

1 Association analyses based on false discovery rate implicate 243

2 susceptibility loci for coronary artery disease

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113 **Genome-wide association studies (GWAS) in coronary artery disease (CAD) have identified**
114 **66 loci at 'genome-wide significance' ($p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$) but a much larger number of putative loci**
115 **at a false discovery rate (FDR) of 5%¹⁻⁴. Here, we leverage an interim release of UK Biobank**
116 **(UKBB) data to evaluate the validity of the FDR approach. We tested a CAD phenotype**
117 **inclusive of angina (SOFT; $N_{\text{cases}}=10,801$) as well as a stricter definition without it (HARD;**
118 **$N_{\text{cases}}=6,482$) and selected the former for conducting a meta-analysis with the two most**
119 **recent CAD GWASs²⁻³. This approach identified 13 new loci at genome-wide significance, 12**
120 **of which were in our previous 5% FDR list², and provided strong support that the remaining**
121 **FDR loci represent genuine signals. The set of 304 independent variants at 5% FDR in this**
122 **study explain 21.2% of CAD heritability and identified 243 loci that implicate pathways in**
123 **blood vessel morphogenesis as well as lipid metabolism, nitric oxide signaling and**
124 **inflammation.**

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127 Previous GWAS studies of CAD risk¹⁻⁴ have interrogated a large number of cases and controls
128 but remain less well-powered than GWAS of quantitative traits⁵. UKBB was established to
129 improve understanding of the causes of common diseases including CAD, a leading health
130 problem around the world⁶. In addition to self-reported disease outcomes and extensive
131 health and life-style questionnaire data, the 502,713 participants are being tracked through
132 their NHS records and national registries (including cause of death and Hospital Episode
133 Statistics). In July 2015, UKBB released genotypes imputed to the 1000 Genomes panel for
134 152,249 participants profiled with a SNP array harboring 820,967 variants comprising
135 common variants optimized for imputation, validated rare coding variants and sets of
136 phenotype-associated variants or their proxies (e.g. GWAS catalogue).

137 We set up The UKBiobank-CardioMetabolic-Consortium CHD working group to assess the use
138 of self-reported and hospital record data on CAD in UKBB and define the relevant case and
139 control subgroups to undertake genetic analyses of CAD risk.

140 The July 2015 release of UKBB comprises 10,801 genotyped individuals with an inclusive CAD
141 phenotype ('SOFT') that incorporates self-reported angina or other evidence of chronic
142 coronary heart disease, of which 6,482 have a more stringently defined CAD phenotype
143 ('HARD') of myocardial infarction and/or revascularisation (**Fig. 1a**). After QC we analysed the
144 SOFT and HARD cases separately against 137,914 controls for 9,149,595 variants present
145 either in the CARDIoGRAMplusC4D 1000-Genomes GWAS² or the MIGen/CARDIoGRAM
146 Exome-chip study³⁻⁴. The SOFT definition was selected for the primary analysis based on
147 power calculations (**Supplementary Table 1**). We found 4 (SOFT and HARD), 1 (SOFT only) and
148 2 (HARD only) variants reaching genome-wide significance, all located in known CAD loci
149 (**Supplementary Figure 1**).

150 We then meta-analysed the UKBB data for each CAD definition with each of the two published
151 data sets (**Supplementary Figure 2**) applying a double genomic control correction. For both
152 the SOFT and HARD definitions, we validated all 66 known CAD loci (72 independent variants
153 with $p < 1.2 \times 10^{-3}$) with 43 and 37 respectively reaching genome-wide significance in this
154 study (**Supplementary Table 2**). Outside the known CAD loci (1 Mb window centred on the
155 published lead SNP) we found 9 new signals (in both SOFT and HARD) reaching genome-wide
156 significance (**Table 1** and **Fig. 2**). The anticipated increase in power with the SOFT definition
157 (**Supplementary Table 1**) was attenuated by an inflation of the lambda statistic
158 (**Supplementary Table 3**), potentially due to a combination of larger sample size (i.e.
159 polygenicity) and a less homogeneous phenotype in the SOFT definition. Overall, there was
160 strong concordance between corresponding signals for SOFT and HARD (**Fig. 1b**,

161 **Supplementary Table 4**); subsequent analyses were undertaken using the SOFT meta-analysis
162 results.

