

# BACTERIAL CONTAMINATION OF HEALTHCARE STUDENTS' MOBILE PHONES: IMPACT OF SPECIFIC ABSORPTION RATE (SAR), USERS' DEMOGRAPHICS AND DEVICE CHARACTERISTICS ON BACTERIAL CHARGES.

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## Supplementary Material

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**Table S1: Full results for HPC at 37 °C, HPC 22 °C, Gram negative organisms or enterics, Enterococci and Staphylococci in relation to questionnaire' variables.**

			HPC 37°C (CFU/dm <sup>2</sup> )	HPC 22°C (CFU/dm <sup>2</sup> )	Gram negative (CFU/dm <sup>2</sup> )	Enterococci (CFU/dm <sup>2</sup> )	Staphylococci (CFU/dm <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Whole sample</b>	<b>(n=83)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	411	247	5	82	432
		<b>Median</b>	253	100	0	19	238
		<b>SD</b>	466	396	19	169	504
		<b>Q1</b>	88	42	0	0	60
		<b>Q3</b>	589	302	0	65	562
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Female (n=65)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	391	235	6	82	420
		<b>Median</b>	274	83	0	18	238
		<b>SD</b>	442	402	22	175	499
		<b>Q1</b>	105	26	0	0	62
		<b>Q3</b>	522	296	0	66	536
	<b>Male (n=18)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	485	292	2	84	476
		<b>Median</b>	214	106	0	28	221
		<b>SD</b>	553	380	4	151	530
		<b>Q1</b>	76	71	0	0	57
		<b>Q3</b>	888	335	0	57	858
<b>Age (mean = 21,29y)</b>	<b>Below average (n=65)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	407	231	5	90	426
		<b>Median</b>	228	83	0	25	238
		<b>SD</b>	475	364	21	185	479
		<b>Q1</b>	88	26	0	0	60
		<b>Q3</b>	555	296	0	61	567
	<b>Above average (n=18)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	427	305	3	55	453
		<b>Median</b>	320	152	0	16	222
		<b>SD</b>	443	503	13	89	600
		<b>Q1</b>	118	69	0	0	50
		<b>Q3</b>	630	351	0	92	578
<b>Study course</b>	<b>Nursing (n=59)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	385	265	5	95	416
		<b>Median</b>	206	112	0	19	213
		<b>SD</b>	479	374	22	191	506
		<b>Q1</b>	88	54	0	0	60
		<b>Q3</b>	462	352	0	70	530
	<b>Obstetrics n=(13)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	369	97	1	54	323
		<b>Median</b>	321	43	0	18	301
		<b>SD</b>	284	128	2	90	284
		<b>Q1</b>	163	18	0	0	38
		<b>Q3</b>	607	140	0	53	509
	<b>Other (n=11)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	599	331	7	50	645
		<b>Median</b>	595	82	0	19	405
		<b>SD</b>	554	644	16	93	658
		<b>Q1</b>	77	32	0	0	95
		<b>Q3</b>	867	338	9	43	1051
<b>Place of training</b>	<b>Ambulatory care (n=3)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	255	43	0	11	88
		<b>Median</b>	77	42	0	0	95
		<b>SD</b>	338	32	0	20	49
		<b>Q1</b>	44	11	0	0	35
		<b>Q3</b>			0		
	<b>Medical Unit</b>	<b>Mean</b>	482	305	10	122	490

<b>Training frequency</b>	<b>(n=33)</b>	<b>Median</b>	281	121	0	30	287
		<b>SD</b>	538	488	30	230	553
		<b>Q1</b>	116	56	0	0	49
		<b>Q3</b>	798	354	8	89	779
	<b>Surgical Unit (n=43)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	371	216	1	55	408
		<b>Median</b>	228	95	0	17	292
		<b>SD</b>	423	326	4	104	472
		<b>Q1</b>	88	43	0	0	60
		<b>Q3</b>	520	293	0	44	530
	<b>Intensive care (n=2)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	279	66	0	40	179
		<b>Median</b>	279	66	0	40	179
		<b>SD</b>	112	65	0	42	83
		<b>Q1</b>	200	20	0	11	120
		<b>Q3</b>	.	.	0	.	.
	<b>1 to 3 days/week (n=4)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	607	224	3	28	922
		<b>Median</b>	703	219	0	12	942
		<b>SD</b>	388	196	5	40	701
		<b>Q1</b>	200	40	0	3	246
		<b>Q3</b>	919	413	8	68	1577
	<b>4 to 5 days/week (n=14)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	393	230	4	56	344
		<b>Median</b>	272	58	0	19	210
		<b>SD</b>	506	579	14	106	474
		<b>Q1</b>	67	17	0	0	55
		<b>Q3</b>	506	151	0	37	446
	<b>6 to 7 days/week (n=64)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	394	243	5	88	406
		<b>Median</b>	225	110	0	18	227
		<b>SD</b>	464	356	21	182	478
		<b>Q1</b>	91	49	0	0	51
		<b>Q3</b>	509	314	0	66	521
<b>Smartphone age (mean 18,78m)</b>	<b>Below average (n=45)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	385	246	7	94	359
		<b>Median</b>	156	82	0	14	152
		<b>SD</b>	504	442	26	201	459
		<b>Q1</b>	76	29	0	0	34
		<b>Q3</b>	497	257	0	50	506
	<b>Above average (n=38)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	443	249	2	69	518
		<b>Median</b>	294	118	0	24	302
		<b>SD</b>	421	339	5	122	546
		<b>Q1</b>	169	44	0	10	148
		<b>Q3</b>	602	343	0	67	683
<b>Cleaning method</b>	<b>No cleaning method (n=11)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	630	378	16	152	470
		<b>Median</b>	144	78	0	0	92
		<b>SD</b>	774	639	49	333	662
		<b>Q1</b>	63	11	0	0	33
		<b>Q3</b>	1552	552	8	91	804
	<b>Disinfectants (n=27)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	322	206	5	65	358
		<b>Median</b>	222	75	0	18	158
		<b>SD</b>	396	443	12	113	515
		<b>Q1</b>	77	18	0	0	29
		<b>Q3</b>	383	166	0	43	417
	<b>Water (n=26)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	398	248	0	64	525
		<b>Median</b>	291	120	0	16	320
		<b>SD</b>	362	272	2	119	505
		<b>Q1</b>	132	54	0	7	155
		<b>Q3</b>	662	344	0	57	832
	<b>Dry towel</b>	<b>Mean</b>	429	230	3	92	387

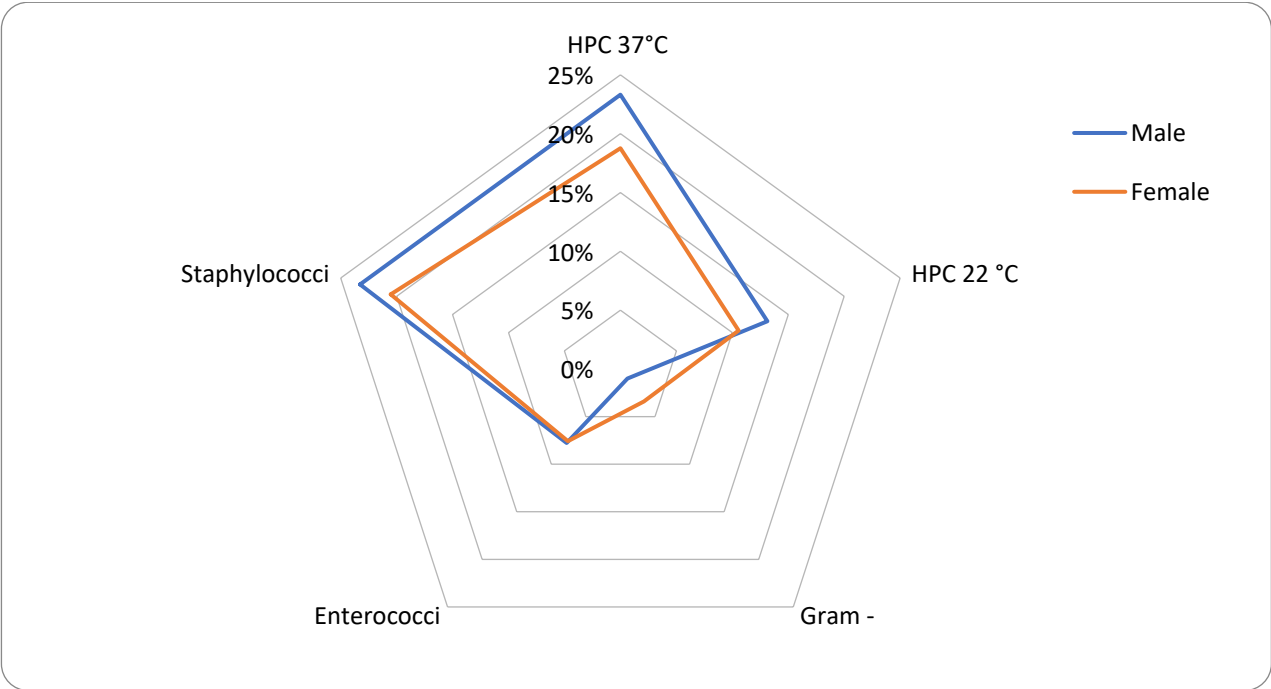
	(n=19)	Median	281	114	0	32	303
		SD	453	296	8	162	389
		Q1	77	61	0	0	133
		Q3	589	357	0	108	481
Cleaning frequency	Daily to weekly cleaning (n=20)	Mean	442	270	7	84	401
		Median	349	119	0	23	319
		SD	441	480	15	147	420
		Q1	101	56	0	0	80
		Q3	600	333	6	81	531
	Weekly to yearly cleaning (n=47)	Mean	367	228	2	73	450
		Median	217	114	0	25	227
		SD	397	294	4	126	524
		Q1	100	43	0	0	60
		Q3	589	302	0	66	571
	Less than yearly cleaning (n=16)	Mean	502	275	11	108	419
		Median	227	58	0	10	98
		SD	664	545	40	280	564
		Q1	64	20	0	0	34
		Q3	731	106	0	44	648
Last cleaning	Never so far (n=11)	Mean	630	378	16	152	470
		Median	144	78	0	0	92
		SD	774	639	49	333	662
		Q1	63	11	0	0	33
		Q3	1552	552	8	91	804
	1 day to 1 week before (n=24)	Mean	388	236	6	73	376
		Median	314	109	0	19	282
		SD	429	444	14	136	406
		Q1	71	38	0	0	56
		Q3	511	313	6	62	531
	1 week to 1 year before (n=41)	Mean	391	242	1	79	470
		Median	244	114	0	30	287
		SD	402	303	4	131	535
		Q1	109	43	0	10	95
		Q3	590	357	0	70	571
	1 year of more before (n=5)	Mean	217	56	0	7	286
		Median	284	47	0	9	213
		SD	116	35	0	6	296
		Q1	102	31	0	0	15
		Q3	299	84	0	12	594
Cover type	No case/cover (n=7)	Mean	338	235	1	78	401
		Median	312	32	0	0	405
		SD	323	322	3	132	480
		Q1	44	11	0	0	35
		Q3	524	389	0	150	494
	Flip-Cover (n=3)	Mean	600	187	3	46	741
		Median	520	69	0	32	804
		SD	322	218	5	40	346
		Q1	326	54	0	14	368
		Q3	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
	Case (n=73)	Mean	410	251	5	84	422
		Median	228	105	0	19	227

			SD	483	410	21	176	512
			Q1	88	44	0	0	60
			Q3	590	296	0	61	553
Screen protector	No screen protector (n=31)	Mean	376	252	4	57	370	
		Median	222	100	0	10	227	
		SD	459	436	12	110	451	
		Q1	75	61	0	0	40	
		Q3	383	289	0	44	481	
	Tempered glass (n=35)	Mean	431	247	7	100	436	
		Median	284	83	0	14	213	
		SD	487	402	28	220	517	
		Q1	88	42	0	0	76	
		Q3	595	302	0	70	562	
	Plastic film (n=17)	Mean	435	239	1	92	538	
		Median	321	118	0	30	310	
		SD	458	323	3	137	576	
		Q1	94	18	0	10	151	
		Q3	589	371	0	127	832	
Usual means of transport	Usually - Public transport (n=35)	Mean	519	348	3	84	573	
		Median	312	189	0	29	329	
		SD	517	474	9	135	591	
		Q1	132	43	0	0	132	
		Q3	867	438	0	87	833	
	Usually - Private transport (n=48)	Mean	332	174	6	82	329	
		Median	214	82	0	14	168	
		SD	412	313	24	191	405	
		Q1	75	28	0	0	40	
		Q3	434	161	0	50	469	
Means of transport in the day of sampling	Today - Public transport (n=28)	Mean	577	392	3	98	600	
		Median	397	212	0	31	339	
		SD	559	520	10	155	620	
		Q1	141	58	0	0	107	
		Q3	853	453	0	133	1015	
	Today - Private transport (n=53)	Mean	329	174	5	75	347	
		Median	200	81	0	14	170	
		SD	397	299	23	180	420	
		Q1	72	25	0	0	44	
		Q3	409	155	0	44	500	
	Today - Both public and private transport (n=2)	Mean	265	167	4	55	316	
		Median	265	167	4	55	316	
		SD	67	191	6	16	126	
		Q1	217	32	0	43	227	
		Q3	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	
Use with gloves	No (n=64)	Mean	451	264	5	94	449	
		Median	287	83	0	29	296	
		SD	501	442	22	179	484	
		Q1	102	28	0	0	95	
		Q3	618	301	0	82	603	
	Yes	Mean	241	233	2	23	428	

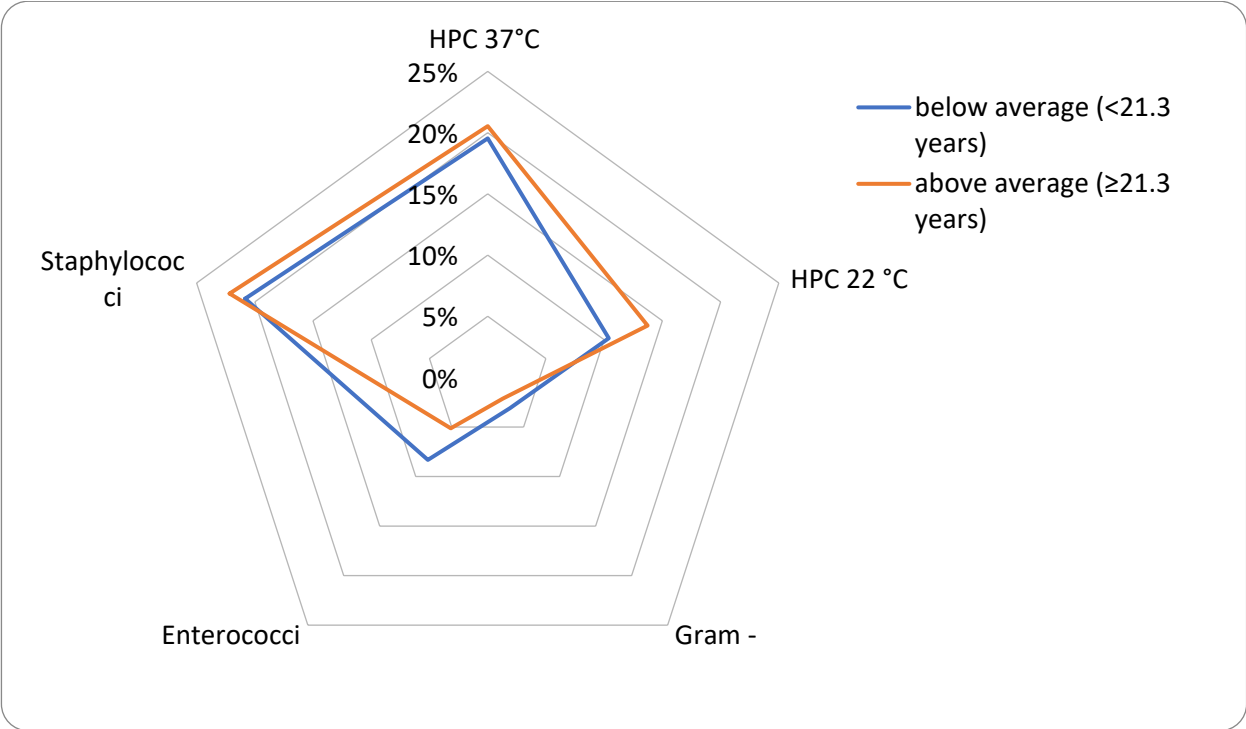
<b>Health status</b>	<b>(n=10)</b>	<b>Median</b>	143	186	0	10	153
		<b>SD</b>	234	169	4	43	654
		<b>Q1</b>	88	75	0	0	52
		<b>Q3</b>	456	391	2	22	630
	<b>Yes, changing gloves (n=9)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	314	140	5	68	316
		<b>Median</b>	144	105	0	0	79
		<b>SD</b>	359	136	11	178	504
		<b>Q1</b>	61	45	0	0	26
		<b>Q3</b>	531	236	5	30	504
	<b>Ill (n=14)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	520	347	15	168	521
		<b>Median</b>	286	82	0	37	258
		<b>SD</b>	617	538	43	302	523
		<b>Q1</b>	104	37	0	7	166
		<b>Q3</b>	871	524	9	195	929
	<b>Healthy (n=68)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	389	227	3	65	414
		<b>Median</b>	228	105	0	14	238
		<b>SD</b>	431	362	9	123	501
		<b>Q1</b>	83	37	0	0	49
		<b>Q3</b>	556	300	0	51	536
	<b>European Head SAR (Mean = 0.86 W/kg)</b>						
	<b>Above average (n=50)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	507	301	6	101	515
		<b>Median</b>	294	103	0	26	302
		<b>SD</b>	531	487	24	199	548
		<b>Q1</b>	126	44	0	7	78
		<b>Q3</b>	791	341	0	74	811
	<b>Below average (n=33)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	266	165	2	54	306
		<b>Median</b>	170	83	0	10	170
		<b>SD</b>	296	164	7	104	403
		<b>Q1</b>	76	24	0	0	31
		<b>Q3</b>	361	296	0	45	458

