

Linkage Analysis
between Apo AI-CIII-AIV Cluster
and Plasma Lipid Levels in
Cardiovascular Disease Family

Thesis by

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and Plasma Lipid Levels in
Cardiovascular Disease Family

Directed by Professor Yangsoo Jang

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The Graduate School of Yonsei University

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ABSTRACT

Linkage Analysis between Apo AI-CIII-AIV Cluster and Plasma Lipid Levels in Cardiovascular Disease Family

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(Directed by Professor Yangsoo Jang)

Background Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is a complex disorder, which the genetic contributions have significant roles with environmental factors. In the many studies, increased plasma lipid levels except HDL-cholesterol were directly correlated with cardiovascular risk. The aim of this study was to determine whether Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster region (chromosome 11q23) contains specific loci that affect plasma lipid concentration or not.

Methods and Results The 701 individuals from 93 CVD families were recruited. We collected genealogical informations for all participants and measured plasma lipid levels. Segregation analysis showed that the LDL-cholesterol follows the codominant Mendelian model with 61.2% of the variation and the equal transmission model. For HDL-cholesterol, the segregation analysis showed a dominant Mendelian model accounted for 51.8% of the variation. For linkage analysis, we selected 30 families (305

individuals) those have a relatively large number of subjects and multi-generation comparatively. In the analysis for the HDL-cholesterol, none of genetic markers at Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster showed LOD score as evidence of linkage. In the analysis for the LDL-cholesterol, the highest LOD score was found at D11S912 of 130.9 cM (LOD score =1.18, $p=0.099$). To confirm the linkage between a putative gene that affects LDL-cholesterol level and D11S912, we reanalyzed the linkage with 21 families that favored a codominant Mendelian model, but there was no significant difference in LOD score.

Conclusion The segregation analysis showed both LDL-cholesterol and HDL-cholesterol are under the genetic influences, following the Mendelian model. However, HDL-cholesterol showed no linkage to the Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster, indicating the major gene effect influence in HDL-cholesterol is not explained by these loci. For LDL-cholesterol, we found the tentative linked loci at 11q23.

Key words: segregation analysis, linkage analysis, plasma cholesterol, cardiovascular disease, Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster,

Linkage Analysis
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Levels in Cardiovascular Disease Family

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1. INTRODUCTION

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is one of the major causes of morbidity and mortality in most developed countries. CVD is a multifactorial disease influenced by a large number of environmental and hereditary factors; neither the environment alone nor a single gene cause disease. Plasma lipoprotein levels have been known to have a major role in progressing of atherosclerosis. In the many studies, increased plasma low density lipoprotein-cholesterol (LDL-cholesterol), total cholesterol (TC) and triglyceride (TG) levels are directly correlated with cardiovascular risk, but high density lipoprotein (HDL-cholesterol) level is inversely correlated with cardiovascular risk^{1,2,3,4}. The major factors which determining the LDL-cholesterol concentration are

obesity and fat absorption. Recently, family and twin study have shown to have genetic effect for ~50% of the interindividual variations in plasma LDL-cholesterol concentrations^{5,6}. Many genetic factors involved in lipid abnormalities have been identified mostly for monogenic diseases, also, these accounts only for a partial cause of coronary artery disease. For elucidation of genetic effect on lipid levels, association studies using genetic variations within candidate genes have been performed^{7,8,9}. However, the candidate gene approach has limitations to understand the individual differences in lipid levels. The Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster have been suggested as candidate for determining genetic factors in plasma lipid level in many studies^{10,11,12}. Apo AI, Apo CIII and Apo AIV are clustered within a 15kb DNA segment on the chromosome 11q23 and the several genetic markers in this gene cluster were reported to be associated with familial combined hyperlipidemia (FCHL). The rare allele (X^+) of the *Xmn*I polymorphism 5' of the Apo AI gene has been reported to be associated with FCHL¹³. The *Sst*I polymorphism in the 3' non-coding region of the Apo CIII gene was related with hypertriglyceridemia^{14,15}. These findings strongly suggested that the Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster has an effect on lipid levels.

The purpose of the present study was to determine a segregation model of lipid profiles and to elucidate the effect of Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster on individual variation for plasma lipid levels in Korean CVD families.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

1. Subjects

The 701 individuals from 93 families who visited the cardiovascular genome center were recruited with written informed contents. All probands had one of the cardiovascular diseases; angiographically confirmed angina pectoris, unstable angina, myocardial infarction and hypertension. Genealogical information has been collected and pedigrees for family were constructed for genetic study. Figure 1 shows an example of pedigree used in this study. Demographic data including current age, sex, history of hypertension, diabetes mellitus (DM), smoking, drinking, cardiovascular events, life style variables were collected at the time of enrolment. LDL-cholesterol, HDL-cholesterol and TG were measured. Blood samples for DNA analyses have also been collected. For linkage analysis, we selected 30 families (305 individuals) those have a relatively large family size and multigeneration comparatively. Unrelated 61 men who had no evidence of coronary artery disease in the medical history were selected to determine the informativeness of genetic markers in Korean. Table 1 shows heterozygosity of markers obtained in the present study with reference data from CEPH (Centre d Etude du polymorphisme Humain) database.

