

**TABLE 2      Cox proportional hazard model (sex-stratified analysis)**

Back pain	Hazard ratios (95% confidence intervals)			
	Men		Women	
	Crude	Adjusted <sup>1</sup>	Crude	Adjusted <sup>1</sup>
No back pain	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Disabling back pain	1.4 (0.8-2.6)	1.0 (0.5-1.9)	1.5 (1.2-2.0)	1.4 (1.1-1.9)
Non-disabling back pain	1.0 (0.8-1.3)	0.9 (0.7-1.2)	1.0 (0.8-1.1)	0.9 (0.8-1.1)
<sup>1</sup> Adjusted for socio-demographic variables (age; residence; social class; marital status) and health-related potential confounding variables (arthritis/rheumatism; use of medication; previous use of general anaesthetic; chest pain; shortness of breath; falls)				