**Radar Plots showing the bacterial charges across the 15 selected user's demographics and devices characteristics**

**Figure S1: Radar plot for Gender**

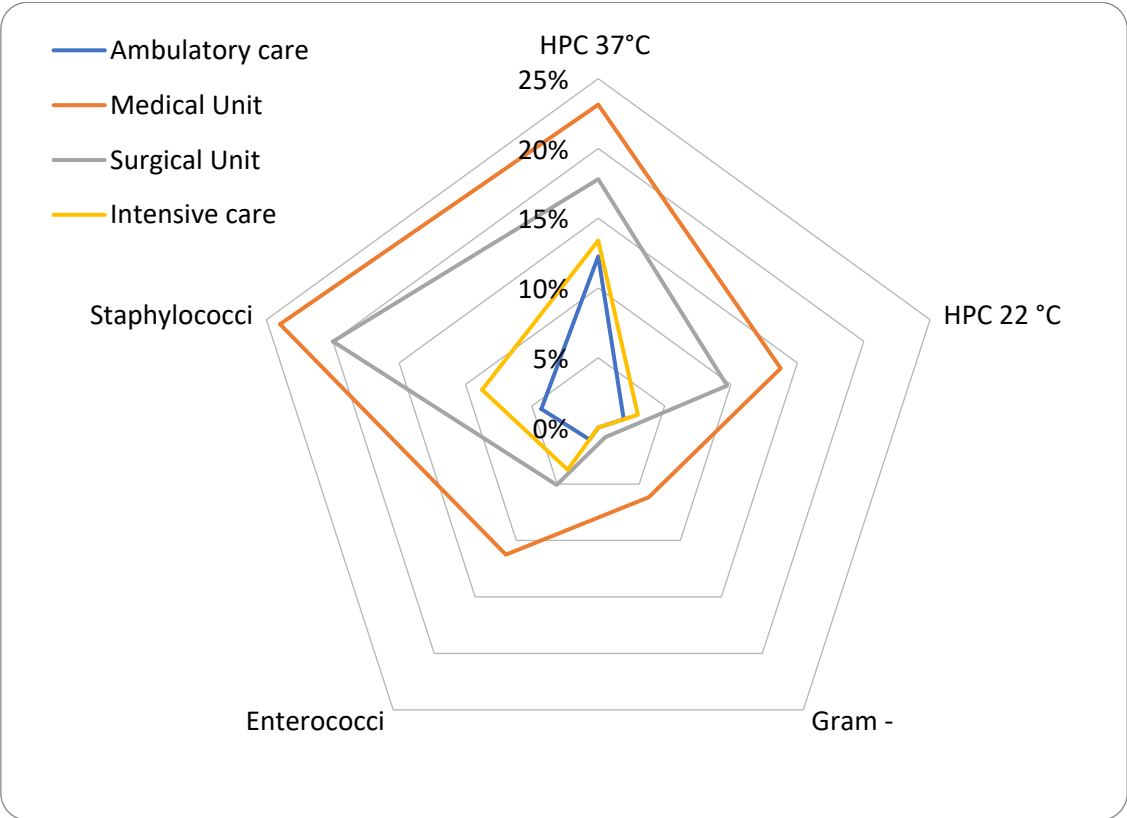


**Figure S2: Radar plot for User's Age**





**Figure S3: Radar plot for Place of training**



**Figure S4: Radar plot for Training frequency**

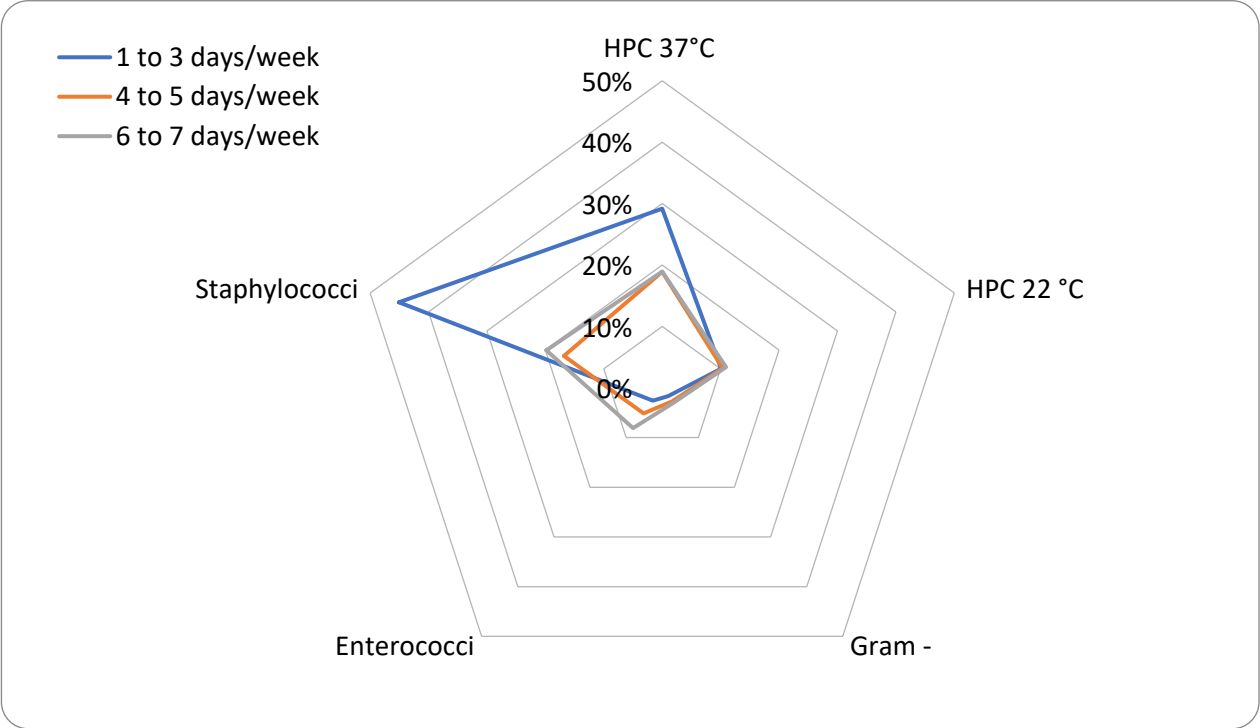


Figure S5: Radar plot for European Head SAR

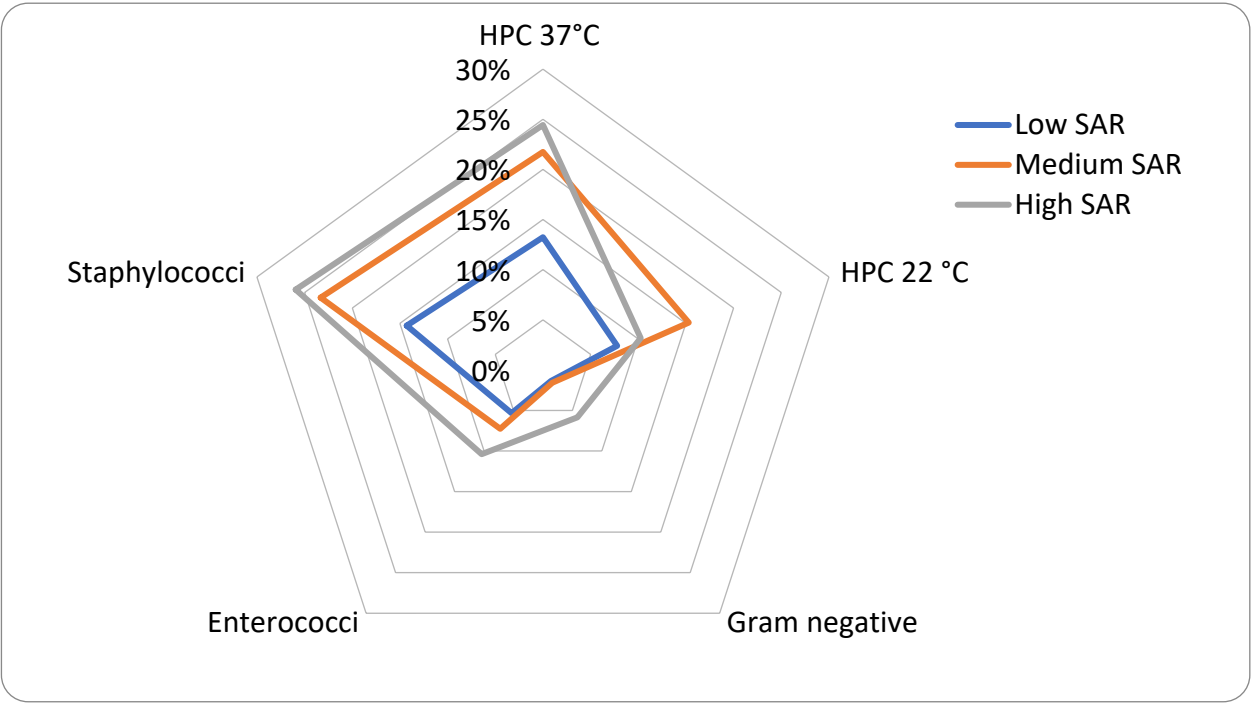


Figure S6: Radar plot for Smartphone age

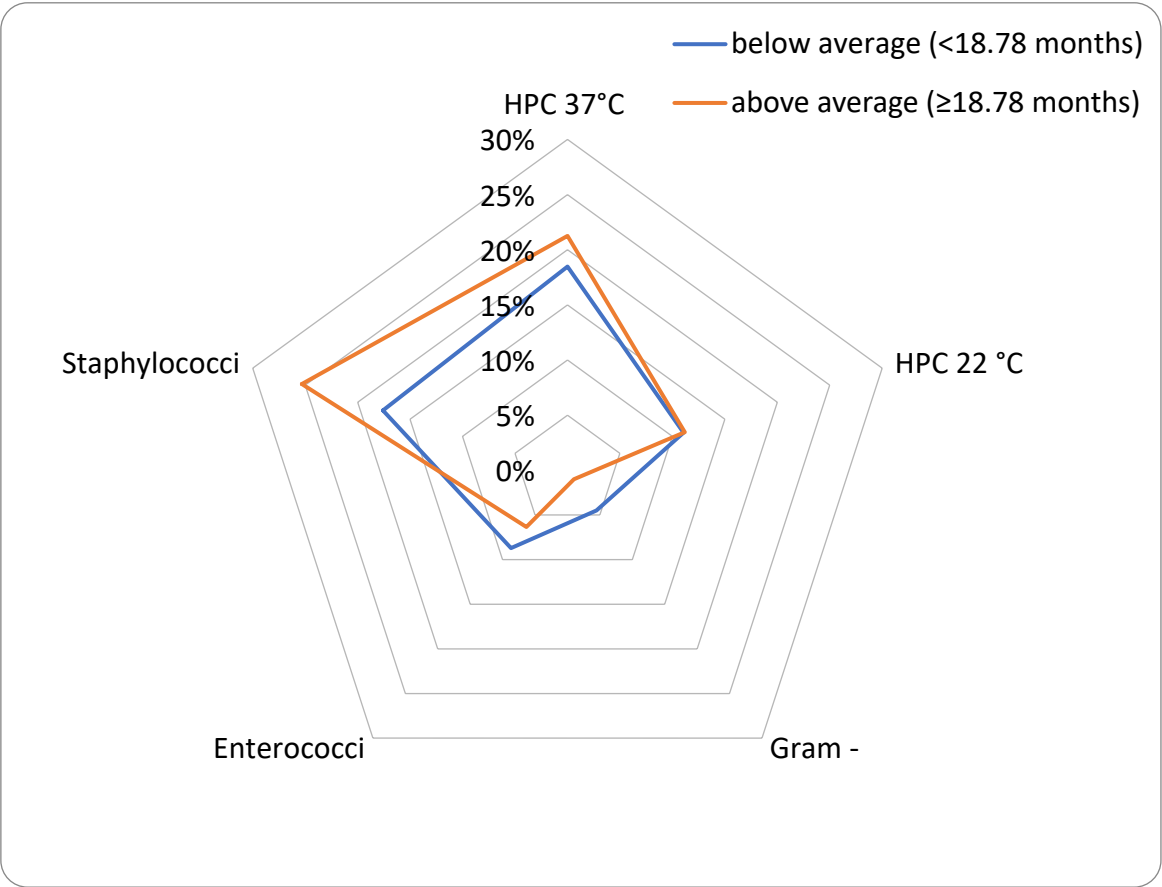


Figure S7: Radar plot for Cover type

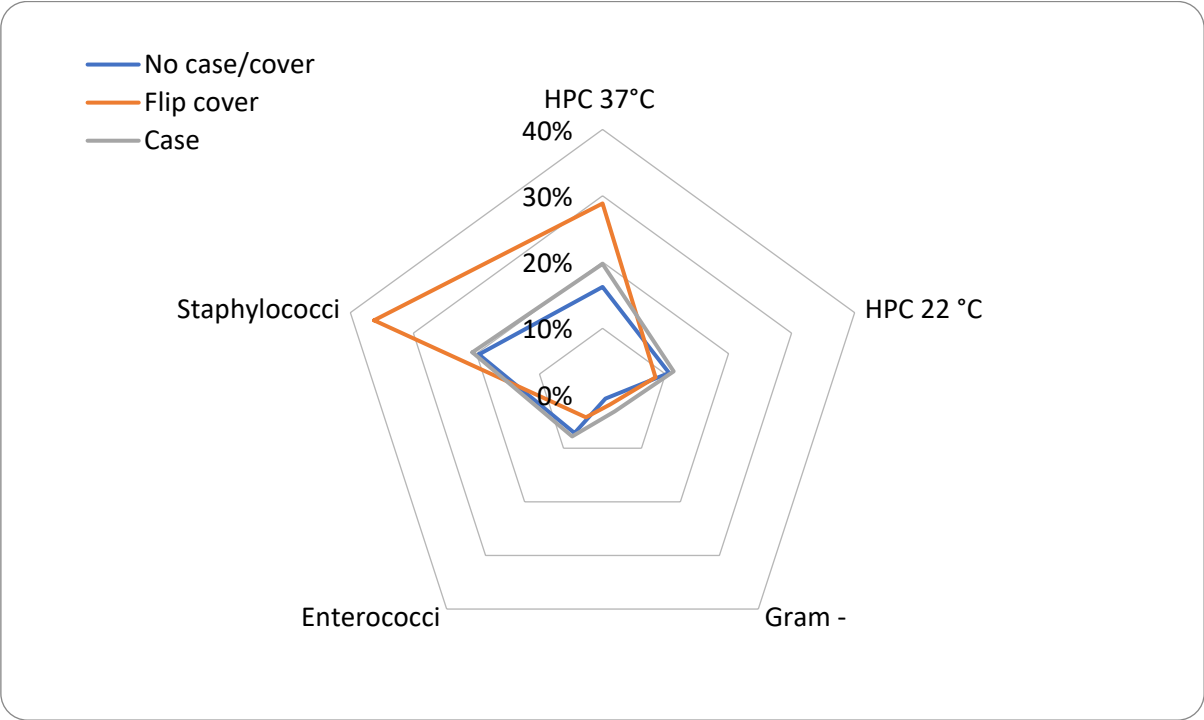


Figure S8: Radar plot for Screen protector

