promoting physical activity among older adults. 95 especially among non-drivers. However, except for these two studies, no previous studies 96 have supported this indication.

Therefore, the purpose of the present study was to examine whether objectively measured distance from public transportation was associated with physical activity level, and whether this association was moderated by driving status among Japanese older adults.

97

98

99

101 Methods

Participants and Procedures

The present study analyzed the data of a sub-cohort of the National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology-Study of Geriatric Syndromes: NCGG-SGS (Shimada et al., 2016), conducted in 2013, at Midori ward, Nagoya city, Japan. Nagoya city consists of 16 Wards, and it is the capital of the Aichi prefecture, with a population of approximately 2.3 million residents. The NCGG-SGS received prior approval from the ethic committee of the National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology. Informed consent was obtained from all participants. All procedures were conducted in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration. Among the NCGG-SGS sub-cohort data, the present study utilized the data from a questionnaire and an accelerometer.

The questionnaire survey was conducted from July to December 2013 as a part of a screening for decline in cognitive and physical function. Three public facilities were utilized as screening sites. An invitation document for the screening was sent to all people (n=24271) aged 70 years or more on January 1, 2013, who lived in Midori ward and were without long-term care needs or support. Among all invited people, 5257 (21.7%) actually participated in the screening and answered a questionnaire. Trained staff supported participants in answering the questionnaire when required.

Triaxial accelerometers were distributed to all participants. They were asked to wear the accelerometer every day, for one month, after which they were asked to visit one of the nine Midori ward pharmacies with data-readers capable of downloading the accelerometer data (the authors had collaborative relationships with the pharmacies and had asked them to place the data-readers). The display of the accelerometer was hidden. From 5257 initial participants, 79 refused to wear the accelerometer, 1627 did not visit any of the nine pharmacies within two months, and 18 experienced technical errors with the data-reader. Of

the remaining 3533 participants, 335 participants who did not wear the accelerometer for ≥ 10 hours each day, at least for seven days, as well as seven outliers for the average number of steps per day (less than 300 steps per day or more than 30000 steps per day) were excluded. Furthermore, 2878 individuals met the following criteria: 1) did not report a decline in engaging in basic activities of daily living; 2) did not have a history of dementia, stroke, or Parkinson's disease; 3) scored 20 points or higher on the Mini Mental State Examination; and 4) did not have any missing data on the variables used in the present study. Finally, data of 2878 participants were analyzed in the present study.

Measures

Physical activity. A triaxial accelerometer (modified GT40-020: ACOS Corporation, Limited: Nagano, Japan: size $75 \times 33.5 \times 10.8$ mm, weight 26 g) was used to measure step counts and time spent engaging in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (activities involving ≥3 metabolic equivalents, which is the expression of the energy cost of physical activity). Current physical activity guidelines recommend that both younger and older adults engage in physical activity with moderate to vigorous intensity levels (Nelson et al., 2007; World Health Organization, 2010). The intensity level of activity was measured by the same algorithm as the Kenz Lifecorder (Suzuken Corporation, Limited: Aichi, Japan (Kumahara et al., 2004)). The accelerometer estimates the intensity of physical activity across 10 levels, with Level 4 or higher corresponding to ≥3 metabolic equivalents. The epoch length of the accelerometer was set as 4 seconds. The participants were asked to wear the accelerometer on either the left or right side of their waist when they were awake, except for during swimming or bathing, and to lead life as usual. The time engaged in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity in a day was calculated by adding up all epochs in which the intensity level was estimated at Level 4 (≥3 metabolic equivalents) or higher.

Because previous studies have commonly required participants to wear the

161

169

170

171

172

173

174

175

accelerometer for ≥10 hours per day (Gorman et al., 2014), the present study included 152 participants' data only from days on which they had worn the device for ten hours or more. 153 Wearing time was calculated by subtracting non-wearing time from 24 hours. A period of at 154 least 35 minutes in which the accelerometer data was not recorded was designated as 155 non-wearing time. Furthermore, because a previous study (Hart et al., 2011) proposed that at 156 least four days of data would be necessary to estimate physical activity levels across 21 days. 157 individuals were excluded if the total eligible days (wearing time \geq 10 hours) were less than 158 seven. 159 **Distance from public transportation.** Road network distances (m) from each home address 160 to the nearest bus stop or exit of the train station were measured using geographic information systems [ArcGIS for Desktop 10.2.2 Network Analyst software (ESRI Japan Corporation: 162 Tokyo, Japan)]. The bus stop data were downloaded from the Kokudo-Suchi-Joho download 163 service (translated as "National Land Numerical Information"). Data on the exit of the train 164 station were obtained from a common map service website [MapFan Web (Increment P 165 Corporation) https://mapfan.com/]. There were totally 443 bus stops and 19 train stations in 166 Midori ward and in other adjoining communities. The average operation frequency was 52.1 167 buses/day for each bus stop and 241.1 trains/day for each train station. 168

Driving status. The participants were asked whether they usually drove a car and/or motorbike by themselves (yes or no), and were accordingly categorized into current drivers and current non-drivers.

