**Appendix SA1:**

**DVDD inclusion criteria for diabetes patients**

Patients are recorded in the database if they have one of the following ICD-10 codes: E10.0 - E10.9 (Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus - Type 1), E11.0 - E11.9 (Not insulin-dependent diabetes - Type 2), E13.0 - E13.9 (Other types of diabetes), E14.0 - E14.9 (Diabetes without specification), while E13.0-E14-9 classified in the database as some form of diabetes. Further, patients are not included in the DVDD if they have one of the following codes/conditions: O24 (Gestational diabetes), E74.8 (Renal glycosuria), E89.1 (Postoperative hypoinsulinemia), R73.0 (Impaired glucose tolerance), R81.9 (glycosuria without specification).

**Quality and completeness of the DVDD**

The DVDD database that we used in this study has a standardized procedure for data collection and storage, and the database quality is validated annually by the DVDD audit commission. The process on albuminuria measurement is less affected by misclassification or selection bias since the mandate for performing this process is obligatory for all hospitals in Denmark. The DVDD database completeness is considered very good as it covers at least 90% of patients with diabetes in Denmark who are treated at the hospital departments (outpatient clinics) during the study period. Further, the DVDD database has a very high level of data completeness on the albuminuria indicator, approaching 100% (around 97% in 2010). The risk for selection bias is therefore low.