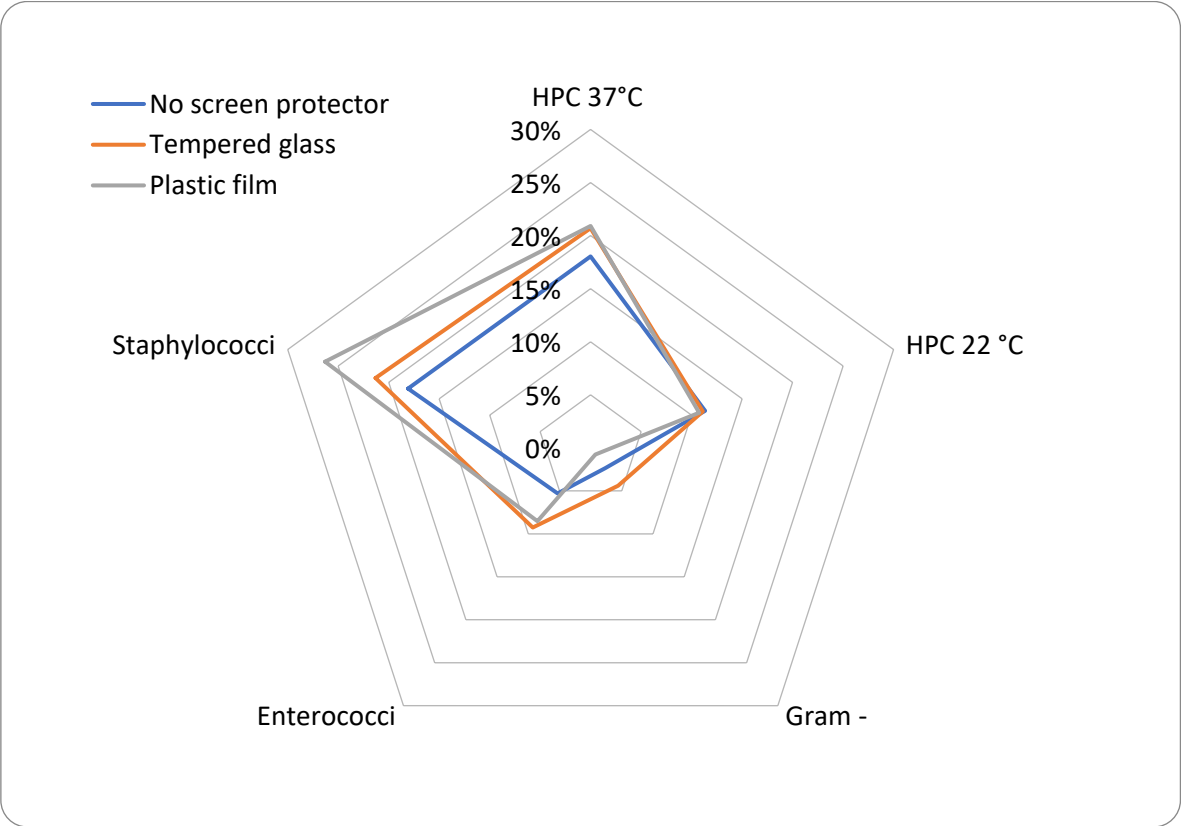


Figure S9: Radar plot for Health status

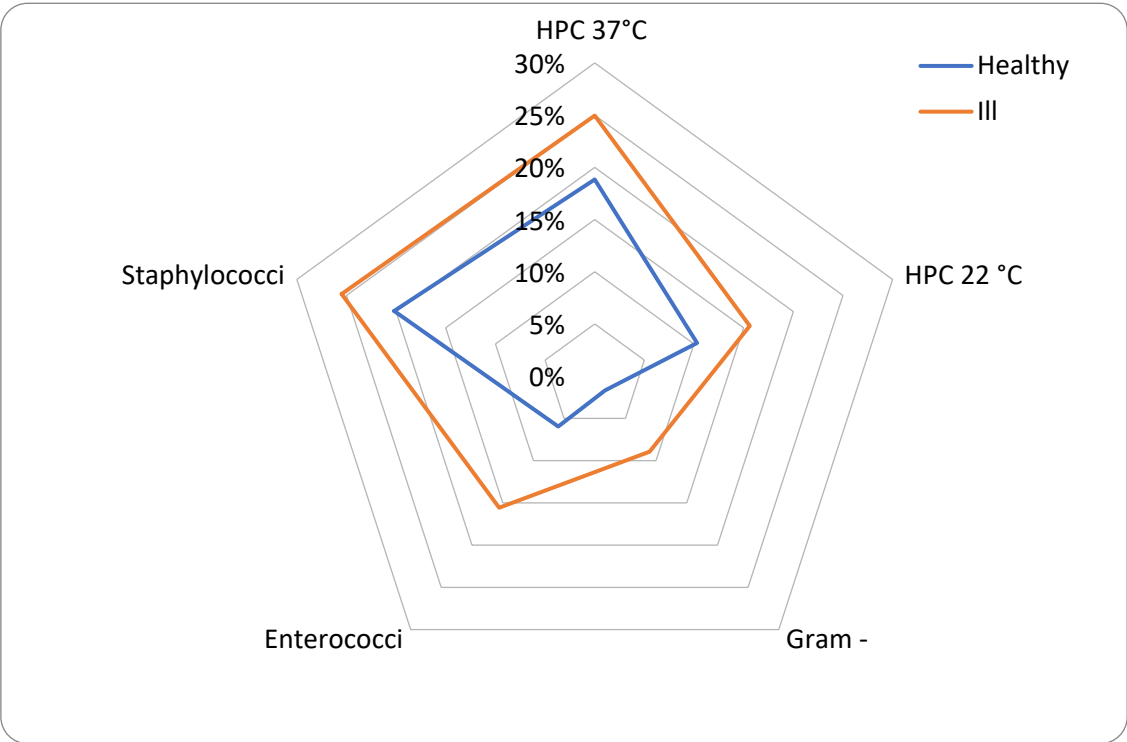


Figure S10: Radar plot for Cleaning frequency

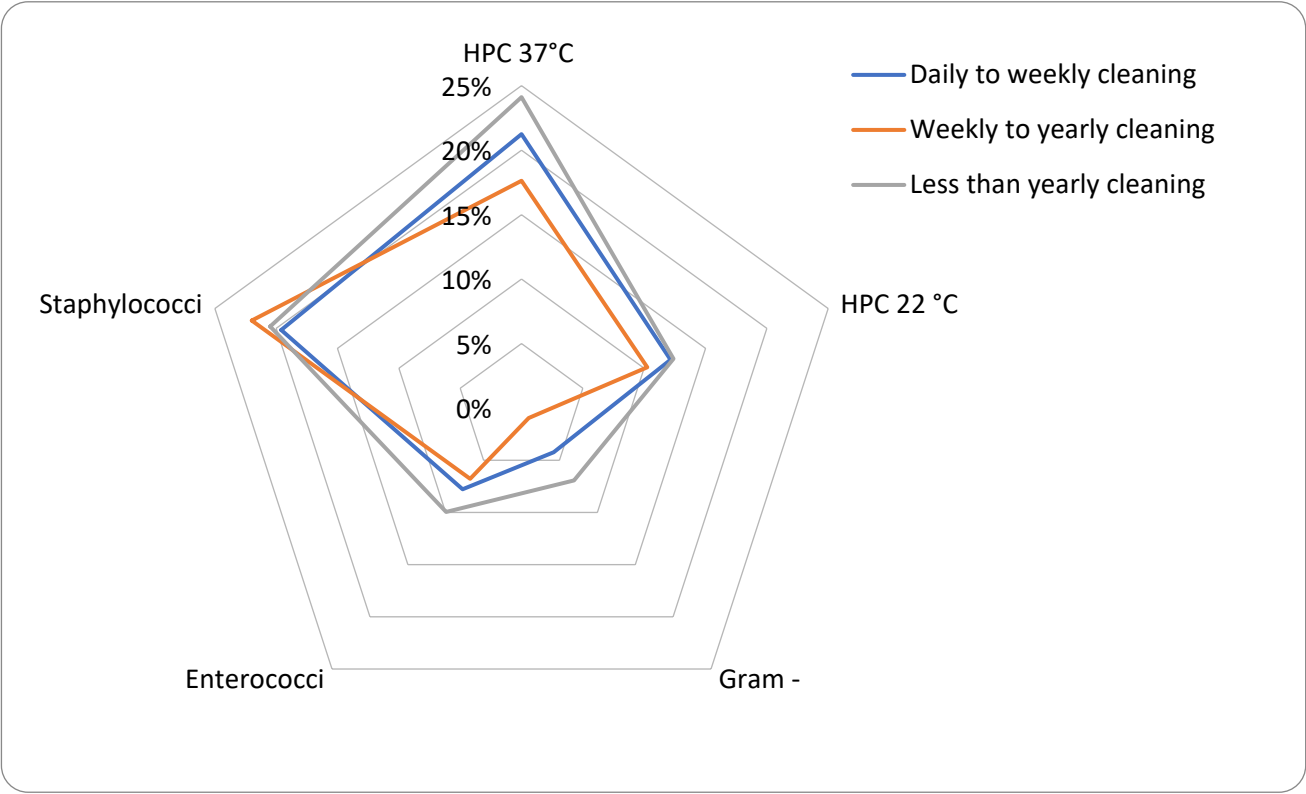


Figure S11: Radar plot for Cleaning method

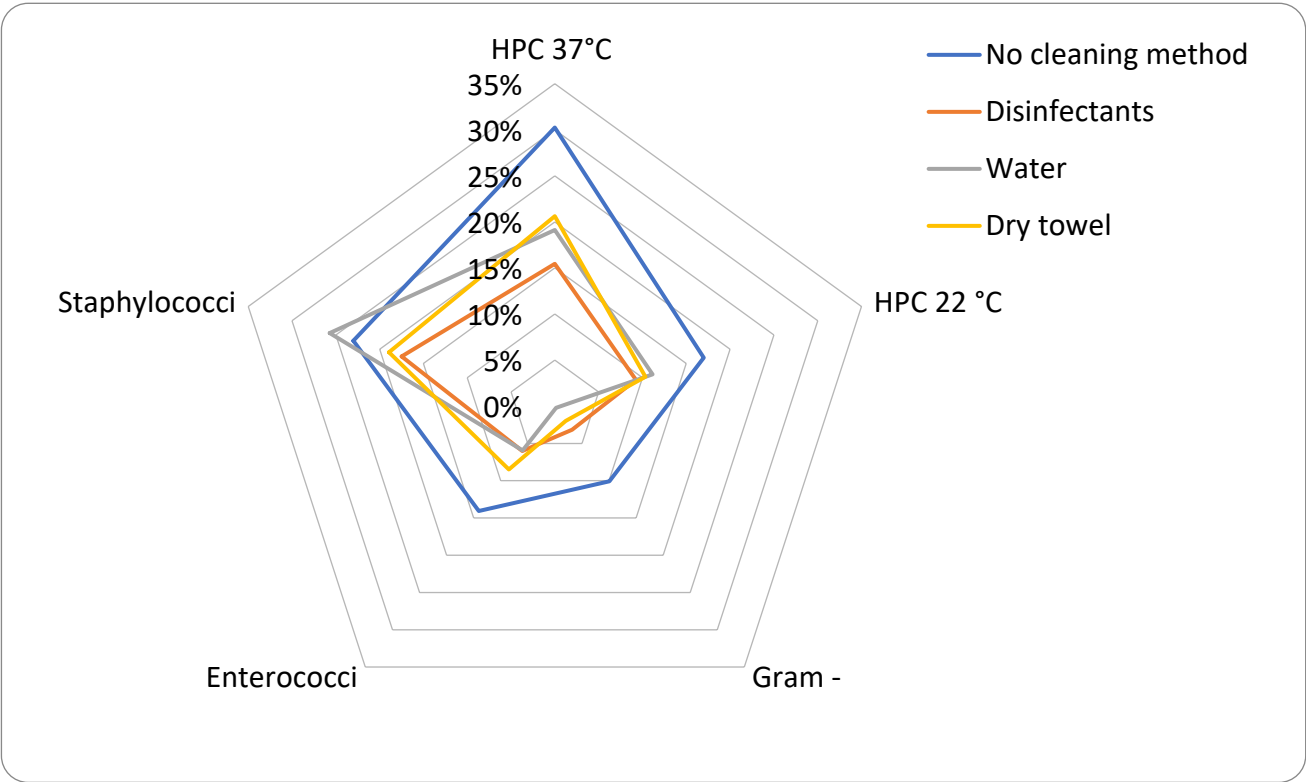


Figure S12: Radar plot for Last cleaning

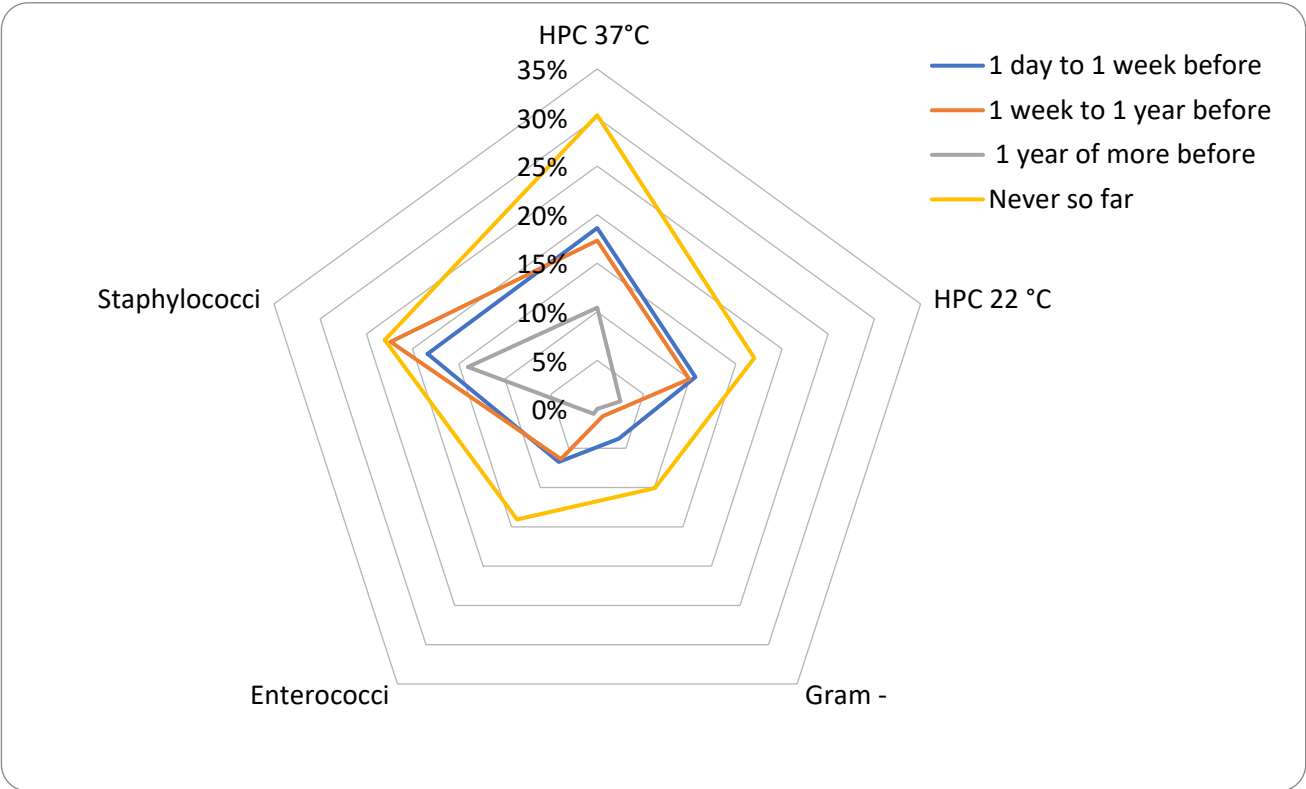


Figure S13: Radar plot for Use with gloves

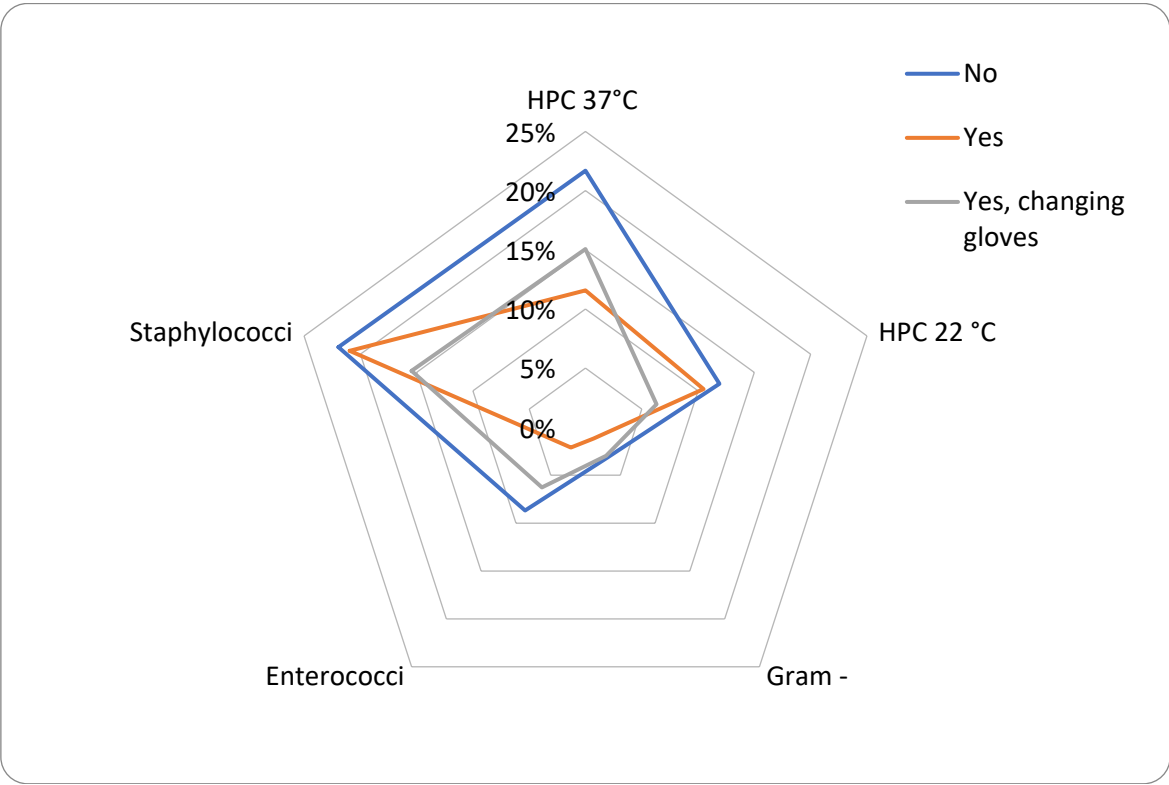


Figure S14: Radar plot for Usual means of transport

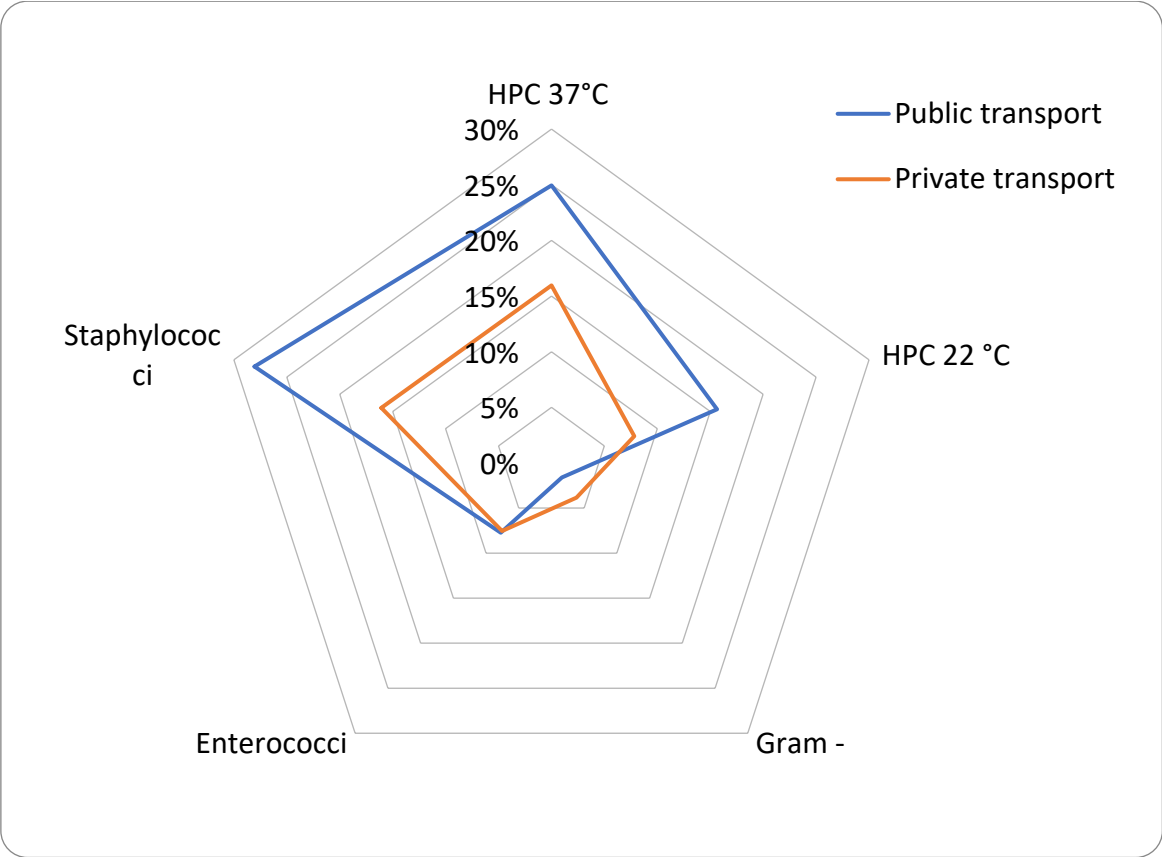
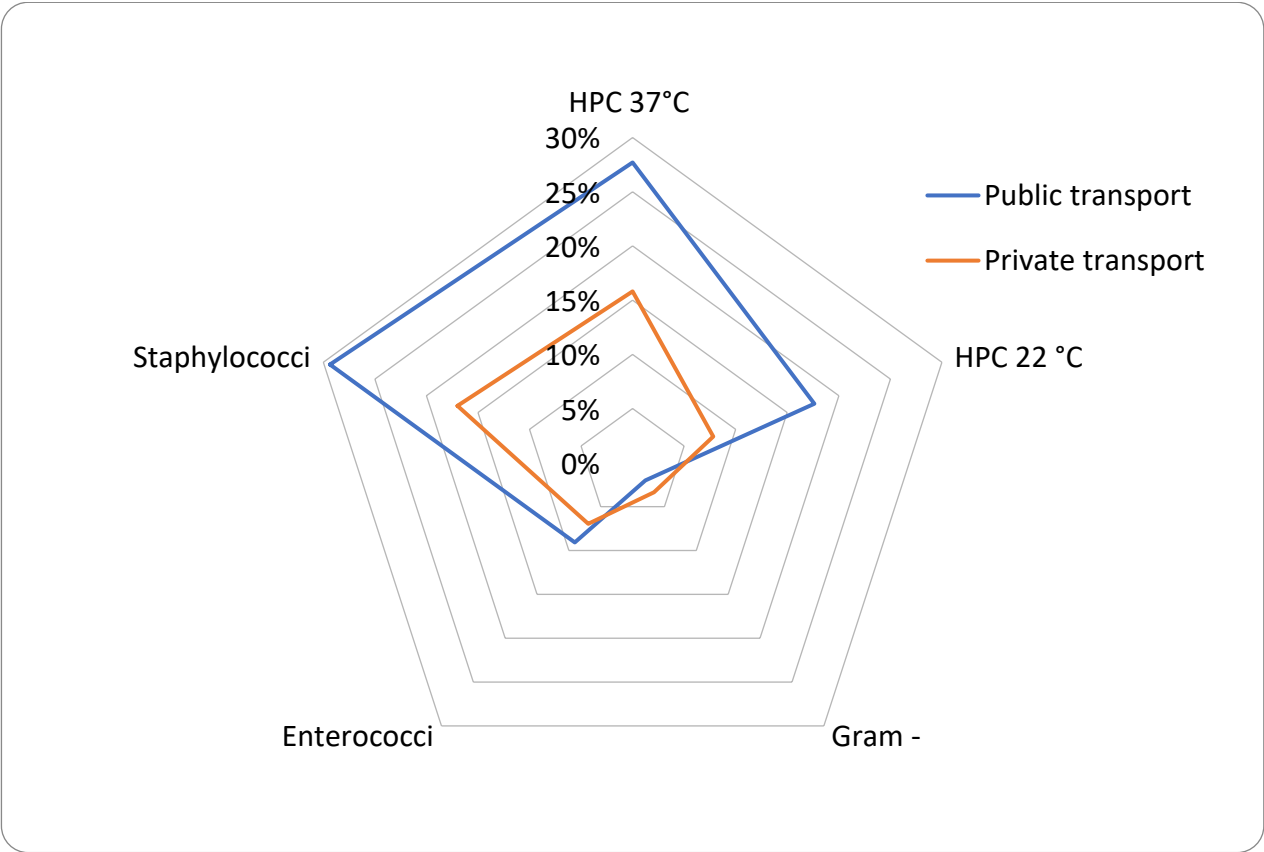
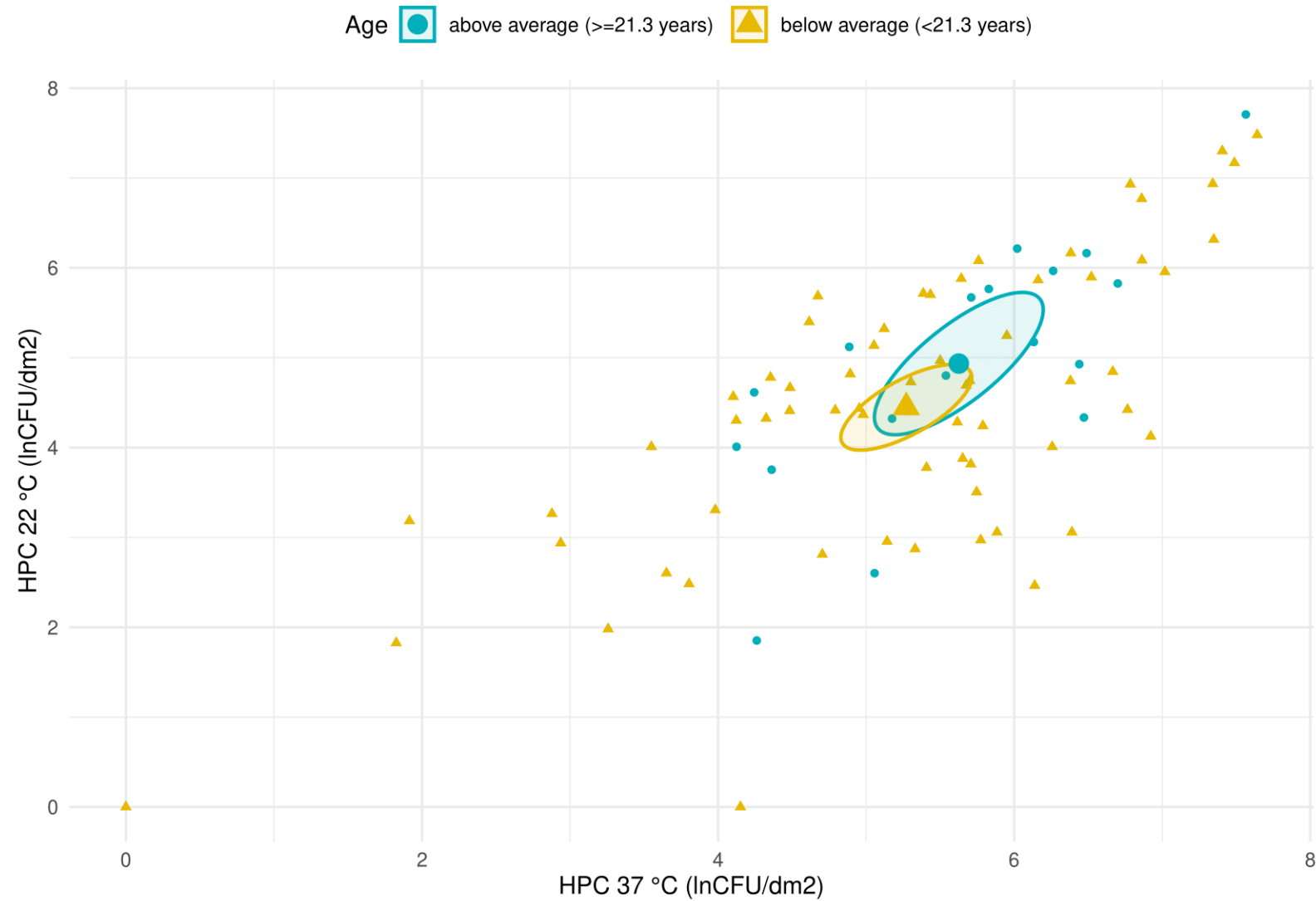