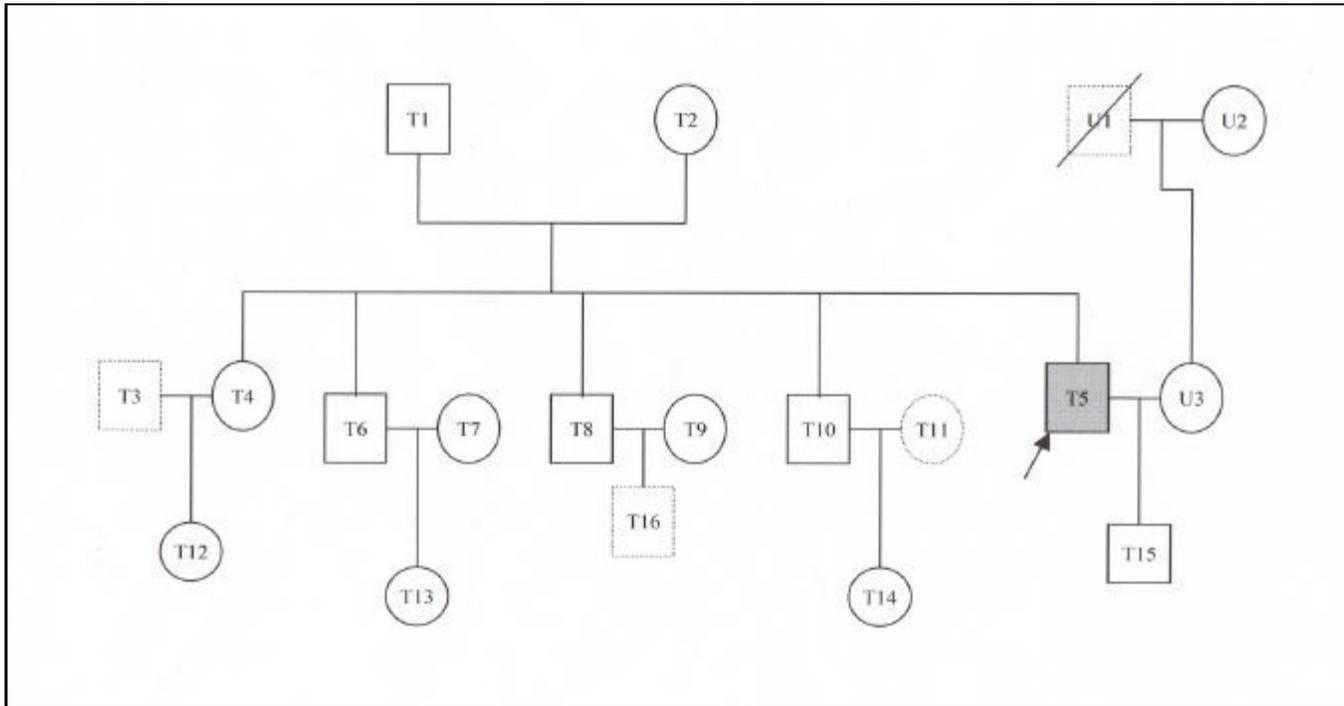


Figure 1. An example of pedigree used in the study. Black symbol (an arrow points to it) indicates a proband and other symbols indicate relative individuals of the proband. The diagrams described by dot and slant line mean the missing samples.

Table 1. Observed heterozygosity for microsatellite markers in the Korean population.

markers (locus)	heterozygosity (%)	
	observed	CEPH*
D11S1338	63.9	78.6
D11S4191	96.7	78.6
D11S908	42.6	77.8
D11S4127	73.8	85.7
D11S925	83.6	85.2
D11S4094	77.0	71.4
D11S4151	55.7	64.3
D11S912	82.0	74.8
D11S4126	47.5	64.3
D11S1320	57.4	55.6
D11S968	45.9	82.1

*Centre d'Etude du polymorphisme Humain (CEPH); genotype database

2. Measurement

All subjects were asked to fast for 12 hours before their visit. Blood samples were centrifuged at 3000g for 10 minutes at 4 °C and then stored at -70 °C before measurement. Plasma TC, LDL-cholesterol and TG levels were measured by enzymatic assay on the Hitachi Autoanalyzer 7170 (Hitachi Ltd. Tokyo, Japan). HDL-cholesterol was measured in the supernatant after precipitation of other lipoprotein fractions by enzymatic method. Intraassay variation was less than 3 % for TC and TG, and less than 5% for HDL-cholesterol. Plasma LDL-cholesterol concentration was calculated by subtracting the HDL-cholesterol concentration and TG from TC. Plasma Apo B and Apo AI were determined by immunoturbidimetric assay¹⁶.

3. Segregation analysis

Statistical analysis was performed with the variance components method for quantitative traits¹⁷. Analysis was done with the unified mixed model. These models were assumed that variation among individuals for a quantitative trait is the result of a major gene effect and residual variation that may influence both individual variation and familial correlations¹⁸. A general model emanates from that the major effect is assumed to result from the segregation at a single locus with 2 alleles (L and H), resulting in three possible types of

individuals (LL, LH, HH). The mean LDL-cholesterol and HDL-cholesterol level value associated with each type is indicated μ_{LL} , μ_{LH} and μ_{HH} , with a variance σ^2 assumed equal among all three types. We defined that H allele has high trait value. In addition, p_{LL} , p_{LH} and p_{HH} are the genotype-specific probabilities to transmit allele L from parents to offspring. Under the Mendelian assumption, these probabilities are equal to 1.0, 0.5 and 0.0, respectively. The model gave interindividual correlations in 3 familial classes; spouse (sp), parent-offspring (po), sib-sib correlations (ss). In this study, we tested by using regressive models described by Bonney¹⁹, as implemented in the SAGE (statistical analysis for genetic epidemiology) program (release 3.1). The SAGE program fitted the model directly to the family data under the assumption that founder individuals come from a population in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium. First, the certain parameters were restricted with several specific values, a probability of correlation between interindividual (sp, po, ss). These restricted models were compared with the general model by using the likelihood ratio test, which is the difference in minus twice the log-likelihoods ($-2\ln L$) obtained under the two different models. Mendelian models constrain these segregation probabilities p_{LL} , p_{LH} and p_{HH} to be 1.0, 0.5 and 0.0 respectively. One of the Mendelian model was a 'codominant' model that each type has a separate mean and 'recessive' model restricts to the same value of μ_{LH} and μ_{HH} . On the contrary, a 'dominant' models restrict to the same value of μ_{LL} and μ_{LH} .

Equal transmission models are that the prior probability of an offspring having a certain type is completely independent of parental types. In the likelihood ratio test, Akaike's Information Criterion (AIC) was calculated. These values were used to decide the fit of unfixed models. The one with the smallest value is the most parsimonious model²⁰. We performed a segregation analysis for LDL-cholesterol adjusted for age, sex, alcohol drinking status, cigarette smoking status, exercise, body mass index (BMI), lipid lowering drug used and DM in 93 families (701 individuals) and 30 selected families (305 individuals) respectively. For HDL-cholesterol, the values were adjusted to additional parameters, body fat and TG.

4. Genotyping

A genomic scan to detect loci related to lipid concentration has been conducted in 305 individual in 30 extended pedigrees. We selected eleven polymorphic microsatellite markers on chromosome 11. Used markers were eight microsatellite markers approximately equally spaced every 5 cM adjacent to ApoAI-CIII-AIV gene cluster on the chromosome 11 and two microsatellite markers included gap of 46cM on the chromosome 11. The locations of genetic markers are indicated in Figure 2. Informations about the primers of markers used for genotyping, heterozygosity, allele size and sequences were obtained from CEPH database (<http://www.cephb.fr/cephdb>).