Demographic and health-related factors. Gender (men or women), age (years), education level (years spent in education), engagement in paid work (yes or no), living alone (yes or no), current alcohol drinking habits (yes or no), current smoking habits (yes or no), history of hypertension (yes or no), history of diabetes (yes or no), history of hyperlipidemia (ves or no), and history of heart disease (yes or no) were included as demographic and health-rated factors in the present study.

Analyses

Binary associations of current driving status with physical activity, distance from public transportation, and demographic and health-related factors were examined by chi-squared tests for categorical variables and t-tests for continuous variables.

Multiple regression analyses were performed with physical activity as the dependent variable (average daily step count, average minutes in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity per day). For the multiple regression analyses, the present study constructed two models. In Model 1, the independent variables were distance from public transportation, driving status, and demographic and health-related factors. All independent variables in Model 1 were entered using the force-entry method. In Model 2, 23 interaction terms were examined by the stepwise method: 11 interaction terms of current driving status with demographic and health-related factors; 11 interaction terms of distance from public transportation with demographic and health-related factors; and one interaction term of current driving status with distance from public transportation. Each interaction term was created by multiplying the standardized scores of each variable. Standardized scores were calculated using the means and standard deviations of each variable.

If the interaction terms were significant, stratified multiple regression analyses were conducted. In the stratified analyses, the independent variables included distance from public transportation and demographic and health-related factors for which any significant main and/or interactive results were observed in the regression analyses for the whole sample. The dependent variable was the physical activity level. Figures were also created to show the plot of physical activity variables by current driving status and distance from public transportation. Similar to previous studies that visually showed the interactive effects of neighborhood environments with individual factors on physical activities using figures (Carlson et al., 2012;

Ding Ding et al., 2012), the distance from public transportation was categorized into a near group (<-1SD group) and distant group (>+1SD group).

Statistical significance was set at p<.05. The Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) for Windows 21.0 was used to perform all the analyses.

206 Results

Characteristics of Participants

Characteristics of the participants have been shown in Table 1. Mean steps per day was 5043.6, and the mean time engaged in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity was 23.2 minutes. Mean distance from the nearest public transportation was 292.6 m. Compared with non-drivers, current drivers were likely to be men, employed, living with others, alcohol drinkers, smokers, have diabetes, did not have hyperlipidemia, younger, and highly-educated.

Association of Distance from Public Transportation with Physical Activity, by Driving

214 Status

Table 2 represents the results of the multiple regression analyses for the whole sample. In Model 1, the main effect of distance from public transportation was not significant on both physical activity variables. However, the effect of the interaction term of current driving status and distance from public transportation was significant on both variables. Among the demographic and health-related factors, the main effects of gender, living alone, current smoking status, history of heart disease, and current driving status on physical-activity levels (both steps and moderate-to-vigorous physical-activity level per day) were significant. None of the interaction terms for demographic and health-related factors with distance from public transportation and with current driving status were significant and therefore not selected in Model 2 by the stepwise method. Thus, further analyses stratified by current driving status were conducted.

227

228

229

230

231

232

233

234

235

236

237

238

239

240

241

242

243

244

245

246

247

248

249

250

The mean steps per day was 4923.7 in non-drivers and 5122.1 in drivers, the mean time engaged in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity was 22.9 minutes in non-drivers and 23.4 minutes in drivers, and the mean distance from the nearest public transportation mode (bus stop/train station) was 292.3 m in non-drivers and 292.9 m in drivers. A t-test revealed no significant differences between these variables [steps per day, t(2876)=1.95, p=0.052; moderate-to-vigorous physical activity, t(2876)=0.78, p=0.436; distance from nearest public transportation, t(2876)=0.10, p=0.919]. Table 3 (current non-driver) and Table 4 (current driver) show the results of the multiple regression analyses stratified by current driving status. Because both the main and interactive effects of employment in paid work, current drinking habits, hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and education on physical activity were not significant in the analyses for the whole sample, these variables were excluded from the stratified analyses. In the stratified multiple regression analyses, Model 1 included demographic and health-related factors and Model 2 added distance from public transportation. These variables were entered by the force-entry method. The increases of adjusted R² from Model 1 to Model 2 were small among both non-drivers and drivers. However, among non-drivers, living at a greater distance from public transportation was significantly associated with higher step counts and moderate-to-vigorous physical activity levels. In contrast, among current drivers, living at a shorter distance from public transportation was associated with significantly higher moderate-to-vigorous physical activity levels. Although it was only marginally significant (p=0.097), shorter distances from public transportation were associated with higher step counts. Figure 1 (steps per day) and Figure 2 (moderate-to-vigorous physical activity) show the average step counts and minutes in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity per day by using current driving status and distance from public transportation. Among current

non-drivers, the differences of steps and moderate-to-vigorous physical activity per day

between near group and distant group were 1124.3 step counts and 5.8 minutes, respectively. Among current drivers, the differences between near group and distant group were 575.4 step counts and 3.9 minutes, respectively.