Figure S15: Radar plot for Means of transport in the day of sampling



## Scatter Plots comparing mean HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C across the selected variables

Figure S16: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Age





**Figure S17: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Cleaning frequency**



**Figure S18: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Cleaning method**

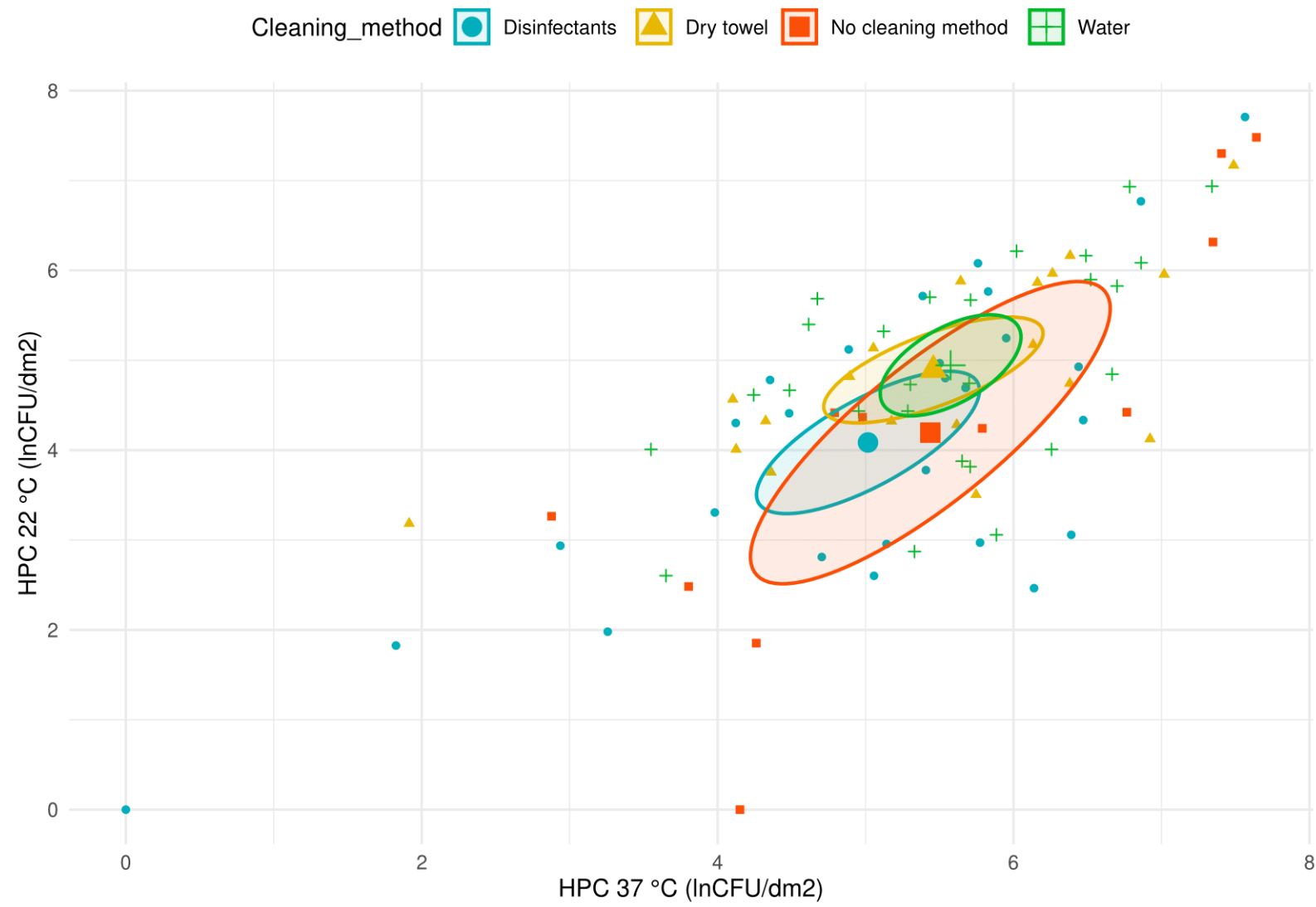
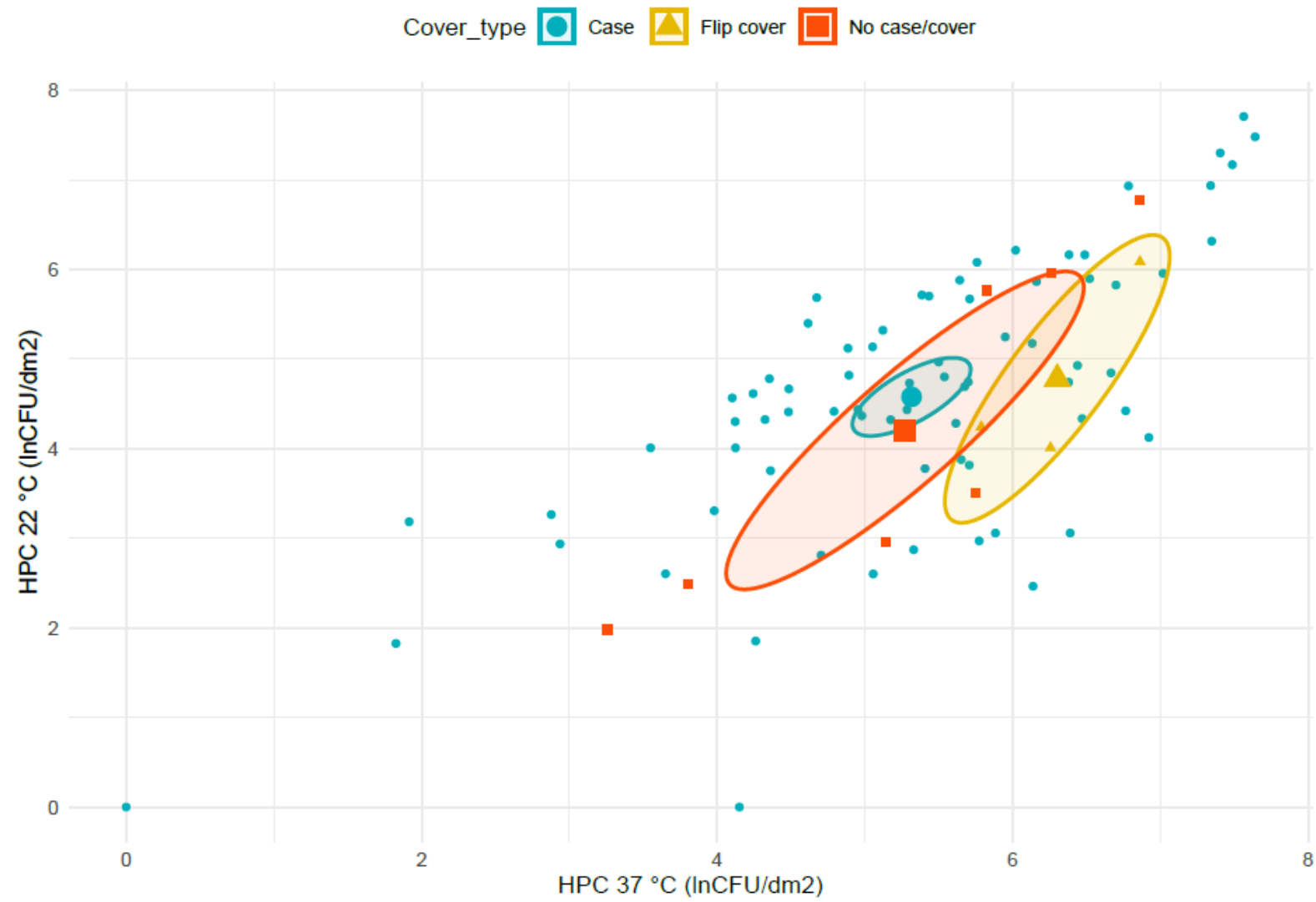
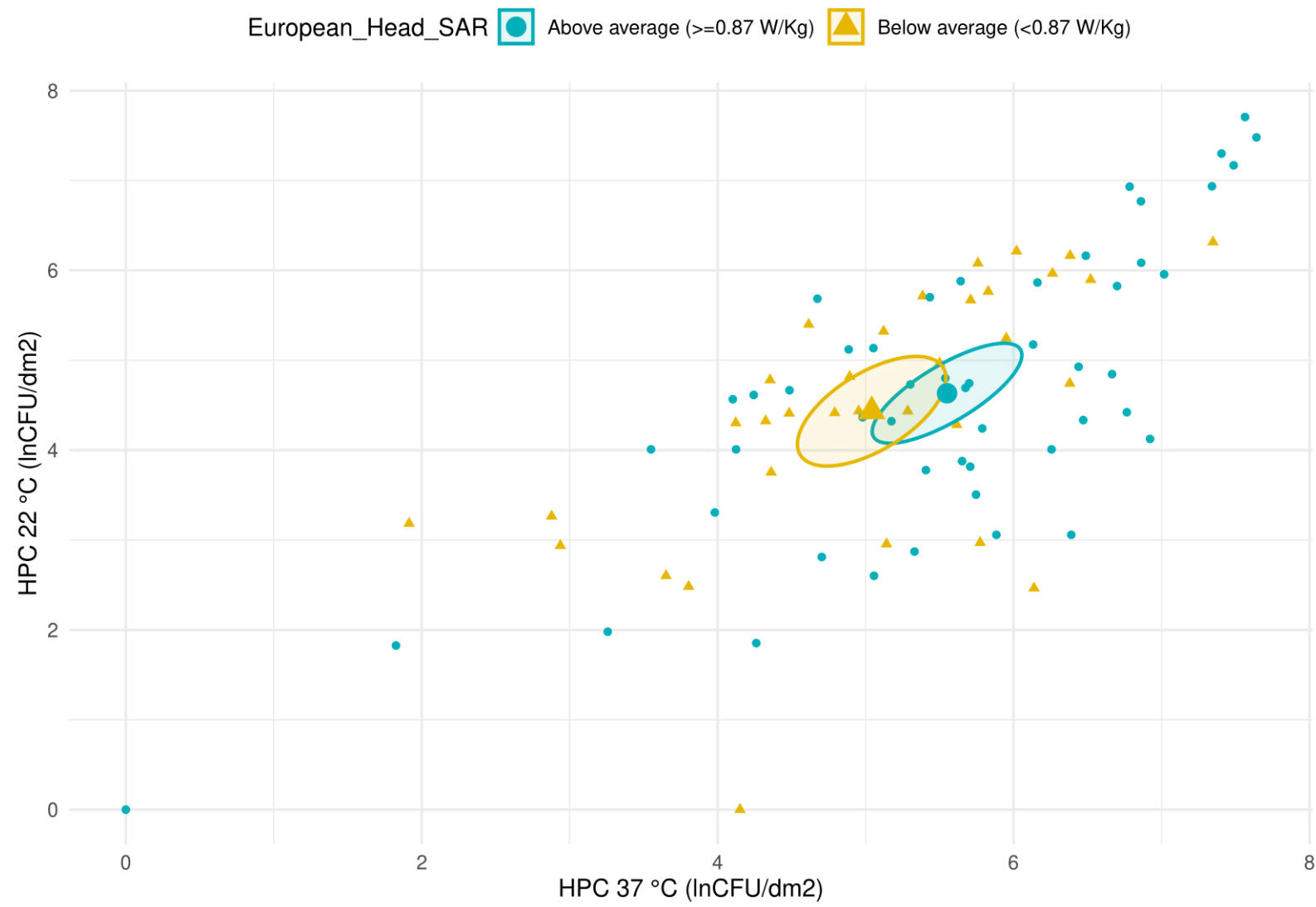


Figure S19: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Cover type



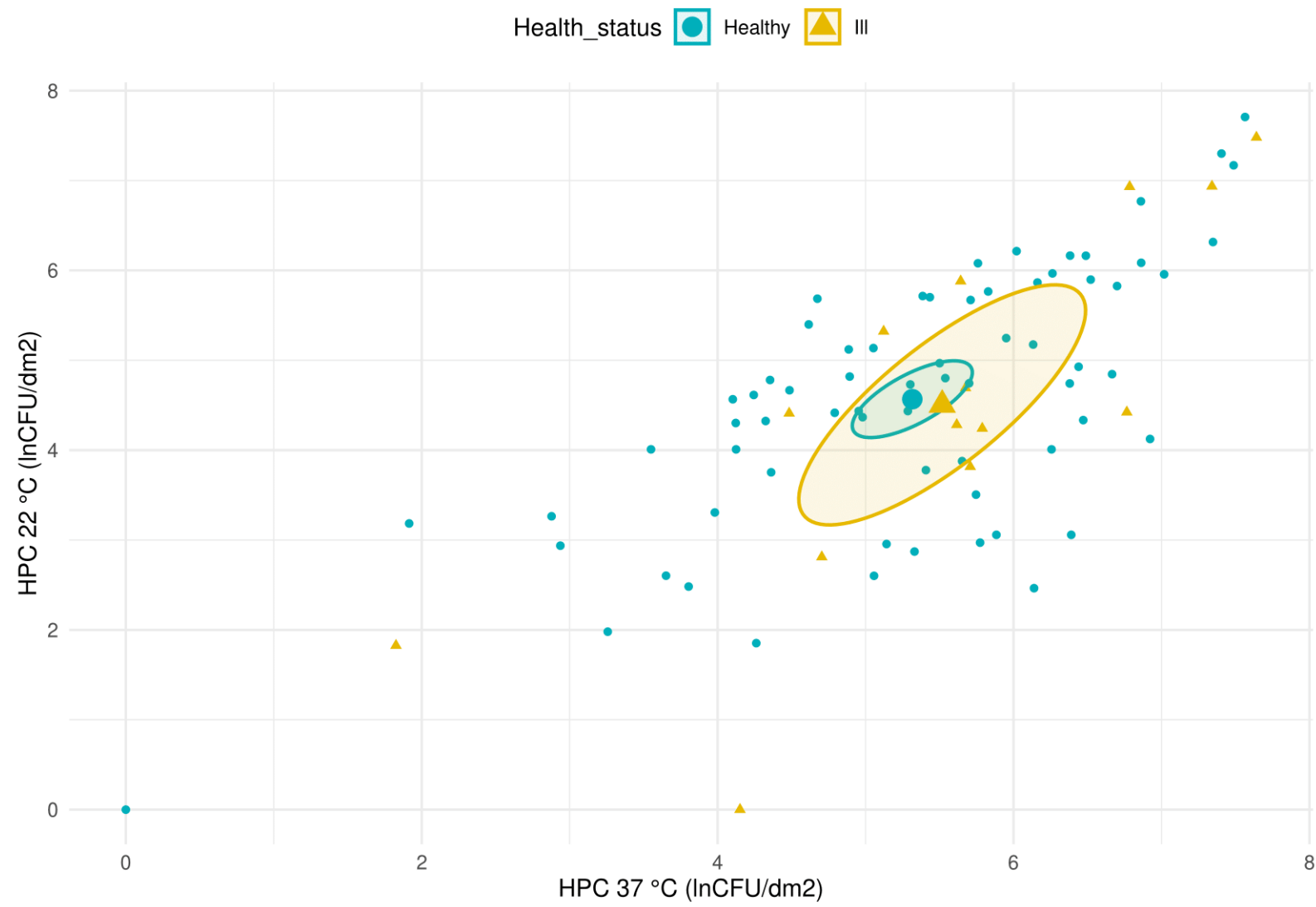
**Figure S20: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on European Head SAR (W/kg)**