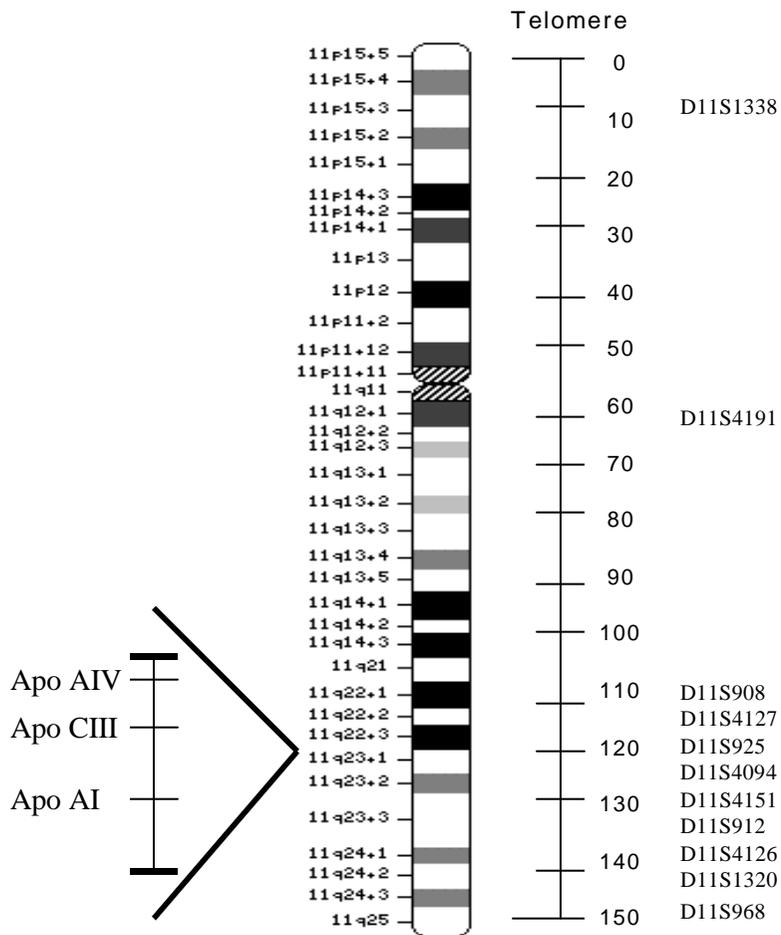


Figure 2. Ideogram of human chromosome 11. Markers are listed to the right, with their respective chromosomal locations. Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster are indicated to the left. Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster was located between the marker D11S925 and D11S4094

Genomic DNA was isolated from 500 $\mu\ell$ of whole blood samples with a Wizard[®] Genomic DNA Purification kit (Promega, Madison, USA). PCR was performed in a final volume of 15 $\mu\ell$, which contained 60 ng of genomic DNA, 1 \times GeneAmp PCR Buffer II, 0.75mM dNTP, 2.5 mM MgCl₂, and 0.6 U of AmpliTaq Gold™ (Perkin-Elmer, Norwalk, CT). Each tube contained fluorescent labeled primers combined at a 10 mM primer mix. Amplification was performed with a PTC-200™ Peltier Thermal Cycler (MJ Research, Watertown, MA). Samples were held for 12 minutes at 95 °C and performed as followed by 10 cycles of 15 seconds at 94 °C, 15 seconds at 55 °C, and 30 seconds at 72 °C and then cycled through as followed by 20 times of 15 seconds at 89 °C, 15 seconds at 55 °C, and 30 seconds at 72 °C. The final step was performed for 10 minutes at 72 °C. An example of the fragment size obtained after PCR is shown in Figure 3. After PCR amplification, we pooled PCR products according to panel-set category. The pooled DNA fragments was run under denaturing conditions on the ABI PRISM 310 Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystems) and analyzed with the GENESCAN version 3.1 (Figure 4). The genotype was determined by GENOTYPER version 2.0 software (Applied Biosystems) (Figure 5).

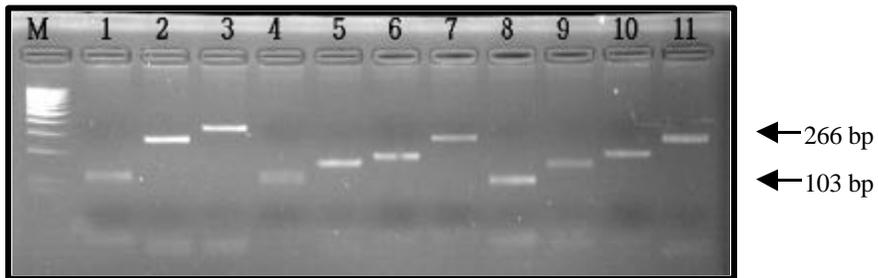


Figure 3. The amplified DNA fragments using primers of genetic markers. M : DNA size marker(X174DNA/*Bsu*RI(*Hae*III) Marker (MBI Fermentas, Vilnius, Lithuania)). Labeled numbers; 1:D11S912, 2:D11S1320, 3: D11S4151, 4: D11S4191, 5: D11S968, 6: D11S908, 7: D11S1338, 8: D11S4127, 9: D11S4126, 10: D11S4094, 11: D11S925.

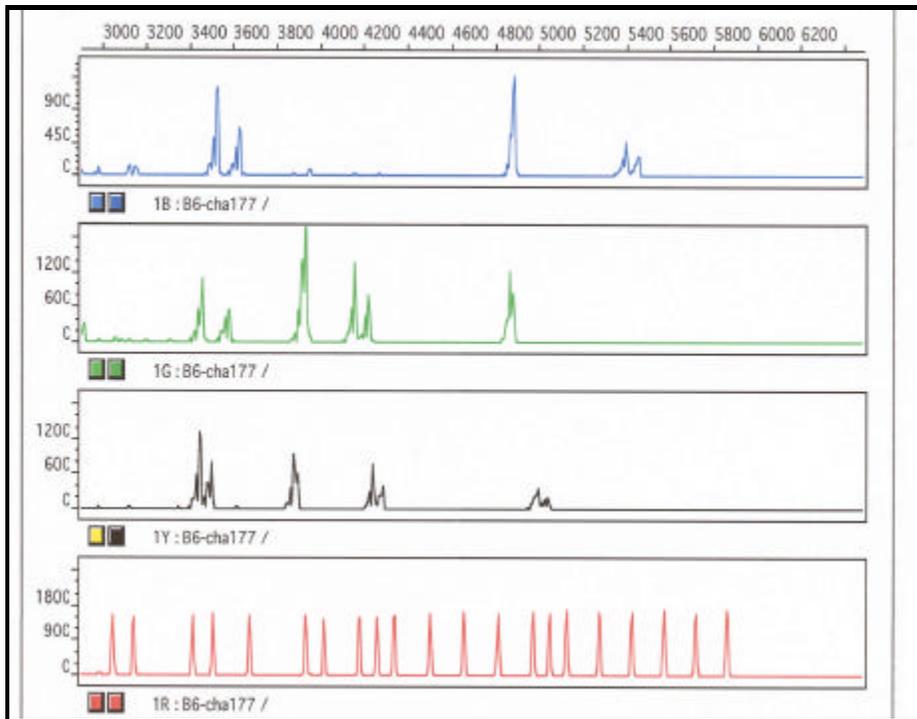


Figure 4. GeneScan electropherogram of ABI PRISM Linkage Mapping Sets. Dinucleotide repeat loci are labeled with three dyes (FAM/blue color, HEX/green color, NED/black color), except red color, which is used for the size standard. DNA fragments of one individual run under denaturing conditions on the ABI PRISM 310 Genetic Analyzer using POP-4 polymer at 60

