

**Supplementary Table 1.** Patient demographics in the CPIP and SUMMIT study cohorts

Variable	CPIP (n=198)	SUMMIT (n=1,438)	P	P, adjusted*
At baseline				
Sex (% female)	32	35	0.43	0.81
Age (yr)	70 (64.2–75.8)	68 (62–74)	0.0034	0.020
Body mass index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	27.3±4.1	28.6 (25.6–32.3)	1.9×10 <sup>-12</sup>	2.1×10 <sup>-11</sup>
Smoking, currently or in the past (%)	80	62	1.9×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.00015
Diabetes (%)	33	66	<1×10 <sup>-16</sup>	<1×10 <sup>-14</sup>
Hypertension (%)	75	67	0.028	0.11
Use of statins (%)	88	66	5.7×10 <sup>-10</sup>	5.1×10 <sup>-9</sup>
Under treatment (%) <sup>†</sup>	97	80	<1×10 <sup>-16</sup>	<1×10 <sup>-14</sup>
Fasting lipoproteins (mmol/L)				
Total cholesterol	4.1 (3.5–5.1)	4.2 (3.6–5.0)	0.69	0.81
Triglycerides	1.4 (1–1.8)	1.3 (1.0–1.9)	0.50	0.81
LDL-C	2.4 (1.8–3.1)	2.3 (1.8–3.0)	0.018	0.087
HDL-C	1.0 (0.9–1.3)	1.3 (1.0–1.5)	1.8×10 <sup>-11</sup>	1.8×10 <sup>-10</sup>
HbA1c (mmol/mol)	43.9 (38–55)	48 (40–58.3)	0.0025	0.017
Hemoglobin (g/L)	140.7±13.3	-	-	-
White blood cell counts (×10 <sup>9</sup> /L)	7.8 (6.4–9.2)	-	-	-
Platelet count (×10 <sup>9</sup> /L)	249 (207–298)	-	-	-
CRP (mg/L)	3.9 (2.0–6.4)	1.4 (0.68–3.0)	<1×10 <sup>-16</sup>	<1×10 <sup>-14</sup>
CD40 (A.U. <sup>‡</sup> )	3.2×10 <sup>7</sup> (2.4×10 <sup>7</sup> –4.04×10 <sup>7</sup> )	9.1 (8.7–9.9)	<1×10 <sup>-16</sup>	<1×10 <sup>-14</sup>
CD40L (A.U. <sup>‡</sup> )	1.8×10 <sup>5</sup> (1.3×10 <sup>5</sup> –2.6×10 <sup>5</sup> )	6.8 (5.4–8.2)	<1×10 <sup>-16</sup>	<1×10 <sup>-14</sup>

Values are presented as median (interquartile range) or mean±standard deviation. Categorical variables were compared using the chi-square test and continuous variables by the Mann-Whitney U test or unpaired t-test (for non-normally and normally distributed samples, respectively).

CPIP, Carotid Plaque Imaging Project; SUMMIT, The SUrrogate markers for Micro- and Macro-vascular hard endpoints for Innovative diabetes Tools; LDL-C, low density lipoprotein cholesterol; HDL-C, high density lipoprotein cholesterol; HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; CRP, C-reactive protein; A.U., arbitrary unit; CD40L, CD40 ligand.

\*P-value adjusted for multiple comparisons (according to the Holm-Šídák test); <sup>†</sup>Previous vascular intervention (percutaneous coronary intervention, coronary artery bypass grafting or drugs (statins, anticoagulant, beta-blocker, anti-hypertensive, renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system inhibitors); <sup>‡</sup>In CPIP relative to plaque wet weight.

**Supplementary Table 2.** Spearman correlations between sCD40 and sCD40L in plasma (arbitrary unit) and the subjects' general clinical characteristics (SUMMIT cohort)

Variable	CD40 (n=1,438)			CD40L (n=1,438)		
	r	P	P, adjusted	r	P	P, adjusted
Age (yr)	0.399	<1×10 <sup>-16</sup>	<1×10 <sup>-16</sup>	0.234	<1×10 <sup>-16</sup>	<1×10 <sup>-16</sup>
Body mass index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	0.002	0.93	0.94	-0.124	0.000003	0.000018
Blood (mmol/L)						
HbA1c (mmol/mol)	0.015	0.58	0.91	-0.006	0.81	0.85
f-Glucose	0.133	0.00025	0.0015	0.131	0.00033	0.0020
Total cholesterol	-0.061	0.022	0.11	0.109	0.000039	0.00023
LDL	-0.028	0.31	0.77	0.189	2.2×10 <sup>-12</sup>	1.76×10 <sup>-11</sup>
HDL	-0.001	0.97	0.97	0.076	0.004	0.016
Triglycerides	0.015	0.56	0.91	-0.070	0.008	0.024

sCD40, soluble CD40; sCD40L, soluble CD40 ligand; SUMMIT, The SUrrogate markers for Micro- and Macro-vascular hard endpoints for Innovative diabetes Tools; HbA1c, hemoglobin A1c; LDL, low density lipoprotein; HDL, high density lipoprotein.