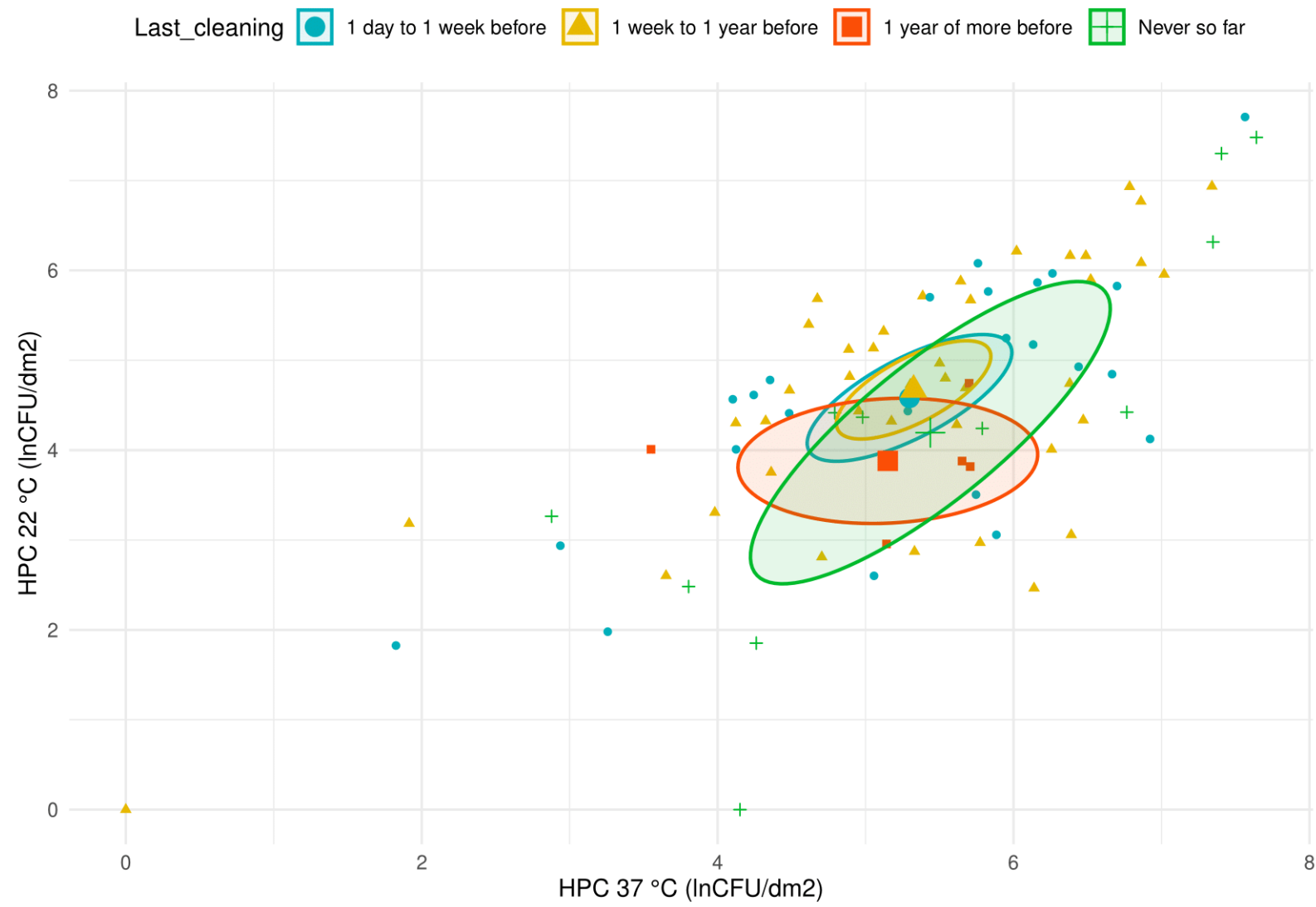
**Figure S21: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Gender**



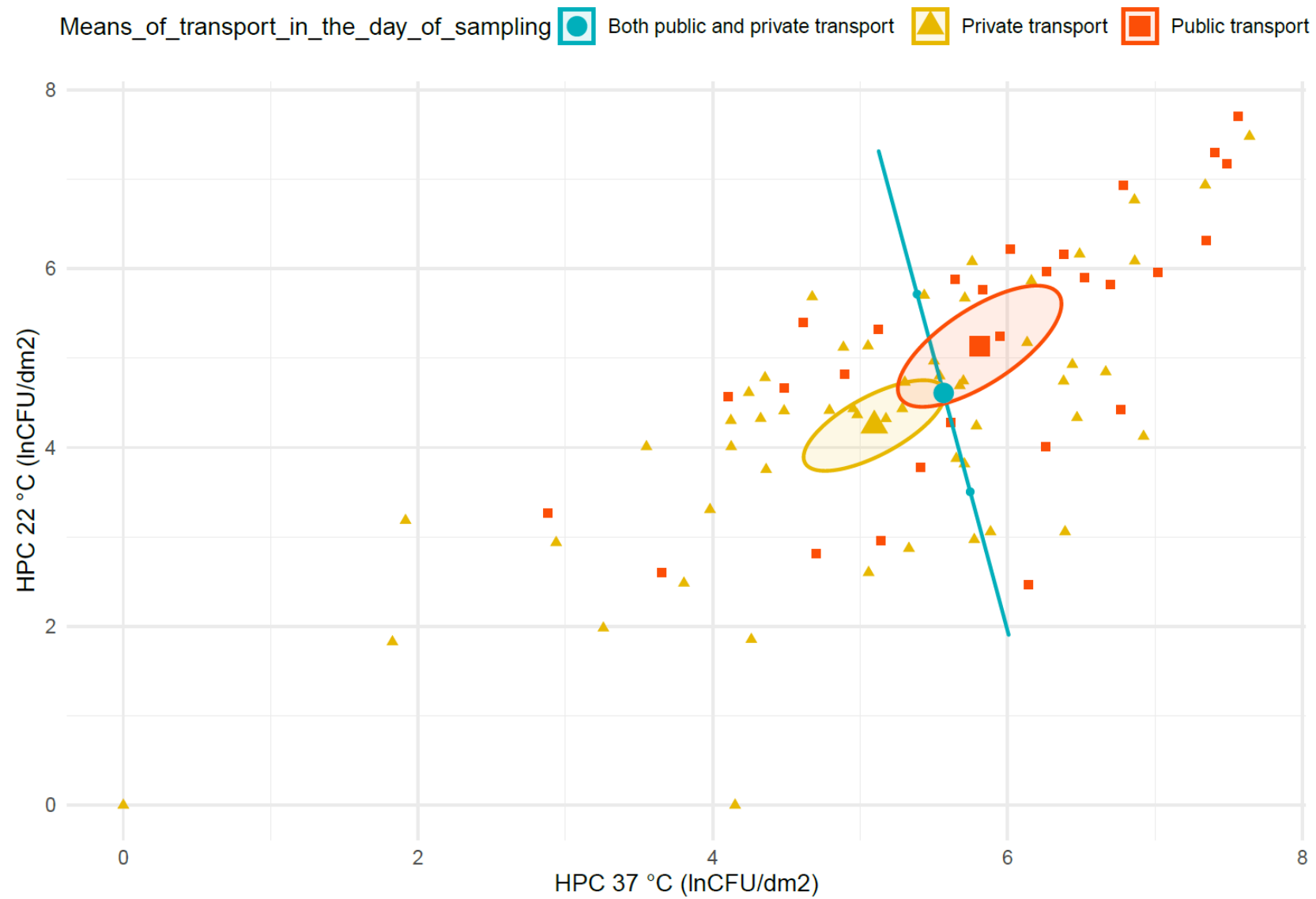
**Figure S22: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Health Status**



**Figure S23: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Last Cleaning**

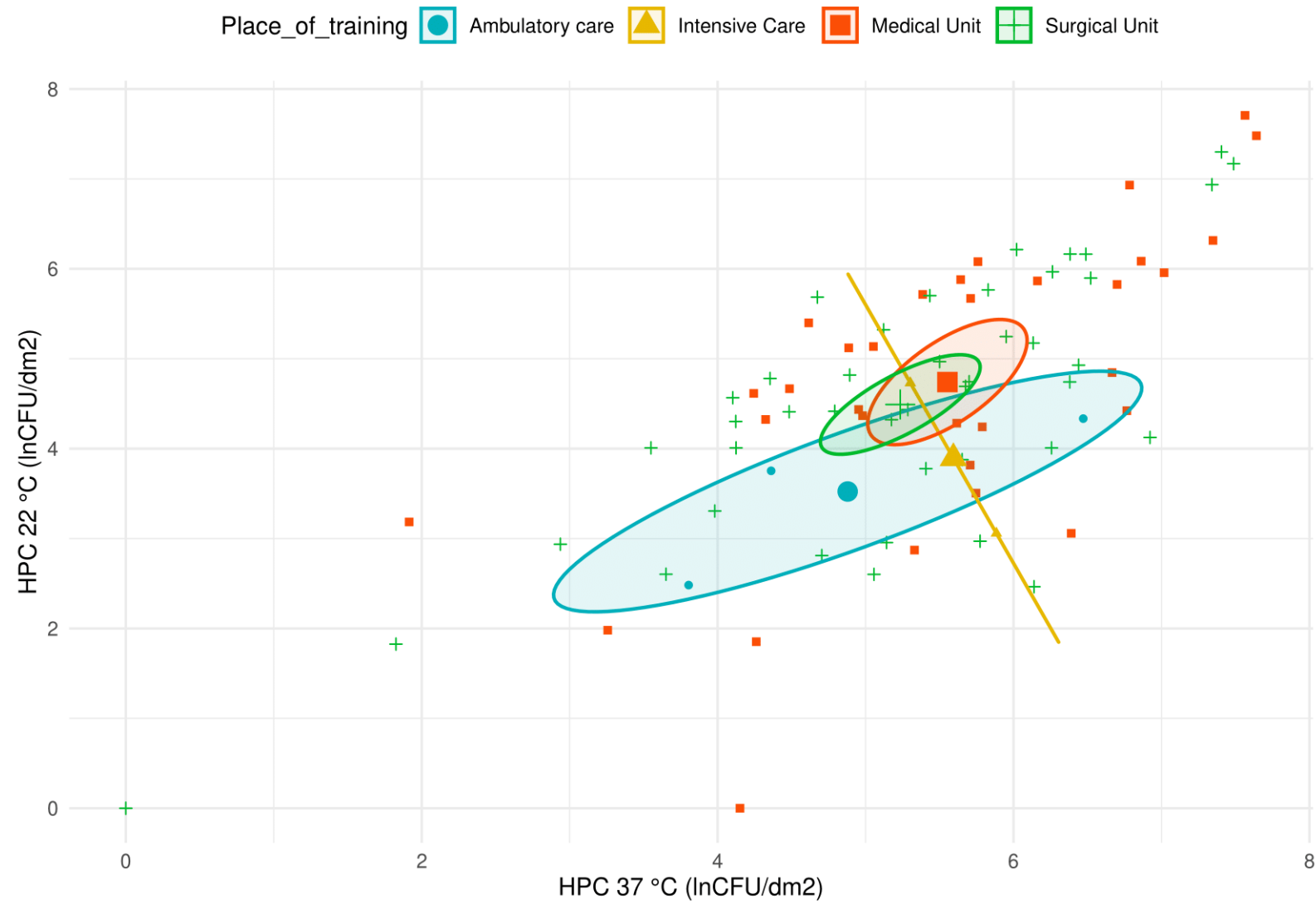


**Figure S24: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Means of transport in the day of sampling**

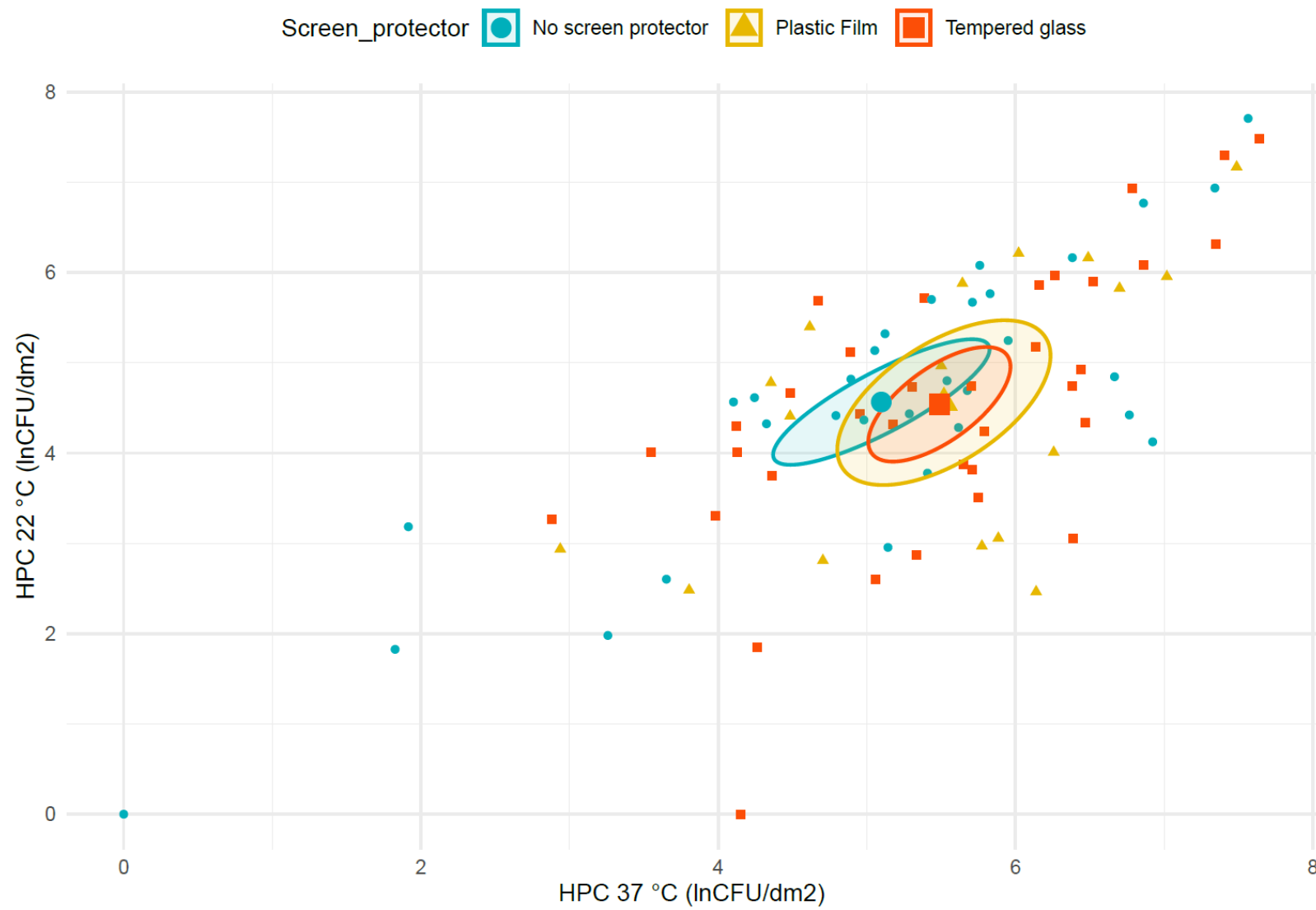




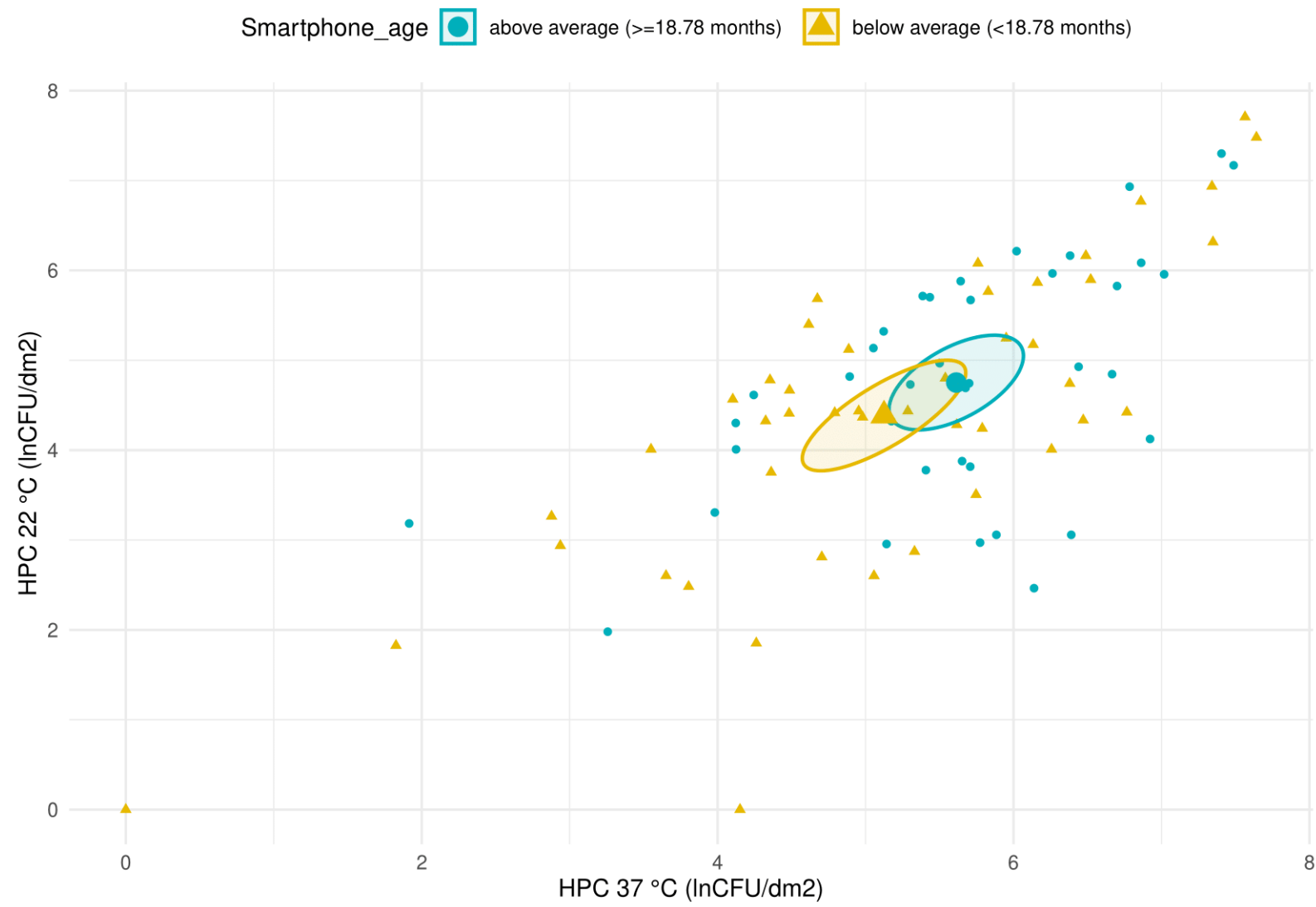
**Figure S25: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Place of training**



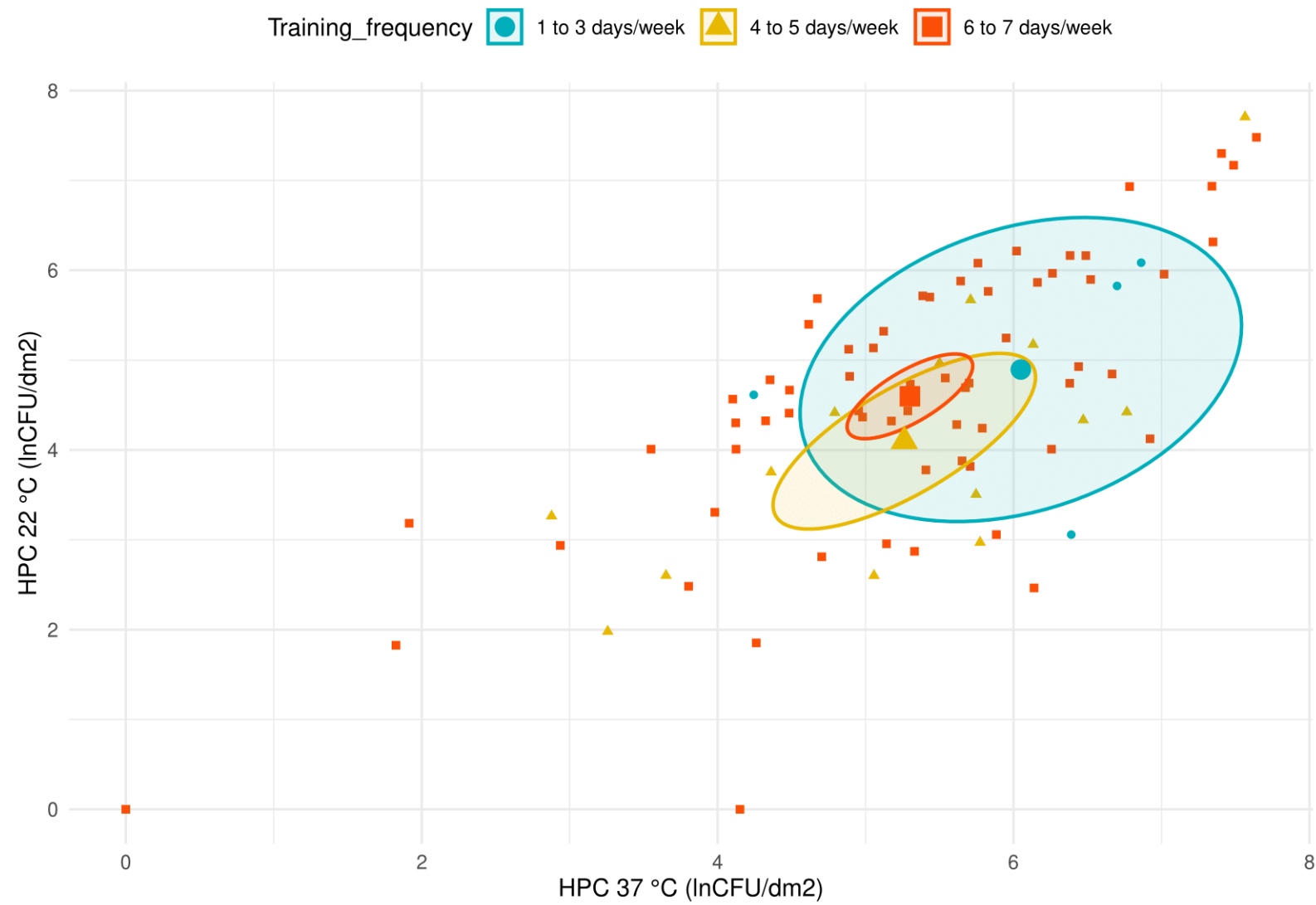
**Figure S26: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Screen protector**



