Figure 1. Flowchart: recruitment of 304 eligible patients with myocardial infarction

n=951 patients with index MI and meeting inclusion criteria approached

- 525: did not respond to survey

n=426 returned NRS asking for fear of dying, helplessness, and pain perceived during MI

- 16: had died
- 16: declined to participate

n=394 consented to participate in the follow-up investigation

- 11: index MI >1 year ago
- 9: missing items on NRS

- 44: no outcome data (e.g., not responding, no interest)
- 6: died during follow-up
- 9: CVD-related readmissions before completing NRS
- 11: unexplained chest pain since index MI

n=304 available for follow-up investigation

n=259: no CVD-related hospital readmission during follow-up

n=45 hospital readmissions because of CVD-related events
12 recurrent MI
12 non-elective PCI with stent implantation
10 elective PCI with stent implantation
4 coronary artery bypass graft
2 pace-maker implantation
5 cerebrovascular events