255 Discussion

This present study found that the direction of the association between distance from public transportation and physical activity is different for current drivers and non-drivers though the effect sizes were small. To the best of our knowledge, only one previous study from Hong Kong (Cerin et al., 2016) reported similar findings. Together, these findings indicate that good access to public transportation does not always relate with physical activity levels among older adults. A meta-analysis showed that good access to public transportation positively relates with physical activity for older adults (Cerin et al., 2017). However, as evident from the findings of other Japanese studies (Inoue, Ohya, Odagiri et al., 2011; Saito et al., 2013; Tsunoda et al., 2012), this finding may not be generalizable to areas with more developed public transportation systems. Furthermore, the moderating role of driving status on the relationship between access to public transportation and physical activity were not sufficiently examined by previous studies.

Similarly, as compared to a Hong Kong study (Cerin et al., 2016), the present Japanese study showed that living at a greater distance from public transportation was associated with a higher physical activity level among current non-drivers. This finding indicates that walking to and from public transportation might represent an important opportunity for non-drivers to engage in transportation-related physical activity, and that living at a shorter distance from public transportation could reduce these opportunities. Previous studies (Besser & Dannenberg, 2005; Rissel et al., 2012) have reported that walking to public transportation contributes to an increase in physical activity levels, and have suggested that good access to

public transportation promotes transportation-related physical activity. In the present study, living at a shorter distance from public transportation was associated with higher physical activity level among drivers, and with lower physical activity level among non-drivers. The different directions for this association between non-drivers and drivers could be explained by their choice of transportation. A previous study (Buehler, 2011) revealed that people who live further away from public transportation are more likely to choose to travel by car as their primary mode of transportation. For drivers, living closer to public transportation would lead them to choose the same over traveling by car, which would contribute to an increase in physical activity. However, most non-drivers do not have the choice but to rely on public systems for transportation. Therefore, they would choose public transportation regardless of the distance they had to walk from their home in order to travel by bus or rail. The necessity of public transportation for non-drivers might promote an increase in their physical activity.

While a meta-analysis (Cerin et al., 2017) reported that there was a positive relationship between access to public transportation and physical activity for older adults, other Japanese studies on older adults (Inoue, Ohya, Odagiri et al., 2011; Saito et al., 2013; Tsunoda et al., 2012) did not reveal positive and significant relationships. These inconsistent findings might be partly explained by the ratio of drivers and non-drivers. People tend to stop driving as they age (Shimada et al., 2016), and the utilization of public transportation is much higher in Japan than it is in most other countries (Japan Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, 2012). Consequently, the ratio of non-drivers is higher in the older population than that in the younger population, particularly in Japan. This higher proportion of non-drivers might confound the relationship between access to public transportation and physical activity level.

Although significant associations were found, the effects of the distance from public transportation on physical activity were smaller than demographic and health-related factors

regardless of driving status. Similar to our study, previous studies have consistently shown that environmental factors have slightly smaller impacts on physical activity than individual factors among both younger (Burton, Turnell, Oldenburg, & Sallis, 2005; Giles-Corti, & Donova, 2002) and older populations (Satariano et al., 2010; Wilcox, Bopp, Oberrecht, Kammermann, & McElmurray, 2003). Despite the smaller impact, an advantage of environmental factors is their long-term impact on larger populations compared with individual factors (Sallis et al., 2006). Smaller effects of the distance from public transportation are comparable to previous studies, and be a relevant result. However, as shown in Figure 2, the absolute differences in the duration of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity were lower than 10 minutes, while current guidelines recommend that physical activity should be performed in bouts of at least 10 minutes (Nelson et al., 2007; World Health Organization, 2010). The present study does not confirm whether the impact of the distance from public transportations is meaningful in the practical context of physical activity promotions.

The present study utilized the data from Japanese urban/suburban areas. The mean distance from the participants' home to the nearest form of public transportation was 292.6 m. As mentioned in the Methods section, the average operation frequencies of buses and trains were adequately high (52.1 buses/day for each bus stop and 241.1 trains/day for each station). As the availability of public transportation in the research area was considered good, this finding cannot be generalized to areas where public transportation systems are not sufficiently developed, such as in rural areas. There is the possibility that living at an extremely long distance from public transportation (e.g., a few of kilometers) would inhibit physical activity among non-drivers. However, the data of the present study cannot examine this possibility. Further studies exploring optimal distance from public transportation to promote physical activity among drivers and non-drivers would be expected.