163 To look for additional signals beyond the 9 that reached genome-wide significance (**Fig. 2**) we
164 performed an FDR analysis and selected 23 suggestive signals at 1% FDR ($p < 1.55 \times 10^{-6}$;
165 **Supplementary Table 4**) outside known CAD loci which we validated in an independent
166 sample of up to 4,412 cases and 3,910 controls from the German MI-Family-Studies V and VI
167 and a Greek case-control study (**Supplementary Table 5**). In total, we identified 13 new
168 genome-wide significant CAD loci in the combined discovery and replication sample (**Table 1**,
169 **Supplementary Table 6**).

170 In our recent large-scale GWAS², we reported 162, mainly common, variants at an FDR
171 discovery cutoff of 5% showing conditional independent associations with the P_{joint} test in
172 GCTA⁷. Twelve of the 13 new sentinel SNPs were present or had a proxy ($r^2 > 0.8$) among these
173 162 variants². **Fig. 3** shows a strong linear relationship between association signals for these
174 162 variants in the earlier² and current analysis, with overall greater significance levels in the
175 current meta-analysis. As expected, we observed an excess of small p-values for this set of
176 variants in the UK Biobank alone (**Supplementary Figure 3a**). Monte Carlo simulations show
177 that the expected number of replicated variants in the UK Biobank data is 56 (95%CI 42 – 69)
178 (**Supplementary Figure 3b**) and we found 58 variants after allowing for multiple testing (q-
179 values < 0.05). This further confirms the validity of extended lists of associated variants based
180 on FDR criteria. We therefore defined a new FDR list of association signals by performing an
181 approximate joint association analysis with the GCTA software⁷ as described elsewhere² using
182 the 11,427 SNPs with 5%FDR. We identified 304 independent variants at $P_{\text{joint}} < 10^{-4}$, clustering
183 in 243 putative CAD loci (**Supplementary Table 7**). The new 5%FDR set overlaps by 122 SNPs
184 with the old set (75.3%; including proxies at an $r^2 > 0.8$). We then assessed heritability using

185 the independent set of 304 SNPs and obtained a heritability estimate of 21.2%. The
186 contribution to this heritability estimate of the 13 new loci (**Table 1**) was 1.03% whereas the
187 new and known genome-wide significant CAD loci together explained 8.53% of CAD
188 heritability. To further assess the validity and utility of the 5%FDR set, we tested the ability to
189 predict CAD using genetic risk scores (GRS) based on either the 5%FDR SNPs (GRS1) or only
190 CAD variants reaching genome-wide significance (GRS2; **Online Methods**) in an independent
191 sample, EPIC-CVD⁸, comprising 7910 CHD cases and 12958 controls. In a model with age and
192 sex, GRS1 increased the C-index by 0.25% compared to GRS2 (**Supplementary Table 8**). GRS1
193 improved the point estimates of the HR compared to GRS2 mainly in the second (from 0.9116
194 to 0.8314) and fourth quintile (from 1.0437 to 1.176), **Supplementary Figure 4**.

