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Published in:
Journal of Medical Genetics

DOI:
[10.1136/jmedgenet-2016-103966](https://doi.org/10.1136/jmedgenet-2016-103966)

Publication date:
2016

Document Version
Peer reviewed version

[Link to publication in Discovery Research Portal](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Postmus, I., Warren, H. R., Trompet, S., Arsenault, B. J., Avery, C. L., Bis, J. C., Chasman, D. I., de Keyser, C. E., Deshmukh, H. A., Evans, D. S., Feng, Q., Li, X., Smit, R. A. J., Smith, A. V., Sun, F., Taylor, K. D., Arnold, A. M., Barnes, M. R., Barratt, B. J., ... Krauss, R. M. (2016). Meta-analysis of genome-wide association studies of HDL cholesterol response to statins. *Journal of Medical Genetics*, 53(12), 835-845.
<https://doi.org/10.1136/jmedgenet-2016-103966>

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Meta-analysis of genome-wide association studies of HDL cholesterol response to statins

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Word count:

Abstract: 177

Text only: 3584

References: 39

Figures: 4

Tables: 2

Supplementary files: 1

Abstract

Background: In addition to lowering low density lipoprotein-cholesterol (LDL-C), statin therapy also raises high density lipoprotein-cholesterol (HDL-C) levels. Inter-individual variation in HDL-C response to statins may be partially explained by genetic variation.

Methods and Results: We performed a meta-analysis of genome-wide association studies (GWAS) to identify variants with an effect on statin-induced HDL-C changes. The 123 most promising signals with $P < 1 \times 10^{-4}$ from the 16,769 statin-treated participants in the first analysis stage were followed up in an independent group of 10,951 statin-treated individuals, providing a total sample size of 27,720 individuals. The only associations of genome-wide significance ($P < 5 \times 10^{-8}$) were between minor alleles at the *CETP* locus and greater HDL-C response to statin treatment.

Conclusion: Based on results from this study that included a relatively large sample size, we suggest that *CETP* may be the only detectable locus with common genetic variants that influence HDL-C response to statins substantially in individuals of European descent. Although *CETP* is known to be associated with HDL-C, we provide evidence that this pharmacogenetic effect is independent of its association with baseline HDL-C levels.

Keywords: Pharmacogenetics, HDL-Cholesterol, Statins, Genome-wide association study

Introduction

The drug class of 3-hydroxymethyl-3-methylglutaryl coenzyme A (HMG-CoA) reductase inhibitors, better known as “statins”, are widely prescribed and effective for the prevention and management of cardiovascular disease (CVD).[1] While the major CVD benefit of statins is due to reduction in plasma low density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C)[2], statins also produce moderate increases, ranging from 4 to 10%, in levels of high density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C).[3 ,4] This is of particular interest since HDL-C levels are inversely related to CVD risk in the general population and in patients treated with statins.[5 ,6] However, a causal role of low HDL-C as a determinant of increased CVD risk is controversial.[7]

The increase in HDL-C after statin therapy varies among individuals.[3] This might be partly due to genetic variation. Previous studies that have investigated associations between genotype and statin-induced changes in HDL-C[8-10] have focused primarily on variants within the *CETP* gene that are known to affect circulating HDL-C levels[11] and risk of coronary artery disease.[12] To address whether additional loci have an effect on statin-induced changes in HDL-C levels, we conducted a large-scale meta-analysis of genome-wide association studies (GWAS) using datasets from both randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and cohort studies in the large Genomic Investigation of Statin Therapy (GIST) consortium that previously identified four loci associated with LDL-C response to statins.[13]

Methods

Study populations

The GIST consortium assembled data from seven RCTs and eleven prospective population-based studies. The initial analysis (first stage) was performed in 16,769 statin-treated individuals; 8,506 individuals from six RCTs (ASCOT UK, CARDS, CAP, PRINCE, PROSPER, and TNT) and 8,263 statin-treated individuals from ten observational studies (AGES, ARIC, ASCOT UK-observational, BioVU, CHS, FHS, Health ABC, HVH, MESA, and the Rotterdam Study). Further investigation (second stage) was performed in 10,951 statin-treated individuals from two RCTs (ASCOT Scandinavia and JUPITER) and two observational studies (ASCOT Scandinavia – observational and GoDARTS), which were used to test for replication of findings from the first stage. Details of the first and second stage studies, including their genotyping and quality control (QC) information, can be found in the **Supplementary Notes 1, 2 and 3** and **Supplementary tables 1 and 2**.

Subjects

Response to statin treatment was principally studied in statin-treated individuals only. Those treated with placebo were excluded from the analyses of RCTs and those not treated with statins were excluded from observational studies. HDL-C measurements were obtained before and after start of statin treatment. Only subjects with non-missing phenotypes and covariates were included. Those of reported or suspected non-European ancestry were excluded.

Outcome measurements

The response to statin treatment was defined as the difference between the natural log-transformed on- and off-treatment HDL-C levels ($\ln(\text{on-treatment HDL-C}) - \ln(\text{off-treatment HDL-C})$). The corresponding linear regression coefficients thus reflect the fraction of differential HDL-C increase (relative increase) per copy of the coded allele in the additive genetic model. For observational studies, on-treatment HDL-C levels were calculated for all different prescribed statins, at any dosage,

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2
3 for any indication, and for any treatment episode extending at least four weeks prior to on-
4 treatment HDL-C measurement. Characteristics of on- and off-treatment HDL-C levels and statins
5 used in each study are shown in **Supplementary Table 2**. For each individual, at least one off-
6 treatment HDL-C measurement and at least one on-treatment measurement were required.
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8 Subjects with missing on- or off-treatment measurements were excluded, with the exception of the
9
10 GoDARTS study for which missing off-treatment HDL-C levels were estimated using imputation
11
12 methods, as described previously.[14] In RCTs, when multiple on- or off-treatment measurements
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14 were available, the mean of the measurements was used.
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21 *Genotyping and imputation*

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24 Genotyping, quality control, data cleaning and imputation were performed independently in each
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26 study using different genetic platforms and software as outlined in **Supplementary Table 3**. In all
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28 studies, genotyping was performed using either Illumina, Affymetrix, or Perlegen genotyping arrays.
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30 Genotype data from each study had been imputed to the HapMap phase 2 reference panel [15] ,
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32 except for JUPITER which was imputed to the 1000genomes pilot data, using either MACH, Impute,
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34 or BIMBAM software [16-18], resulting in a total of approximately 2.5 million SNPs for analysis.
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38 *GWAS analysis*

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41 Each study independently performed the GWAS on the difference between natural log-transformed
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43 on- and off-treatment HDL-C levels, according to a common, central analysis protocol. To reduce
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45 confounding by possible association with off-treatment HDL-C levels, analyses were adjusted for the
46
47 natural log-transformed off-treatment HDL-C levels. Linear regression was used, with SNPs
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49 represented by an additive genetic model and with imputed SNPs represented by expected allele
50
51 dosage. Analyses were additionally adjusted for age, sex, and study specific covariates (e.g ancestry
52
53 principal components (PCs), site, or country). FHS made use of a linear mixed effects model
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55 considering the kinship matrix in the analysis, hereby accounting for familial correlations within FHS.
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Analyses in the observational studies were, if the information was available, additionally adjusted for the time interval between on- and off-treatment HDL-C measures (mean follow-up times per study are provided in **Supplementary Table 2**) and for the natural logarithm of the statin dose equivalent, as defined in **Supplementary Table 4**. This table shows the dose for different statins for the LDL-C response; dividing the statin dosage for an individual drug by its dose equivalent shown in **Supplementary Table 4** gives the standardized statin dosage.

Quality control and Meta-analysis

Within each study, SNPs with minor allele frequency <1% or imputation quality <0.3 were excluded from the analysis. QQ-plots were assessed for each study to check that there were no between study differences nor evidence for systematic bias within studies (**Supplementary Figure 1**). The software package METAL was used to perform the meta-analysis.[19] A fixed effects, inverse variance weighted approach was used. To correct for possible inflation of the test statistic, e.g. due to small amounts of potential population sub-structure, genomic control was performed by adjusting the within-study findings and the meta-analysis results for the genomic inflation factor.

Second stage

SNPs with p-values $<1 \times 10^{-4}$ in the first stage meta-analyses were selected for further investigation in the second stage. A maximum of two SNPs per locus (with a maximum 100 kB distance between SNPs) were selected, with the choice based on statistical significance. A total of 123 SNPs in 83 loci were selected for the second stage, which was performed in the GoDARTS study, the JUPITER trial, and the RCT and observational arm of the ASCOT Scandinavia study. GWAS data and response to statin treatment were available for these studies. Analysis was performed as for the first stage. Results of the first and second stage were combined using a fixed effects, inverse variance weighted meta-analysis using METAL.

Interaction analysis

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3 The interaction effect of the lead *CETP* SNP rs247616 with the binary treatment indicator for statin
4 versus placebo allocation was assessed in five of the participating RCTs (ASCOT Scandinavia, ASCOT
5 UK, CARDS, JUPITER, and PROSPER). For these analyses, placebo treated individuals in the RCTs were
6 included. The total sample size was 17,857, with 8,978 statin treated individuals and 8,879 placebo
7 treated individuals. Regression models were applied to the combined population of statin and
8 placebo treated subjects by adding to the model extra terms including treatment (statin (=1) or
9 placebo (=0)) allocation and the product of treatment allocation with SNP minor allele dose.[20]
10 Interaction coefficients of the five studies were combined in a fixed effects, inverse variance
11 weighted meta-analysis using METAL. In addition, we also performed our main analysis for the *CETP*
12 SNP rs247616 in only the placebo users of the five RCTs included in the interaction analysis.
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25 *Effect of genetic determinants of HDL-C levels on statin-induced HDL-C response*

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28 We performed a look-up in our GWAS results for all known genome-wide significant genetic variants
29 associated with HDL-C levels, obtained from the most recent Global Lipids Genetics Consortium
30 (GLGC) paper.[11] Of the 80 variants, 78 were available in our GWAS on statin induced HDL-C
31 response. Subsequently, we examined whether a multi-SNP genotypic risk score constructed from
32 these GLGC variants was associated with the level of statin induced HDL-C response, using publicly
33 available summary level data from the GLGC
34 (<http://csg.sph.umich.edu//abecasis/public/lipids2013/>). The joint effect of the 78 genetic variants
35 on statin-induced HDL-C response was examined by means of a data-driven inverse-variance
36 weighted approach, described previously by Dastani *et al*,[21] and accomplished through the gtx-
37 package[22] (Genetics ToolboX, <http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/gtx>) in the R statistical
38 software environment.[23] Analogous to deriving a pooled estimate from the results of individual
39 studies in conventional meta-analysis, this approach combines the causal estimates of multiple
40 genetic variants, defined as the ratio of their association with statin response to their association
41 with HDL-C levels.
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Conditional analysis

Conditional analysis were performed in two of the participating studies, ASCOT UK (both RCT and observational – genotype data available for n=3,804) and CARDS (genotype data available for n=1194). Conditional analysis was conducted within GCTA software[24], using the *-cojo* method, which performs conditional and joint analysis with model selection. The genome-wide meta-analysis summary statistics from the combined analysis of both first-stage and second-stage data were used as the input data. Analysis was restricted to chromosome 16, containing the only genome-wide significant result from the meta-analysis, in order to determine whether the *CETP* region contains more than one independent signal of association. Within the GCTA analysis, MAF was restricted to $\geq 1\%$ and a p-value cut-off of 5×10^{-7} was used as the selection threshold. LD was calculated between pairwise SNPs, but any SNPs further than 10 Mb apart were assumed to be in linkage equilibrium.

Variance explained

Two secondary analyses were performed to investigate the heritability of this pharmacogenetic trait. Firstly, the genome-wide heritability was calculated in GCTA[24] by estimating h^2 using GREML analysis, according to all HapMap SNPs with $MAF \geq 1\%$, with reference to the genomic relatedness matrix generated within GCTA. Secondly, the percentage variance explained for the HDL-C response to statins adjusted for baseline HDL-C was calculated specifically for the lead *CETP* SNP rs247616 using R software[23] by including the dosage data for this SNP as a continuous predictor variable within the model. Firstly, the HDL-C response trait was regressed against all non-genetic covariates. The residuals from this model were used as the residual trait. In a second stage linear regression analysis the residual trait was regressed against the lead SNP and PCs. The R^2 calculated from this second fitted linear regression model was used to estimate the percentage of the trait variance explained. Both analyses were performed using the ASCOT-UK dataset, as individual level raw

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3 genotype data are required. The combination of both the RCT and observational sub-cohorts of
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5 ASCOT-UK gave a total sample size of N = 2,055 statin-treated participants. The explained variance
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7 analysis in R was additionally performed in the CARDS study, including 1,194 statin-treated
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9 participants. The linear regression models used exactly the same data and covariates as from the
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11 primary GWAS analysis.
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Results

First-stage meta-analysis

In the first stage of this analysis, six randomized controlled trials (n=8,506 statin recipients) and ten observational studies (n=8,263 statin recipients) were included (**Supplementary Notes 1 and 2** and **Supplementary Tables 1 and 2**). Three SNPs at the *CETP* locus (chromosome 16) were identified as genome-wide significant ($P < 5 \times 10^{-8}$) for their association with HDL-C response to statin treatment (**Figures 1 and 2** and **Table 1**). The most significant association was for SNP rs247616 (MAF=0.324, $\beta=0.011$, SE=0.002, $P=5.95 \times 10^{-10}$) (**Figure 3**), indicating that carriers of the minor allele of this SNP respond to statins with a 1.1% greater per-allele increase in HDL-C compared with non-carriers. The average increase in HDL-C during statin treatment across all studies was 0.045 mmol/L. This additional 1.1% per-allele increase in HDL-C is equivalent to a 0.046 mmol/L increase for carriers of one copy of the *CETP* SNP. We found no other loci associated with HDL-C response to statin treatment at a genome-wide significant level at this first stage.

Second-stage meta-analysis

We selected 123 SNPs from 83 loci with $P < 1 \times 10^{-4}$ in the first stage meta-analysis for further investigation in the second stage, which included 10,951 statin-treated individuals from two RCTs and two observational studies (**Supplementary Note 3** and **Supplementary Tables 1 and 2**). The second stage meta-analysis confirmed the significant association between genetic variants within the *CETP* loci and HDL-C response from the first stage meta-analysis (rs247616: MAF=0.327, $\beta=0.005$, SE=0.001, $P=1.59 \times 10^{-5}$) as $P < 6 \times 10^{-4}$, the Bonferroni p-value threshold for testing 123 SNPs (**Table 1**, **Figure 2**, and **Supplementary Table 5**). The combined effect from the first and second stage meta-analysis for the *CETP* rs247616 SNP was genome-wide significant (MAF=0.326, $\beta=0.007$, SE=0.001, $P=8.52 \times 10^{-13}$) (**Table 1**, **Figure 2**, and **Supplementary Table 5**). No other locus reached statistical significance ($P < 4 \times 10^{-4}$) in the second stage meta-analysis or in the combined meta-analysis ($P < 5 \times 10^{-4}$).

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3 8) for association with HDL-C response to statin treatment (**Figure 1** and **Supplementary Table 5**).