The strengths of the present study include its adequate sample size and employment of

327

328

329

330

331

332

333

334

335

336

337

338

339

340

341

342

343

344

345

346

347

348

349

350

objective assessments for measuring both distance from public transportation and physical activity levels. However, the present study includes some limitations. First, the study design was cross-sectional. Second, the present study did not investigate the mechanism on how distances from public transportation would influence physical activity among older adults. Potential mediating factors, such as the actual use of public transportation and walking time by purposes (i.e., walking for utilitarian/transportation and leisure/recreational purposes) were not measured in this study. Frequent uses of public transportation and longer walking time for utilitarian/transportation might explain the relationship between distances from public transportation and physical activity. Further examination will be necessary to clarify its mechanisms. Absence of measuring potential mediating factors might also explain why a clear, significant, relationship between distance from public transportation and steps per days was not found among current drivers. Third, the present study would include sampling bias. The average steps per day in the present study (5043.6 step counts) was similar to Japanese national data (4898 step counts in those aged \geq 70 years or more: Japan Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, 2015). However, the rate of participants of the present study was 21.3%, and 38.2% of participants were excluded from the analysis due to the inadequacies in wearing the accelerometers. Previous Japanese studies for older adults (Chen et al., 2015; Izawa, Shibata, Ishii, Miyawaki, & Oka, 2017; Saito, Sakita, & Kumagai, 2015) have shown higher participation rates in the studies (27.9% to 43.0%) and lower exclusion rates due to the accelerometer problems (14.7% to 23.4%) than the present study. Thus, sampling bias of the present study should be noted. In spite of these limitations, the present study contributes to the better understanding of the association between public transportation and physical activity among older adults.

In conclusion, the present study found that living further away from public transportation was associated with lower physical activity levels among drivers, but with

higher physical activity levels among non-drivers in Japanese older adults. These findings indicate that good access to public transportation would not positively relate to physical activity among older adults. However, the present study should note that the effect sizes of impact of distance from public transportation on physical activity were small, and that the mechanisms of the effects were not shown. To clarify the mechanisms and to indicate the practical impact and the optimal level of the accessibility of public transportation, it is necessary to reveal the relationships among access to public transportations, frequency of use of each transportation mode, walking time by purposes, and total physical activity levels. Nonetheless, the present study provides evidence contrary to the previous findings about the importance of good access to public transportation. The present study can have policy implications different from those in previous studies. According to the present study, improving access to public transportation might increase physical activity in older adults at the population level if the majority of the population were drivers. In contrast, if there are considerable numbers of non-driving older adults, improving access to public transport might not be helpful in increasing physical activity at the population level. Furthermore, it can be speculated that making public transportation extremely convenient would be unprofitable; although it would demand greater amount of costs, it could lead to the increase of healthcare costs through the decrease of physical activity among older adults. Based on our findings, effective environmental interventions could be investigated as a way to promote physical activity in older adults.

371

351

352

353

354

355

356

357

358

359

360

361

362

363

364

365

366

367

368

369

370

372	References
373	Adams, M. A., Frank, L. D., Schipperijn, J., Smith, G., Chapman, J., Christiansen, L. B.,
374	Sallis, J. F. (2014). International variation in neighborhood walkability, transit, and
375	recreation environments using geographic information systems: the IPEN adult study.
376	International Journal of Health Geographics, 13(1), 43.
377	doi:10.1186/1476-072X-13-43
378	Besser, L. M. & Dannenberg, A. L. (2005). Walking to public transit: steps to help meet
379	physical activity recommendations. American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 29(4),
380	273–280. doi:10.1016/j.amepre.2005.06.010
381	Buehler, R. (2011). Determinants of transport mode choice: a comparison of Germany and the
382	USA. Journal of Transport Geography, 19(4), 644–657.
383	doi:10.1016/j.jtrangeo.2010.07.005
384	Burton, N. W., Turrell, G., Oldenburg, B., & Sallis, J. F. (2005). The Relative Contributions
385	of Psychological, Social, and Environmental Variables to Explain Participation in
386	Walking, Moderate-, and Vigorous-Intensity Leisure-Time Physical Activity. Journal of
387	Physical Activity and Health, 2(2), 181–196. doi:10.1123/jpah.2.2.181
388	Carlson, J. A., Sallis, J. F., Conway, T. L., Saelens, B. E., Frank, L. D., Kerr, J., King, A.
389	C. (2012). Interactions between psychosocial and built environment factors in explaining
390	older adults' physical activity. Preventive Medicine, 54(1), 68–73.
391	doi:10.1016/j.ypmed.2011.10.004
392	Cerin, E., Nathan, A., van Cauwenberg, J., Barnett, D. W., Barnett, A., & Council on
393	Environment and Physical Activity (CEPA) – Older Adults working group. (2017).
394	The neighborhood physical environment and active travel in older adults: a systematic
395	review and meta-analysis. The International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and
396	Physical Activity, 14(1), 15. doi:10.1186/s12966-017-0471-5