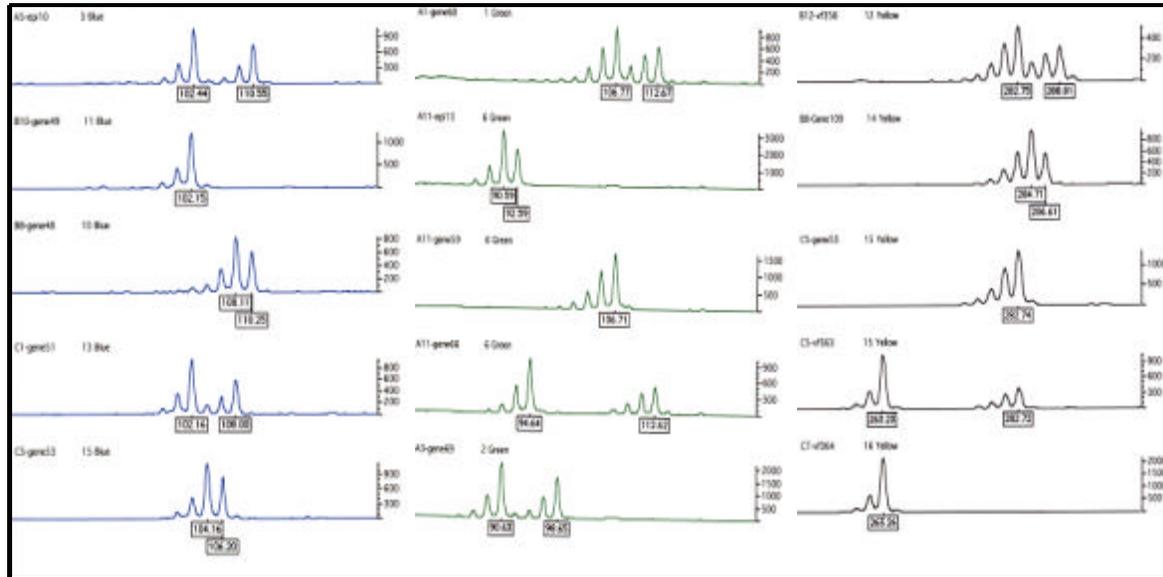


Figure 5. An example of Genotyping using Genotyper 2.0 electropherogram plot. The genotype of five individuals from the CVD families amplified with microsatellite markers. Vertical range shows the fluorescence intensities of labeled dye signal and horizontal range shows the data point of microsatellite markers. Calling of each peak indicated the size of amplified DNA fragment

5. Linkage analysis

LOD score was a likelihood (model)-based parametric linkage approach to estimate the recombination fraction and significance of the evidence for linkage. The score was computed by using LODLINK program version 3.1 within the SAGE package. The linkage analyses were calculated in a Mendelian model of inheritance for LDL-cholesterol and HDL-cholesterol, respectively. To assess the cosegregation of the eleven markers on the near Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster with a putative gene that affects lipid levels, these markers reflecting a several region, around the Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster were tested for linkage individually. The genetic-map construction was based on the Marshfield linkage maps²¹, these baseline data were consistent with the maps used other linkage studies^{22,23,24}. LOD score was calculated by the likelihood ratio test for linkage by $2\log_e(10)$ on 388 individuals of 30 families, although 83 individuals had missing data. The LOD score was represented \log_{10} of the ratio for two likelihoods, the likelihood of observing a particular configuration of a trait and a marker locus in a set of families assuming linkage ($\theta < 0.5$), and the likelihood of observing the same configuration of the two loci within the same set of families assuming linkage ($\theta = 0.5$)²⁵. We have used a LOD score of 3.00 to indicate adequate evidence of linkage and a LOD score of 2.00 as suggestive²⁶. We assigned a LOD score of 1.00 as tentative evidence of linkage.

III. RESULTS

1. Study Population

The clinical characteristics of 701 individuals in 93 families were shown in Table 2. Individuals of families were recruited from 74 probands with coronary artery disease and 19 probands with hypertension. 27 individuals of subjects with coronary artery disease were diagnosed as hypertension at a time. The mean age of probands and remaining relatives was 55.2 years and 35.2 years respectively. In both groups, there were no significant differences in BMI, systolic blood pressure (SBP) and diastolic blood pressure (DBP). The frequencies of family according to family size are exhibited in Figure 6. The sizes of pedigrees range from 3 to 29, representing complex at over two generations.

2. Segregation Analysis

For LDL-cholesterol, data were divided into two different models had the lowest AIC. One is a codominant Mendelian model that has effect of major gene in lipid levels and the other is an equal transmission model that shows a superiority of an environmental factor (Table 3). The inferred major gene in this codominant Mendelian model accounted for 61.2% of the variation in LDL-cholesterol. Estimated mean LDL-cholesterol levels for the three supposed

Table 2. Clinical characteristics of study population

Characteristics	Probands	Remaining	Total
	(n= 93)	relatives (n= 608)	(n= 701)
	Mean \pm SD	Mean \pm SD	Mean \pm SD
Age (years)	55.2 \pm 9.2	35.2 \pm 16.4	38.5 \pm 17.1
Sex (% male)	76.1	43.4	47.7
BMI (kg/m ²)	24.8 \pm 2.4	22.1 \pm 3.3	22.5 \pm 3.4
Current Drinking (%)	38.9	28.0	29.9
Current Smoking (%)	22.5	24.3	24.0
SBP (mmHg)	124.3 \pm 18.0	117.5 \pm 16.7	118.6 \pm 17.1
DBP (mmHg)	78.7 \pm 9.9	71.5 \pm 12.2	72.7 \pm 12.1
DM (%)	12.1	0.85	2.4
HDL-cholesterol (mg/dl)	51.0 \pm 10.3	60.1 \pm 14.2	58.6 \pm 14.0
LDL-cholesterol (mg/dl)	122.2 \pm 33.3	116.0 \pm 35.1	116.9 \pm 34.9
TG (mg/dl)	171.8 \pm 89.2	123.1 \pm 94.9	130.8 \pm 95.6
TC (mg/dl)	206.3 \pm 38.4	200.0 \pm 39.3	201.0 \pm 7.9
Apo AI (mg/dl)	126.2 \pm 22.8	133.9 \pm 27.6	132.6 \pm 27.0
Apo B (mg/dl)	92.2 \pm 21.8	82.1 \pm 24.3	83.8 \pm 24.2

values are mean \pm SD.

BMI; body mass index, SBP; systolic blood pressure, DBP; diastolic blood pressure, DM; diabetes mellitus, HDL-cholesterol; high density lipoprotein cholesterol, LDL-cholesterol; low density lipoprotein cholesterol, TG; triglyceride, TC; total cholesterol, Apo AI; apolipoprotein AI, Apo B; apolipoprotein B

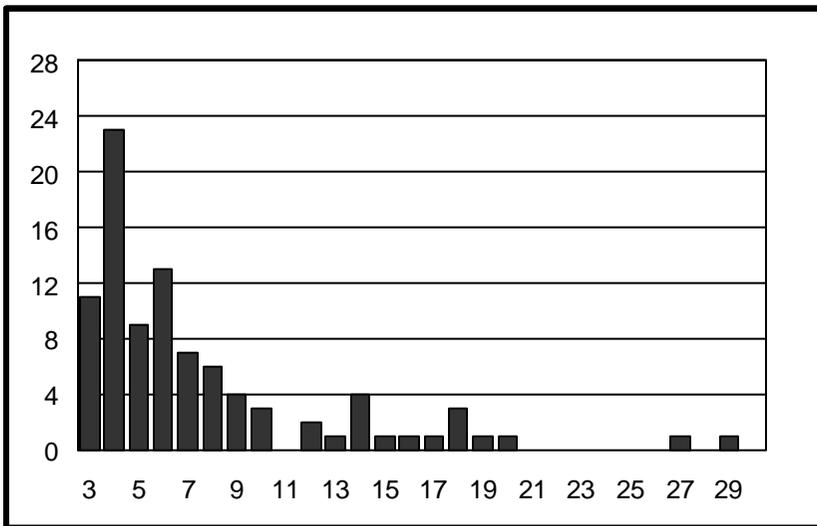


Figure 6. The frequencies of family according to family size. Vertical range shows the number of families and horizontal range shows the constituent of families.