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5 Indeed, **Supplementary Table 5** (ordered by the combined meta-analysis p-values) shows that the
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7 three SNPs within *CETP* which were genome-wide significant in the first stage, were the only SNPs
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9 that reached Bonferroni significance in the second stage and genome-wide significance in the
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11 combined meta-analysis
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13 14 15 *Interaction analysis*

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17 To exclude the possibility of confounding in the association between *CETP* and HDL-C response to
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19 statin treatment, two analyses were performed. First the main analysis for the *CETP* SNP rs247616
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21 was repeated in the placebo users using data from five of the participating RCTs. In addition, in the
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23 same studies we tested for interaction between the *CETP* lead SNP rs247616 and randomized statin
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25 or placebo allocation. **Supplementary Figure 2** shows the results for the association between HDL-C
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27 change during follow-up and rs247616 stratified for placebo and statin users. **Table 2** shows a
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29 significant P-value for interaction in the meta-analysis combining the five studies ($P=3.52 \times 10^{-3}$,
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31 $\beta=0.007$, $SE=0.002$) for the *CETP* SNP, indicating that genetic effects of *CETP* on baseline HDL-C
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33 contribute at most only in part to genetic effects on HDL-C response in the statin-treated group, as
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35 the genetic effect is modified by the use of statin treatment.
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39 40 *Effect of genetic determinants of HDL-C levels on statin-induced HDL-C response*

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42 SNPs previously shown to be associated with HDL-C levels ($n=78$)[11] were assessed for their
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44 association with statin-induced HDL-C response in our meta-analysis. After Bonferroni correction,
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46 rs3764261 (*CETP*) was the sole genetic variant associated with statin-induced HDL-C response
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48 amongst the 78 examined variants (**Supplementary Table 5**). Joint analysis of the HDL-C associated
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50 variants demonstrated that predisposition to high HDL-C levels is associated with increased statin-
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52 induced HDL-C response (**Figure 4**). This amounted to a 2.9% fractional increase ($\beta=0.029$, $SE=0.003$,
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54 $P=1 \times 10^{-19}$) in statin-induced HDL-C response per SD increase in genetically raised HDL-C levels.
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3 Excluding the *CETP* SNP (rs3764261) from the model did not materially change the results ($\beta=0.029$,
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5 $SE=0.005$, $P=1 \times 10^{-8}$). Testing for heterogeneity did not reveal any indication of pleiotropic
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7 effects ($P=0.64$).
8

9
10 *Conditional analysis*
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13 The conditional analysis within GCTA resulted in only one remaining SNP selected in the model,
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15 namely the lead SNP rs247616 within the *CETP* locus, with a joint p-value of 9.96×10^{-10} and joint
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17 $\beta=0.0104$, equal to its unconditional effect size estimate. As can be seen from the locus zoom plot in
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19 **Figure 3**, the other two genome-wide significant hits are in high LD with the lead SNP, and after
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21 conditioning on the lead SNP, the GCTA conditional analysis results show that no other SNPs within
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23 chromosome 16 have significant residual association, with the minimum conditional p-value being
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25 $p \sim 3 \times 10^{-5}$. Hence we conclude that there is only one independent signal within the *CETP* association.
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29 *Variance explained*
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32 From genome-wide data of the ASCOT-UK datasets, the trait heritability for HDL-C response to
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34 statins was estimated as $h^2 = 17.8\%$ ($SE = 0.154$) although this was non-significant ($p=0.125$). There
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36 was insufficient power to run the GCTA analysis in the CARDS dataset, due to smaller sample size.
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38 The trait variance explained by the lead *CETP* SNP rs247616 alone was calculated to be 0.04% from
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40 ASCOT-UK and 0.01% from CARDS, both non-significant ($p=0.38$ and $p=0.54$, respectively).
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Discussion

In this study we have performed a meta-analysis of GWAS including over 27,700 statin-treated individuals, investigating genetic variants associated with variation in HDL-C response to statin treatment. We identified three genetic variants in the *CETP* locus that were highly significantly associated with a larger HDL-C response to statin treatment. No other SNPs met the genome-wide criterion for association of HDL-C change with statin use.

CETP plays an important role in HDL-C metabolism by promoting the exchange of cholesteryl esters in HDL particles with triglycerides in apolipoprotein B-containing particles, leading to increased HDL catabolism and lower HDL-C levels. Increases in HDL-C levels after statin treatment are probably partly the result of a reduction in *CETP* mediated lipid transfer[25], as was also shown in mice expressing human *CETP*. [26] Statin treatment decreases *CETP* activity up to 30%. [27, 28] Previously it has been shown that genetic variants within *CETP* are associated with differences in *CETP* concentration. [29] The three SNPs associated with HDL-C response to statins in the present study are located 2.5-7 kb upstream of the *CETP* gene and are in high linkage disequilibrium (**Figure 3**). [30] The minor alleles of these SNPs have been shown to be associated with lower *CETP* mRNA expression levels in liver tissue and with higher HDL-C levels. [30, 31]

Previous studies investigating the association between SNPs in the *CETP* locus and the HDL-C response to statin treatment have yielded inconsistent results. Several studies showed associations with a greater HDL-C response [8, 10], whereas others showed no significant associations. [12, 32-34] These discrepancies could be explained by limited sample sizes and by the investigation of different genetic variants in these studies. An alternative explanation could be the fact that the effect of statins on HDL-C response is relatively small and depends on statin dose and type. [3, 4] Since the power to detect genetic effects on these small variations is low in single studies, the results from the present large meta-analysis, with replication, provide strong evidence that genetic variation at the *CETP* locus is associated with HDL-C response.

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3 The results of six randomized clinical trials and ten observational studies were combined in the first
4 stage of the current study. Different statins were investigated in the trials and used within the
5 observational studies, resulting in combining several types of statins in our analysis. This and the
6 variation in statin dosages during follow-up for an individual are a limitation of the current study,
7 since the pharmacogenetic impact might be dependent on specific statin types and dose. To address
8 this possible limitation, the individual study analyses were adjusted for statin equivalent dose based
9 on effect on LDL-C levels, making the different statin types likely more comparable with respect to
10 clinical effectiveness on HDL-C levels. Combining RCTs and observational cohort might also result in
11 heterogeneity between the study types. To reduce the possibility of large heterogeneity we aimed to
12 mimic the design of a RCT in the observational studies, by including only new statin-users.
13 Comparing heterogeneity of the RCTs and observational studies included in the first stage showed
14 no evidence of large heterogeneity ($p=0.761$, data not shown).
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30 Another possible limitation of the current study is the association of the identified genetic variant
31 with baseline HDL-C concentration. As shown in previous large GWAS studies, the *CETP* SNP
32 rs3764261 is strongly associated with HDL-C levels.[11 ,31] In pharmacogenetic studies investigating
33 lipid responses to drug exposure, it is important to eliminate the effect of the association between
34 baseline lipid levels and the investigated genetic variants.[13] To reduce the impact of these possible
35 confounding effects, our response to treatment analyses were adjusted for baseline HDL-C levels. In
36 addition, interaction analyses in five of the RCTs, with direct modeled comparison with a random
37 assignment to a placebo group, suggested little or no influence of the association between the *CETP*
38 SNPs and baseline HDL-C levels on the genetic effect on HDL-C response to statin treatment. It is,
39 however, possible that mechanisms underlying the effects of *CETP* on HDL-C levels are also involved
40 in mediating statin effects on HDL-C.
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54 All genetic data in the current study was imputed to up to 2.5 million autosomal SNPs based on data
55 from the HapMap project.[15] In addition, in our analysis we excluded genetic variants with a minor
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3 allele frequency <1%, restricting our analysis to common genetic variants. Imputation based on the
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5 more recent 1000 Genomes project could reveal more associations with rare genetic variants.[35]
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7 Future studies using exome sequencing data and investigating rare variants may identify additional
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9 associations between genetic variants and statin-induced HDL-C response. However, the non-
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11 significant estimate of heritability attributable to common variation in our analysis may indicate that
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13 the observed increase in HDL-C levels after statin-treatment may be mainly due to environmental
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15 rather than genetic effects.
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19 The implications of the present findings regarding genetic effects on the efficacy of statins for
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21 reductions in risk of CVD are uncertain. Based on the strong inverse relationship of HDL-C with CVD,
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23 the greater statin-induced increase in HDL-C among carriers of the minor vs. major alleles of the
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25 three *CETP* SNPs reported here may confer a greater protective effect of statins on CVD in patients
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27 carrying the minor allele. However, a recent study employing Mendelian randomization found that
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29 genotypes associated with plasma HDL-C levels were not associated with the impact on CVD risk that
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31 would be predicted by the magnitude of the genotypic effects on HDL-C.[7] Moreover, two large
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33 clinical trials have failed to show reduction of CVD events by nicotinic acid-induced increases in HDL-
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35 C in patients with well-controlled LDL-C levels.[36 ,37] Hence, whether greater genetically-mediated
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37 HDL-C increases with statin treatment confer increased protection from CVD remains unknown.
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41 In conclusion, this study is the largest meta-analysis of GWAS for HDL-C response to statin treatment
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43 conducted to date. The findings suggest that *CETP* may be the only locus in which common genetic
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45 variants are significantly associated with a substantial HDL-C response to statin treatment in
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47 individuals of European descent.
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Acknowledgements

PROSPER/PHASE

The Prospective Study of Pravastatin in the Elderly at Risk (PROSPER) trial was supported by an investigator initiated grant from Bristol-Myers Squibb, USA. The study was conducted, analysed, and reported independently of the company. The GWAS project PHASE has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement HEALTH-F2-2009-223004. A part of the genotyping was funded by The Netherlands Consortium for Healthy Ageing (NGI: 05060810). Prof. Dr. J. W. Jukema is an established clinical investigator of The Netherlands Heart Foundation (2001 D 032).

ASCOT

The Anglo-Scandinavian Cardiac Outcomes Trial (ASCOT) trial was funded by an investigator initiated grant from Pfizer USA. The study was investigator-led and was conducted, analyzed, and reported independently of the company. The Genomewide Association Scan was funded by the National Institutes for Health Research (NIHR) as part of the portfolio of translational research of the NIHR Biomedical Research Unit at Barts and the NIHR Biomedical Research Centre at Imperial College, the International Centre for Circulatory Health Charity and the Medical Research Council through G952010.

CARDS

The authors thank the other investigators, the staff, and the participants of the CARDS study. A full list of CARDS investigators can be found in original CARDS paper [38]. CARDS was funded by grants to the Universities of London and Manchester by Pfizer, Diabetes UK and the Department of Health.

PARC

This research was supported by the National Institutes of Health: grant U19 HL069757 from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; and grant UL1TR000124 from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences.

TNT

The TNT study was funded by Pfizer, who also provided support for genotyping.

AGES

This study has been funded by NIH contract N01-AG-1-2100, the NIA Intramural Research Program, Hjartavernd (the Icelandic Heart Association), and the Althingi (the Icelandic Parliament). The study is approved by the Icelandic National Bioethics Committee, VSN: 00-063. The researchers are indebted to the participants for their willingness to participate in the study.

ARIC

The Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities Study is carried out as a collaborative study supported by National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute contracts (HHSN268201100005C, HHSN268201100006C, HHSN268201100007C, HHSN268201100008C, HHSN268201100009C, HHSN268201100010C, HHSN268201100011C, and HHSN268201100012C), R01HL087641, R01HL59367 and R01HL086694; National Human Genome Research Institute contract U01HG004402; and National Institutes of Health contract HHSN268200625226C. The authors thank the staff and participants of the ARIC study for their important contributions. Infrastructure was partly supported by Grant Number UL1RR025005, a component of the National Institutes of Health and NIH Roadmap for Medical Research.

BioVU

BioVU receives support through the National Center for Research Resources UL1 RR024975, which is now the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, 2 UL1 TR000445. Genotyping was supported via grant U01-HG04603 from the National Human Genome Research Institute and RC2-GM092318 from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

CHS

This CHS research was supported by NHLBI contracts HHSN268201200036C, HHSN268200800007C,

1
2
3 N01HC55222, N01HC85079, N01HC85080, N01HC85081, N01HC85082, N01HC85083, N01HC85086;
4
5 and NHLBI grants U01HL080295, R01HL087652, R01HL105756, R01HL103612, and R01HL120393
6
7 with additional contribution from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
8
9 (NINDS). Additional support was provided through R01AG023629 from the National Institute on
10
11 Aging (NIA). A full list of principal CHS investigators and institutions can be found at CHS-NHLBI.org.
12
13 The provision of genotyping data was supported in part by the National Center for Advancing
14
15 Translational Sciences, CTSI grant UL1TR000124, and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive
16
17 and Kidney Disease Diabetes Research Center (DRC) grant DK063491 to the Southern California
18
19 Diabetes Endocrinology Research Center. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and
20
21 does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.
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25 *Framingham HS*

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27 The Framingham Heart Study work was supported by the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute of
28
29 the National Institutes of Health and Boston University School of Medicine (Contract No. N01-HC-
30
31 25195), its contract with Affymetrix, Inc. for genotyping services (Contract No. N02-HL-6-4278), and
32
33 based upon analyses by Framingham Heart Study investigators participating in the SNP Health
34
35 Association Resource (SHARe) project. A portion of this research was conducted using the Linux
36
37 Cluster for Genetic Analysis (LinGA-II) funded by the Robert Dawson Evans Endowment of the
38
39 Department of Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine and Boston Medical Center. Also
40
41 supported by R01HL103612 (PI Psaty, subcontract PI, Vasan)
42
43
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45 *Health ABC*

46
47 The Health ABC study was supported by NIA contracts N01AG62101, N01AG62103, and
48
49 N01AG62106. The genome-wide association study was funded by NIA grant 1R01AG032098-01A1 to
50
51 Wake Forest University Health Sciences and genotyping services were provided by the Center for
52
53 Inherited Disease Research (CIDR). CIDR is fully funded through a federal contract from the National
54
55 Institutes of Health to The Johns Hopkins University, contract number HHSN268200782096C. This
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1
2
3 research was supported in part by the Intramural Research Program of the NIH, National Institute on
4
5 Aging.

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8 *HVH*

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10 This Heart and Vascular Health Study research was supported by NHLBI grants HL085251, HL073410,
11
12 HL085251, and HL068986.

13
14
15 *MESA*

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17 The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA) and MESA SNP Health Association Resource
18
19 (SHARE) are conducted and supported by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) in
20
21 collaboration with MESA investigators. Support is provided by grants and contracts N01 HC-95159,
22
23 N01-HC-95160, N01-HC-95161, N01-HC-95162, N01-HC-95163, N01-HC-95164, N01-HC-95165, N01-
24
25 HC-95166, N01-HC-95167, N01-HC-95168, N01-HC-95169 and RR-024156. Additional funding was
26
27 supported in part by the Clinical Translational Science Institute grant UL1RR033176 and is now at the
28
29 National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, CTSI grant UL1TR000124. The authors thank
30
31 the other investigators in the Pharmacogenetics Working Group, the staff, and the participants of
32
33 the MESA study for their valuable contributions. A full list of participating MESA investigators and
34
35 institutions can be found at <http://www.mesa-nhlbi.org>.

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39 *Rotterdam Study*

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41 The Rotterdam Study is supported by the Erasmus Medical Center and Erasmus University
42
43 Rotterdam; the Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development (ZonMw); the
44
45 Research Institute for Diseases in the Elderly; the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science; the
46
47 Ministry of Health Welfare and Sports; the European Commission and Municipality of Rotterdam.
48
49 This work was supported by the Netherlands Genomics Initiative (NGI) Netherlands Organization for
50
51 Scientific Research (NOW; 050-060-810).

JUPITER

Genetic analysis in JUPITER was supported by a research grant from AstraZeneca to DC and PM.

GoDARTS

We are grateful to all the participants who took part in this study, to the general practitioners, to the Scottish School of Primary Care for their help in recruiting the participants, and to the whole team, which includes interviewers, computer and laboratory technicians, clerical workers, research scientists, volunteers, managers, receptionists, and nurses. The Wellcome Trust provides support for Wellcome Trust United Kingdom Type 2 Diabetes Case Control Collection (GoDARTS) and informatics support is provided by the Chief Scientist Office. The Wellcome Trust funds the Scottish Health Informatics Programme, provides core support for the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics in Oxford and funds the Wellcome Trust Case Control Consortium 2. This research was specifically funded by Diabetes UK (07/0003525) and the Wellcome Trust (084727/Z/08/Z, 085475/Z/08/Z, 085475/B/08/Z). Genotyping of the GoDARTS samples (sample 2) was also funded as part of the EU IMI-SUMMIT programme.

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IP and ST performed quality control on the individual study summary results.

IP and ST performed meta-analysis.

IP, HRW, and RAJS performed additional analyses.

All analysis and writing group authors extensively discussed the analysis, results, interpretation and presentation of results.

All authors contributed to the research and reviewed the manuscript.