397 Cerin, E., Zhang, C. J. P., Barnett, A., Sit, C. H. P., Cheung, M. M. C., Johnston, J. M., ... 398 Lee, R. S. Y. (2016). Associations of objectively-assessed neighborhood 399 characteristics with older adults' total physical activity and sedentary time in an 400 ultra-dense urban environment: Findings from the ALECS study. Health & Place, 42, 401 1–10. doi:10.1016/j.healthplace.2016.08.009 402 Chen, T., Narazaki, K., Honda, T., Chen, S., Haeuchi, Y., Nofuji, Y. Y., ... Kumagai, S. 403 (2015). Tri-Axial Accelerometer-Determined Daily Physical Activity and Sedentary 404 Behavior of Suburban Community-Dwelling Older Japanese Adults. Journal of Sports 405 Science & Medicine, 14(3), 507–14. Retrieved from 406 http://www.jssm.org/researchjssm-14-507.xml.xml 407 Cleland, V. J., Timperio, A., & Crawford, D. (2008). Are perceptions of the physical and 408 social environment associated with mothers' walking for leisure and for transport? A 409 longitudinal study. *Preventive Medicine*, 47(2), 188–193. 410 doi:10.1016/j.ypmed.2008.05.010 411 Ding, D., Sallis, J. F., Conway, T. L., Saelens, B. E., Frank, L. D., Cain, K. L., & Slymen, D. 412 J. (2012). Interactive effects of built environment and psychosocial attributes on physical 413 activity: a test of ecological models. Annals of Behavioral Medicine, 44(3), 365–74. doi: 414 10.1007/s12160-012-9394-1 415 Ding, D., Sallis, J. F., Norman, G. J., Frank, L. D., Saelens, B. E., Kerr, J., ... King, A. C. 416 (2014). Neighborhood environment and physical activity among older adults: do the 417 relationships differ by driving status? Journal of Aging and Physical Activity, 22(3), 421–431. doi:10.1123/japa.2012-0332 418 419 Giles-Corti, B., & Donovan, R. J. (2002). The relative influence of individual, social and 420 physical environment determinants of physical activity. Social Science & Medicine, 421 54(12), 1793–1812. doi: 10.1016/S0277-9536(01)00150-2

422	Gorman, E., Hanson, H. M., Yang, P. H., Khan, K. M., Liu-Ambrose, T., & Ashe, M. C.
423	(2014). Accelerometry analysis of physical activity and sedentary behavior in older
424	adults: A systematic review and data analysis. European Review of Aging and
425	Physical Activity, 11(1), 35-49. doi:10.1007/s11556-013-0132-x
426	Hart, T. L., Swartz, A. M., Cashin, S. E., & Strath, S. J. (2011). How many days of
427	monitoring predict physical activity and sedentary behavior in older adults? The
428	International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, 8(1), 62.
429	doi:10.1186/1479-5868-8-62
430	Inoue, S., Ohya, Y., Odagiri, Y., Takamiya, T., Kamada, M., Okada, S., Shimomitsu, T.
431	(2011). Perceived Neighborhood Environment and Walking for Specific Purposes
432	Among Elderly Japanese. Journal of Epidemiology, 21(6), 481–490.
433	doi:10.2188/jea.JE20110044
434	Inoue, S., Ohya, Y., Tudor-Locke, C., Tanaka, S., Yoshiike, N., & Shimomitsu, T. (2011).
435	Time trends for step-determined physical activity among Japanese adults. Medicine
436	and Science in Sports and Exercise, 43(10), 1913–1919.
437	doi:10.1249/MSS.0b013e31821a5225
438	Izawa, K. P., Shibata, A., Ishii, K., Miyawaki, R., & Oka, K. (2017). Associations of
439	low-intensity light physical activity with physical performance in community-dwelling
440	elderly Japanese: A cross-sectional study. PLOS ONE, 12(6), e0178654.
441	<u>doi</u> :10.1371/journal.pone.0178654
442	Japan Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (2015). The national health and nutrition
443	survey in Japan, 2013. Retrieved from
444	http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/kenkou/eiyou/dl/h25-houkoku.pdf (in Japanese).