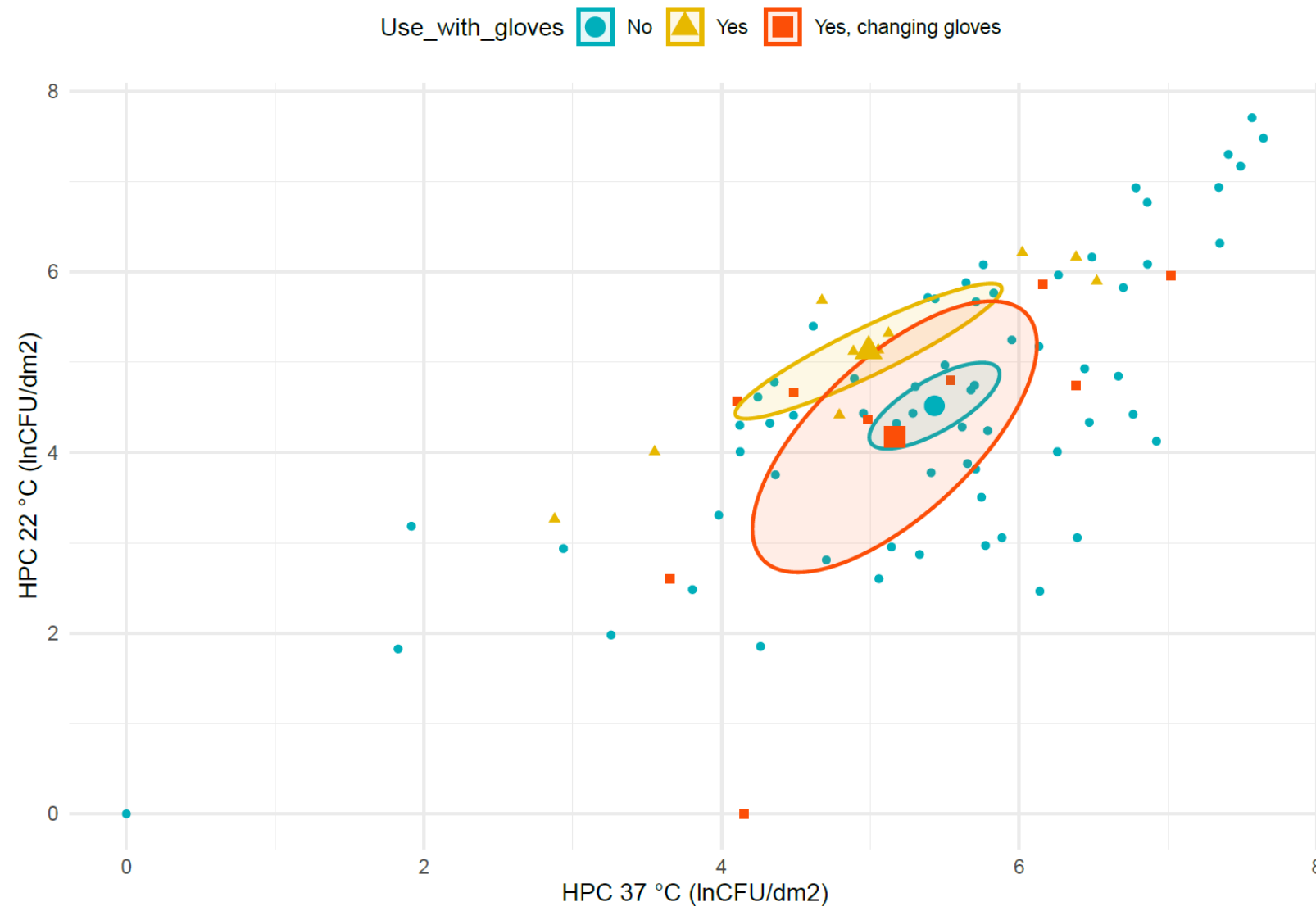
**Figure S27: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Smartphone age**



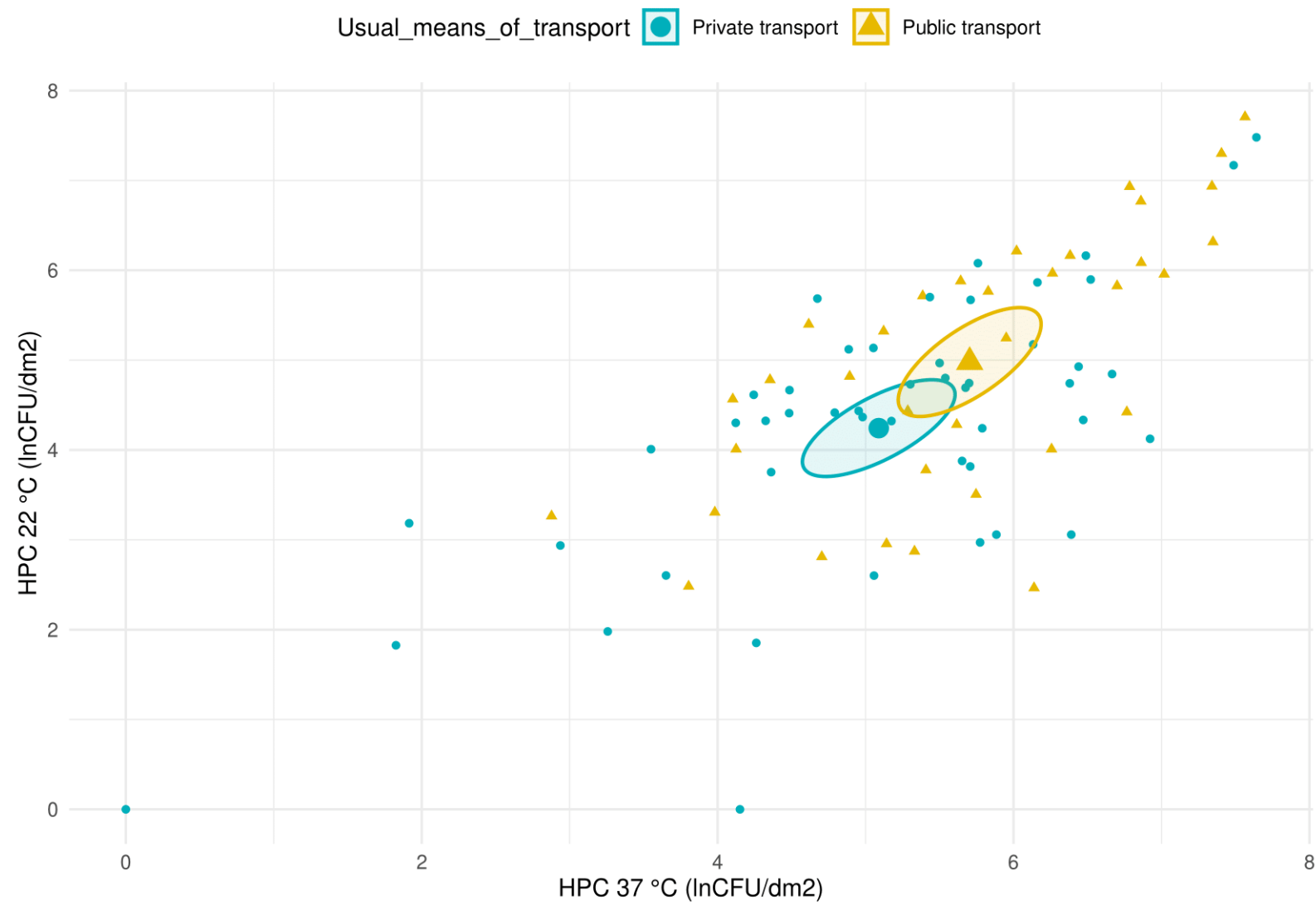
**Figure S28: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Training frequency**