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MJC, PS, NP, AS, DCS, EO; (CARDS) HAD, HMC, PMM, JB, PND, AD, GH; (PARC) XL, YDIC, JIR, RMK;

(TNT) JJPk; (AGES) LJJ, TBH, VG; (ARIC) CLA, EAW, TS, EB, CMB; (BioVU) QF, WW, CMS, RAW, JCD;

(CHS, HVH) NS, KR, TL, BMP; (FHS) LAC, VR; (HABC) SRC, YL; (MESA) XG, SRH, WP, JIR, SSR;

(Rotterdam Study) CEK, BHS, AGU, AH, FR; (JUPITER) DIC, BJB, FN, PMR; (GoDARTS) CNAP, HMC.

Phenotype data acquisition of contributing studies: (PROSPER) JWJ, DJS, BMB, IF, AJMC, NS, RGJW;

(ASCOT) MJC, PBM, PS, NP, AS, DCS, EO, SSH; (CARDS) HAD, HMC, PMM, JB, PND, AD, GH; (PARC) XL,

YDIC, JIR, RMK; (TNT) JJPk; (AGES) GE; (ARIC) CMB; (BioVU) WW, CMS; (CHS, HVH) KLV, JCB, AMA,

NLS, BMP; (FHS) LAC, CJO, VR; (GoDARTS) CNAP, HMC; (HABC) SBK; (MESA) SRH, JIR; (Rotterdam

Study) CEK, BHS, AH, OHF; (JUPITER) DIC, PMR.

Genotype data acquisition of contributing studies: (PROSPER) ST, JWJ, AJMC, PES; (ASCOT) MJC,

HRW, PBM, PS, AS, SSH; (CARDS) HAD, HMC, PMM, PND, AD, GH; (PARC) YDIC, JIR, DAN, JDS; (TNT)

BJA, MPD, SMB, GKH, JCT; (AGES) AVS; (ARIC) EB; (BioVU) QF, JCD; (CHS, HVH) JCB; (FHS) CJO;

(GoDARTS) CNAP, HMC; (HABC) YL; (MESA) KDT, JIR; (Rotterdam Study) AGU, FR; (JUPITER) DIC, BJB,

FN, PMR.

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2
3 **Primary analysis from contributing studies:** (PROSPER) IP, ST, AJMC, RAJS, PES; (ASCOT) HRW;
4
5 (CARDS) HAD, HMC, PMM; (PARC) XL, YDIC, JIR; (TNT) BJA, MPD, SMB, GKH, JCT; (AGES) AVS; (ARIC)
6
7 CLA, EAW, TS; (BioVU) QF, WW; (CHS, HVH) KLW, KR, TL; (FHS) LAC, FS; (GoDARTS) CNAP, HMC;
8
9 (HABC) DSE, JMS; (MESA) KDT, XG, JIR; (Rotterdam Study) CEK, BHS; (JUPITER) DIC.
10

11
12 **Competing financial interests:** BMP serves on the Data and Safety Monitoring Board of a clinical trial
13
14 funded by the device manufacturer (Zoll LifeCor) and serves on the Steering Committee of the Yale
15
16 Open Data Access Project funded by Johnson & Johnson. NP and AS received funding from Pfizer for
17
18 the extended follow-up of the ASCOT UK participants. DIC and PMR received research support for
19
20 independent genetic analysis in JUPITER from AstraZeneca. FN and BJB have employment, stock and
21
22 stock options in AstraZeneca, a for-profit company engaged in the discovery, development,
23
24 manufacture and marketing of proprietary therapeutics such as rosuvastatin, but do not consider
25
26 that this creates any conflict of interest with the subject-matter of this publication. RMK serves on
27
28 the Merck Global Atherosclerosis Advisory Board. The remaining authors declare no competing
29
30 financial interests.
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Figure legends

Figure 1. Results of the GWAS meta-analysis. Manhattan plot presenting the $-\log_{10}$ P-values from the combined stage 1 and 2 meta-analysis on HDL-C response to statin treatment. The top (red) line represents the genome-wide significant P-value 5×10^{-8} , the second (blue) line represents the P-value 1×10^{-4} , the threshold used for selecting SNPs to take forward to the second stage. Hence the results of these SNPs come from the larger combined meta-analysis, whereas all other results are taken from the stage 1 discovery meta-analysis.

Figure 2. Forest plot showing the association in each study and overall association of the lead *CETP* SNP rs247616 with HDL-C response to statin treatment. Beta represents fractional HDL-C change for each copy of the minor allele.

Figure 3. Regional association plot of the *CETP* region that was genome-wide significant for association with HDL-C response to statin treatment, using the results of the combined meta-analysis (generated using LocusZoom [39]). The color of each SNP is based on the LD (r^2) with the lead SNP rs247616 (shown in purple). The RefSeq genes in the region are shown in the lower panel.

Figure 4. Plot of the per-allele association of genetic variants with HDL-C levels (x-axis, per allele in SD units, as reported by Willer *et al.* [11]) against the association with HDL-C response to statin treatment (y-axis, percentage) (generated using [22]). The regression line shows the linear relationship between these two variables, with 95% confidence boundaries.

Table 1. Association of *CETP* SNP rs247616 (chromosome 16, bp 55547091) with HDL-C response after statin treatment in the stage 1, stage 2, and combined GWAS meta-analyses.

Phase	N	Coding allele	Non-coding allele	Frequency coding allele	Beta*	SE	% extra increase [#]	P-value
Stage 1	14693	T	C	0.324	0.011	0.002	1.1	5.95×10^{-10}
Stage 2	10961	T	C	0.327	0.005	0.001	0.5	1.59×10^{-5}
Combined	25654	T	C	0.326	0.007	0.001	0.7	8.52×10^{-13}

*Beta for difference between the natural log transformed on- and off-treatment HDL-C levels, adjusted for natural log transformed off-treatment HDL-C, age, sex, and study specific covariates. The beta reflects the fraction of differential HDL-C lowering in carriers vs. non-carriers of the SNP; a positive beta indicates a better statin response (larger HDL-C increase).

[#]This percentage reflects the % extra HDL-C increase in carriers vs. non-carriers of the SNP.

Table 2. Interaction between *CE7P* rs247616 and statin vs. placebo allocation on HDL-C response. Meta-analysis of data from 5 RCTs.

SNP	N	Coding allele	Non-coding allele	Frequency coding allele	Interaction Beta	Interaction SE	Interaction P-value
rs247616	17857	T	C	0.341	0.007	0.002	3.52×10^{-3}

Interaction beta and SE refer to statistics from linear regression modelling the difference between the natural log transformed on- and of-treatment HDL-C levels adjusted for natural log transformed off-treatment HDL-C, age, sex, and study specific covariates, and including an interaction term between SNP and statin or placebo allocation. The interaction p-value refers to the significance of the SNP-by-statin or placebo allocation interaction term in the regression model.

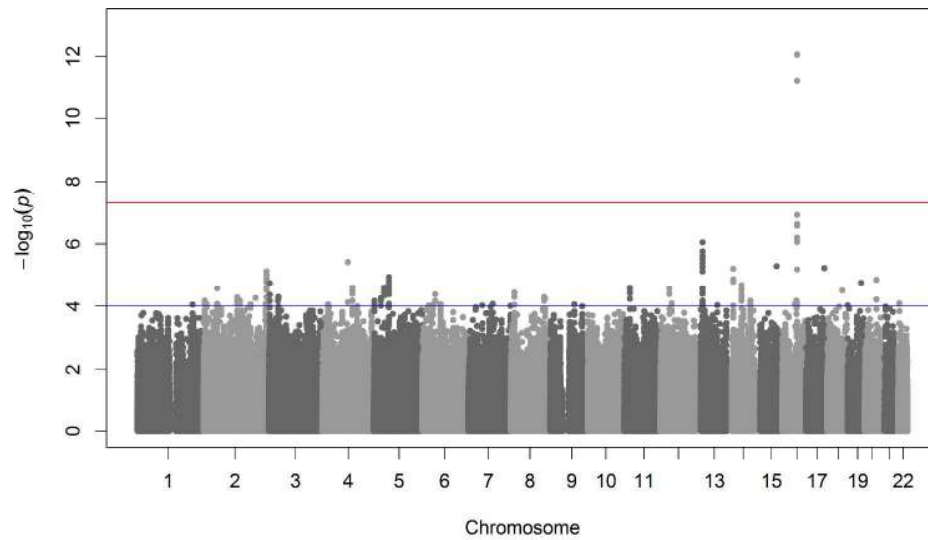


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Figure 1

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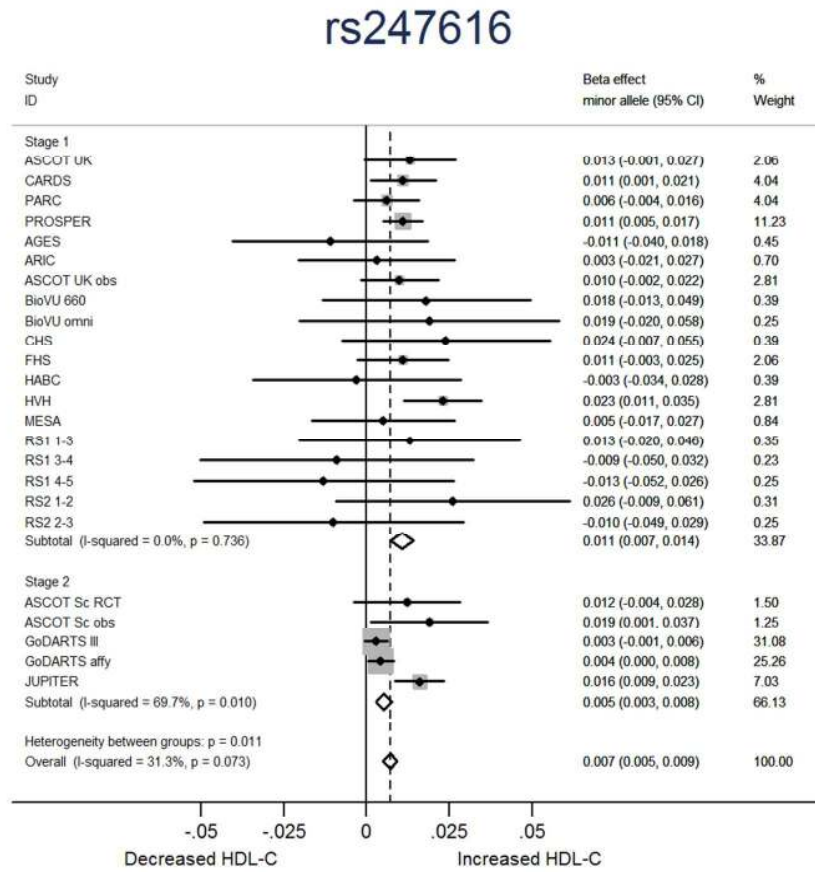
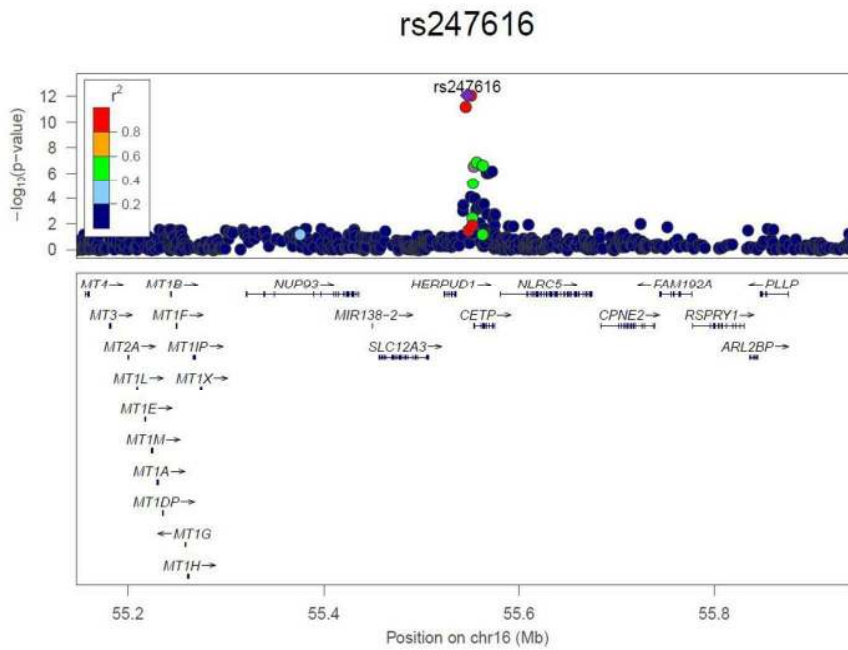


Figure 2. Forest plot showing the association in each study and overall association of the lead CETP SNP rs247616 with HDL-C response to statin treatment. Beta represents fractional HDL-C change for each copy of the minor allele.

Figure 2
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32 Figure 3. Regional association plot of the CETP region that was genome-wide significant for association with
 33 HDL-C response to statin treatment, using the results of the combined meta-analysis (generated using
 34 LocusZoom [39]). The color of each SNP is based on the LD (r^2) with the lead SNP rs247616 (shown in
 35 purple). The RefSeq genes in the region are shown in the lower panel.

36 Figure 3
 37 254x190mm (121 x 121 DPI)

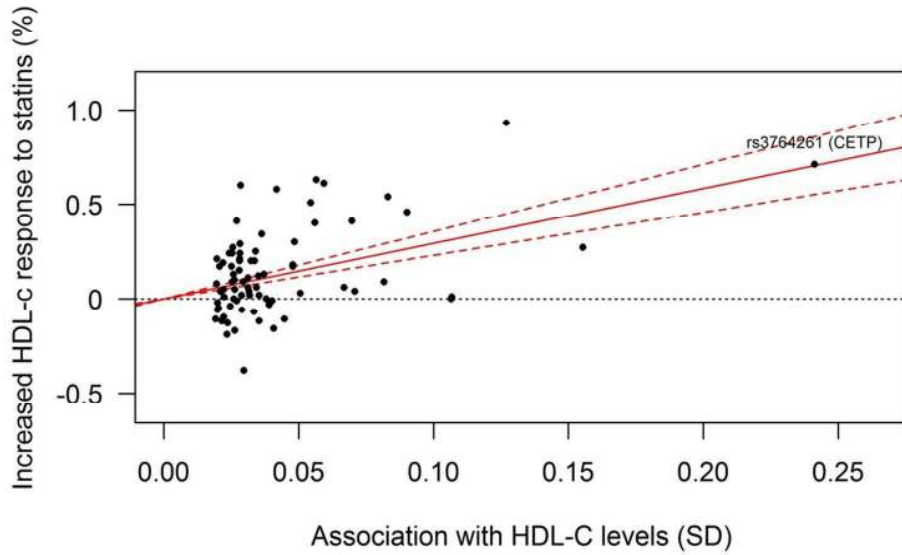


Figure 4. Plot of the per-allele association of genetic variants with HDL-C levels (x-axis, per allele in SD units, as reported by Willer et al. [11]) against the association with HDL-C response to statin treatment (y-axis, percentage) (generated using [22]). The regression line shows the linear relationship between these two variables, with 95% confidence boundaries.

Figure 4
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Supplementary information**Meta-analysis of genome-wide association studies of HDL
cholesterol response to statins**

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Supplementary Table 1: Participating study characteristics of the statin users only.