Table 3. Segregation analysis of adjusted LDL-cholesterol* in 701 individuals of 93 families ascertained to the cardiovascular disease

	q_L	μ_{LL} (s.d)	μ_{LH} (s.d)	μ_{HH} (s.d)	σ^2 (s.d)	μ_{LL}	μ_{LH}	μ_{HH}	sp	po	ss	-2LnL	X^2	df	P	AIC
1. Sporadic	[1]	115.7 (1.3)			953.6 (57.7)				[0]	[0]	[0]	5295.2	45.3	8	<0.001	5299.2
2. Familial correlation																
a. Unimodel, sp	[1]	115.7 (1.3)			953.6 (57.7)				0.01	[0]	[0]	5295.1	45.2	7	<0.001	5301.1
b. Unimodel, sp, po	[1]	115.7 (1.5)			949.5 (58.5)				0.08	0.17	[0]	5280.1	30.2	6	<0.001	5288.1
c. Unimodel, sp, po, ss	[1]	115.7 (1.7)			959.0 (63.1)				0.01	0.22	0.31	5257.4	7.5	5	>0.1	5267.4
3. Mendelian																
a. Dominant	0.84	114.3 (2.3)	114.3 (2.3)	169.3 (28.6)	889.3 (82.6)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.05	0.24	0.34	5255.1	5.2	3	>0.1	5269.1
b. recessive	0.89	108.9 (6.0)	142.1 (10.3)	142.1 (10.3)	774.4 (129.1)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.03	0.16	0.24	5254.5	4.7	3	>0.1	5268.5
c. Codominant	0.63	96.4 (7.0)	121.5 (8.7)	154.0 (9.1)	583.4 (127.1)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.04	0.05	0.08	5252.3	2.4	3	>0.25	5266.3 [‡]
4. Equal transmission	0.99	120.3 (2.7)	85.0 (7.4)	204.2 (30.0)	797.5 (88.1)	q_{HH}	q_{HH}	q_{HH}	0.01	0.28	0.45	5252.6	2.7	3	>0.25	5266.6 [‡]
5. General (free)	0.98	122.7 (2.7)	89.5 (6.1)	170.0 (15.8)	691.8 (15.8)	1.00	0.6	1.0	0.03	0.26	0.41	5249.9				

*adjusted for age, sex, alcohol drinking status, cigarette smoking status, exercise, BMI, lipid lowering drug used and DM.

[‡] The most parsimonious models, AIC (Akaike's Information Criterion)

q_L indicates the prevalence of the L allele; μ , mean with each genotype(LL,LH,HH); σ^2 , within-type variance; , probability of transmitting L allele; and sp, po and ss, spouse,parent-offspring, and sibling correlations, respectively.

genotypes LL, LH, and HH were 96.4, 121.5, and 154.0 mg/dl, with relative frequencies of 39.7%, 46.6%, and 13.7%, respectively. The same analysis was performed on 30 families, but data was not found parsimonious model significantly (Table 4). The ratio, $-2\ln(L_C/L_E)$ was calculated to determine whether the family favored a codominant Mendelian model ($-2\ln(L_C/L_E)$ ratio < 0) or an environmental model ($-2\ln(L_C/L_E)$ > 0). The results are shown in Figure 7. For HDL-cholesterol, the results of segregation analysis are presented in Table 5 and 6, respectively. Models with no major gene effect, and environmental non-transmission were also rejected. The result for HDL-cholesterol levels was best explained by a major gene effect inherited by a dominant Mendelian model ($p > 0.99$). Estimated mean HDL-cholesterol levels were 53.0, 53.0, and 71.2 mg/dl, with relative frequencies of 21.2%, 49.6%, and 29.2%, respectively. This best fitting dominant Mendelian model describes a dominant major gene effect for HDL-cholesterol level to 53.0 (0.8 S.D. from the mean). The inferred major gene in this dominant Mendelian model also accounted for 51.8% of the variation in HDL-cholesterol.

3. Linkage analysis

The genomic scan to detect loci related to lipid concentration has been conducted in 305 individual in 30 extended pedigrees. The clinical parameters and plasma lipid levels of 30 selected families are shown in Table 7. The allele frequencies of selected markers for 305 individual in 30 extended

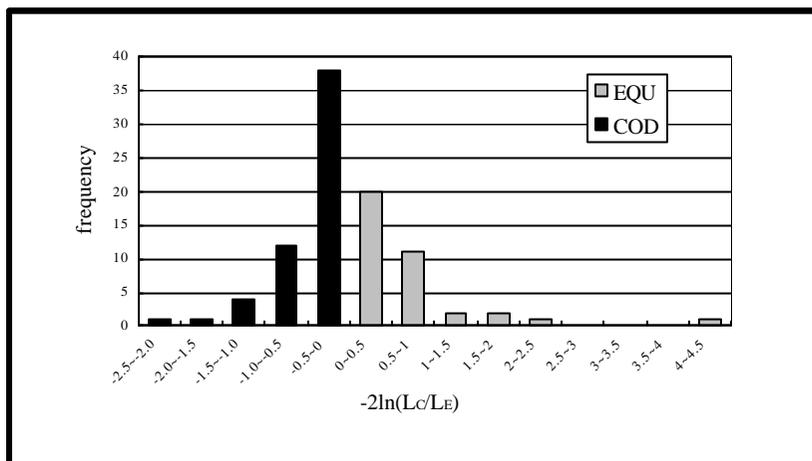
Table 4. Segregation analysis of adjusted LDL-cholesterol* in 305 individuals of 30 families ascertained to the cardiovascular disease**