445	Japan Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. (2012). International
446	comparison of transportation mode. Retrieved from
447	http://www.mlit.go.jp/common/000231214.pdf (in Japanese).
448	Kamada, M., Kitayuguchi, J., Inoue, S., Kamioka, H., Mutoh, Y., & Shiwaku, K. (2009).
449	Environmental correlates of physical activity in driving and non-driving rural Japanese
450	women. Preventive Medicine, 49(6), 490-496. doi:10.1016/j.ypmed.2009.09.014
451	Knuiman, M. W., Christian, H. E., Divitini, M. L., Foster, S. A., Bull, F. C., Badland, H. M.,
452	& Giles-Corti, B. (2014). A longitudinal analysis of the influence of the neighborhood
453	built environment on walking for transportation: the RESIDE study. American Journa
454	of Epidemiology, 180(5), 453–461. doi:10.1093/aje/kwu171
455	Kumahara, H., Schutz, Y., Ayabe, M., Yoshioka, M., Yoshitake, Y., Shindo, M., Tanaka,
456	H. (2004). The use of uniaxial accelerometry for the assessment of
457	physical-activity-related energy expenditure: a validation study against whole-body
458	indirect calorimetry. The British Journal of Nutrition, 91(2), 235-243.
459	doi:10.1079/BJN20031033
460	Nelson, M. E., Rejeski, W. J., Blair, S. N., Duncan, P. W., Judge, J. O., King, A. C.,
461	Castaneda-Sceppa, C. (2007). Physical activity and public health in older adults:
462	recommendation from the American College of Sports Medicine and the American
463	Heart Association. Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise, 39(8), 1435–1445.
464	doi:10.1249/mss.0b013e3180616aa2
465	Rissel, C., Curac, N., Greenaway, M., & Bauman, A. (2012). Physical activity associated with
466	public transport usea review and modelling of potential benefits. International
467	Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 9(7), 2454–2478.
468	doi:10.3390/ijerph9072454

469	Saelens, B. E., & Handy, S. L. (2008). Built environment correlates of walking: a review.
470	Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise, 40(7 Suppl), S550–S66.
471	doi:10.1249/MSS.0b013e31817c67a4
472	Saito, T., Sakita, M., & Kumagai, S. (2015). Combination risk to chronic low back pain of
473	physical activity and sedentary behavior. Tairyoku Kagaku [Japanese Journal of
474	Physical Fitness and Sports Medicine], 64(4), 435–442. (in Japanese)
475	doi:10.7600/jspfsm.64.435
476	Saito, Y., Oguma, Y., Inoue, S., Tanaka, A., & Kobori, Y. (2013). Environmental and
477	individual correlates of various types of physical activity among community-dwelling
478	middle-aged and elderly Japanese. International Journal of Environmental Research
479	and Public Health, 10(5), 2028–2042. doi:10.3390/ijerph10052028
480	Sallis, J. F., Owen, N., & Fotheringham, M. J. (2000). Behavioral epidemiology: a systematic
481	framework to classify phases of research on health promotion and disease prevention.
482	Annals of Behavioral Medicine: A Publication of the Society of Behavioral Medicine,
483	22(4), 294–298. doi:10.1007/BF02895665
484	Sallis, J. F., Bowles, H. R., Bauman, A., Ainsworth, B. E., Bull, F. C., Craig, C. L.,
485	Bergman, P. (2009). Neighborhood environments and physical activity among adults
486	in 11 countries. American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 36(6), 484-490.
487	doi:10.1016/j.amepre.2009.01.031
488	Sallis, J. F., Kerr, J., Carlson, J. A., Norman, G. J., Saelens, B. E., Durant, N., & Ainsworth, B.
489	E. (2010). Evaluating a Brief Self-Report Measure of Neighborhood Environments for
490	Physical Activity Research and Surveillance: Physical Activity Neighborhood
491	Environment Scale (PANES). Journal of Physical Activity and Health, 7(4), 533-540.
492	doi:10.1123/jpah.7.4.533

493	Sallis, J. F., Cervero, R. B., Ascher, W., Henderson, K. a, Kraft, M. K., & Kerr, J. (2006). An
494	ecological approach to creating active living communities. Annual Review of Public
495	Health, 27, 297-322. doi:10.1146/annurev.publhealth.27.021405.102100
496	Satariano, W. A., Ivey, S. L., Kurtovich, E., Kealey, M., Hubbard, A. E., Bayles, C. M.,
497	Prohaska, T. R. (2010). Lower-body function, neighborhoods, and walking in an older
498	population. American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 38(4), 419–428.
499	doi:10.1016/j.amepre.2009.12.031
500	Shigematsu, R., Sallis, J. F., Conway, T. L., Saelens, B. E., Frank, L. D., Cain, K. L., King,
501	A. C. (2009). Age differences in the relation of perceived neighborhood environment
502	to walking. Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise, 41(2), 314–321.
503	doi:10.1249/MSS.0b013e318185496c
504	Shimada, H., Tsutsumimoto, K., Lee, S., Doi, T., Makizako, H., Lee, S., Suzuki, T. (2016).
505	Driving continuity in cognitively impaired older drivers. Geriatrics & Gerontology
506	International, 16(4), 508-514. doi:10.1111/ggi.12504
507	Tsunoda, K., Tsuji, T., Kitano, N., Mitsuishi, Y., Yoon, JY., Yoon, J., & Okura, T. (2012).
508	Associations of physical activity with neighborhood environments and transportation
509	modes in older Japanese adults. Preventive Medicine, 55(2), 113-118.
510	doi:10.1016/j.ypmed.2012.05.013
511	Wilcox, S., Bopp, M., Oberrecht, L., Kammermann, S. K., & McElmurray, C. T. (2003).
512	Psychosocial and Perceived Environmental Correlates of Physical Activity in Rural and
513	Older African American and White Women. The Journals of Gerontology Series B:
514	Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, 58(6), P329–P337.
515	doi:10.1093/geronb/58.6.P329
516	World Health Organization. (2010). Global recommendations on physical activity for health.
517	Retrieved from http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241599979_eng.pdf.