Study sample	Participants	Male, N (%)	Age*, mean \pm SD	Age*, range	Body mass index, kg/m ² , mean \pm SD	Diabetes, N (%)	Hypertension, N (%)
Randomized controlled trials							
PROSPER	2550	1228 (48)	75.4 (3.4)	70.2-83.3	26.8 (4.1)	256 (10.0)	1592 (62.4)
ASCOT UK	978	864 (88)	64.0 (8.1)	41.0-90.0	29.1 (5.1)	215 (22.0)	978 (100.0)
CARDS	1194	632 (53)	61.6 (8.2)	40-76	28.7 (3.6)	1194 (100)	1038 (87)
PRINCE	1348	1040 (77.2)	64.8 (13.0)	26-100	29.0 (5.3)	271 (20.1)	551 (40.9) †
CAP	591	312 (52.8)	54.5 (12.6)	30-88	27.7 (5.5)	21 (3.6) ‡	108 (18.3) †
TNT	1845	1521 (82.4)	62.4 (8.4)	36.4-76.0	29.1 (4.7)	411 (22.3)	631 (34.2)
Observational studies							
AGES	281	123 (43.8)	74.4 (4.8)	66-92	27.5 (4.1)	58 (20.6)	237 (84.3)
ARIC	1163	601 (52)	55 (5.3)	45-64	27.7 (4.6)	172 (14.8)	434 (37.6)
ASCOT UK	1067	894 (84)	63.4 (8.0)	40.0-80.0	29.1 (4.7)	244 (22.9)	1067 (100.0)
BioVU	435	231 (53)	67.0 (14.5)	21-99	29.1 (5.8)	119 (27.4)	412 (94.7)
CHS	315	117 (37.1)	69.5 (3.1)**	65-87	26.6 (4.2)	23 (7.3)	91 (28.9)
FHS	1395	774 (55.5)	57 (9.9)	23-85	28.7 (5.1)	205 (14.7)	477 (34.2)
Health ABC	310	175 (56%)	73.4 (2.7)	69 - 80	27.2 (4.1)	60 (19%)	183 (59%)
HVH	1896	789 (41.6)	66.3 (9.5)**	32-89	31.0 (6.7)	428 (22.6)	1431 (75.5)
MESA	360	180 (50.0)	66.9 (9.3)	47-87	28.9 (5.4)	48 (13.4)	191 (53.1)
Rotterdam Study I	744	351 (47.2)	63.2 (5.0)	55.0-81.5	27.4 (3.9)	110 (14.8)	234 (31.5)
Rotterdam Study II	297	166 (55.9)	62.2 (5.5)	55.2-86.5	28.1 (3.9)	53 (17.8)	120 (41.0)
Second stage studies							
ASCOT Scandinavia RCT	725	575 (79)	61.0 (8.8)	40.0-80.0	28.6 (5.0)	156 (21.5)	725 (100.0)
ASCOT Scandinavia observational	611	447 (73)	60.3 (8.5)	40.0-79.0	28.6 (4.2)	124 (20.3)	611 (100.0)
GoDARTS	6133	4293 (70)	66.0 (11.2)	40-95	30.6 (5.3)	6133 (100)	NA
JUPITER	3417	2346 (69)	65.9 (7.6)	50-93	29.5 (5.7)	12 (0.3)	1900 (55.6)

*Age at DNA collection

** Age at baseline

† Defined as systolic blood pressure \geq 140 mm Hg or diastolic blood pressure \geq 90 mm Hg.‡ Defined as fasting glucose \geq 126 mg/dl (diabetes on treatment were excluded from the trial).

Supplementary Table 2: High-density lipoprotein characteristics of the statin users only.

Study sample	Participants	Type of statin	Statin dose (mg/day)	HDL-C off-treatment (mmol/L)		HDL-C on-treatment (mmol/L)*		Follow-up time (months)
				Mean ± SD	Mean ± SD	Mean ± SD	Mean ± SD	
RCTs								
N Overall								
PROSPER	2550	Pravastatin	40	1.29 (0.36)	1.40 (0.38)	29.5 (9.2)		
ASCOT UK	978	Atorvastatin	10	1.27 (0.33)	1.27 (0.33)	First year used		
CARDS	1194	Atorvastatin	10	1.39 (0.31)	1.42 (0.39)	46.8 (4.7)		
PRINCE	1348	Pravastatin	40	0.94 (0.26)	0.99 (0.27)	12 weeks		
CAP	591	Simvastatin	40	1.38 (0.42)	1.44 (0.45)	6 weeks		
TNT	1845	Atorvastatin	10	1.20 (0.26)	1.17 (0.26)	2.0 (0.2)		
Observational studies								
N Overall								
AGES	281	mixed	mixed	1.51 (0.42)	1.53 (0.44)	61.8 (2.5)		
ARIC	1163	A, Ce, F, L, P, S, Ch	Not available	1.13 (0.34)	1.17 (0.34)	36.1 (3.1)		
ASCOT UK	1067	A (N=775), F (N=9), P (N=28), R (N=11), S (N=244)	12.4 (7.5), 28.9 (20.3), 28.9 (12.2), 14.1 (9.7), 28.6 (14.0)	1.24 (0.33)	1.33 (0.35)	11.7 (4.3)		
BioVU	435	A, S, F, P, L, R	5,10,20,40,80	1.29 (0.43)	1.29 (0.39)	108.6 (46.0) ¹		
CHS	315	A, P, L, S, F, Ce	14.1 (8.5), 20.8 (9.3), 21.4 (8.9), 16.5 (10.6), 35.0 (23.7), 0.37 (0.08)	1.36 (0.34)	1.34 (0.36)	43.4 (43.2) ²		
FHS	1395	mixed	mixed	1.21 (0.36)	1.30 (0.38)	63.6 (22.8)		
Health ABC	310	mixed	mixed	1.28 (0.37)	1.32 (0.37)	51.17 (17.22)		
HVH	1896	A, P, L, S, R	34.6 (24.0), 20.8 (4.9), 33.5 (9.8), 36.7 (15.2), 20.0	1.31 (0.40)	1.33 (0.41)	3.6 (5.0) ²		
MESA	360	mixed	mixed	1.30 (0.36)	1.35 (0.41)	19.9 (3.2)		
Rotterdam Study I	744	S (N=430), P (N=88), F (N=54), A (N=158), R (N=14)	18.3 (10.6), 21.8 (11.4), 33.3 (17.8), 16.6 (9.3), 7.9 (4.3)	1.30 (0.30)	1.40 (0.40)	71.4 (11.0) ³ 125.1 (53.7) ⁴		
Rotterdam Study II	297	S (N=166), P (N=32), F (N=7), A (N=70), R (N=22)	20.7 (6.3), 31.3 (11.8), 62.9 (49.6), 17.6 (9.8), 9.3 (4.2)	1.30 (0.30)	1.40 (0.30)	64.6 (14.7) ³ 92.7 (38.5) ⁴		
Second stage studies								
N Overall								
ASCOT SC RCT	725	Atorvastatin	10	1.33 (0.38)	1.32 (0.36)	First year used		
ASCOT SC observational	611	A (N=458), F (N=11), L (N=4), R (N=12), S (N=126)	13.4 (8.3), 56.4 (23.4), 40.0 (28.3), 10.1 (4.3), 25.4 (14.0)	1.27 (0.37)	1.33 (0.38)	10.8 (4.3)		
GoDARTS	6133	mixed	mixed	1.33 (0.35)	1.44 (0.38)	49.6 (12)		
JUPITER	3417	Rosuvastatin	20	1.40 (0.40)	1.44 (0.42)	12 months		

*Mean of multiple on-treatment measurements

¹Median HDL within 18 months after treatment used for analysis. ²Case-Control and cohort studies - time listed is time from statin initiation to HDL measurement. ³Mean time between off- and on-treatment HDL-C measurement. ⁴Mean time between start RS and on-treatment HDL-C measurement.

Abbreviations: A, Atorvastatin; Ce, Cerivastatin; F, Fluvastatin; L, Lovastatin; P, Pravastatin; S, Simvastatin; Ch, Cholesterol; R, Rosuvastatin

Supplementary Table 3: Genotyping characteristics

Study sample	Participants	Genotyping platform	Calling algorithm	NCBI build	Imputation software	Analysis software	Exclusion criteria used
RCTs							
N Overall							
PROSPER	2550	Illumina Human 660_Quadv1	Beadstudio	36.22	MACH v1.0.16	ProbABEL	Sample call rate>=97.5%, SNP call rate >=98%, SNP MAF>0.01
ASCOT UK	978	Illumina Human 370CNV	Beadstudio	36.22	MACH v1.0.16	ProbABEL	Sample call rate <=95%, SNP call rate <=97%, HWE<=10E-7, relatedness
CARDS	1194	Perlegen 6	Perlegen 6	36.22	Impute2	SNPTEST	Sample call rate>=98% SNP call rate>=98% MAF>0.01
PRINCE	1348	Illumina Human 317K and 610_Quad	Illumina	36.23	Bimbam v0.99	SNPTEST	Imputation information>0.30, SNP MAF>0.01
CAP	591	Illumina Human 317K and 610_Quad	Illumina	36.23	Bimbam v0.99	SNPTEST	Imputation information>0.30, SNP MAF>0.01
TNT	1845	Perlegen 322K	Perlegen	36.3	IMPUTE 2 v2.1.0, GTOOL v 0.6.6	Plink v 1.07	Sample call rate>=98%, SNP call rate >=98%
Observational							
N Overall							
AGES	281	Illumina HU370CNV	Beadstudio	36	MACH v1.0.16	ProbABEL	Pre imputation exclusions: MAF >0.01, HWE p 10-6, callrate 0.97. Call rate 0.95
ARIC	1163	Affymetrix 6.0	Birdseed	36	MACH v1.0.16	ProbABEL	MAF <1%, call rate <95%, HWE<10E-5
ASCOT UK	1067	Illumina Human 370CNV	Beadstudio	36.22	MACH v1.0.16	ProbABEL	Sample call rate <=95%, SNP call rate <=97%, HWE<=10E-7, relatedness
BioVu	435	Illumina 660K, Illumina OMNI	Illumina	36(660K), 37.1(OMNI)	MACH v1.0.16	R	Sample call rate>=98%, SNP call rate >=98%, SNP MAF>0.01
CHS	315	Illumina Human 370CNV	BeadStudio	36	BIMBAM	R	Samples excluded for sex mismatch, discordance with prior genotyping, or call rate < 95% SNPs excluded for: call rate < 97%, HWE P < 10-5, > 2 duplicate errors or Mendelian inconsistencies (for reference CEPH trios), heterozygote frequency = 0, SNP not found in HapMap.
FHS	1395	Affymetrix 250K Stv, 250K Nsp & MIPS 50K	BRLMM	36.22	MACH v1.0.15	R 2.6.1 with	Sample call rate ≤ 97%, SNP call rate ≤ 95%, SNP >1000 Mendelian errors,

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Study sample	Participants	Genotyping platform	Calling algorithm	NCBI build	Imputation software	Analysis software	Exclusion criteria used
		Gene Centric					Heterozygosity 5 SD from Mean (<25.758% or >29.958%)
Health ABC	310	Illumina Human1M-Duo BeadChip	BeadStudio	36.22	MACH v1.0.16	R	Sample call rate>=97%, SNP call rate >=97%, SNP MAF>0.01
HVH	1896	Illumina Human 370CNV	BeadStudio	36	BIMBAM	R	Samples excluded for sex mismatch or call rate < 95%. SNP exclusions: call rate < 97%, HWE $P < 10^{-5}$, > 2 duplicate errors or Mendelian inconsistencies (for reference CEPH trios), heterozygote frequency = 0, SNP not found in HapMap, inconsistencies across genotyping batches.
MESA	360	Affymetrix Genome-Wide Human SNP Array 6.0	Affymetrix	36.24	IMPUTE v2.1.0	SNPTEST	SNP call rate >=95%, imputation information>0.30, SNP MAF>0.01
Rotterdam Study	1041	Illumina HumanHap 550K	Illumina GenomeStudio	36.22	MACH v1.0.15	ProbABEL	Call rate <98%, HWE $P < 10^{-6}$, or MAF<1%
Second stage							
ASCOT SC	RCT: 725 OBS: 611	Illumina Human Omni Exome Express v8.1	BeadStudio, followed by zCall	37	MACH v1.0.18	R	GWAS: Exclude samples with: Discrepant sex, repeat samples, <95% genotyping success rate. Excluded SNPs with: <0.5% MAF, <95% call rate, HWE $p < 5 \times 10^{-7}$
GoDARTS	6133	Affymetrix 6.0, Human Omni Express	CHIAMO, Illumina	37	IMPUTE	SNPTEST	Standard GWAS criteria
JUPITER	3417	Illumina Omni Quad 1M	Illumina GenomeStudio	36	MACH v1.0.16	R	Sample call rate < 90%, SNP call rate <98%

Supplementary Table 4: Statin dose adjustments in observational studies, based on a modified version of a table in Drugs 1998; 56: Suppl 1: 25-31¹.

Statin	Dose range (mg)	Typical starting dose (PDR)	Dose % equivalent	Reduction LDL (%)	Reduction TC (%)
Atorvastatin	10-80	10-20	10	35	29
Cerivastatin	0.2-0.4	0.2-0.3	0.3	30	-
Fluvastatin	10-80	40	60	31	23
Lovastatin	10-80	20	40	32	23
Pravastatin	10-40	40	40	30	25
Simvastatin	10-80	20-40	20	36	28
Rosuvastatin	5-40	10	5	45	33
Pitavastatin	2-4	2	2	37	-

Supplementary table 5: First stage, second stage, and combined results of all SNPs investigated in the second stage.

	SNP	CHR	position	A1	A2	Stage 1				Stage 2				Combined						
						Freq A1	Beta*	SE	P-value	N	Freq A1	Beta*	SE	P-value	N	Freq A1	Beta*	StdErr	P-value	N
10	rs247616	16	55,547,091	t	c	0.324	0.0106	0.0017	5.95E-10	14693	0.327	0.0053	0.0012	1.59E-05	10961	0.326	0.0071	0.0010	8.52E-13	25654
11	rs3764261	16	55,550,825	a	c	0.324	0.0105	0.0017	8.61E-10	14695	0.330	0.0053	0.0012	1.28E-05	10990	0.328	0.0071	0.0010	8.82E-13	25685
12	rs173539	16	55,545,545	t	c	0.326	0.0105	0.0018	6.94E-09	14161	0.325	0.0054	0.0012	1.48E-05	10814	0.325	0.0071	0.0010	5.90E-12	24975
13	rs12916361	15	79,025,100	t	c	0.912	0.0143	0.0032	9.10E-06	14318	0.931	0.0102	0.0103	3.24E-01	4854	0.914	0.0139	0.0031	5.11E-06	19172
14	rs5112	19	50,122,120	c	g	0.441	-0.0104	0.0025	3.61E-05	12805	0.451	-0.0089	0.0081	2.74E-01	1331	0.442	-0.0103	0.0024	1.73E-05	14136
15	rs1445311	12	33,171,126	t	c	0.933	-0.0116	0.0028	3.89E-05	16520	0.935	-0.0046	0.0023	4.24E-02	11063	0.934	-0.0074	0.0018	2.89E-05	27583
16	rs7973897	12	33,173,955	t	c	0.936	-0.0119	0.0029	4.61E-05	16524	0.935	-0.0045	0.0023	4.63E-02	11063	0.935	-0.0073	0.0018	4.15E-05	27587
17	rs17330251	4	94,500,553	t	g	0.082	-0.0136	0.0031	1.32E-05	12774	0.081	-0.0039	0.0027	1.48E-01	7933	0.082	-0.0080	0.0020	7.64E-05	20707
18	rs1560694	19	6,218,827	a	g	0.403	0.0066	0.0016	4.20E-05	14641	0.411	0.0020	0.0011	7.42E-02	11049	0.409	0.0036	0.0009	1.22E-04	25690
19	rs9912353	17	53,222,039	a	c	0.859	0.0095	0.0024	8.47E-05	14696	0.864	0.0034	0.0021	1.06E-01	7986	0.861	0.0061	0.0016	1.28E-04	22682
20	rs3751413	13	112,902,716	t	c	0.796	0.0086	0.0021	4.77E-05	12758	0.766	0.0019	0.0036	6.03E-01	4854	0.788	0.0069	0.0018	1.39E-04	17612
21	rs7557776	2	33,431,296	a	g	0.072	-0.0128	0.0032	7.13E-05	14695	0.060	-0.0041	0.0025	9.18E-02	10848	0.064	-0.0074	0.0020	1.61E-04	25543
22	rs1378394	3	35,450,087	t	c	0.924	0.0119	0.0029	4.61E-05	14697	0.933	0.0035	0.0023	1.17E-01	11018	0.929	0.0067	0.0018	1.73E-04	25715
23	rs12421631	11	100,709,979	a	g	0.688	-0.0071	0.0018	8.97E-05	14603	0.653	-0.0019	0.0031	5.46E-01	4854	0.679	-0.0058	0.0016	1.97E-04	19457
24	rs6424961	1	182,875,556	a	t	0.957	0.0297	0.0072	4.20E-05	10268	0.946	0.0059	0.0093	5.23E-01	4854	0.953	0.0208	0.0057	2.58E-04	15122
25	rs1186925	5	57,230,380	t	g	0.058	-0.0164	0.0041	7.13E-05	12758	0.013	-0.0033	0.0057	5.65E-01	7202	0.043	-0.0119	0.0033	3.40E-04	19960
26	rs10132919	14	55,013,890	t	c	0.884	-0.0106	0.0025	2.55E-05	14695	0.889	-0.0024	0.0018	1.73E-01	11051	0.887	-0.0052	0.0015	3.43E-04	25746
27	rs17577246	4	68,420,188	a	g	0.204	-0.0089	0.0020	9.92E-06	14694	0.184	-0.0011	0.0021	6.05E-01	7679	0.194	-0.0051	0.0014	3.64E-04	22373
28	rs17116225	15	23,617,694	t	c	0.962	0.0225	0.0047	2.00E-06	12758	0.967	0.0032	0.0033	3.36E-01	7495	0.965	0.0097	0.0027	3.74E-04	20253
29	rs243874	20	13,019,871	a	c	0.242	0.0100	0.0023	1.58E-05	14562	0.259	-0.0017	0.0040	6.69E-01	4854	0.246	0.0071	0.0020	3.74E-04	19416
30	rs2791634	2	125,426,327	a	c	0.478	0.0076	0.0017	9.03E-06	12757	0.485	0.0015	0.0011	1.87E-01	11038	0.483	0.0033	0.0009	3.74E-04	23795
31	rs2595427	11	6,808,473	a	t	0.721	-0.0077	0.0019	5.72E-05	14693	0.714	0.0001	0.0035	9.85E-01	4854	0.720	-0.0059	0.0017	3.89E-04	19547
32	rs1229470	7	81,381,822	a	g	0.134	0.0121	0.0030	6.20E-05	11120	0.147	0.0032	0.0020	1.22E-01	7986	0.143	0.0060	0.0017	3.92E-04	19106
33	rs2602647	2	125,380,491	a	g	0.486	0.0076	0.0017	9.03E-06	12758	0.478	0.0014	0.0011	2.09E-01	10958	0.481	0.0033	0.0009	4.42E-04	23716
34	rs11834039	12	41,320,636	t	g	0.161	-0.0087	0.0021	3.89E-05	14697	0.161	-0.0020	0.0015	1.92E-01	11058	0.161	-0.0043	0.0012	5.02E-04	25755