195 We then explored the biology of the 13 new genome-wide significant CAD risk loci;
196 **Supplementary Figure 5** shows regional association plots. **Supplementary Figure 6** provides
197 *in silico* functional annotation (**Online Methods**) for each lead variant and its proxies (1000
198 Genomes). We found compelling evidence to implicate candidate genes *ITGB5*, *TGF1*, *PDE5A*,
199 *ARHGEF26*, *FN1*, *CDH13*, and *HNF1* (detailed in **Supplementary Note**). The risk allele of
200 rs150512726 (proxy for rs142695226; **Table 1**), causes a 3 amino acid deletion within the
201 cytoplasmic tail of integrin subunit beta 5 (ITGB5), part of a heterodimer which regulates the
202 activation of latent TGF1 (Transforming growth factor beta 1)⁹⁻¹⁰. The intronic variant
203 (rs8108632; **Table 1**) we identified in *TGF1*, further implicates the TGF1 pathway in CAD
204 risk. TGF1 is known to have important roles in endothelium and vascular smooth muscle¹¹
205 but has not been widely studied in atherosclerosis, though a recent study implicates TGF1
206 signalling downstream of CDKN2B in the *CDKN2BAS* cardiovascular risk locus¹². eQTL analyses
207 suggested candidate CAD risk genes (*TDRKH*, *FN1*, *ARHGEF26*, *PDE5A*, *ARNTL*, and *CDH13*) in
208 six new loci (**Supplementary Table 9**). For example, the lead variant rs7678555 (**Table 1**) was

209 found to be a strong eQTL ($p=8.1 \times 10^{-13}$) for *PDE5A* only in aorta from CAD patients
210 (STARNET¹³; **Supplementary Table 9**) although its regulatory potential was modest using
211 functional prediction tools (**Online methods**). *PDE5A* encodes a cGMP-specific
212 phosphodiesterase which is important for smooth muscle relaxation in the cardiovascular
213 system where it regulates nitric-oxide-generated cGMP¹⁴. Furthermore, mining eQTL data in
214 tissues from CAD patients (STARNET) showed several other instances of eSNPs (*TDRKH*, *FN1*,
215 *CDH13*; **Supplementary Table 9**) having no effect in tissues from non-CAD patients (GTEx¹⁵),
216 highlighting the need to expand efforts to map regulatory elements in disease tissues.
217 Other candidate genes fit with emerging data on atherosclerosis mechanisms. For example, a
218 knockout mouse for *ARHGEF26* on a hyperlipidemic background resulted in reduced
219 atherosclerosis and plaques with reduced macrophage content¹⁶. Similarly, *FN1* expression is
220 increased in plaques and mouse models have demonstrated a causal role for fibronectin-1 in
221 the development and progression of atherosclerosis¹⁷⁻¹⁸. Finally, we undertook a phenome
222 scan to assess pleiotropy (**Supplementary Table 10**). Several of the new lead SNPs (or a proxy)
223 had robust associations ($p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$) with traditional CAD risk factors such as LDL-cholesterol
224 (*HNF1A* and *FN1*), blood pressure (*PRDM8/FGF5*) and BMI (*SNRPD2*).

225

226 We next evaluated the broader functional relationships among genes associated with variants
227 ($N=11,427$) at 5%FDR. The 5%FDR set was annotated for eQTLs which, when present, were
228 mainly found in atherosclerotic aortic wall (25%) or internal mammary artery (22%) of CAD
229 patients (STARNET¹³; **Supplementary Table 9**). In GTEx¹⁵, eQTLs were mainly found in
230 subcutaneous fat (**Supplementary Table 9; Supplementary Figure 7**).

231 Prior pathway analyses of GWAS CAD loci have highlighted genes involved in lipid metabolism,
232 cellular movement, and processes such as tissue morphology and immune cell trafficking¹.

233 Analysis of 357 genes, selected as either eQTLs and/or the nearest gene to a 5%FDR
234 independent variant in this study (N=304), with the Ingenuity Knowledge base [confirmed the](#)
235 [above findings](#)¹ highlighting cardiovascular system development and function ($p = 1.31 \times 10^{-16}$),
236 organismal development ($p = 1.31 \times 10^{-16}$) and survival ($p = 1.52 \times 10^{-16}$) as the most
237 significant processes. In addition to canonical pathways related to lipid metabolism,
238 extracellular matrix, inflammation and nitric oxide production, the 357 gene set showed
239 enrichment for angiogenesis and signalling by the pro-angiogenic growth factor VEGF
240 (**Supplementary Figure 8**). We also applied DEPICT¹⁹ with the full distribution of 5%FDR
241 signals (**Online Methods**) to search for enriched gene sets. Blood vessel development, which
242 includes angiogenesis, was in the top 10 ($p < 6.67 \times 10^{-12}$) DEPICT Grouped-GeneSets
243 (GO:0001568; **Fig. 4, Supplementary Figure 9, Supplementary Table 11**).