	q_L	μ_{LL} (s.d)	μ_{LH} (s.d)	μ_{HH} (s.d)	χ^2 (s.d)	q_{LL}	q_{LH}	q_{HH}	sp	po	ss	-2LnL	X^2	df	<i>P</i>	AIC
1. Sporadic	[1]	115.0 (2.1)			1272.4 (104.4)				[0]	[0]	[0]	2966.0	63.9	8	<0.001	2970.0
2. Familial correlation																
a. Unimodel, sp	[1]	114.9 (2.1)			1272.4 (104.5)				0.38	[0]	[0]	2965.9	63.8	7	<0.001	2971.9
b. Unimodel, sp, po	[1]	114.4 (2.4)			1265.6 (105.7)				0.66	0.17	[0]	2957.1	55.0	6	<0.001	2965.1
c. Unimodel, sp, po, ss	[1]	115.9 (3.0)			1300.0 (122.5)				0.65	0.28	0.38	2936.1	34.0	5	<0.001	2946.1
3. Mendelian																
a. Dominant	0.64	107.5 (3.2)	107.5 (3.2)	171.4 (9.7)	835.7 (111.7)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.85	0.18	0.29	2922.4	20.3	3	<0.001	2936.4
b. recessive	0.94	108.7 (3.5)	172.3 (11.4)	172.3 (11.4)	898.8 (126.8)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.77	0.16	0.32	2924.3	22.2	3	<0.001	2938.3
c. Codominant	0.75	97.5 (4.6)	132.6 (9.1)	196.9 (14.7)	677.2 (140.9)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.26	0.15	0.33	2919.9	17.8	3	<0.001	2933.9
4. Equal transmission	0.75	92.6 (3.6)	134.8 (4.6)	191.9 (10.5)	532.7 (107.5)	q_{HH}	q_{HH}	q_{HH}	0.31	0.45	0.49	2927.1	25.0	3	<0.001	2941.1
5. General (free)	0.48	90.9 (3.6)	119.3 (4.5)	172.8 (5.5)	546.7 (87.4)	1.0	0	1.0	0	0.02	0	2902.1				

*adjusted for age, sex, alcohol drinking status, cigarette smoking status, exercise, BMI, lipid lowering drug used ,DM

**For parameters definition see Table 3

(a)



(b)

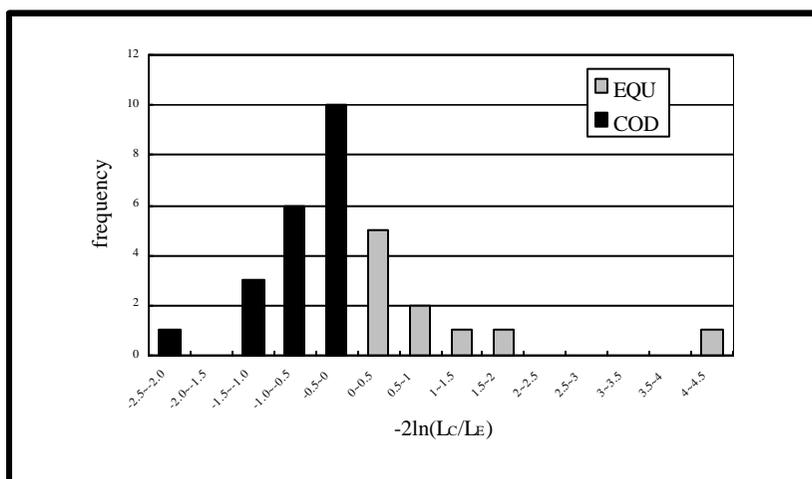


Figure 7. Relative likelihood of the equal transmission model $-2\ln[L]_E$ and the codominant Mendelian model $-2\ln[L]_C$. The ratio $-2\ln(L_C/L_E)$ measures the extent to which each family supported one model over the other. (a) Likelihood ratio for LDL-cholesterol in 93 full families (b) Likelihood ratio for LDL-cholesterol in 30 selected families. Equal transmission model (EQU) Codominant Mendelian model (COD)

Table 5. Segregation analysis of adjusted HDL-cholesterol* in 701 members of 93 families ascertained to the cardiovascular disease**

	q _L	ll (s.d)	lh (s.d)	hh (s.d)	2 (s.d)	ll	lh	hh	sp	po	ss	-2LnL	X ²	df	P	AIC
1. Sporadic	[1]	58.3 (0.5)			140.9 (8.5)				[0]	[0]	[0]	4305.7	73.2	8	<0.001	4309.7
2. Familial correlation																
a. Unimodel, sp	[1]	58.4 (0.5)			141.2 (8.6)				0.24	[0]	[0]	4299.0	66.5	7	<0.001	4305.0
b. Unimodel, sp, po	[1]	58.4 (0.6)			138.4 (8.5)				0.20	0.19	[0]			6	<0.001	4283.2
c. Unimodel, sp, po, ss	[1]	58.5 (0.7)			140.4 (9.3)				0.20	0.28	0.29	4275.2	42.7	5	<0.001	4263.8
3. Mendelian																
a. Dominant	0.46	53.0 (0.8)	53.0 (0.8)	71.2 (1.3)	73.0 (7.5)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.30	0.24	0.27	4232.6	0.1	3	>0.99	4246.6 [‡]
b. recessive	0.84	54.0 (1.4)	69.1 (1.8)	69.1 (1.8)	93.2 (13.2)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.27	0.18	0.21	4248.4	15.9	3	<0.005	4262.4
c. Codominant	0.81	53.4 (2.0)	67.4 (4.2)	75.5 (6.3)	89.6 (15.6)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.29	0.15	0.18	4248.2	15.7	3	<0.005	4262.2
4. Equal transmission	0.71	51.1 (2.1)	63.6 (4.0)	77.7 (2.9)	76.7 (10.6)	q _{ll}	q _{lh}	q _{hh}	0.28	0.41	0.44	4238.2	5.7	3	>0.1	4252.2
5. General (free)	0.84	52.7 (1.2)	69.4 (2.6)	77.7 (5.5)	72.7 (10.2)	1.0	0	1.0	0.28	0.29	0.38	4232.5				

* adjusted for age, sex, , alcohol drinking status, cigarette smoking status, exercise, BMI, lipid lowering drug used ,DM, body fat and TG.

**For parameters definition see Table 3

[‡] The most parsimonious model

Table 6. Segregation analysis of adjusted HDL-cholesterol* in 305 members of 30 families ascertained to the cardiovascular disease**

	q _L	μ (s.d)	μ^H (s.d)	μ^{HH} (s.d)	σ^2 (s.d)	LL	LH	HH	sp	po	ss	-2LnL	X ²	df	P	AIC
1. Sporadic	[1]	58.4 (0.7)			143.9 (11.8)				[0]	[0]	[0]	2318.6	45.0	8	<0.001	2322.6
2. Familial correlation																
a. Unimodel, sp	[1]	58.7 (0.7)			143.9 (11.9)				0.15	[0]	[0]	2317.1	43.5	7	<0.001	2323.1
b. Unimodel, sp, po	[1]	58.4 (0.8)			141.7 (11.8)				0.12	0.16	[0]	2306.8	33.2	6	<0.001	2314.8
c. Unimodel, sp, po, ss	[1]	58.7 (1.0)			144.0 (12.9)				0.13	0.25	0.28	2294.5	20.8	5	<0.001	2304.5
3. Mendelian																
a. Dominant	0.44	52.7 (1.0)	52.7 (1.0)	71.9 (1.5)	67.2 (8.2)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.20	0.17	0.22	2275.5	1.9	3	>0.5	2289.5 [‡]
b. recessive	0.81	53.1 (1.4)	69.8 (1.8)	69.8 (1.8)	82.5 (12.9)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.22	0.10	0.16	2288.5	14.6	3	<0.005	2302.5
c. Codominant	0.77	52.1 (2.0)	67.4 (3.7)	76.3 (4.3)	75.7 (15.3)	[1]	[0.5]	[0]	0.21	0.04	0.01	2287.5	13.8	3	<0.005	2301.5
4. Equal transmission	0.73	50.7 (1.6)	64.8 (2.8)	79.3 (2.7)	71.0 (12.6)	q _{HH}	q _{HH}	q _{HH}	0.12	0.46	0.59	2279.4	5.7	3	>0.1	2293.4
5. General (free)	0.47	49.8 (3.8)	53.9 (2.3)	71.9 (1.8)	65.7 (10.8)	1.0	0	1.0	0.18	0.15	0.32	2273.6				

* adjusted for age, sex, alcohol drinking status, cigarette smoking status, exercise, BMI, lipid lowering drug used ,DM, body fat and TG.