	Stage 1										Stage 2										Combined			
	SNP	CHR	position	A1	A2	Freq A1	Beta*	SE	P-value	N	Freq A1	Beta*	SE	P-value	N	Freq A1	Beta*	StdErr	P-value	N				
1	rs17033144	3	35,427,890	a	g	0.078	-0.0122	0.0030	5.39E-05	14696	0.065	-0.0028	0.0023	2.20E-01	11035	0.070	-0.0063	0.0018	5.57E-04	25731				
2	rs6952465	7	150,522,574	a	g	0.957	-0.0174	0.0043	5.87E-05	10493	0.957	-0.0039	0.0037	2.94E-01	7986	0.957	-0.0096	0.0028	6.01E-04	18479				
3	rs12861586	13	41,808,464	a	c	0.090	-0.0128	0.0031	4.13E-05	12433	0.089	-0.0028	0.0020	1.63E-01	10805	0.090	-0.0058	0.0017	6.08E-04	23238				
4	rs11181609	12	41,325,764	t	c	0.841	0.0091	0.0022	4.00E-05	14697	0.839	0.0020	0.0015	1.96E-01	11043	0.839	0.0043	0.0012	6.49E-04	25740				
5	rs946066	14	55,002,625	a	c	0.117	0.0108	0.0025	1.79E-05	14689	0.109	0.0018	0.0018	3.12E-01	11038	0.112	0.0049	0.0015	7.81E-04	25727				
6	rs302567	6	39,759,450	a	g	0.064	0.0123	0.0029	2.54E-05	16536	0.056	0.0020	0.0024	4.06E-01	11061	0.059	0.0062	0.0019	8.19E-04	27597				
7	rs2446644	6	39,734,657	a	t	0.064	0.0123	0.0029	2.54E-05	16530	0.056	0.0019	0.0024	4.19E-01	11063	0.059	0.0062	0.0018	8.74E-04	27593				
8	rs6552126	4	68,421,259	t	g	0.792	0.0085	0.0019	8.90E-06	14697	0.805	0.0002	0.0020	9.30E-01	7767	0.798	0.0046	0.0014	9.24E-04	22464				
9	rs11886534	2	3,815,178	a	g	0.570	0.0063	0.0016	9.23E-05	14636	0.575	0.0014	0.0011	2.26E-01	11021	0.573	0.0031	0.0009	1.05E-03	25657				
10	rs7130440	11	110,922,989	a	g	0.627	-0.0069	0.0017	5.57E-05	12758	0.638	-0.0014	0.0012	2.39E-01	10947	0.634	-0.0032	0.0010	1.05E-03	23705				
11	rs12283768	11	74,130,306	t	g	0.037	0.0156	0.0039	7.13E-05	16509	0.034	0.0031	0.0031	3.26E-01	11026	0.035	0.0080	0.0024	1.09E-03	27535				
12	rs17507421	2	3,815,450	a	g	0.582	0.0063	0.0016	9.23E-05	14639	0.582	0.0014	0.0011	2.37E-01	11008	0.582	0.0030	0.0009	1.13E-03	25647				
13	rs4906637	15	23,643,990	t	c	0.945	0.0156	0.0038	4.57E-05	14160	0.944	0.0029	0.0025	2.42E-01	10985	0.944	0.0067	0.0021	1.23E-03	25145				
14	rs1444212	3	3,875,591	a	g	0.636	-0.0071	0.0016	1.05E-05	14643	0.641	-0.0009	0.0012	4.57E-01	11049	0.639	-0.0030	0.0009	1.29E-03	25692				
15	rs10134660	14	88,578,272	t	c	0.806	-0.0076	0.0019	7.13E-05	14697	0.791	-0.0014	0.0014	2.96E-01	11043	0.796	-0.0036	0.0011	1.38E-03	25740				
16	rs13355303	5	100,939,572	t	c	0.782	-0.0081	0.0020	5.78E-05	14670	0.802	-0.0014	0.0014	3.11E-01	11061	0.796	-0.0037	0.0012	1.55E-03	25731				
17	rs17274136	4	94,610,507	a	g	0.161	-0.0100	0.0023	1.58E-05	14642	0.135	-0.0005	0.0022	8.15E-01	7826	0.147	-0.0049	0.0016	1.66E-03	22468				
18	rs12500707	4	183,396,389	a	g	0.327	-0.0079	0.0019	3.65E-05	12175	0.329	-0.0009	0.0016	5.75E-01	7930	0.328	-0.0038	0.0012	1.87E-03	20105				
19	rs897266	8	13,269,177	a	g	0.582	0.0059	0.0014	2.85E-05	16483	0.582	0.0006	0.0011	5.87E-01	11021	0.582	0.0027	0.0009	2.04E-03	27504				
20	rs12290339	11	74,138,810	a	g	0.031	0.0176	0.0044	7.13E-05	16514	0.034	0.0029	0.0031	3.52E-01	11040	0.033	0.0078	0.0025	2.17E-03	27554				
21	rs983884	5	146,219,161	t	g	0.119	0.0087	0.0021	3.89E-05	16531	0.109	0.0008	0.0018	6.54E-01	11057	0.114	0.0042	0.0014	2.30E-03	27588				
22	rs11151789	18	68,526,072	a	c	0.307	-0.0067	0.0017	9.09E-05	14641	0.305	-0.0011	0.0012	3.77E-01	10930	0.306	-0.0031	0.0010	2.36E-03	25571				
23	rs11723806	4	26,692,841	c	g	0.350	0.0072	0.0018	7.13E-05	14679	0.314	-0.0041	0.0035	2.44E-01	4854	0.342	0.0049	0.0016	2.38E-03	19533				
24	rs501955	2	134,984,330	a	c	0.354	0.0063	0.0016	9.23E-05	14641	0.327	0.0009	0.0012	4.46E-01	10973	0.337	0.0029	0.0010	2.74E-03	25614				
25	rs13265604	8	13,572,172	t	c	0.831	0.0092	0.0022	3.29E-05	14652	0.845	0.0010	0.0016	5.37E-01	10955	0.840	0.0037	0.0013	3.37E-03	25607				
26	rs622418	9	89,775,863	a	g	0.507	-0.0072	0.0017	2.60E-05	12757	0.490	-0.0003	0.0015	8.50E-01	7862	0.497	-0.0032	0.0011	3.78E-03	20619				
27	rs10518102	4	73,487,738	t	g	0.057	-0.0131	0.0033	8.08E-05	14697	0.061	-0.0016	0.0024	4.87E-01	11063	0.060	-0.0055	0.0019	4.04E-03	25760				

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	Stage 1										Stage 2										Combined			
	SNP	CHR	position	A1	A2	Freq A1	Beta*	SE	P-value	N	Freq A1	Beta*	SE	P-value	N	Freq A1	Beta*	StdErr	P-value	N				
1	rs8181581	11	20,949,701	t	c	0.085	-0.0124	0.0029	2.18E-05	14697	0.083	-0.0010	0.0020	6.18E-01	11051	0.083	-0.0048	0.0017	4.12E-03	25748				
2	rs13134793	4	181,685,248	t	c	0.961	0.0163	0.0041	7.89E-05	14696	0.953	0.0022	0.0027	4.08E-01	11063	0.956	0.0064	0.0022	4.18E-03	25759				
3	rs2963078	5	146,225,801	t	c	0.882	-0.0089	0.0022	5.89E-05	16519	0.890	-0.0007	0.0018	7.13E-01	11063	0.887	-0.0040	0.0014	4.27E-03	27582				
4	rs7960253	12	128,585,576	t	c	0.847	0.0088	0.0022	7.13E-05	14697	0.850	0.0010	0.0016	5.44E-01	11047	0.849	0.0036	0.0013	4.61E-03	25744				
5	rs9511450	13	24,273,026	a	g	0.701	-0.0074	0.0015	9.64E-07	15999	0.720	0.0005	0.0013	6.64E-01	11060	0.712	-0.0027	0.0010	4.73E-03	27059				
6	rs2335478	7	157,763,026	a	g	0.055	0.0175	0.0044	7.83E-05	11290	0.046	0.0022	0.0028	4.41E-01	10728	0.049	0.0066	0.0024	5.23E-03	22018				
7	rs7074609	10	123,176,624	t	c	0.653	0.0069	0.0017	5.57E-05	14643	0.655	0.0007	0.0012	5.69E-01	11057	0.654	0.0027	0.0010	5.38E-03	25700				
8	rs4909170	7	157,781,459	t	c	0.039	0.0169	0.0043	9.51E-05	13504	0.042	0.0020	0.0028	4.83E-01	11057	0.041	0.0064	0.0023	6.26E-03	24561				
9	rs11626215	14	94,365,382	t	c	0.645	-0.0067	0.0017	9.09E-05	14668	0.632	-0.0002	0.0015	9.05E-01	7986	0.637	-0.0030	0.0011	7.33E-03	22654				
10	rs11025857	11	20,963,785	t	g	0.084	-0.0128	0.0030	2.27E-05	14697	0.082	-0.0006	0.0021	7.52E-01	11056	0.083	-0.0045	0.0017	7.52E-03	25753				
11	rs9507417	13	24,299,909	t	c	0.715	-0.0070	0.0015	3.59E-06	16532	0.719	0.0006	0.0013	6.47E-01	11027	0.718	-0.0025	0.0010	8.31E-03	27559				
12	rs1051942	5	38,971,001	a	t	0.172	0.0090	0.0021	2.08E-05	14696	0.169	0.0003	0.0015	8.64E-01	11030	0.170	0.0032	0.0012	8.61E-03	25726				
13	rs1488455	3	3,844,513	a	t	0.334	0.0071	0.0017	3.37E-05	14643	0.331	0.0003	0.0012	8.12E-01	10888	0.332	0.0026	0.0010	8.66E-03	25531				
14	rs7506639	18	5,819,190	t	c	0.344	-0.0074	0.0017	1.54E-05	14641	0.348	-0.0002	0.0012	8.81E-01	10962	0.347	-0.0026	0.0010	8.85E-03	25603				
15	rs10886934	10	123,170,221	a	g	0.247	-0.0075	0.0019	8.87E-05	14163	0.244	-0.0005	0.0013	6.80E-01	11054	0.245	-0.0028	0.0011	9.95E-03	25217				
16	rs1559474	2	50,766,521	a	g	0.220	0.0072	0.0017	2.60E-05	16522	0.237	-0.0001	0.0013	9.39E-01	11051	0.230	0.0027	0.0010	1.10E-02	27573				
17	rs264011	1	45,233,419	a	g	0.573	0.0060	0.0015	7.13E-05	16443	0.578	0.0001	0.0012	9.64E-01	10748	0.576	0.0023	0.0009	1.30E-02	27191				
18	rs10060696	5	39,044,888	a	g	0.834	-0.0087	0.0021	3.89E-05	14697	0.830	-0.0001	0.0015	9.25E-01	11055	0.831	-0.0030	0.0012	1.34E-02	25752				
19	rs4432938	5	2,157,506	a	t	0.476	0.0063	0.0016	9.23E-05	14108	0.473	0.0003	0.0011	8.11E-01	10987	0.474	0.0023	0.0009	1.35E-02	25095				
20	rs11702628	21	21,205,295	t	c	0.514	-0.0065	0.0016	5.48E-05	14643	0.501	0.0007	0.0015	6.62E-01	7873	0.507	-0.0027	0.0011	1.41E-02	22516				
21	rs2187488	8	123,435,673	t	c	0.475	-0.0063	0.0014	7.88E-06	16469	0.470	0.0006	0.0011	6.01E-01	11056	0.472	-0.0021	0.0009	1.59E-02	27525				
22	rs4797232	18	5,822,745	t	c	0.649	0.0073	0.0017	2.01E-05	14640	0.648	-0.0001	0.0012	9.07E-01	10894	0.648	0.0023	0.0010	1.78E-02	25534				
23	rs171500	20	13,018,489	a	g	0.312	0.0067	0.0017	9.09E-05	14634	0.263	-0.0002	0.0014	8.69E-01	11060	0.283	0.0025	0.0011	1.92E-02	25694				
24	rs2822884	21	15,037,883	t	c	0.779	-0.0079	0.0019	3.65E-05	14696	0.719	0.0000	0.0013	9.99E-01	11063	0.738	-0.0025	0.0011	2.00E-02	25759				
25	rs7565375	2	174,405,548	a	c	0.570	-0.0063	0.0016	9.23E-05	14639	0.563	0.0000	0.0011	9.93E-01	10994	0.565	-0.0021	0.0009	2.20E-02	25633				
26	rs1316566	12	93,647,288	a	g	0.372	0.0066	0.0016	4.20E-05	14643	0.372	-0.0013	0.0016	3.96E-01	7930	0.372	0.0026	0.0011	2.23E-02	22573				
27	rs10901371	10	126,933,686	a	g	0.628	0.0063	0.0016	9.23E-05	14642	0.627	-0.0001	0.0012	9.23E-01	10811	0.628	0.0022	0.0010	2.28E-02	25453				