244 Ingenuity built 5 networks out of the 357 genes with the largest three integrating 12 of the
245 new candidate CAD risk genes with 67 candidate genes in known CAD loci (**Supplementary**
246 **Table 12**). In total, the 5 networks comprise 66.4% of the 357 genes.

247 This is the largest CAD genetic study to assess simultaneously common and rare (MAF <
248 1%)/low-frequency (MAF 1-5%) variants. In total, 101 low-frequency and 3 rare variants
249 reached genome-wide significance among all 5%FDR markers (N=11,427). This apparent
250 paucity in rare variants which has also been reported for type 2 diabetes²⁰, is likely due to lack
251 of power compared to studies of quantitative traits e.g. a study of adult height in ~700,000
252 individuals has reported 32 rare variants⁵. As expected, lower-frequency variants tend to have
253 stronger effects compared to common variants (**Supplementary Figure 10**) with the exception
254 of rs2891168 in *CDK2NB-AS1* (MAF 48.7%; OR 1.19; **Supplementary Table 13**). The intergenic
255 variant rs186696265 which had the largest OR (1.62) in our study is known to affect LDL
256 cholesterol levels²¹.

257 Our findings highlight the importance of the FDR approach to define an extended list of
258 associated variants. As we have previously proposed¹⁻², suggestive association signals in well-
259 powered GWAS such as this one can substantially improve our knowledge of disease
260 architecture at only a modest penalty implied by the 5%FDR. [We have demonstrated the](#)
261 [potential value of the new 5%FDR list in improving prediction of CAD risk and implicating new](#)
262 [networks underlying CAD pathophysiology. This extended list of candidate genes provides a](#)
263 [powerful resource for functional studies.](#)

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265 **URLs**

266 www.ukbiobank.ac.uk/

267 [GWAS catalogue: https://www.ebi.ac.uk/gwas/](https://www.ebi.ac.uk/gwas/)

268 [GTEx portal: http://www.gtexportal.org/home/](http://www.gtexportal.org/home/)

269 [PhenoScanner: http://www.phenoscanter.medschl.cam.ac.uk/](http://www.phenoscanter.medschl.cam.ac.uk/)

270 [Ingenuity Knowledge Base: http://www.ingenuity.com/science/knowledge-](http://www.ingenuity.com/science/knowledge-)

271 [base?utm_source=Blog&utm_medium=link&utm_campaign=Doug%20Bassett%20ASHG%20](http://www.ingenuity.com/science/knowledge-base?utm_source=Blog&utm_medium=link&utm_campaign=Doug%20Bassett%20ASHG%20)

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331 **COMPETING FINANCIAL INTERESTS**

332 P.W.F. has been a paid consultant for Eli Lilly and Sanofi Aventis and has received research
333 support from several pharmaceutical companies as part of a European Union Innovative
334 Medicines Initiative (IMI) project. E.I. is an advisor and consultant for Precision Wellness, Inc.,
335 and advisor for Cellink for work unrelated to the present project. M.K.R. has acted as a
336 consultant for GSK, Roche, Ascensia, MSD, and also participated in advisory board meetings
337 on their behalf. MKR has received lecture fees from MSD and grant support from Novo
338 Nordisk, MSD and GSK. J.L.M.B. is the founder and chairman of Clinical Gene Networks. CGN
339 has financially contributed to the STARNET study. J.L.M.B., E.E.S., and A.R. are on the board
340 of directors for CGN. J.L.M.B. and A.R. own equity in CGN and receive financial compensation
341 from CGN.