**For parameters definition see Table 3

[‡] The most parsimonious model

Table 7. Clinical characteristics of 30 families selected for segregation and linkage analysis

Characteristics	Probands	Remaining	Total
	(n= 30)	relatives (n= 275)	(n= 305)
	Mean \pm SD	Mean \pm SD	Mean \pm SD
Age (years)	53.7 \pm 9.3	35.9 \pm 17.4	37.6 \pm 17.5
Sex (% male)	76.7	43.6	46.9
BMI (kg/m ²)	25.0 \pm 2.3	21.8 \pm 3.4	22.1 \pm 3.4
Current Drinking (%)	20.0	16.4	16.7
Current Smoking (%)	20.0	22.2	22.0
SBP (mmHg)	120.7 \pm 27.0	119.2 \pm 17.4	119.4 \pm 18.5
DBP (mmHg)	78.0 \pm 12.7	70.8 \pm 13.0	71.5 \pm 13.1
DM (%)	6.7	1.8	2.3
HDL cholesterol (mg/dl)	49.5 \pm 10.9	60.1 \pm 14.5	59.1 \pm 14.5
LDL cholesterol (mg/dl)	114.3 \pm 27.6	115.2 \pm 35.5	115.1 \pm 34.8
TG (mg/dl)	143.9 \pm 59.1	125.9 \pm 98.1	127.6 \pm 95.2
TC (mg/dl)	192.6 \pm 33.0	199.6 \pm 38.7	199.0 \pm 38.2
Apo AI (mg/dl)	116.9 \pm 21.0	132.5 \pm 28.7	131.1 \pm 28.5
Apo B (mg/dl)	88.0 \pm 16.0	85.1 \pm 24.8	85.3 \pm 24.2

All values except those for sex, alcohol drinking status, cigarette smoking status and DM are mean \pm SD.

For abbreviations definition see Table 2

pedigrees are shown in Table 8. These data were used for linkage analysis. The linkage analysis was performed using the data derived segregation analysis and genotyping. Figure 8 shows the result of linkage analysis between markers and a putative gene that affects lipid levels. In the analysis for HDL-cholesterol, none of these markers show as evidence of linkage. For LDL-cholesterol, the significant highest LOD score was found at D11S912, located 130.9cM (LOD score =1.18, $p=0.099$). Markers on other region were not found the significant evidence of linkage to LDL-cholesterol (Table 9). To confirm the tentative evidence of linkage in D11S912, we analyzed the LOD score in 21 families that favored the codominant Mendelian model. The D11S912 was significant linked in selected samples, while the LOD score was not changed (Table 10).

Table 8. Allele frequencies for microsatellite markers near Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster from 305 individuals in 30 extended pedigrees.

(n)	Allele frequency										
	D11S912	D11S1320	D11S4151	D11S4191	D11S968	D11S908	D11S1338	D11S4127	D11S4126	D11S4094	D11S925
1	0.2351	0.0083	0.0099	0.1794	0.0033	0.0116	0.3129	0.0083	0.0414	0.0166	0.3990
2	0.1159	0.1761	0.0248	0.1279	0.0911	0.0017	0.0232	0.2781	0.0066	0.1920	0.0049
3	0.3692	0.6811	0.6209	0.0930	0.0728	0.7152	0.0083	0.0911	0.5315	0.2318	0.0530
4	0.1209	0.1296	0.0977	0.1096	0.6341	0.2368	0.2020	0.0778	0.3444	0.1507	0.1970
5	0.0281	0.0033	0.1772	0.1163	0.1474	0.0330	0.4420	0.4404	0.0364	0.3543	0.1341
6	0.0416	0.0016	0.0315	0.0033	0.0414	0.0017	0.0099	0.0629	0.0248	0.0464	0.0728
7	0.0762	-	0.0380	0.0199	0.0099	-	0.0017	0.0348	0.0149	0.0082	0.0762
8	0.0050	-	-	0.0332	-	-	-	0.0000	-	-	0.0199
9	0.0080	-	-	0.0797	-	-	-	0.0066	-	-	0.0215
10	-	-	-	0.0980	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0033
11	-	-	-	0.0914	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0017
12	-	-	-	0.0349	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0066
13	-	-	-	0.0049	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0050
14	-	-	-	0.0085	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0050

Number (n) means the number of dinucleotide repeats and allows from the most little repeat number.

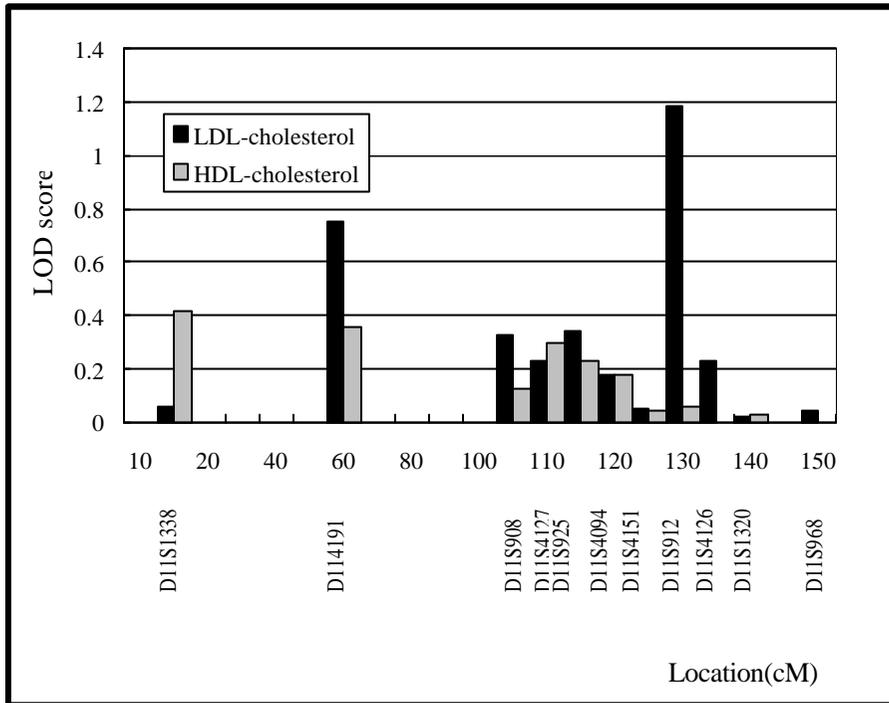


Figure 8. Linkage analyses between markers and a putative gene that affects lipid levels on chromosome11. A blue and red bars indicate LOD score of following name marker which results of linkage analysis using LODLINK program. The horizontal axis values indicate distance (in cM) from telomere and the names below horizontal axis indicate marker on the location.

