TITLE: Reelin promotes atherosclerosis by increasing leukocyte-endothelial cell adhesion and lesion macrophage accumulation
INVENTORS: Joachim Herz and Philip Shaul
TECHNOLOGY: Biologicals
UTSD: 3004

SUMMARY: Atherosclerosis remains the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in western countries. PCSK9 antibodies reduce plasma cholesterol levels by >50% and can be expected to substantially reduce atherosclerosis in treated patients. Anti-Reelin therapy could be used in addition to reduce leukocyte adhesion to the vascular wall. Leukocyte/monocyte transmigration into the vascular wall is the driving factor for the formation of atherosclerotic lesions and foam cell formation. A double-pronged approach using any method to reduce Reelin expression in the circulation (not in the brain), whether by antibody, decoy receptor, siRNA or other, would be expected to synergize with PCSK9 and statin treatment.

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Please reference UT Southwestern Case Number: 3004