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394 **Figure legends**

395 **Figure 1. (a)** Diagram depicting the CAD phenotype definition in UK Biobank. HARD CAD
396 defined as fatal or non-fatal myocardial infarction (MI), PTCA (percutaneous transluminal
397 coronary angioplasty), or coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG). SOFT CAD includes HARD
398 CAD as well as chronic ischaemic heart disease (IHD) and angina. UK Biobank self-reported
399 data: 'Vascular/heart problems diagnosed by doctor' or 'Non-cancer illnesses that self-
400 reported as angina or heart attack'. Self-reported surgery defined as either PTCA, CABG or
401 triple heart bypass. HESIN hospital episodes data and death registry data using diagnosis and
402 operation - primary and secondary cause: MI defined as hospital admission or cause of death
403 due to ICD9 410-412, ICD10 I21-I24, I25.2; PTCA is defined as hospital admission for PTCA
404 (OPCS-4 K49, K50.1, K75); CABG is defined as hospital admission for CABG (OPCS-4 K40 –
405 K46); Angina or chronic IHD defined as hospital admission or death due to ICD9 413, 414.0,
406 414.8, 414.9, ICD10 I20, I25.1, I25.5-I25.9. **(b)** Radar plot highlighting the proportions (%) of
407 signals between the HARD and SOFT CAD phenotype definitions based on the 5%FDR results
408 **(Supplementary Table 4)**; MAF = minor allele frequency, $p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$ marks variants reaching
409 genome-wide significance, OR = odds ratio (OR > 1.05 corresponds to 85% power to detect a
410 signal ($\alpha < 0.05$) in the SOFT analysis). The results for all six subgroups of variants assessed
411 did not differ statistically between the two phenotype definitions ($p > 0.1$)

412 **Figure 2.** Transposed Manhattan plot showing the SOFT meta-analysis results under an
413 additive model. The P -values are truncated at $-\log_{10}(P) = 20$. The red dotted lines are at
414 GWAS ($P = 5 \times 10^{-8}$) and 5% FDR significance ($P = 6.28 \times 10^{-5}$). The known CAD risk loci are shown
415 in black **(Supplementary Table 2)**; *KSR2* and *ZNF507-LOC400684* had reached genome-wide
416 significance under a recessive model². The exome chip markers are shown with an *. The 13

417 novel CAD loci which reached genome-wide significance in our study (including replication
418 data; **Table 1**), are written in brown font.

419 **Figure 3.** Single marker p-value comparison of the 5% FDR variants in the published
420 CARDIoGRAMplusC4D 1000Genomes CAD GWAS meta-analysis² and current FDR study. Of
421 the 162 variants which had $p < 5 \times 10^{-5}$ in the CAD 1000Genomes GWAS, 116 had a match or
422 good proxy ($r^2 > 0.8$) in the new FDR list (red circles). SNPs in green (n=7) were present in the
423 earlier FDR list and reached genome-wide significance in the current analysis.

424 **Figure 4.** Heat map showing the DEPICT gene set enrichment results with zoom-in on a subset
425 of the results. 556 gene sets are included which had evidence of enrichment at 1% FDR. The
426 x– axis shows the gene name, which is predicted to be included in the reconstituted gene set
427 indicated in the y – axis. The color red indicates higher Z-score, where Z-score is a value
428 representing each gene’s inclusion in DEPICT’s reconstituted gene sets. Clustering was made
429 based on complete linkage method. Highlighted pathways in the cluster, include
430 angiogenesis, blood vessel development and morphogenesis.