Table 9. Linkage analyses of markers on chromosome 11 with a putative gene that affects lipid levels for 30 selected families.

markers	cM	LDL-cholesterol			HDL-cholesterol		
		Rf (^a)	LOD score	<i>P</i> value	Rf (^a)	LOD score	<i>P</i> value
D11S1338	15.0	0.67	0.06	0.255	0.20	0.42	0.083
D11S4191	61.3	0.12	0.75	0.032	0.21	0.36	0.100
D11S908	107.5	0.12	0.32	0.111	0.33	0.12	0.226
D11S4127	110.1	0.20	0.23	0.151	0.26	0.30	0.121
D11S925	116.9	0.18	0.34	0.104	0.31	0.23	0.153
D11S4094	121.8	0.32	0.18	0.182	0.30	0.18	0.183
D11S4151	126.0	0.39	0.05	0.310	0.43	0.04	0.329
D11S912	130.9	0.09	1.18	0.099 [†]	0.38	0.06	0.305
D11S4126	136.2	0.13	0.23	0.151	0.52	-0.07	1.000
D11S1320	139.6	0.27	0.02	0.382	0.41	0.03	0.368
D11S968	147.6	0.39	0.05	0.321	0.52	-0.07	1.000

Bold writing values are the highest score in the result

^a Recombination fraction, [†] *P* < 0.1

Table 10. Comparison of LOD scores for LDL-cholesterol concentrations with D11S912.

families (n)	number of individuals	cM	Rf (^a)	LOD score	<i>P</i> value
30	388	130.9	0.089	1.18	0.099 [†]
21	262	139.6	0.125	1.06	0.014 [‡]

^a Recombination fraction

[†] $P < 0.1$

[‡] $P < 0.05$

IV. DISCUSSION

Not only elevated levels of LDL-cholesterol but low levels of HDL-cholesterol are risk factors in the cardiovascular disease. These lipid levels are influenced by both genetic determinants and environment factors. However, the genetic determinants on lipid levels remain poorly understood. A few studies showed that common alleles in ApoE and CYP7 are associated with plasma LDL-cholesterol levels, but only accounts for 5~10% of the population variance suggesting the existence of other gene^{27,28}. Susanne et al have shown that ABCA1 heterozygotes have an approximate 50% decrease in HDL-cholesterol and increase in TG⁷. Recently, association studies have attempted to examine the linkage between apolipoprotein AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster and dyslipidamia, they reported the association between genetic markers in this gene cluster and lipid levels to this region^{13,29,30,31,32}.

The purpose of the present study was to identify genomic region, which determine the interindividual variations for lipid levels in Koreans. We hypothesized that genetic variation in the Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene complex might be associated with plasma lipid levels. We performed segregation analysis to define the segregation patterns of LDL-cholesterol and HDL-cholesterol. We found that segregation pattern of codominant Mendelian model with equal transmission model for adjusted LDL-cholesterol, and a dominant Mendelian model for adjusted HDL-cholesterol. These results previewed that lipid level is under major gene effect. The observed Mendelian

mechanism with a codominant Mendelian model of inheritance for LDL-cholesterol levels in this study is similar to with the reported in previous study³³. The other study, however, reported a recessive model, which restricts to high trait value (H allele)³⁴. We also found results that segregation pattern indicates a dominant Mendelian model for adjusted HDL-cholesterol. This finding is similar to the analyses presented by Michael et al³⁵ and Amos et al³⁶. But a few studies reported on contrary opinions that could not found a single major factor controlling HDL-cholesterol levels^{37,38}. The dissimilarities in the results may be explained by the ethnic difference or the small size of the pedigrees in our sample. We selected 30 families (305 individuals) those have a relatively large family number to analyze the linkage between the genetic markers in Apo AI-CIII-AIV cluster and a putative gene that affects lipid levels. Although Kort et al²² reported a LOD score of 2.91 at D11S912, which has indicated linkages on 11q23.3 in 105 large Utah pedigrees related clusters of early CHD and dyslipidemia, our data provided a tentative evidence of linkage (LOD score 1.0) at D11S912 suggesting the existence of candidate genes in this genomic region. Also, we could not found any linkage between HDL-cholesterol and Apo AI-CIII-AIV gene cluster. All scores of markers are showed these less than score 0.5 (The highest LOD score=0.42 at D11S1338) (Figure 8). This result agrees with the study that reported by Almasry et al³⁹. They reported that the chromosome 8 and 15 appear to influence HDL-cholesterol concentration. In this study, we also examined the

extent to which genetic linkage in selected segregation model. We selected 21 families that favored a codominant Mendelian model for a second linkage analysis. Average of LDL-cholesterol concentrations of 21 codominant Mendelian model families and 9 equal transmission model families was measured 119 ± 34.8 and 107 ± 34.0 respectively (data not shown). We supposed that these codominant Mendelian model families have influenced as more effective model on increased LOD scores. However, LOD score in 21 families was not significantly different, while the significance was increased (Table 9). There are several limitations in the present study. The generation of pedigrees was not sufficient to find the evidence of linkage between genetic markers and a putative gene that affects LDL-cholesterol. Also, we couldn't evaluate other regions because this study was limited at the region of chromosome 11. Therefore, additional studies with large sample sizes as well as other regions of genome may be required to help clarify the evidence for linkage.

V. CONCLUSIONS

In the analyses of inheritance for plasma lipid concentration in Korean population, segregation model for LDL-cholesterol provided both a codominant Mendelian model and an equal transmission model. The analysis of HDL-cholesterol showed superiority of a dominant Mendelian model. In the linkage analysis, tentative evidence for linkage with a gene on chromosome 11q23 (130.9 cM) influencing plasma LDL-cholesterol level was observed. The gene in the region close by D11S912 (130.9 cM) may effect on lipid metabolism. Therefore, further studies are required to identify the genetic elements responsible for the observed linkage with LDL-cholesterol level.

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가
Apo AI-CIII-AIV Cluster

가

가

가

Apo AI-CIII-AIV
microsatellite marker

가 (93가 , 701)

codominant Mendelian equal transmission .
dominant Mendelian

가 가 가

30 가 HDL-
marker LDL-
marker D11S912 (130.9cM)
가 (LOD score

=1.18, $p=0.099$). 30가 codominant Mendelian

21 가

LOD score (LOD score =1.06, $p=0.014$).

가 LDL-

codominant Mendelian equal transmission HDL-

dominant Mendelian

. Apo AI-CIII-AIV

LDL- 가 가

.

: , , ,

, Apo AI-CIII-AIV