

**Supplementary Table 1. Primer sequences used for rs28357094 melting curve analysis and Sanger sequencing (SPPI).**

<b>SNP</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Forward primer (5'→3')</b>	<b>Reverse primer (5'→3')</b>
rs28357094	MCA	GCAGAAAACCTCATGAC ACAATCTC	CCACCAACACAGGGAGG CGG
	MCA (LC*)	TTAAATTATAAAATATTT ATAATATTAATTATATAT ATATAAATATAATA	TATTATATTTATATATAT ATAATTAATATTATAAAA TATTTTATAAATTTAA
	SEQ	ACAAAACCAGAGGGGG AAGT	CTCCTGCTGCTGCTGACA

MCA = melting curve analysis, LC = low calibrators, SEQ = sequencing. \*LC primers were blocked on their 3'-hydroxyl termini with a three-carbon (C3) alkyl group during synthesis to prevent extension by Taq polymerase.

**Supplementary Table 2. Primer sequences used for *LTBP4* SNPs amplification and primer extension.**

<b>SNP</b>	<b>Forward primer (5'→3')</b>	<b>Reverse primer (5'→3')</b>	<b>Extension primer (5'→3')</b>
rs2303729	ACGTTGGATGGACTT CGCTGGCAAGTTCTG	ACGTTGGATGTACAC GGAGCGGGTGAGG	CCCCCGGCC CCGGCT
rs1131620	ACGTTGGATGTTCCA GTGTGTCTGCCCAT	ACGTTGGATGCTCACC CATCCACACTCCT	ACTCGGAG CCAGCAG
rs10880	ACGTTGGATGACTGG GCTAAAGCTCCTTG	ACGTTGGATGCAGAA CGGGGCTAGCAGGT	CTTGTCTCC CCAGGCA
rs1051303	ACGTTGGATGTGTGA GAACCACCTCGCAT	ACGTTGGATGTGCAG GTGGTGGCCAGAAG	TGGCCAGA AGGACAGG

**Supplementary Table 3. Counts and frequencies of the *LTBP4* reconstructed haplotypes.**

<b>Haplotype</b>	<b>Frequency %</b>	<b>Haplotype count</b>
VTTT	48.3	256
IAAM	34.9	185
IAAT	7.5	40
ITTT	3.4	18
VAAM	3.0	16
VTTM	2.6	14
ITTM	0.2	1
VAAT	0.0	0

**Supplementary Table 4. Cox regression analysis of the effect of steroid use, cohort and genotype on age at wheelchair dependence.**

<b><u>LTBP4</u></b>		
<b>Additive model</b>		
	<b>Hazard ratio</b>	<b>P value</b>
<b>Steroid use</b>	0.31	<.001
<b>LTBP4 haplotype</b>		
<b>IAAM</b>	0.69	.01
<b>VTTT</b>	0.86	.29
<b>other</b>	1*	-
<b>Cohort</b>		
<b>London</b>	1.16	.47
<b>Ferrara</b>	1.62	.03
<b>Montpellier</b>	1.07	.79
<b>Leiden</b>	1.83	.005
<b>Newcastle</b>	1*	-

The reported values were obtained using an additive model for the IAAM haplotype of the *LTBP4* gene. Hazard ratios smaller than 1 point to a lower risk of loss of ambulation compared to the reference, while hazard ratios above 1 point to a higher risk of loss of ambulation compared to the reference. \*These parameters were used as reference, therefore their hazard ratios are set at 1.