431

432 **Online Methods**

433 **Phenotype Definitions & Power calculation**

434 UKBB recruited 502,713 individuals aged 40-69 years from England, Scotland and Wales
435 between 2006 and 2010 (94% of self-reported European ancestry). HARD CAD was defined
436 as fatal or non-fatal myocardial infarction (MI), percutaneous transluminal coronary
437 angioplasty (PTCA), or coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG). SOFT CAD includes all HARD
438 CAD as well as chronic ischemic heart disease (IHD) and angina. Controls were defined as
439 patients which were not a SOFT case after exclusions (listed below). All conditions were
440 defined by either self-reported, hospital episode or death registry data.

441 Exclusions were made for aneurysm and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease using
442 hospital admissions, or cause of death, codes ICD9 414.1, ICD 10 I25.0, I25.3, I25.4, and not
443 having MI, PTCA, CABG, Angina or chronic IHD as defined above.

444 Susceptibility effect sizes in MI cases and an inclusive CAD definition were very similar in
445 the earlier GWAS². We hypothesized that the detailed clinical information in UKBB might
446 enhance the search for novel loci by further broadening the CAD phenotype to increase
447 sample size.

448

449 **GWAS and meta-analyses**

450 All participants gave written consent for participation in genetic studies, and the protocol
451 of each study was approved by the corresponding local research ethics committee or
452 institutional review board. Participating cohorts in the 1000 Genomes and Exome GWAS
453 studies are described elsewhere^{2,3}. UK Biobank (UKBB samples) were excluded due to
454 withdrawn consent, sex mismatches (n=182), Biobank/Believe QC exclusions (n=406) and
455 sample relatedness (n=3,481) determined as $\text{Kinship} > 0.088$. GWAS analysis in UKBB was
456 restricted to variants with results available in the published GWAS² or Exome³⁻⁴ dataset.
457 Further exclusions included poorly imputed ($\text{info} < 0.4$) or monomorphic variants, duplicate
458 variants across data sets, variants that deviated strongly from Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium
459 in European ancestry controls ($p < 1 \times 10^{-9}$), variants with an effect allele frequency in
460 European ancestry samples that differed strongly (i) from 1000G European panel, (ii) from
461 GWAS/Exome data, (iii) between arrays (UKBB vs UK-BiLEVE), and (iv) across genotyping
462 batches. Variants that did not produce a valid result or estimated extreme log odds ratios
463 ($|\beta| > 4$) were also excluded after analysis. Cluster plots lead variants and of proxies
464 were visually inspected.

465 We ran the GWAS under an additive frequentist mode of inheritance for each variant using
466 the dosages from the imputed data, adjusting for array (UK Biobank vs UK BiLEVE) and the
467 first five principal components using SNPTEST. Age and sex were not adjusted for to
468 maximize the power to detect associations with diseases that have a prevalence $< 10\%$ ²².
469 Population stratification was assessed and standard errors were adjusted using the
470 genomic inflation statistic (λ).

471 Association summary statistics (after λ correction) from the UKBB were combined with the
472 1000 Genomes (1000G) imputed GWAS results² and the Exome results³ via two separate
473 fixed-effect inverse-variance weighted meta-analysis implemented in GWAMA²³. We
474 applied post meta-analysis λ correction in each instance. We identified 36,460 variants
475 present in both the 1000G imputed GWAS and the Exome results. We retained the variants
476 from the 1000G imputed GWAS if the median info score was 1, otherwise we retained the
477 results from the Exome data.