	Stage 1				Stage 2				Combined												
	SNP	CHR	position	A1 A2	Freq A1	Beta*	SE	P-value	N	Freq A1	Beta*	SE	P-value	N	Freq A1	Beta*	StdErr	P-value	N		
1																					
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	SNP	CHR	position	A1	A2	Stage 1			Stage 2			Combined									
						Freq A1	Beta*	SE	P-value	N	Freq A1	Beta*	SE	P-value	N	Freq A1	Beta*	StdErr	P-value	N	
1																					
2																					
3																					
4																					
5																					
6																					
7																					
8	rs4833651	4	121,689,810	a	c	0.220	-0.0084	0.0020	3.04E-05	12758	0.209	0.0014	0.0014	3.33E-01	10902	0.212	-0.0019	0.0012	1.04E-01	23660	
9	rs243937	4	111,525,259	a	t	0.310	0.0080	0.0018	1.02E-05	12758	0.303	-0.0014	0.0012	2.63E-01	11063	0.305	0.0016	0.0010	1.14E-01	23821	
10	rs10494937	1	209,711,952	a	g	0.943	-0.0224	0.0057	9.53E-05	10547	0.957	0.0011	0.0029	7.17E-01	10880	0.954	-0.0039	0.0026	1.39E-01	21427	
11	rs604109	11	6,773,971	t	c	0.762	-0.0079	0.0020	8.77E-05	12758	0.766	0.0013	0.0013	3.44E-01	11026	0.764	-0.0015	0.0011	1.63E-01	23784	
12	rs6908357	6	73,176,992	t	g	0.909	-0.0119	0.0028	2.44E-05	15335	0.916	0.0030	0.0020	1.38E-01	11059	0.914	-0.0021	0.0016	2.01E-01	26394	
13	rs10180461	2	143,979,503	t	c	0.613	0.0065	0.0016	5.48E-05	14642	0.619	-0.0015	0.0011	1.79E-01	11014	0.617	0.0012	0.0009	2.02E-01	25656	
14	rs11628114	14	24,577,112	t	c	0.121	0.0111	0.0024	4.38E-06	14697	0.119	-0.0032	0.0017	6.88E-02	11041	0.120	0.0017	0.0014	2.19E-01	25738	
15	rs13409451	2	143,974,109	a	g	0.612	0.0066	0.0016	4.20E-05	14642	0.620	-0.0018	0.0012	1.23E-01	10833	0.617	0.0011	0.0009	2.36E-01	25475	
16	rs17109529	14	24,581,567	t	c	0.128	0.0113	0.0025	7.18E-06	14697	0.121	-0.0031	0.0017	7.49E-02	11059	0.123	0.0015	0.0014	2.74E-01	25756	
17	rs490124	8	23,751,083	a	g	0.386	0.0063	0.0016	9.23E-05	14635	0.367	-0.0019	0.0012	1.10E-01	10921	0.374	0.0010	0.0010	2.83E-01	25556	
18	rs7652290	3	46,274,769	a	g	0.686	0.0067	0.0017	9.09E-05	14286	0.705	-0.0020	0.0012	9.99E-02	11060	0.698	0.0010	0.0010	3.26E-01	25346	
19	rs4609435	1	221,058,314	a	g	0.767	0.0180	0.0045	7.13E-05	4144	0.765	-0.0003	0.0013	8.21E-01	11045	0.765	0.0012	0.0013	3.55E-01	15189	
20	rs4413345	3	46,285,925	t	c	0.751	0.0083	0.0019	1.44E-05	14639	0.768	-0.0030	0.0013	2.48E-02	10943	0.763	0.0008	0.0011	4.86E-01	25582	
21	rs17013203	4	129,521,541	a	g	0.176	-0.0084	0.0021	7.13E-05	14697	0.164	0.0031	0.0015	3.94E-02	11011	0.168	-0.0008	0.0012	4.93E-01	25708	
22	rs463918	4	39,453,011	a	g	0.058	-0.0165	0.0042	9.58E-05	10674	0.060	0.0039	0.0024	1.06E-01	11046	0.059	-0.0011	0.0021	5.98E-01	21720	
23	rs12603905	17	40,560,117	a	t	0.789	-0.0079	0.0020	8.77E-05	14568	0.786	0.0035	0.0014	1.10E-02	10912	0.787	-0.0002	0.0011	8.74E-01	25480	
24	rs2922236	1	11,404,200	c	g	0.087	-0.0392	0.0098	7.13E-05	3209	0.492	0.0006	0.0011	6.21E-01	10998	0.487	0.0000	0.0011	9.75E-01	14207	

*Beta for difference between the natural log transformed on- and off-treatment HDL-C levels adjusted for natural log transformed off-treatment HDL-C, age, sex, and study specific covariates. The beta reflects the fraction of differential HDL-C lowering in carriers vs. non-carriers of the SNP; a positive beta indicates a better statin response (larger HDL-C increase).

Supplementary table 6: Summary statistics for all known genome-wide significant genetic variants associated with plasma HDL-c levels

#	SNP	Chr	Locus	GLGC		GIST		
				Effect allele	Beta*	Beta†	SE	P-value
1	rs3764261	16	CETP	a	0.2412	0.0071	0.001	8.82E-13
2	rs6065906	20	PLTP	t	0.0594	0.0061	0.002	0.002391
3	rs581080	9	TTC39B	c	0.0419	0.0058	0.0021	0.00596
4	rs2652834	15	LACTB	a	0.0285	0.006	0.0022	0.006618
5	rs7241918	18	LIPG	t	0.0902	0.0046	0.0019	0.01593
6	rs16942887	16	LCAT	a	0.0831	0.0054	0.0023	0.0194
7	rs1800961	20	HNF4A	t	0.127	0.0093	0.0041	0.02392
8	rs1883025	9	ABCA1	t	0.0698	0.0041	0.0019	0.03167
9	rs3136441	11	LRP4	t	0.0545	0.0051	0.0024	0.03436
10	rs737337	19	ANGPTL8	t	0.0565	0.0063	0.003	0.03654
11	rs2290547	3	SETD2	a	0.0297	-0.0038	0.0021	0.07159
12	rs10019888	4	C4orf52	a	0.027	0.0041	0.0023	0.07591
13	rs838880	12	SCARB1	t	0.0484	0.003	0.0017	0.07891
14	rs2013208	3	RBM5	t	0.0254	0.0024	0.0014	0.08785
15	rs702485	7	DAGLB	a	0.0243	0.0024	0.0016	0.1353
16	rs2972146	2	IRS1	t	0.0323	0.002	0.0015	0.1843
17	rs4983559	14	ZBTB42-AKT1	a	0.0197	0.0021	0.0016	0.1913
18	rs2923084	11	AMPD3	a	0.0256	0.0027	0.0021	0.2005
19	rs605066	6	CITED2	t	0.0281	0.002	0.0016	0.2133
20	rs4142995	7	SNX13	t	0.0263	-0.0017	0.0014	0.2266
21	rs4759375	12	SBNO1	t	0.056	0.004	0.0033	0.2275
22	rs13076253	3	ACAD11	a	0.0283	0.0029	0.0024	0.2289
23	rs9686661	5	MAP3K1	t	0.0283	0.0024	0.002	0.2322
24	rs2255141	10	GPAM	a	0.0337	0.002	0.0017	0.2414
25	rs4765127	12	ZNF664	t	0.0324	0.002	0.0017	0.2414
26	rs4846914	1	GALNT2	a	0.0479	0.0018	0.0016	0.2627
27	rs731839	19	PEPD	a	0.022	0.0019	0.0017	0.2658
28	rs11613352	12	LRP1	t	0.0281	0.0021	0.0019	0.2711
29	rs17173637	7	TMEM176A	t	0.0363	0.0034	0.0032	0.2901
30	rs3822072	4	FAM13A	a	0.0251	0.0017	0.0016	0.2901
31	rs7134375	12	PDE3A	a	0.0207	0.0017	0.0016	0.2901
32	rs11246602	11	OR4C46	t	0.034	0.0025	0.0024	0.2997
33	rs12678919	8	LPL	a	0.1554	0.0027	0.0027	0.3194
34	rs12801636	11	KAT5	a	0.0235	-0.0019	0.002	0.3442
35	rs4148008	17	ABCA8	c	0.028	0.0015	0.0016	0.3506
36	rs386000	19	LILRA3	c	0.0479	0.0017	0.002	0.3974
37	rs4129767	17	PGS1	a	0.0237	-0.0013	0.0016	0.4185
38	rs442177	4	KLHL8	t	0.0215	-0.0012	0.0016	0.4552
39	rs7134594	12	MVK	t	0.0354	-0.0012	0.0016	0.4552
40	rs970548	10	MARCH8-ALOX5	a	0.0258	0.0013	0.0018	0.4721
41	rs2925979	16	CMIP	t	0.0351	0.0012	0.0017	0.4822
42	rs17145738	7	MLXIPL	t	0.0408	-0.0016	0.0023	0.4885
43	rs2602836	4	ADH5	a	0.0192	-0.0011	0.0016	0.4936
44	rs11065987	12	BRAP	a	0.0222	-0.001	0.0017	0.5581
45	rs645040	3	MSL2L1	t	0.0312	0.0011	0.0019	0.5643
46	rs2814982	6	C6orf106	t	0.0371	0.0013	0.0024	0.5897
47	rs4731702	7	KLF14	t	0.0294	9.00E-04	0.0017	0.5981
48	rs6450176	5	ARL15	a	0.0254	9.00E-04	0.0017	0.5981
49	rs12967135	18	MC4R	a	0.0262	0.001	0.0019	0.6003

#	SNP	Chr	Locus	GLGC		GIST		
				Effect allele	Beta*	Beta†	SE	P-value
50	rs1121980	16	FTO	a	0.0196	8.00E-04	0.0016	0.6186
51	rs12328675	2	COBLL1	t	0.0447	-0.0011	0.0022	0.6186
52	rs1936800	6	RSPO3	t	0.02	-6.00E-04	0.0016	0.7089
53	rs2293889	8	TRPS1	t	0.0312	6.00E-04	0.0016	0.7089
54	rs629301	1	SORT1	t	0.0334	-7.00E-04	0.0019	0.7137
55	rs1689800	1	ZNF648	a	0.0344	6.00E-04	0.0017	0.7253
56	rs17695224	19	HAS1	a	0.029	-6.00E-04	0.0018	0.74
57	rs9987289	8	PPP1R3B	a	0.0817	9.00E-04	0.0027	0.74
58	rs12145743	1	HDGF-PMVK	t	0.0203	-5.00E-04	0.0017	0.7696
59	rs4917014	7	IKZF1	t	0.0222	5.00E-04	0.0018	0.7821
60	rs499974	11	MOGAT2-DGAT2	a	0.0263	5.00E-04	0.0019	0.7933
61	rs4650994	1	ANGPTL1	a	0.021	4.00E-04	0.0016	0.8034
62	rs7255436	19	ANGPTL4	a	0.0316	4.00E-04	0.0016	0.8034
63	rs2606736	3	ATG7	t	0.0246	-4.00E-04	0.0017	0.8148
64	rs4420638	19	APOE	a	0.0669	6.00E-04	0.0028	0.831
65	rs174546	11	FADS1-2-3	t	0.0391	-3.00E-04	0.0016	0.8519
66	rs13107325	4	SLC39A8	t	0.0708	4.00E-04	0.0029	0.8908
67	rs6805251	3	GSK3B	t	0.02	-2.00E-04	0.0016	0.901
68	rs11869286	17	STARD3	c	0.0319	2.00E-04	0.0017	0.9068
69	rs4660293	1	PABPC4	a	0.0353	2.00E-04	0.0017	0.9068
70	rs12748152	1	PIGV-NR0B2	t	0.0506	3.00E-04	0.0029	0.918
71	rs13326165	3	STAB1	a	0.0289	2.00E-04	0.002	0.9207
72	rs1532085	15	LIPC	a	0.1068	1.00E-04	0.0015	0.9471
73	rs2954029	8	TRIB1	a	0.0401	-1.00E-04	0.0016	0.9504
74	rs7941030	11	UBASH3B	t	0.027	-1.00E-04	0.0016	0.9504
75	rs1367117	2	APOB	a	0.0223	1.00E-04	0.0019	0.9582
76	rs181362	22	UBE2L3	t	0.038	0	0.002	>0.99
77	rs964184	11	APOA1	c	0.1065	0	0.0025	>0.99
78	rs998584	6	VEGFA	a	0.026	0	0.0018	>0.99

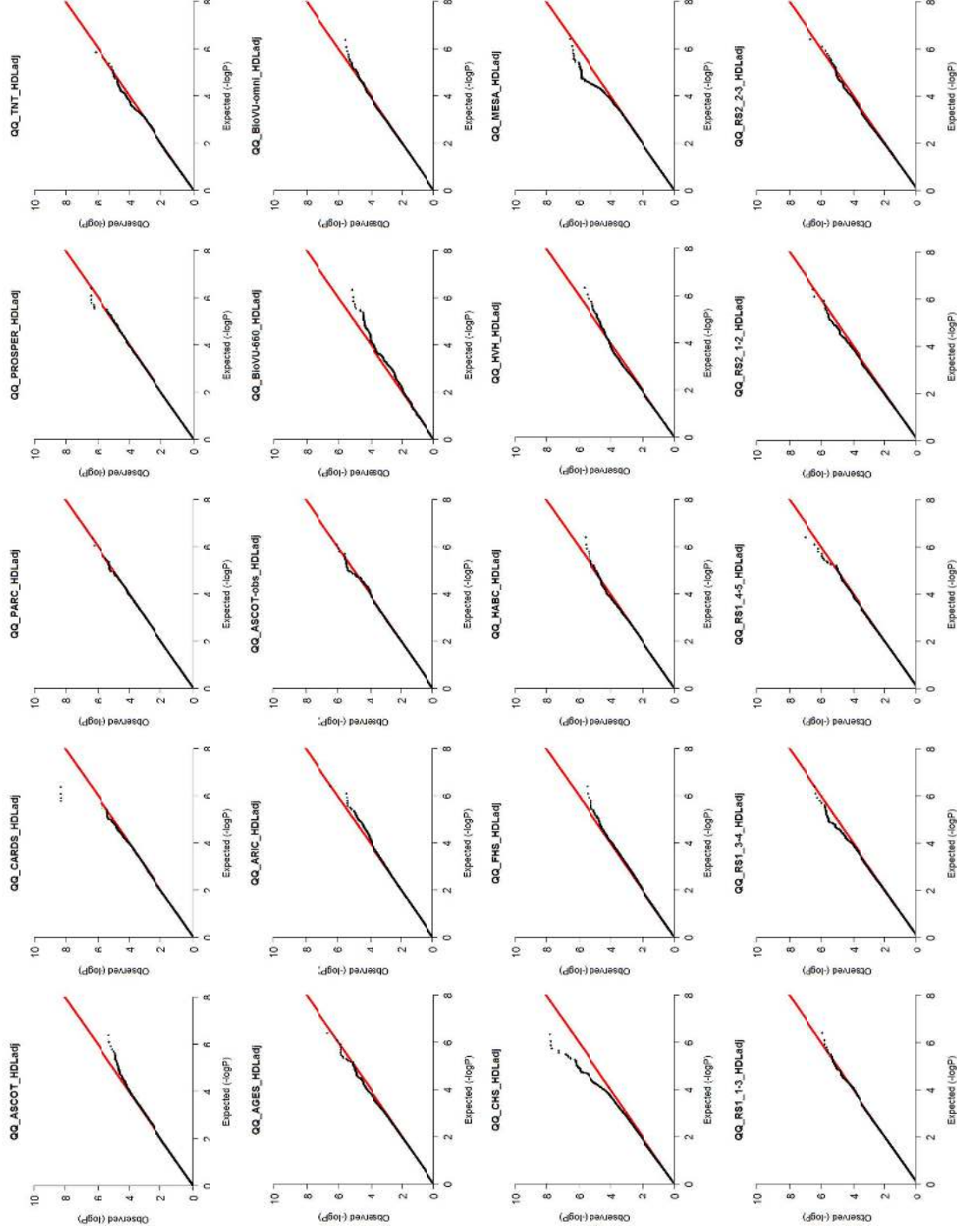
GLGC denotes Global Lipids Genetics Consortium; GIST, Genomic Investigation of Statin Therapy. Effect sizes are per allele in *s.d. and †statin-induced fractional HDL-c response.