**Figure S29: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Use with gloves**

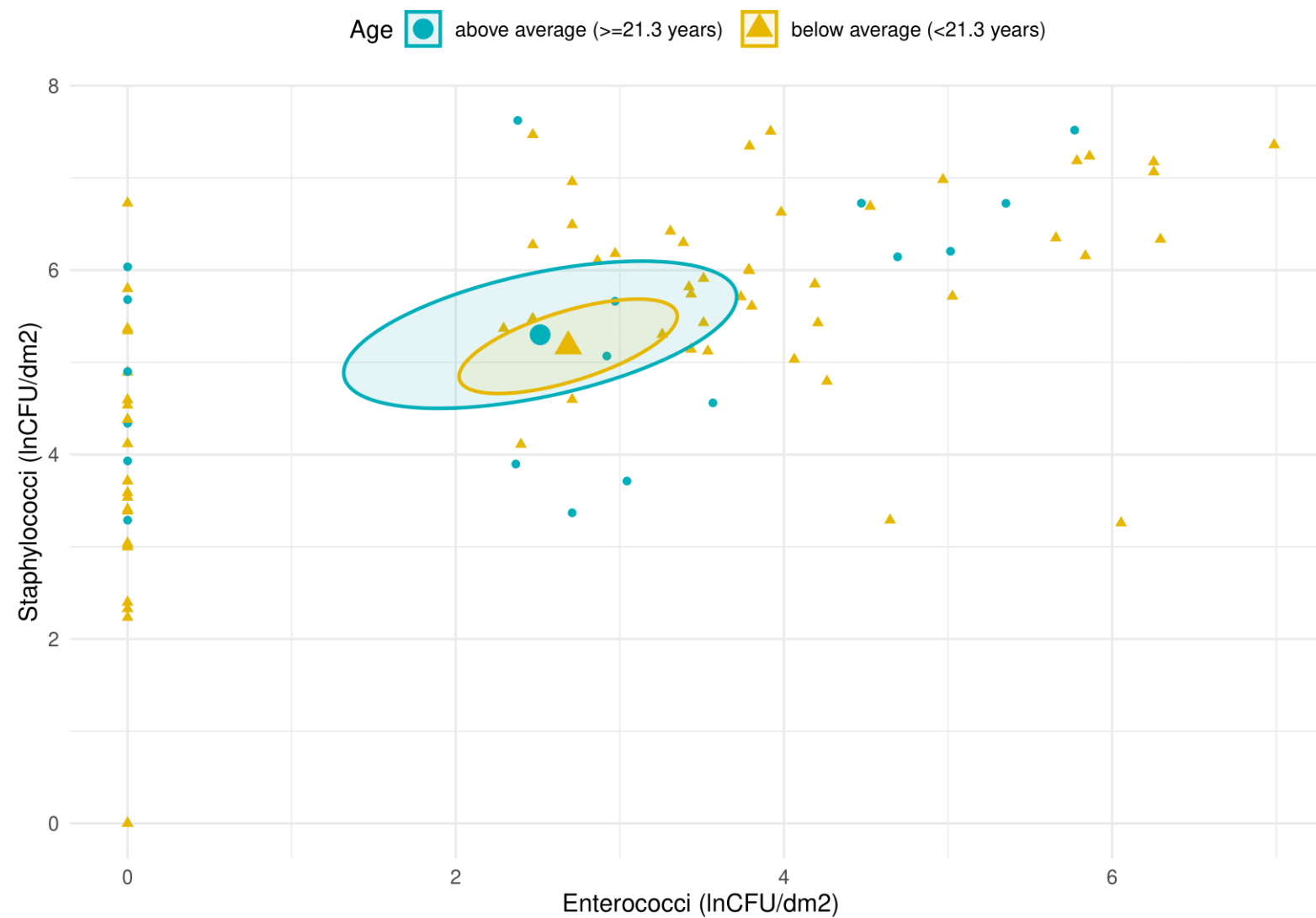


**Figure S30: HPCs 37 °C and HPCs 22 °C based on Usual mean of transport**

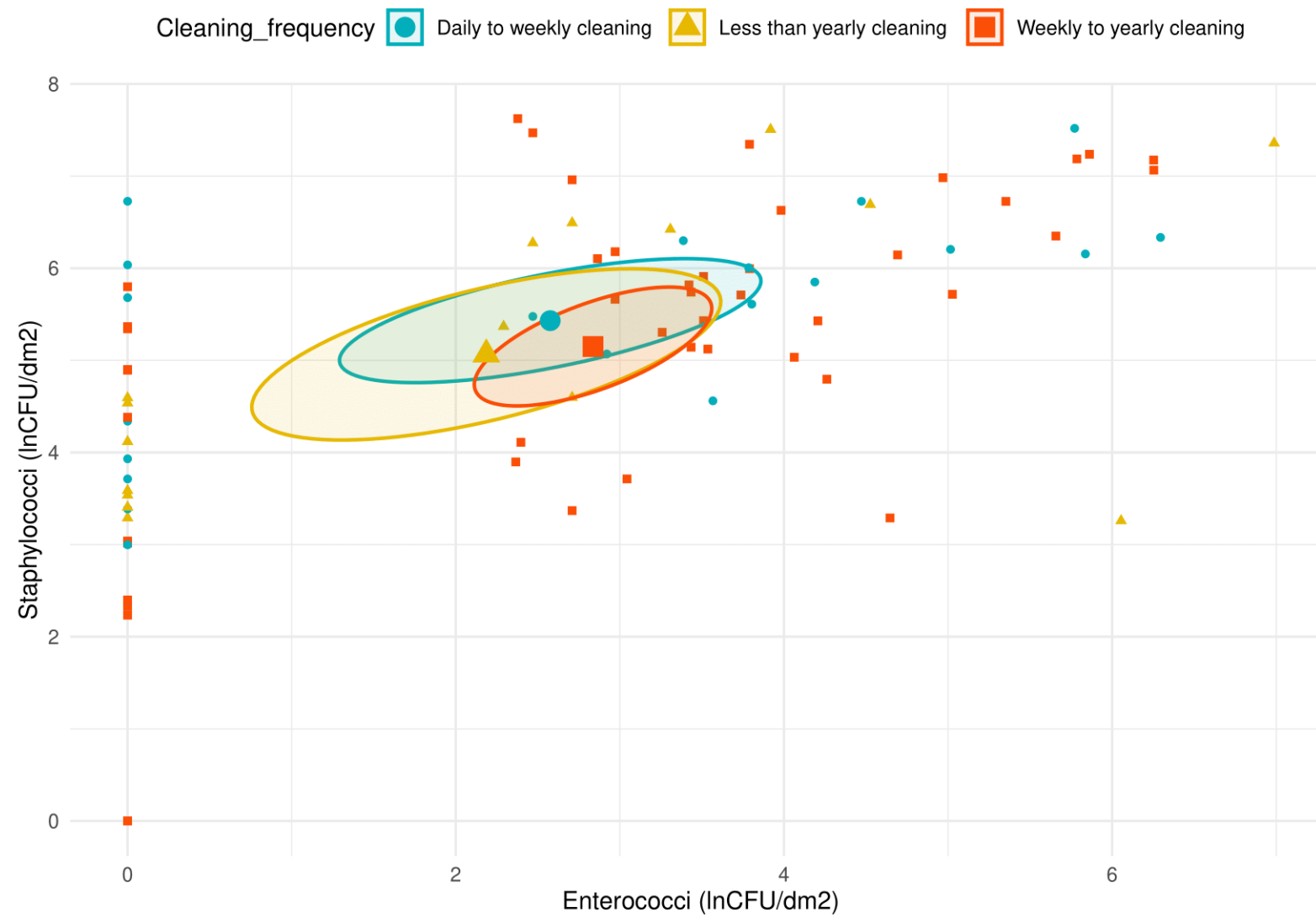


## Scatter Plots comparing mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges across the selected variables

Figure S31: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Age

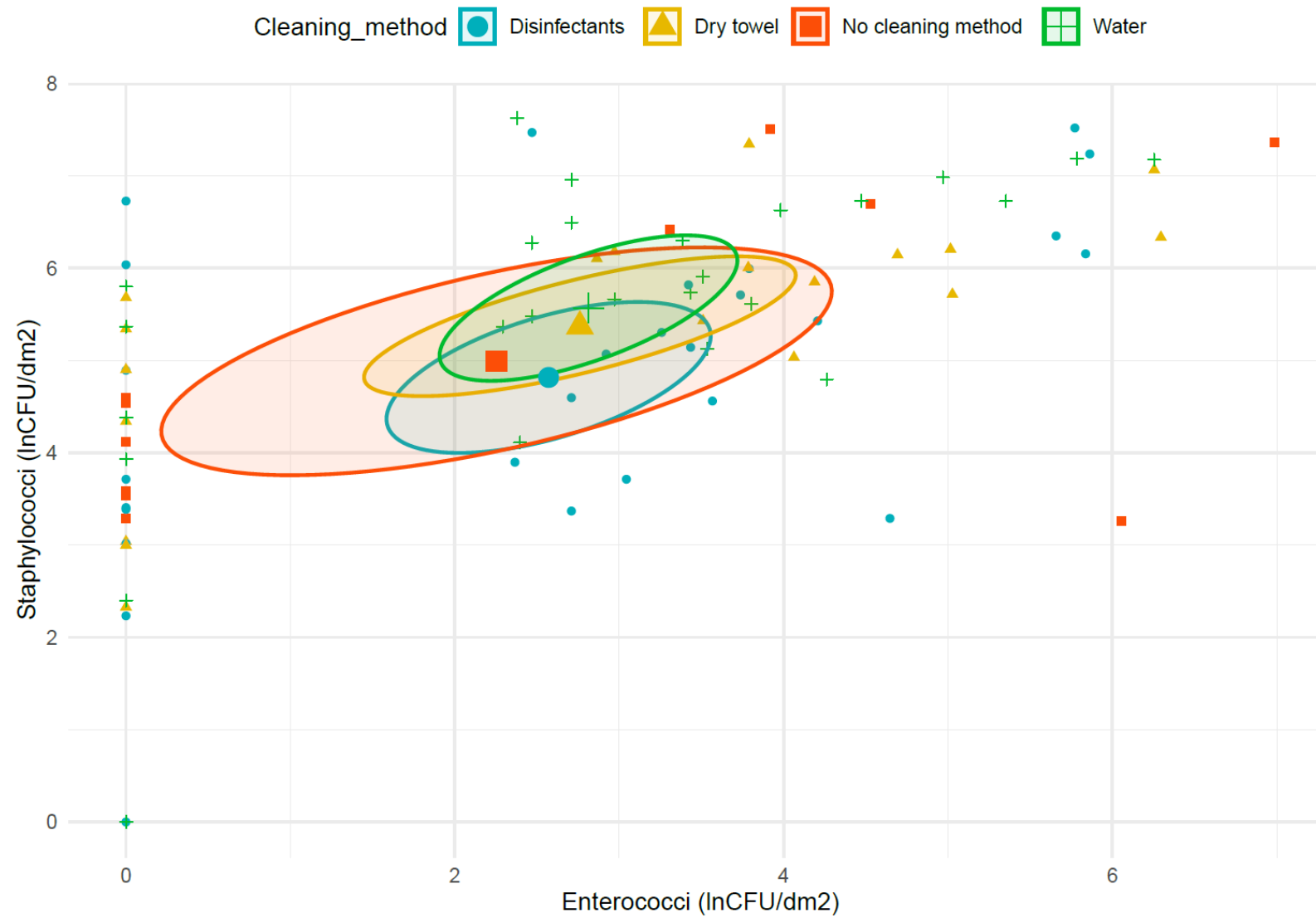


**Figure S32: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Cleaning frequency**

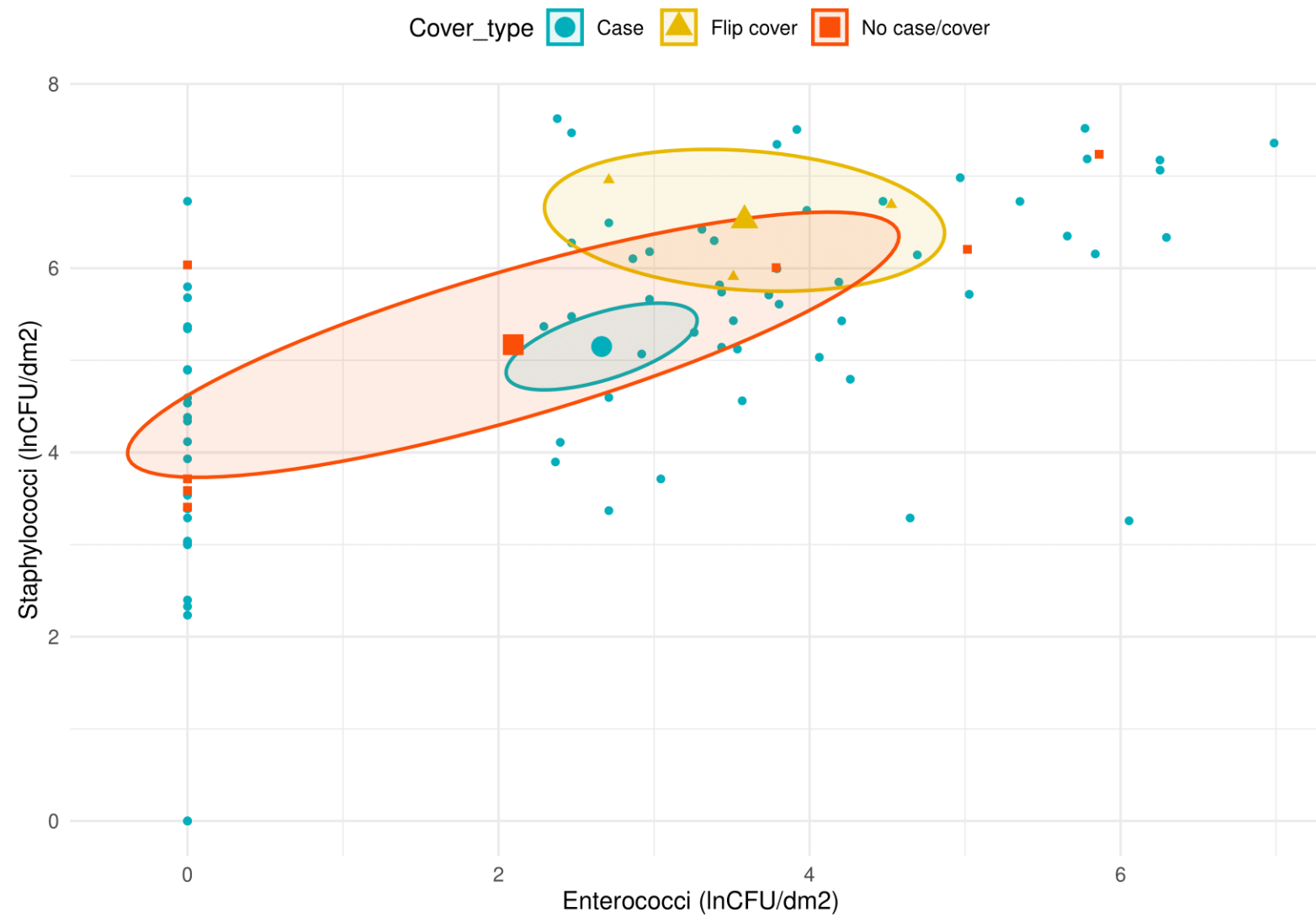




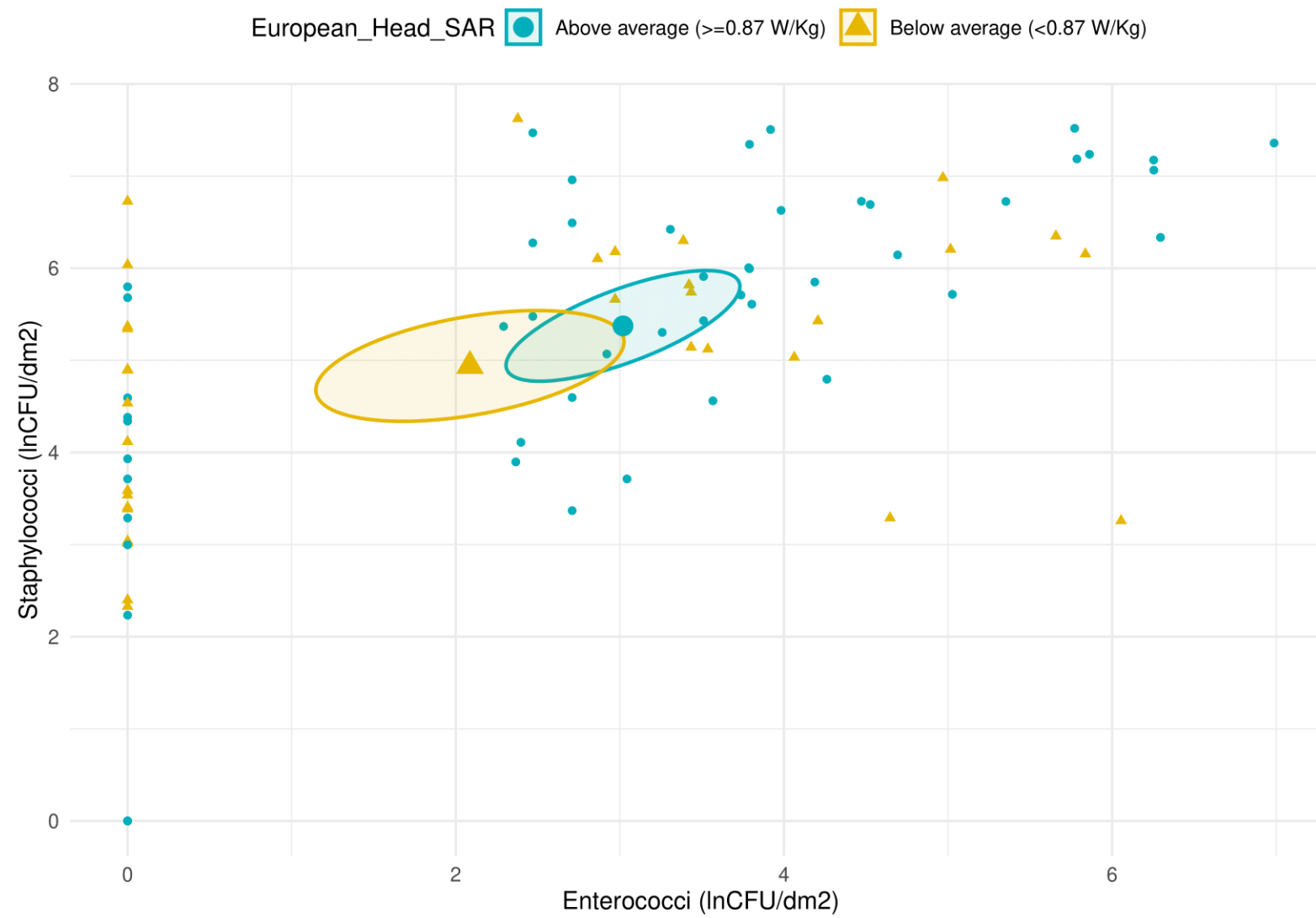
**Figure S33: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Cleaning method**



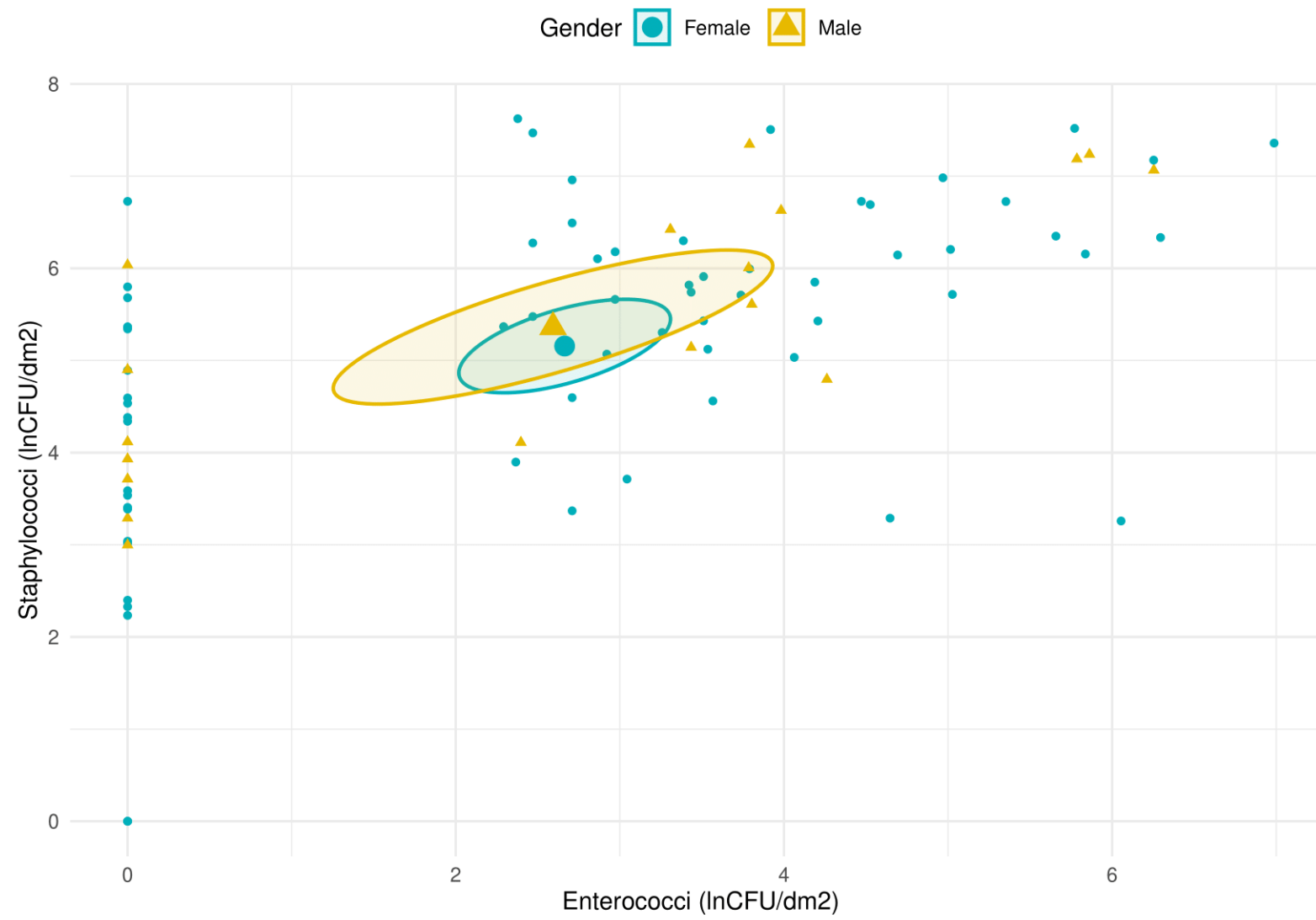
**Figure S34: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Cover type**



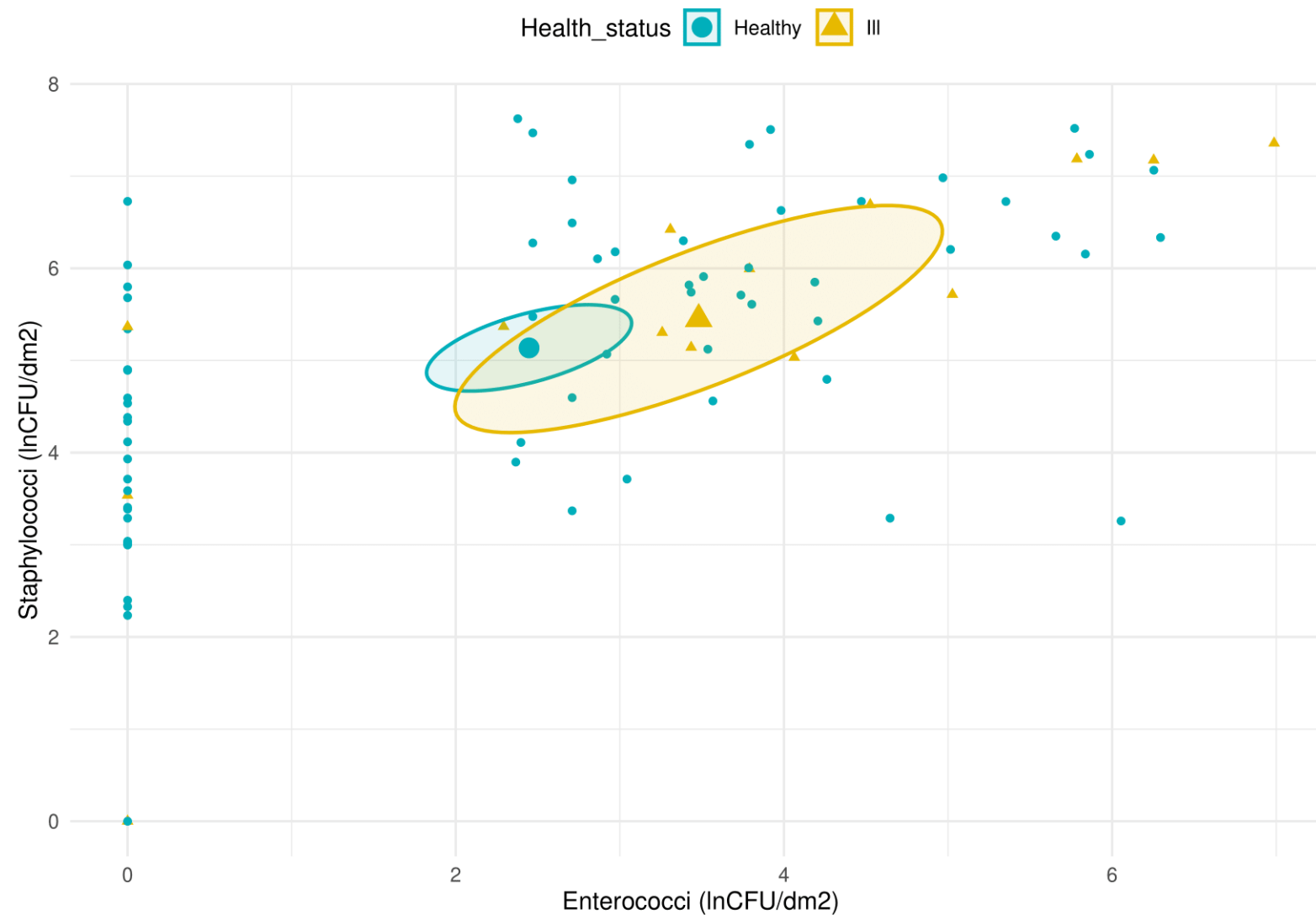
**Figure S35: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on European Head SAR**



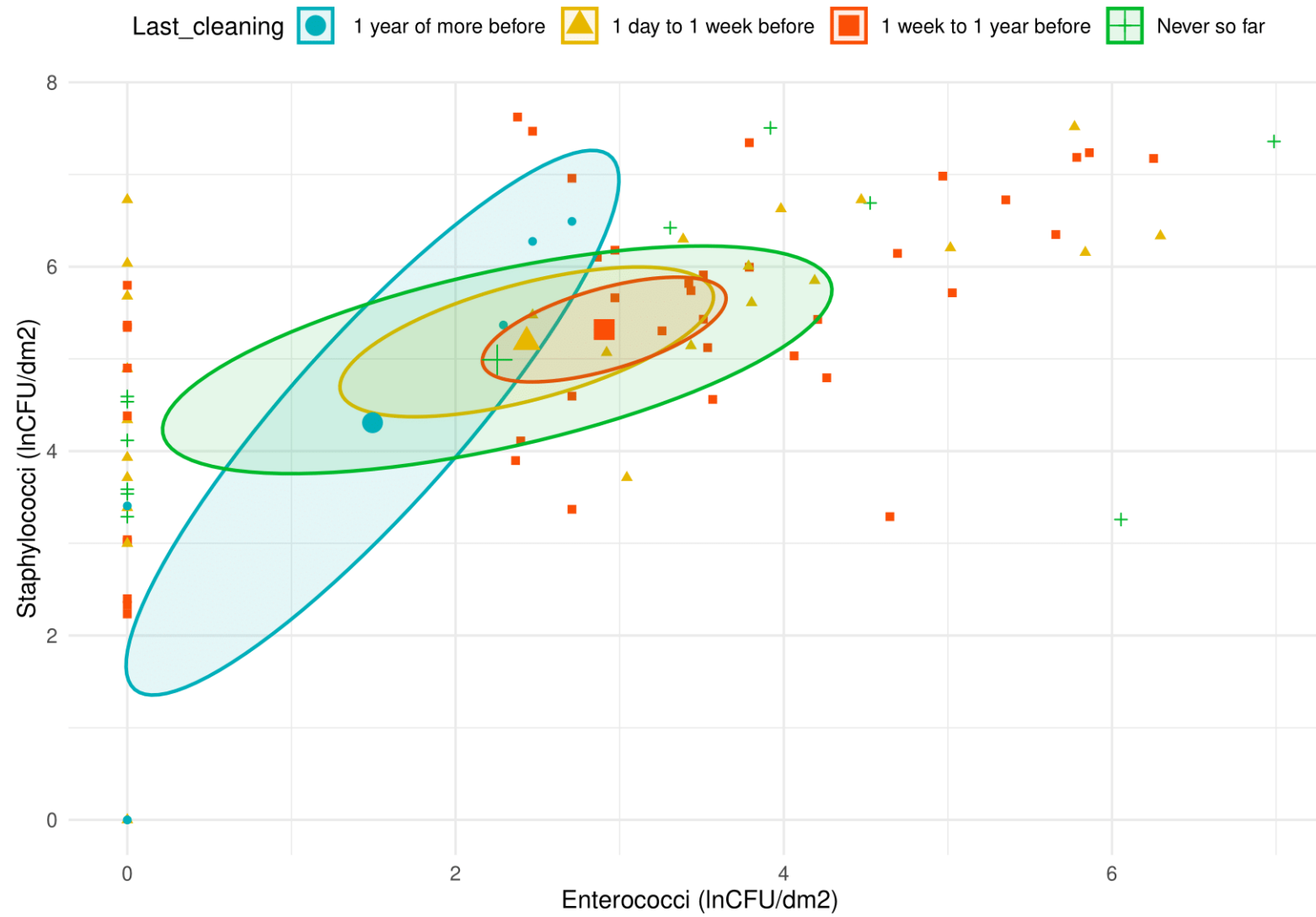
**Figure S36: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Gender**