MVPA, moderate-to-vigorous physical activity

Figure Legends

Figure 1. Associations of distance from public transportation and driving status with steps per day. Steps per day were adjusted by gender, age, living alone, current smoking habits, and history of heart disease. The distance from public transportation was categorized into near group (<-1SD group) and distant group (>+1SD group). F value and p value for the interaction term of distance from public transportation and driving status in analysis of covariance were F=18.3 and p<0.001.

Figure 2. Associations of distance from public transportation and driving status with moderate-to-vigorous physical activity per day. Moderate-to-vigorous physical activity per day was adjusted by gender, age, living alone, current smoking habits, and history of heart disease. The distance from public transportation were categorized into near group (<-1SD group) and distant group (>+1SD group). F value and p value for the interaction term of distance from public transportation and driving status in analysis of covariance were F=13.4 and p<0.001.

Table 1

Characteristics of Participants

				Driving s	Driving status, n or mean					
		or mean (2738)		non driver 1139)		nt driver 1739)	p-value			
Gender, n (%)		,		/			<0.001a			
Women	1494	(51.9)	949	(83.3)	545	(31.3)				
Men	1384	(48.1)	190	(16.7)	1194	(68.7)				
Employment in paid work, n (%)		, ,					<0.001a			
No	2375	(82.5)	1009	(88.6)	1366	(78.6)				
Yes	503	(17.5)	130	(11.4)	373	(21.4)				
Living alone, n (%)		, ,					<0.001a			
No	2449	(85.1)	897	(78.8)	1552	(89.2)				
Yes	429	(14.9)	242	(21.2)	187	(10.8)				
Current alcohol drinker, n (%)		, ,					<0.001a			
No	1664	(57.8)	819	(71.9)	845	(48.6)				
Yes	1214	(42.2)	320	(28.1)	894	(51.4)				
Current smoker, n (%)							<0.001a			
No	2712	(94.2)	1112	(97.6)	1600	(92.0)				
Yes	166	(5.8)	27	(2.4)	139	(8.0)				
Hypertension, n (%)		,					0.465^{a}			
No	1515	(52.6)	590	(51.8)	925	(53.2)				
Yes	1363	(47.4)	549	(48.2)	814	(46.8)				
Diabetes, n (%)							0.012^{a}			
No	2536	(88.1)	1025	(90.0)	1511	(86.9)				
Yes	342	(11.9)	114	(10.0)	228	(13.1)				
Hyperlipidemia, n (%)							<0.001a			
No	1660	(57.7)	594	(52.2)	1066	(61.3)				
Yes	1218	(42.3)	545	(47.8)	673	(38.7)				
Heart disease, n (%)		,		, ,			0.094^{a}			
No	2342	(81.4)	944	(82.9)	1398	(80.4)				
Yes	536	(18.6)	195	(17.1)	341	(19.6)				
Current driving status, n (%)		,		, ,						
No	1139	(39.6)	_	_		_				
Yes	1739	(60.4)		_	_					
Age (years), mean (SD)	75.6	(4.1)	76.6	(4.4)	75.0	(3.7)	<0.001 ^b			
Education level (years), mean (SD)	12.0	(2.6)	11.4	(2.4)	12.4	(2.7)	<0.001 ^b			
Distance from public transportation (m), mean (SD)	292.6	(146.5)	292.3	(141.9)	292.9	(149.5)	0.919 ^b			
Steps per day, mean (SD)	5043.6	(2673.7)	4923.7	(2590.8)	5122.1	(2724.5)	0.052^{b}			
Moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (minutes) per day, mean (SD)	23.2	(17.4)	22.9	(16.2)	23.4	(18.1)	0.436 ^b			

Table 2

Multiple Regression Analysis for the Association of Distance from Public Transportation and Driving Status with Physical Activity