Supplementary figures

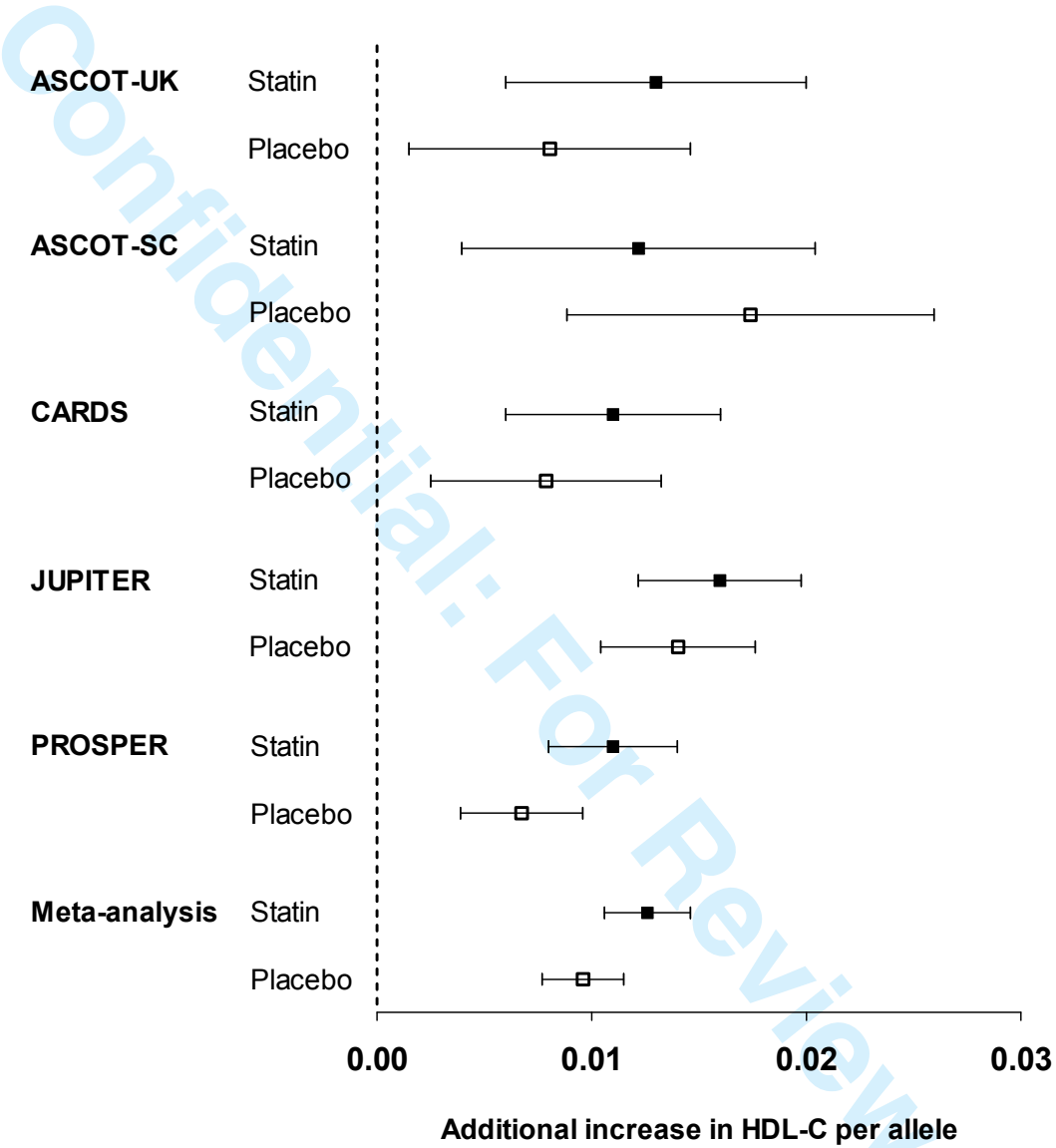
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Supplementary Figure 1: Quantile-quantile plots of the expected versus observed $-\log P$ values for all studies participating in the first stage meta-analysis.



Supplementary Figure 2: HDL-C change during follow-up for the CETP SNP rs247616 in statin and placebo users.



Supplementary Note 1. Participating Randomized controlled trials in Phase 1*Anglo-Scandinavian cardiac Outcomes Trial (ASCOT)*

Of 19,342 hypertensive patients (40–79 years of age with at least three other cardiovascular risk factors) who were randomized to one of two antihypertensive regimens in ASCOT, 10,305 with non-fasting TC concentrations of 6.5 mmol/l or less (measured at the non-fasting screening visit) had been randomly assigned additional atorvastatin 10 mg or placebo. These patients formed the lipid-lowering arm (LLA) of the study. For this genome-wide study only a proportion of United Kingdom, Irish, Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark consented to participate. For GWAS data, the available samples were genotyped separately, first for the UK and Irish GWAS (ASCOT-UK), and subsequently for the Scandinavian GWAS (ASCOT-SC). Within GIST analyses, ASCOT-UK was used within the discovery stage and ASCOT-SC within the replication. In both the GWAS resources there were two subpopulations from ASCOT included. The first subpopulation used the RCT data (ASCOT-RCT) and included individuals randomized to 10 mg atorvastatin in whom pre-treatment HDL-C was measured at the (fasting) randomization visit and on-treatment HDL-C was calculated as the simple average of measures at the (fasting) visits 6 months and 12 months post-randomization. Following the end of the randomization phase, there was an observational period. The second subpopulation used this observational data (ASCOT-OBS) and included all individuals not originally randomized to 10 mg atorvastatin (i.e., those randomized to placebo and those not eligible for the LLA) who were subsequently prescribed atorvastatin 10 mg during follow-up. For these individuals, pre-treatment HDL-C was defined as the measurement on the last visit before or equal to date of starting atorvastatin, and on-treatment HDL-C was defined as the measurement taken from the first visit after date of starting atorvastatin.

Collaborative Atorvastatin Diabetes Study (CARDS)

Methods in CARDS have been described previously^{2,3}. In brief, 2838 patients with Type 2 diabetes and no previous CVD were randomized to receive either placebo or atorvastatin 10mg once daily and followed for a median of 3.7 years. Allocation was double blinded. Mean serum LDL-C concentration during baseline visits prior to randomization had to be ≤ 4.14 mmol/L (160 mg/dl) and serum triglycerides = 6.78mmol/L (600mg/dl). After randomization, total cholesterol, HDL-C, and triglycerides were measured at one, two, and three months and 6 monthly thereafter. Patients attended after an overnight fast. Serum HDL-cholesterol was measured after precipitation of apolipoprotein B-containing lipoproteins with heparin manganese with prior removal of very-low-density lipoproteins (VLDL) by ultracentrifugation in samples from patients whose serum triglycerides exceeded 4.00 mmol/l³. Once ultracentrifugation was used, it was employed for all subsequent HDL measurements in that patient. Serum HDL-cholesterol was calibrated against the Center for Disease Control registered laboratory in RIQAS (Pacific Biometrics Ltd, Seattle, WA, USA) using the regression equation from 86 comparisons between 1999 and 2003. The genotyping methods in CARDS have been described in details elsewhere⁴.

Cholesterol and Atherosclerosis Pharmacogenetics (CAP)¹

The trial involved 944 healthy volunteers, 609 of whom were Caucasian⁵. Participants were aged 30 and above, who received open label 40 mg simvastatin daily for 6 weeks. They were recruited from two clinical sites located in Los Angeles and San Francisco, California, respectively. Screening criteria included serum total cholesterol levels of 4.14-10.36 mmol/L (160-400 mg/dL). Lipids, including HDL-C, were measured twice prior to treatment (at screening and after a two-week run-in period) and twice on treatment (4 and 6 weeks), and the averages were used for each time point. Human subject approvals were obtained at all participating institutions and all participants signed statements of informed consent. In total, 591 subjects with both lipids and DNA data were available for analysis. Discovery genotyping was performed for half of the subjects using beadchip technology (HumanHap300 BeadChip, Illumina Inc. San Diego CA) for whole-genome genotyping of 314,621 tagSNP markers derived from the International HapMap Project. Genome-wide genotyping was performed on the remaining half of the samples using the Illumina HumanCNV610-Quad beadchip containing 620,901 tagSNPs. SNPs with MAF < 1% and proper information < 0.30 (obtained by SNPTEST) were excluded from analysis. Imputation was performed using BIMBAM v0.99 with reference to HapMap CEU using release 23, build 36.

PRavastatin INflammation CRP Evaluation study (PRINCE)

Participants were Caucasians, aged 21 and older, who received 40 mg daily pravastatin for 12 weeks⁶. They were enrolled from 1143 sites representing 49 states and the District of Columbia, with no single site enrolling more than 4 individuals. Recruitment criteria included either an LDL-C concentration ≥ 3.5 mmol/L (>135 mg/dL) or a history of myocardial infarction, stroke, or coronary revascularization regardless of baseline LDL-C. Lipid measurements, including HDL-C, were obtained once prior to treatment and once following 12 weeks of treatment. Human subjects approvals were obtained at all participating institutions and all participants signed statements of informed consent. In total, 1348 participants had DNA available for whole genome-wide association analysis. Genotyping and imputation were performed using the same platforms and procedures as for CAP i.e., half of the samples with each of the Illumina platforms).

PROspective Study of Pravastatin in the Elderly at Risk (PROSPER)

All data come from the PROspective Study of Pravastatin in the Elderly at Risk (PROSPER). A detailed description of the study has been published elsewhere^{7,8}. PROSPER was a prospective multicenter randomized placebo-controlled trial to assess whether treatment with pravastatin diminishes the risk of major vascular events in elderly. Between December 1997 and May 1999, we screened and enrolled subjects in Scotland (Glasgow), Ireland (Cork), and the Netherlands (Leiden). Men and women aged 70-82 years were recruited if they had pre-existing vascular disease or increased risk of such disease because of smoking, hypertension, or diabetes. A total number of 5,804 subjects were randomly assigned to pravastatin or placebo. A large number of prospective tests were performed including Biobank tests and cognitive function measurements.

A whole genome wide screening has been performed in the sequential PHASE project with the use of

¹ CAP was designed as a pharmacogenetics study and therefore not a randomized placebo-controlled trial

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2
3 the Illumina 660K beadchip⁹. Of 5,763 subjects DNA was available for genotyping. Genotyping was
4 performed with the Illumina 660K beadchip, after QC (call rate <95%) 5,244 subjects and 557,192
5 SNPs were left for analysis. These SNPs were imputed to 2.5 million SNPs based on the HAPMAP built
6 36 with MACH imputation software.
7

8 Plasma lipids and lipoproteins were measured twice during the screening phase, i.e. at the beginning
9 and end of the single-blind, placebo “run-in” phase according to the standardized Lipid Research
10 Clinics protocol. Baseline HDL-C levels were taken as the average of these 2 determinations prior to
11 randomization to statin treatment. During follow-up, plasma lipids and lipoproteins were measured
12 after 3, 6, 12, 24, and 36 months. Total cholesterol (TC), HDL cholesterol, and triglycerides were
13 assessed after an overnight fast, LDL-C was calculated by the Friedewald formula, as previously
14 described⁷.
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17 *Treating to New Targets (TNT)*

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19 The design of the TNT trial has been described in details elsewhere¹⁰. In brief, 10 001 patients with
20 stable coronary heart disease (CHD) and LDL-C levels <130 mg/dL (3.4 mmol/L) were randomly
21 assigned to receive either 10 or 80 mg of atorvastatin per day and were followed up for a median of
22 4.9 years. Mean HDL-C levels during treatment were 47 mg/dL (1.22 mmol/L) for the 10- and 80-mg
23 groups. At screening, LDL-C, HDL-C, triglycerides (TG), and total cholesterol were measured in all
24 subjects in a fasting state. In addition, blood pressure and body mass index as well as other standard
25 blood chemistries were measured. All laboratory tests were performed at a central laboratory
26 (Medical Research Laboratories, Highland Heights, Ky) certified by the National Heart, Lung, and
27 Blood Institute/Centers for Disease Control Part III Program. These were repeated 4 weeks later, at
28 randomization, 3 and 6 months post randomization, and annually thereafter.
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31 After approval by the institutional review committee, informed consent for genetic analysis was
32 sought on entry into the trial and 5966 DNA samples were obtained from consenting individuals. A
33 subset was chosen for whole-genome analysis based on the cardiovascular events during the course
34 of the trial and those individuals were matched 3:1 with controls based on age, gender, treatment
35 arm, smoking, diabetes, hypertension, baseline lipid values, baseline glucose levels, and screening
36 LDL-C. The Perlegen 322K array genotyping array was used to perform genome-wide genotyping.
37 Samples and SNPs with call rate equal or under 98% were removed prior to the analyses. IMPUTE 2 (v.
38 2.1.0) and GTOOL (v.0.6.6) were used to impute additional SNPs which were analyzed for their
39 association with LDL response with PLINK (v.1.07)
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Supplementary Note 2. Participating observational studies in phase 1*Age, Gene/Environment Susceptibility-Reykjavik (AGES) study*

The Reykjavik Study cohort originally comprised a random sample of 30,795 men and women born in 1907-1935 and living in Reykjavik in 1967. A total of 19,381 attended, resulting in 71% recruitment rate. Between 2002 and 2006, the AGES-Reykjavik study re-examined 5,764 survivors of the original cohort who had participated before in the Reykjavik Study¹¹. Serum lipid levels were measured at baseline (AGES:2002-2006), and at a follow-up five years later (AGESII:2007-2001). Individuals were recruited in the same order. Of the 5,764 participants, 3,664 participants were randomly selected for the GWAS. Genotyping was undertaken using the HumanCNV370-Duo (Illumina) at the Laboratory of Neurogenetics, Intramural Research Program, at the National Institute of Aging, Bethesda, Maryland.

Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) study

The ARIC study is an ongoing population-based cohort of 15,792 predominantly Caucasian and African-American males and females aged 45-64 years at baseline and selected using probability sampling from four United States communities (Forsyth County NC, Jackson MS, suburban Minneapolis MN, and Washington County MD)¹². Participants were recruited in 1987-1989 to examine cardiovascular and pulmonary disease, patterns of medical care, and disease variation over time. Standardized physical examinations and interviewer-administered questionnaires were conducted at baseline (1987-1989), three triennial follow-up examinations (1990-1998), and a fifth exam (2011-2013). Eligible participants for this effort were from the NC, MN, and MD field centers, as only Caucasian participants were examined in this analysis and the MS center only recruited African American participants.

Twelve-hour fasting total cholesterol and HDL were measured as previously described at baseline and during the three triennial exams;^{13,14} data from the fifth exam did not contribute to this analysis. To evaluate the effect of lipid lowering therapy, we selected the first exam at which the participant reported using statins. We then used the HDL measure from that examination and the previous examination (approximately three years earlier) to calculate the logarithm of HDL before statin treatment minus the logarithm of HDL after beginning statin treatment. Participants who reported using statins at the baseline visit were excluded, as we did not have a pre-treatment HDL measure to evaluate.

The Affymetrix 6.0 genotype array was used to genotype n=669,450 SNPs that passed quality control (sample call rate ≥ 0.95 ; SNP call rate ≥ 0.90 ; SNP MAF filter ≥ 0.01 , HWE p-value filter $\geq 10^{-5}$). SNPs were imputed based on the HAPMAP build 36 with MACH v1.16 and analyses were performed using ProbABEL.

BioVU

BioVU is the nation's largest collection of DNA samples linked to a comprehensive, de-identified electronic medical record (EMR)^{15,16}. BioVU began in 2007 and accrues DNA samples via an opt-out model (the design and ethical principles of which have been described previously¹⁵ primarily from outpatient visits. On September 3, 2013, the biobank contains 151,605 adults linked to de-identified mirror images of individual comprehensive EMRs. This database is scrubbed of all Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA) identifiers; e.g., if the name "John Smith" appears in the

original record, its corresponding record in the synthetic derivative is permanently replaced with a tag [NAME AAA, BBB] to maintain the semantic integrity of the text.

Per BioVU policy, all projects utilizing BioVU samples are required to redeposit their genotyping results into the BioVU databases for reuse by other investigators. Of note, 16,701 individuals have genome-wide SNP data available on September 3, 2013, and were among the available population used for this study.

Plasma lipid data is extracted from linked de-identified EMRs. Before Treatment HDL-C is defined as median HDL-C within an 18 month window before first ever statin mentioned in the EMRs. After Treatment HDL-C is defined as median HDL-C within an 18 month window after first ever statin mentioned in the EMRs, with right censoring within the 18 month window at the first drug or dose changes.