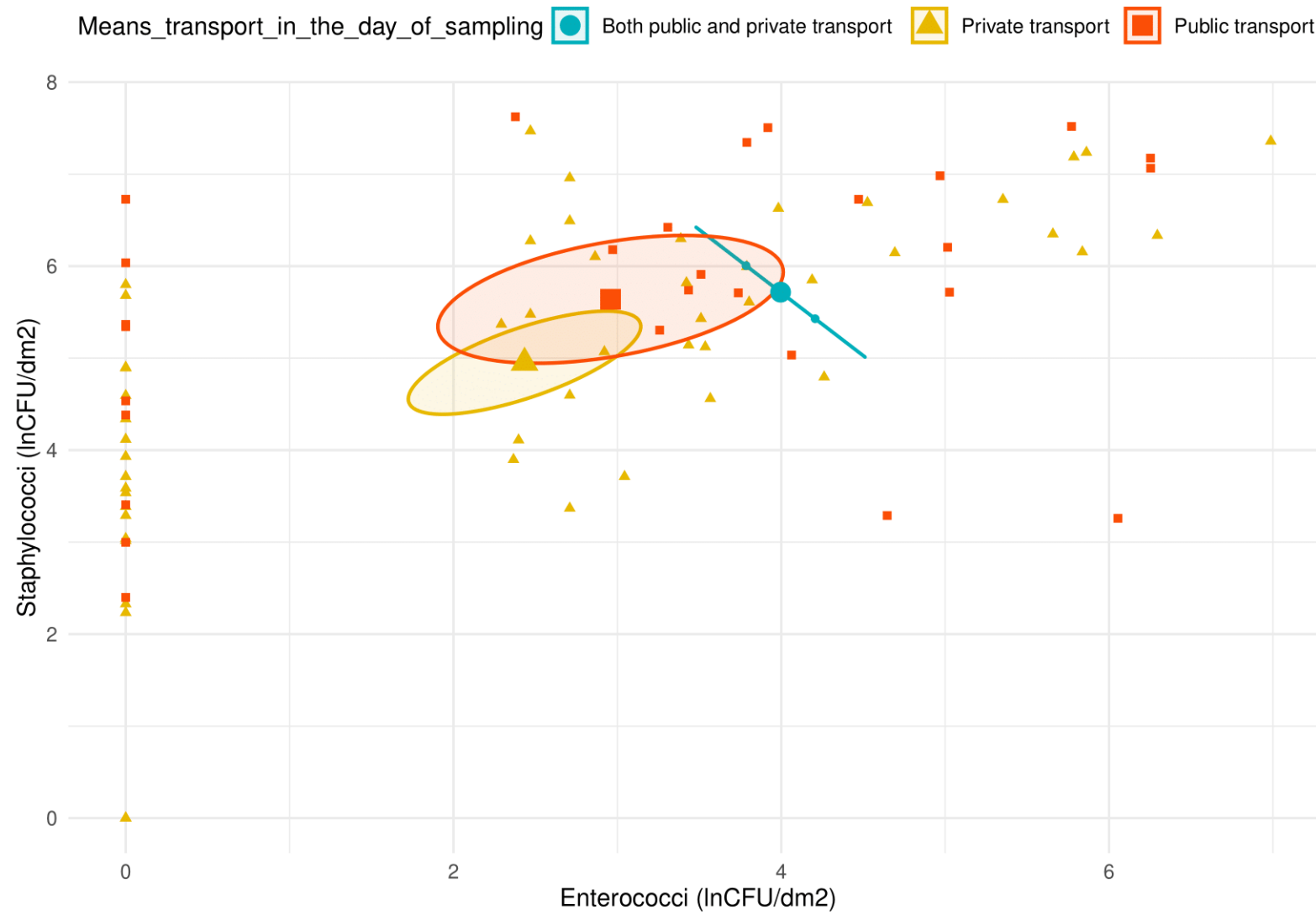
**Figure S37: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Health Status**



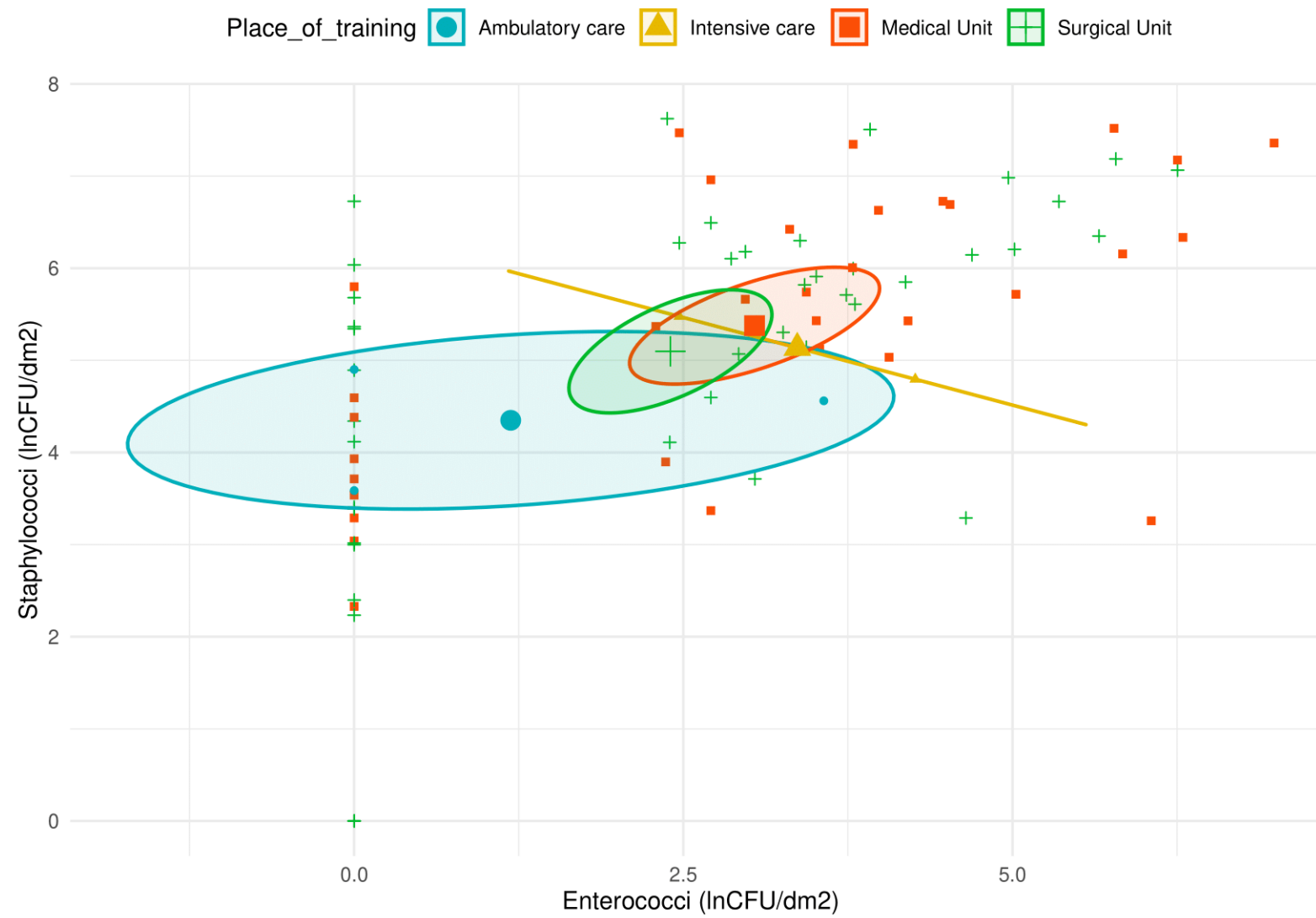
**Figure S38: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Last Cleaning**



**Figure S39: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Means of transport in the day of sampling**

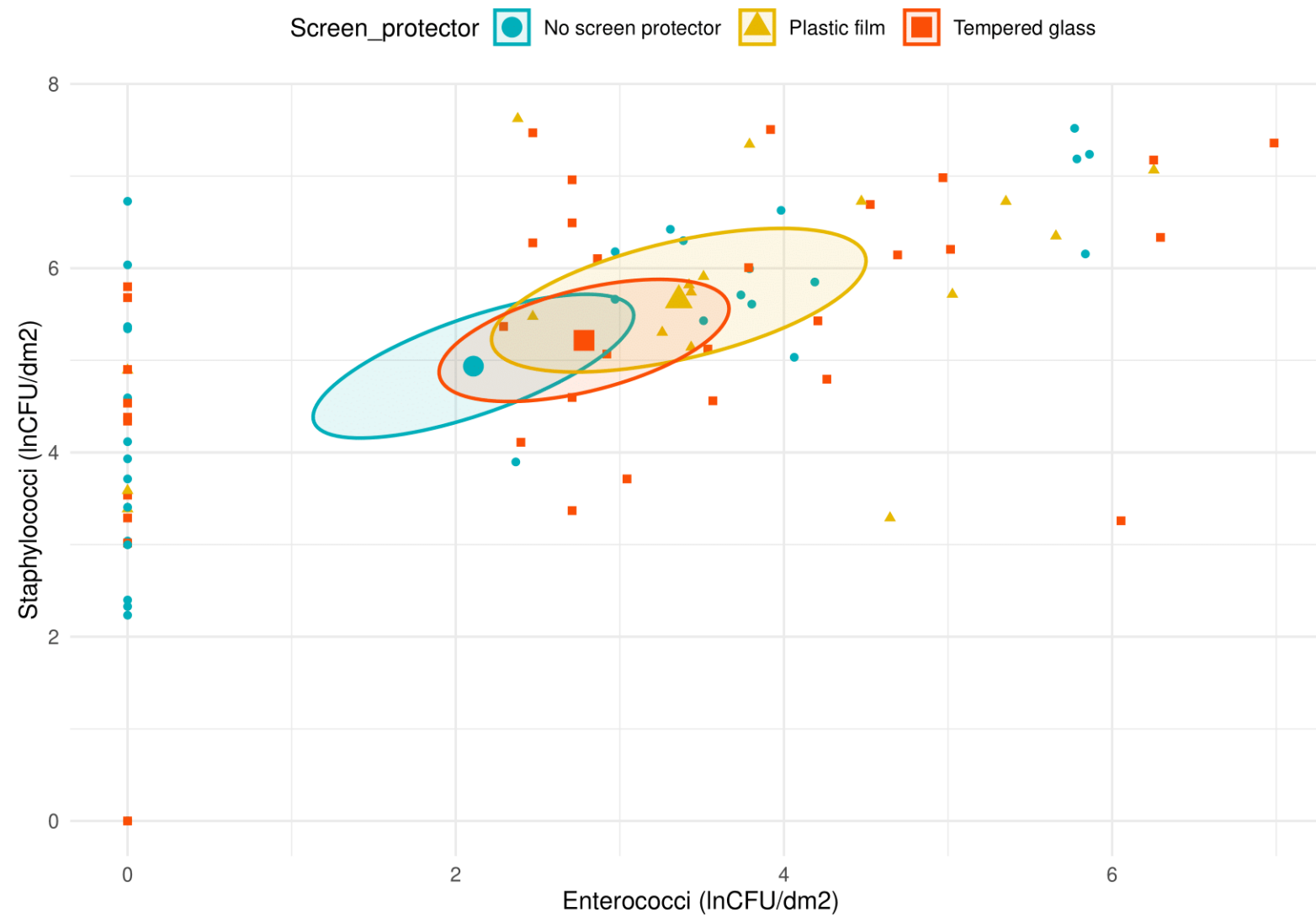


**Figure S40: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Place of training**





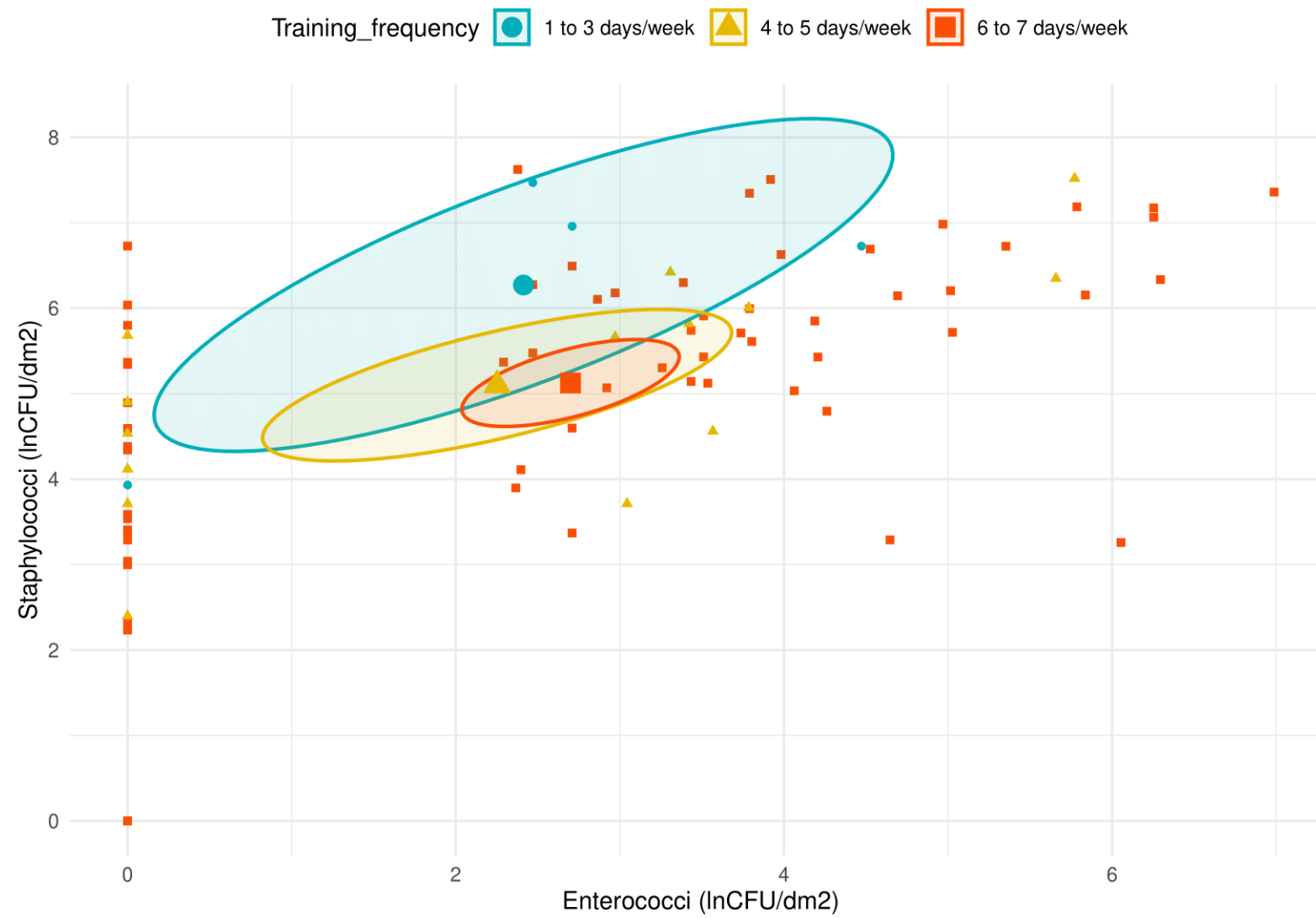
**Figure S41: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Screen protector**



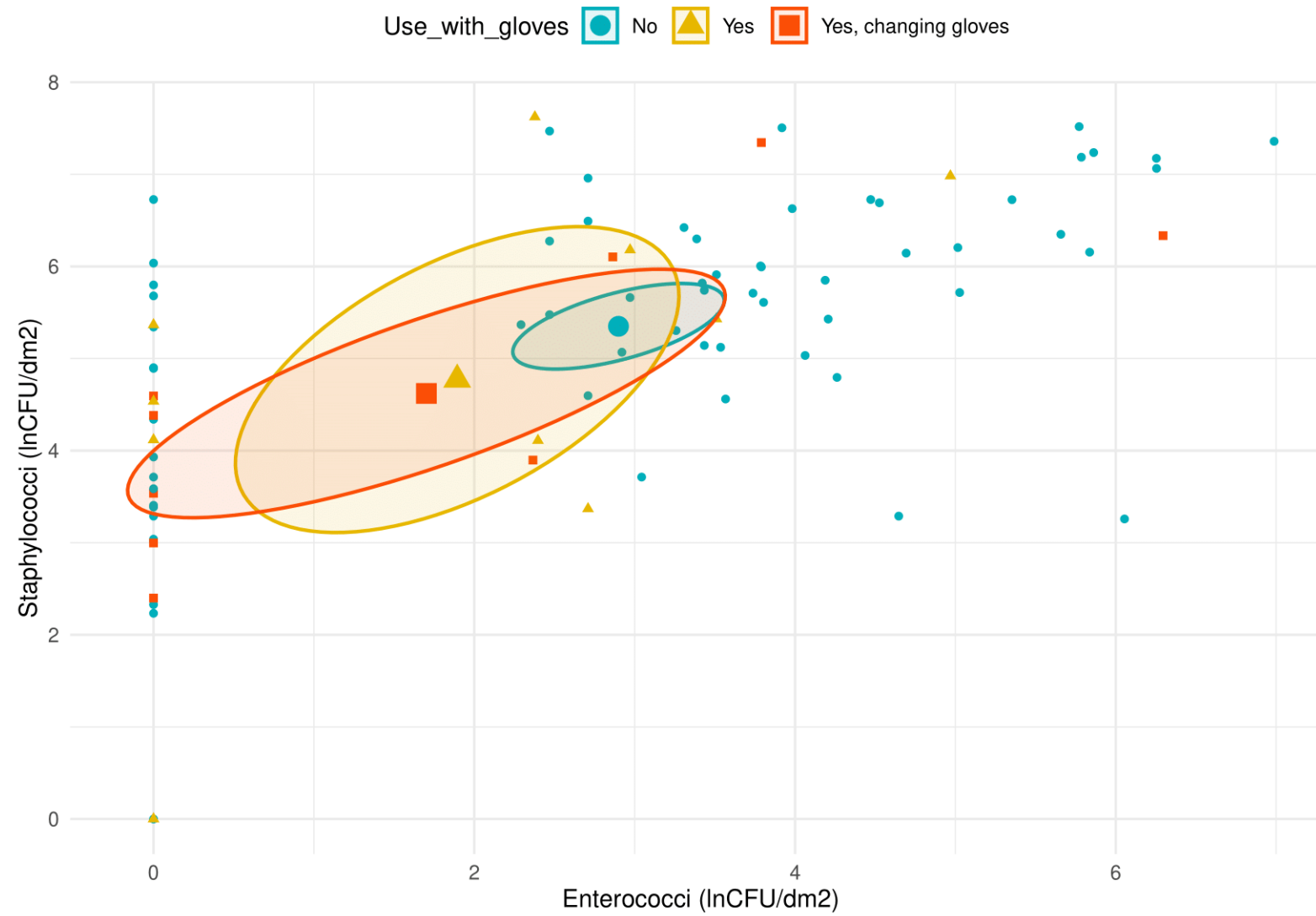
**Figure S42: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Smartphone age**



**Figure S43: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Training frequency**



**Figure S44: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Use with gloves**



**Figure S45: mean Staphylococci and Enterococci charges based on Usual mean of transport**