_		Steps per day					per day	
	Model 1 ^a		Model 2	Model 2 ^b		Model 1 ^c		d
	Standardized β	p value	Standardized β	p value	Standardized β	p value	Standardized β	p value
Gender (male)	0.18	<0.001	0.17	< 0.001	0.20	<0.001	0.20	<0.001
Employment in paid work (yes)	0.02	0.207	0.02	0.223	-0.01	0.583	-0.01	0.552
Living alone (yes)	0.06	0.002	0.06	0.001	0.08	< 0.001	0.08	< 0.001
Current alcohol drinker (yes)	0.03	0.097	0.03	0.112	0.02	0.267	0.02	0.299
Current smoker(yes)	-0.06	0.001	-0.06	0.001	-0.06	0.003	-0.06	0.003
Hypertension (yes)	-0.03	0.167	-0.02	0.200	-0.01	0.708	-0.01	0.782
Diabetes (yes)	0.01	0.481	0.01	0.484	0.02	0.281	0.02	0.283
Hyperlipidemia (yes)	0.01	0.725	0.01	0.709	0.03	0.129	0.03	0.124
Heart disease (yes)	-0.06	0.001	-0.06	0.001	-0.07	< 0.001	-0.07	< 0.001
Current driving status (yes)	-0.09	< 0.001	-0.09	< 0.001	-0.10	< 0.001	-0.10	< 0.001
Age	-0.22	< 0.001	-0.22	< 0.001	-0.18	<0.001	-0.18	< 0.001

Education level	0.01	0.469	0.01	0.502	0.01	0.783	0.00	0.824
Distance from public transportation	0.01	0.740	0.01	0.631	-0.01	0.654	-0.01	0.762
Current driving status × distance	_	_	-0.06	0.002	_	_	-0.05	0.003
from public transportation								

MVPA: moderate-to-vigorous physical activity

Model 1: Distance from public transportation, driving status, and demographic and health-related factors were included by the force entry method.

Model 2: The interaction terms of current driving status or distance from public transportation with demographic and health-related factors, and current driving status with distance from public transportation were added by the stepwise method.

^aAdjusted $R^2 = 0.066$, ^bAdjusted $R^2 = 0.069$, ^cAdjusted $R^2 = 0.050$, ^dAdjusted $R^2 = 0.053$

Table 3

Multiple Regression Analysis for the Association of Distance from Public Transportation with Physical Activity among non-Driver (n=1139)

		Steps	per day		MVPA					
	Mode	Model 1 ^a		Model 2 ^b		Model 1°		2 ^d		
	Standardized	β p value	Standardized	β p value	Standardized [B p value	Standardized β	p value		
Gender (male)	0.16	< 0.001	0.16	< 0.001	0.18	< 0.001	0.18	< 0.001		
Living alone (yes)	0.10	0.001	0.10	0.001	0.13	< 0.001	0.13	< 0.001		
Current smoker (yes)	-0.02	0.553	-0.02	0.510	-0.03	0.370	-0.03	0.342		
Heart disease (yes)	-0.07	0.014	-0.07	0.018	-0.07	0.017	-0.07	0.021		
Age	-0.25	< 0.001	-0.25	< 0.001	-0.20	< 0.001	-0.20	< 0.001		
Distance from public transportation	_	_	0.08	0.007	_	_	0.06	0.029		

MVPA: moderate-to-vigorous physical activity

Model 1: Demographic and health-related factors were included.

Model 2: Demographic and health-related factors, and distance from public transportation were included.

^aAdjusted $R^2 = 0.071$, ^bAdjusted $R^2 = 0.076$, ^cAdjusted $R^2 = 0.061$, ^dAdjusted $R^2 = 0.064$

Table 4 $\label{eq:Multiple Regression Analysis for the Association of Distance from Public Transportation with Physical Activity among Driver (n=1739)$

		Steps	per day		MVPA					
	Mode	Model 1 ^a		Model 2 ^b		Model 1 ^c		d		
	Standardized	β p value	Standardized	β p value	Standardized (3 p value	Standardized β	p value		
Gender (male)	0.16	<0.001	0.16	< 0.001	0.16	< 0.001	0.17	< 0.001		
Living alone (yes)	0.02	0.360	0.02	0.308	0.04	0.155	0.04	0.121		
Current smoker (yes)	-0.08	0.001	-0.08	0.001	-0.07	0.006	-0.07	0.006		
Heart disease (yes)	-0.06	0.019	-0.06	0.017	-0.06	0.008	-0.06	0.007		
Age	-0.22	< 0.001	-0.22	< 0.001	-0.17	< 0.001	-0.17	< 0.001		
Distance from public transportation	_	_	-0.04	0.097	_	_	-0.05	0.042		

MVPA: moderate-to-vigorous physical activity

Model 1: Demographic and health-related factors were included.

Model 2: Demographic and health-related factors and distance from public transportation were included.

^aAdjusted $R^2 = 0.061$, ^bAadjusted $R^2 = 0.062$, ^cAdjusted $R^2 = 0.045$, ^dAdjusted $R^2 = 0.047$