Statin exposures were derived from electronic prescribing tools and use of the MedEx natural language processing tool, which extracts medication references from narrative text¹⁷. When using MedEx, we apply heuristic rules to identify patients truly receiving medications and filter out adverse events, medication discussions, and other non-prescription events.

Cardiovascular Health Study (CHS)

The CHS is a population-based cohort study of risk factors for CHD and stroke in adults ≥ 65 years conducted across four field centers¹⁸. The original predominantly Caucasian cohort of 5,201 persons was recruited in 1989-1990 from random samples of the Medicare eligibility lists; subsequently, in 1992-1993, an additional predominantly African-American cohort of 687 persons was enrolled for a total sample of 5,888. DNA was extracted from blood samples drawn on all participants at their baseline examination. In 2007-2008, genotyping was performed at the General Clinical Research Center's Phenotyping/Genotyping Laboratory at Cedars-Sinai using the Illumina 370CNV BeadChip system on 3980 CHS participants who were free of CVD at baseline, consented to genetic testing, and had DNA available for genotyping. Because the other cohorts were predominantly white, the African American participants were excluded from this analysis. Thus, for this analysis, the study sample is limited to European ancestry participants who used statins during follow up with available genotype data as well as on- and off-treatment lipid measures.

In CHS, the following exclusions were applied to identify a final set of 306,655 autosomal SNPs: call rate $< 97\%$, HWE $P < 10^{-5}$, > 2 duplicate errors or Mendelian inconsistencies (for reference CEPH trios), heterozygote frequency = 0, SNP not found in HapMap. Imputation was performed using BIMBAM v0.99 with reference to HapMap CEU using release 22, build 36 using one round of imputations and the default expectation-maximization warm-ups and runs.

Plasma lipids and lipoproteins were measured several times during follow-up; HDL-C measurements are available from baseline (year 2), year 5, and year 18. Subjects came to the clinic after an overnight fast, and blood was obtained on their arrival at the clinic. Samples were shipped weekly, on dry ice, to the CHS Central Blood Laboratory at the University of Vermont, where all analyses were performed. Plasma total cholesterol and triglyceride (TG) were measured by enzymatic methods on an Olympus Demand System (Olympus Corp., Lake Success, N.Y.). HDL-C was measured by an enzymatic method after precipitation of apo-lipoprotein B-containing lipoproteins with dextran sulfate/magnesium sulfate. LDL-C was calculated according to the Friedewald equation for individuals whose serum TG was $< 4.51 \text{ mmol/l}$ ¹⁹.

Framingham Heart Study (FHS)

The methods for recruitment and clinical covariate collection have been described previously for the original Framingham Heart Study cohort (5,209 participants ascertained systematically from two-thirds of the households in the town of Framingham, MA, beginning in 1948)²⁰, the Framingham Heart Study Offspring cohort (5,124 children of the original cohort, and spouses of those children, beginning in 1972)²¹, and the Third Generation cohort (4,095 children of the Offspring cohort, beginning in 2002)²². The current study was conducted in 1266 participants recruited in the Offspring Cohort from Exam 4 (1987-1991) through Exam 8 (2005-2008) and 266 participants in the Third Generation from Exam 1 (2002-2005) and Exam 2 (2008-2011). HDL-C was collected at each exam using standard protocols. To evaluate the effect of lipid lowering therapy, we selected the first exam at which a person reported using lipid lowering medication. It is assumed that most of the therapy during this time was statin, but we did not have specific data on which medications were used except for Exams 8 in the Offspring and 1 and 2 for the Third Generation. Then we used the HDL-C measure from that examination and the previous exam (approximately 3-4 years before) to calculate the logarithm of HDL-C before lipid lowering treatment minus the logarithm of HDL-C after the beginning use of lipid lowering treatment. This trait was analysed in mixed effects linear regression models (accounting for familial relationships) for all genetic variants in the CEU sample of the Phase 2 HapMap Release 22. We adjusted for sex, age, time between the HDL-C measurements and Principal Component 7 to control for population substructure.

Genotyping was conducted for the SNP Health Association Resource (SHARe) project (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/projects/gap/cgi-bin/study.cgi?study_id=phs000007.v20.p8) using the Affymetrix 500K mapping array (250K Nsp and 250K Sty arrays) and the Affymetrix 50K supplemental gene focused array on a total of 9,274 individuals from all three cohorts. BRLMM was used to call these data. To evaluate population substratification, we conducted principal component analyses using EIGENSTRAT²³ on the genotypes from 882 unrelated participants. We estimated the first 10 principal components and applied the loadings of these components to all genotyped participants. Finally, we evaluated whether any of these principal components were associated with the difference in the logarithms of HDL before and after lipid lowering initiation. Only Principle Component 7 was associated with HDL-C and was thus included in the regression model. Genotyping resulted in 503,551 SNPs with successful call rate >95% and HWE $P > 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ in 8,481 individuals with call rate >97%. Imputation of 2,543,887 autosomal SNPs in HapMap release 22, CEU sample was conducted using the algorithm implemented in MACH (version 1.0.15). From a total of 534,982 genotyped autosomal SNPs in Framingham, 378,163 SNPs were used in imputation after filtering out 15,586 SNPs (HWE $P < 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$), 64,511 SNPs (missingness >0.03), 45,361 SNPs (mishap $P < 1.0 \times 10^{-9}$), 4,857 SNPs (>100 Mendel errors), 67,269 SNPs (frequency <0.01), 2 SNPs (due to strand issues upon merging data with HapMap), and a further 13,394 SNPs that were not present on HapMap. We used 200 biologically unrelated participants to estimate the parameters of the imputation model and subsequently applied the estimated parameters to obtain imputed SNPs for all 8,481 participants. The Framingham Heart Study, including genetic association studies of Framingham phenotypes, was approved by the institutional review boards of Boston University and the National Institutes of Health. All participants provided written informed consent.

Health Aging and Body Composition (Health ABC) Study

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3 Health ABC is a NIA-sponsored ongoing cohort study of the factors that contribute to incident
4 disability and the decline in function of healthier older persons, with a particular emphasis on
5 changes in body composition in old age. Health ABC enrolled well-functioning, community-dwelling
6 black (n=1281) and white (n=1794) men and women aged 70-79 years between April 1997 and June
7 1998. Participants were recruited from a random sample of white and all black Medicare eligible
8 residents in the Pittsburgh, PA, and Memphis, TN, metropolitan areas. The key components of Health
9 ABC include a baseline exam, annual follow-up clinical exams, and phone contacts every 6 months to
10 identify major health events and document functional status between clinic visits. HDL cholesterol
11 was measured from plasma stabilized with EDTA in the entire cohort using the VITROS CHOL slide
12 (Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Inc.). GWAS data are available from 1663 white participants. Genomic
13 DNA was extracted from buffy coat collected using PUREGENE® DNA Purification Kit during the
14 baseline exam. Genotyping was performed by the Center for Inherited Disease Research (CIDR) using
15 the Illumina Human1M-Duo BeadChip system. Samples were excluded from the dataset for the
16 reasons of sample failure, genotypic sex mismatch, and first-degree relative of an included individual
17 based on genotype data. Genotyping was successful for 1,151,215 SNPs in 1663 unrelated.
18 Imputation was done for the autosomes using the MACH software version 1.0.16. SNPs with minor
19 allele frequency $\geq 1\%$, call rate $\geq 97\%$ and HWE $p \geq 10^{-6}$ were used for imputation. HapMap II phased
20 haplotypes were used as reference panels. For EAs, genotypes were available on 914,263 high quality
21 SNPs for imputation based on the HapMap CEPH reference panel (release 22, build 36). A total of
22 2,543,887 SNPs in EAs are available for analysis.

23 24 25 26 27 28 29 *Heart and Vascular Health (HVH) Study*

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31 HVH is a case-control study set in Group Health (GH), a large integrated health care system in
32 Washington State, and is comprised of incident myocardial infarction (MI) and stroke cases with a
33 shared common control group. All participants were GH members and aged 30-79 years. MI and
34 stroke cases were identified from hospital discharge diagnosis codes and were validated by medical
35 record review. Controls were a random sample of GH members frequency matched to MI cases on
36 age (within decade), sex, treated hypertension, and calendar year of identification. The index date for
37 controls was a computer-generated random date within the calendar year for which they had been
38 selected. For MI cases, the index date was the date of admission for the first acute MI. Participants
39 were excluded if they were recent enrollees at GHC, had a history of prior MI or stroke, or if the
40 incident event was a complication of a procedure or surgery. Methods for the study have been
41 described previously.²⁴⁻²⁶

42
43 Eligibility and risk factor information were collected by trained medical record abstractors from a
44 review of the GH medical record using only data available prior to the index date and through a
45 telephone interview. Medication use was ascertained using computerized GH pharmacy records. A
46 venous blood sample was collected from all consenting subjects, and DNA was extracted from white
47 blood cells using standard procedures.

48
49 Genotyping was performed at the General Clinical Research Center's Phenotyping/Genotyping
50 Laboratory at Cedars-Sinai using the Illumina 370CNV BeadChip system. Genotypes were called using
51 the Illumina BeadStudio software. Samples were excluded from analysis for sex mismatch or call rate
52 $< 95\%$. The following exclusions were applied to identify a final set of 301,321 autosomal SNPs: call
53 rate $< 97\%$, HWE $P < 10^{-5}$, > 2 duplicate errors or Mendelian inconsistencies (for reference CEPH
54 trios), heterozygote frequency = 0, SNP not found in HapMap, inconsistencies across genotyping
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3 batches. Imputation was performed using BIMBAM with reference to HapMap CEU using release 22,
4 build 36 using one round of imputations and the default expectation-maximization warm-ups and
5 runs.

6 Plasma lipids and lipoproteins were measured over the course of general care at Group Health and
7 were obtained from the outpatient medical record and/or Group Health laboratory database.
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9 10 *Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA)*

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12 The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA) is a study of the characteristics of subclinical
13 cardiovascular disease (disease detected non-invasively before it has produced clinical signs and
14 symptoms) and the risk factors that predict progression to clinically overt cardiovascular disease or
15 progression of the subclinical disease. MESA researchers study a diverse, population-based sample of
16 6,814 asymptomatic men and women aged 45-84. Thirty-eight percent of the recruited participants
17 were white, 28 percent African-American, 22 percent Hispanic, and 12 percent Asian, predominantly
18 of Chinese descent²⁷. Participants were recruited from six field centers across the United States and
19 followed-up three times with an average time period of follow-up of 2 years between each visit. Data
20 from four visits (exam1 to exam4) was used for the analysis. Subjects on statin treatment at the time
21 point of follow-up visit and off treatment at the previous visit were qualified for inclusion. Phenotype
22 (lipids measures before and after statin treatment) and genotype data were available for 360
23 Caucasian subjects. The tenets of the Declaration of Helsinki were followed and institutional review
24 board approval was granted at all MESA sites. Written informed consent was obtained from each
25 participant.
26

27 Genotyping was performed using the Affymetrix Genome-Wide Human SNP Array 6.0. IMPUTE
28 version 2.1.0 was used to perform imputation for the MESA Caucasian participants (chromosomes 1-
29 22) using HapMap Phase I and II - CEU as the reference panel (release #24 - NCBI Build 36 (dbSNP
30 b126)). SNPs with MAF less than 0.02 or HWE p value less than 0.001 were removed from the
31 analysis.
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37 *Rotterdam study*

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39 The Rotterdam Study is a prospective population-based cohort study of chronic diseases in the
40 elderly population. From 1990 to 1993, 7983 inhabitants of the suburb Ommoord in Rotterdam, the
41 Netherlands, aged 55 years or older, entered the Rotterdam Study (RS-I), and have been continuously
42 followed since then. Medication prescription data were obtained from all seven fully computerized
43 pharmacies in the Ommoord suburb. These pharmacies dispense the prescriptions of more than 99%
44 of all participants. Information on all filled prescriptions from January 1st 1991 until June 1st 2008
45 was available and included information on the product name of the drug, the Anatomical
46 Therapeutical Chemical code, the amount dispensed, the prescribed dosage regimen and the date of
47 dispensing. Furthermore, in 2000, an extended cohort was enrolled, the Rotterdam Study II (RS-II).
48 3011 inhabitants entered the study and have been continuously followed since then. Detailed
49 information on design, objectives and methods of this study have been described before^{28, 29}. The
50 Rotterdam Study has been approved by the medical ethics committee according to the Wet
51 Bevolkingsonderzoek: ERGO (Population Screening Act: Rotterdam Study), executed by the Ministry
52 of Health, Welfare and Sports of the Netherlands. All participants gave informed consent to
53 participate in the study and to obtain information from treating physicians and pharmacy records,
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separately.
Lipid measurements were obtained from all participants at each visit. Fasting total cholesterol, HDL-cholesterol and triglyceride levels were determined using enzymatic procedures (Hitachi Analyzer, Roche Diagnostics).
At baseline examination of the Rotterdam Study, blood was taken from which genomic DNA was extracted, using the salting-out method³⁰. Microarray genotyping was performed in both Rotterdam Study cohorts, using the Infinium II HumanHap550K Genotyping BeadChip version 3 (Illumina Inc., San Diego, CA, USA). Genotyping procedures were followed according to the manufacturer's protocols. Microarray genotyping procedures in the Rotterdam Study have been previously described³¹.

Confidential: For Review Only

Supplementary Note 3. Participating studies in Phase II

Genetics of Diabetes Audit and Research Tayside Study (GoDARTS)

The GODARTS cohort was ascertained from the Diabetes Audit and Research Tayside Study (DARTS) and has been described before³². Each individual in Go-DARTS has multiple measures of clinical parameters recorded over a period of time during the course of their clinical management. These clinical parameters were BMI, total cholesterol, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C). For the purpose of this study we included the baseline HDL-C as the HDL-c at first study visit and follow-up HDL as HDL the highest HDL-c attained during the follow-up period. The Go-Darts data were genotyped on affymetrix (N=3094) and illumina platform (n=3039).

Justification for the Use of statins in Prevention: an Intervention Trial Evaluating Rosuvastatin (JUPITER) population

The study population was derived from JUPITER, an international, randomized, placebo-controlled trial of rosuvastatin (20mg/day) in the primary prevention of cardiovascular disease conducted among apparently healthy men and women with LDL-C < 130 mg/dL and hsCRP \geq 2 mg/L³³. Individuals with diabetes or triglyceride concentration >500mg/dL were also excluded. Approximately 71.2% of JUPITER participants had European ancestry among whom 71.4% provided DNA and consent for genetic analysis. The present analysis includes only individuals with genotype information who had verified European ancestry (see below) and who were deemed compliant with the study protocol as judged by on the basis of pill counts and reported absence of non-trial statin use, i.e. information that was independent of LDL-C reduction. After applying these restrictions, 3417 statin- and 3388 placebo-allocated participants remained for analysis with HDL-C measures at baseline and follow-up.

Per study protocol, all JUPITER participants had standard lipid measurements made in a core laboratory facility prior to randomization and again after one year of placebo or rosuvastatin treatment. HDL-C was after heparin-manganese precipitation of apolipoprotein B-containing particles.

Genotyping in the JUPITER population was performed using the Omni 1M Quad platform (Illumina, San Diego) as described previously³⁴. In the final data used for analysis, samples were retained if >98% of the SNPs had successfully genotype, while SNPs were retained if genotyping was successful in >90% of the samples. Of JUPITER participants with self-reported European ancestry over 99% had successful genotyping and verification of their ancestry using multi-dimensional scaling procedures in PLINK³⁵ applied to 1,067 ancestry informative SNPs from HapMap3. Among JUPITER participants with verified European ancestry, rs7412, which distinguishes the APOE E2 from E3/E4 genotypes deviated from Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium, likely due to the ascertainment criteria related to LDL-C levels in JUPITER. This SNP was included in the final data only after manual inspection of genotyping clusters. Sub-European ancestral stratification was estimated using the principal component approach in EIGENSTRAT²³. Genotypes for SNPs in the 1000 genomes pilot data (release 2010-03) were imputed with MaCH v. 1.0.16³⁶.

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