478

479 **Comparison of SOFT vs HARD peak variant lists at 5% q-value**

480 The false discovery rate (FDR) following the meta-analysis with UKBB was assessed using a
481 step-up procedure in the *qqvalue* Stata program²⁴ as it is well controlled under positive
482 regression-dependency conditions. We used the Simes method to generate q-values for
483 the 8.9M variants. The p-value cut-off for a q-value of 5% for HARD was 7.24×10^{-5} and SOFT
484 was 6.28×10^{-5} . Peak SNPs were identified in a 1cM window. There is an exact overlap of
485 155 variants between the 2 peak variant lists, however, using the 1cM window the overlap
486 increases to 206 variants. Both the lists were annotated and classified into 6 categories
487 (exome chip, indels, Odds Ratio (OR) > 1.05 , $p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$, MAF $< 5\%$ and exonic). The proportions
488 were calculated in each of the 6 categories and plotted as a radar plot (**Fig. 1b**). Monte
489 Carlo simulations were used to assess the *post-hoc* power of the UKBB interim data to
490 replicate the 155 variants. The 1000G GWAS effect sizes (“betas”) are expected to be
491 subject to *winner’s curse* inflation so were shrunken (towards the null) by application of
492 the FIQT procedure²⁵. Effect sizes for firmly established CAD loci were systematically lower
493 for SOFT compared to the HARD phenotype (**Supplementary Table 1**) noting that HARD
494 closely corresponds to the CAD phenotype in reference 2. Betas were therefore further

495 shrunken by a factor $\log(1.059)/\log(1.072) = 0.82$ (**Supplementary Table 1**). 10,000
496 replicates were then randomly drawn from the vector of shrunken betas and the
497 corresponding UKBB standard errors, to allow for variation in genotype call rates,
498 imputation quality and allele frequency and to calculate Wald association statistics.
499 Multiple testing of 155 variants was allowed for by controlling the FDR to 5% with a step-
500 up procedure encoded in the *multproc*²⁶ Stata™ program. The average expected number
501 of replicated variants was 56 (95%CI 42 – 69). **Testing the 5% FDR variants (Supplementary**
502 **Table 7) in UKBB with a model adjusted for age and sex gave concordant results to the**
503 **unadjusted model (data not shown).**

504

505 **GCTA & Heritability analysis**

506 We used the GCTA software⁷ to perform joint association analysis in (SOFT) meta-analysis
507 results. This approach fits an approximate multiple regression model using summary-level
508 meta-analysis statistics and LD corrections estimated from a reference panel (here the
509 UKBB sample). We adopted a chromosome-wide stepwise selection procedure to select
510 variants and estimate their joint effects at i) a genome-wide significance level ($p_{\text{Joint}} \leq$
511 5×10^{-8}) in the totality of meta-analysed variants ($n \sim 9\text{M}$; **Supplementary Figure 10,**
512 **Supplementary Table 11**) and ii) a Bonferroni-corrected $p_{\text{Joint}} < 1 \times 10^{-4}$ corresponding to
513 the number of independent LD bins ($r^2 < 0.1$) in the 5% FDR variant list ($n=11,427$;
514 **Supplementary Table 6**).

515 Heritability calculations were based on a multifactorial liability-threshold model,
516 implemented in the INDI-V²⁷ calculator (<http://cnsgenomics.com/shiny/INDI-V/>), under
517 the assumption of a baseline population risk (K) of 0.0719²⁸ and a twins heritability (H_L^2) of
518 0.4. Multiple regression estimates from the GCTA joint association analysis were used to
519 estimate heritability for the 304 independent CAD risk variants within the 5% FDR list.

520

521 **Genetic risk score analysis**

522 GRS analysis was undertaken in the EPIC-CVD study⁸ which comprises 7910 CAD cases and
523 12958 controls (**Supplementary Note**). We considered either all known and new lead CAD
524 risk variants reaching genome-wide significance (GRS2; **Supplementary Table 2 and Table**
525 **1**) or the 304 variants in the 5% FDR set (GRS1; **Supplementary Table 7**). We used variants
526 with an INFO score filter of 0.4 in EPIC-CVD and replaced missing ones with proxies ($r^2 >$
527 0.8 in 1000 Genomes European participants). GRS1 comprised 280 variants and GRS2 71.
528 The raw GRS was obtained by summing the dosages of these variants for all individuals.
529 We then fitted a Prentice weighted cox regression model for each GRS, adjusting for age
530 and sex, to obtain survival forecasts and calculate the C indices. Statistical analyses were
531 performed using R 3.3.3 and STATA 13.1. Variant extraction was done using qctool 1.4.

532

533 **Functional annotation**

534 **eQTLs:** For associations between the 304 independent variants (5% FDR) and gene
535 expression traits we searched for expression quantitative trait loci (eQTLs) in the
536 Stockholm-Tartu Atherosclerosis Reverse Network Engineering Task (STARNET) RNA-seq
537 dataset¹³ and the Genotype-Tissue Expression¹⁵ (GTEx) portal. eQTLs were included if the
538 best eSNP (i.e. the variant with the most significant association with gene expression in cis)
539 was in high LD ($r^2 > 0.8$) with the CAD lead SNP.

540 **Regulatory elements:** We functionally annotated each of the 13 lead variants and their
541 proxies ($r^2 > 0.8$) using HaploregV4²⁹. Overlap with regulatory elements including
542 chromosome state segmentation, DNase hypersensitivity, and transcription factor binding
543 (TFB) as determined by the ENCODE³⁰ and Roadmap Epigenome projects³¹, and predicted
544 effects on TFB based on regulatory motifs from TRANSFAC³² and JASPAR³³ were identified
545 using HaploregV4¹⁹ and the UCSC genome browser. Variants were then scored using three
546 different bioinformatics tools that help prioritise causal disease variants. Combined
547 Annotation Dependent Depletion (CADD)³⁴ incorporates a range pathogenicity prediction
548 tools to provide a genome-wide score (C-score) for each test variant from its pre-calculated
549 database of ~8.6 billion genetic variants. High scores indicate variants that are not
550 stabilized by selection and are more likely to be disease-causing and low scores indicate
551 evolutionary stable non-damaging variants. The top 10% of likely functional variants will
552 have a C-score > 10 and top 1% of variants will have a C-score > 20 . Genome-wide
553 annotation of variants (GWAVA)³⁵ predicts the functional impact of noncoding variants
554 based on genomic and epigenomic annotations and provides scores between 0 and 1 with
555 higher scores indicating variants that are more likely to be functional. RegulomeDB³⁶
556 annotates and scores variants in seven categories based datasets such as ENCODE. Scores
557 of 1-2 variants likely to affect TFB, 3 less likely to affect binding, 4-6 relate to variants with
558 minimal binding evidence and 7 is for variants with no regulatory annotation.

559 **Phenome-scan:** look ups in other common traits were performed using the PhenoScanner
560 database as described in ref 37.

561

562 **Pathway analysis**

563 **DEPICT:** DEPICT¹⁹ is a computational tool which performs gene set enrichment analyses to
564 prioritize genes in associated GWAS loci with probabilistically predefined gene sets based
565 on Gene Ontology terms, canonical pathways, protein-protein interaction subnetworks
566 and rodent phenotypes; reconstituted gene sets are detailed in refs 19 and 38. Input to
567 our analysis were the 11,427 CAD variants (FDR 5%) of which 11,311 were annotated in
568 DEPICT. We constructed loci as previously described (beta version 1.1, release 194,
569 www.broadinstitute.org/mpg/depict). Analysis was performed with default parameters
570 (50 repetitions to compute FDRs, 500 permutations to adjust for biases, such as gene
571 length). The 11,311 variants were collapsed to 288 loci which were used in the gene set
572 enrichment analyses. Correlated gene sets were grouped together based on gene
573 membership to expedite data interpretation.

574 **Ingenuity:** Genes were selected using 304 independent SNPs (5% FDR) based on eQTLs
575 (**Supplementary Table 9**) and physical proximity (included overlapping genes on opposite
576 strands or at equal distance from the SNP). Spliced ESTs and putative transcripts were not
577 included. Network analysis was performed using the Ingenuity Pathway Analysis software
578 (www.ingenuity.com). We considered molecules and or relationships available in The IPA
579 Knowledge Base (IKB) for human OR mouse OR rat and set the confidence filter to
580 Experimentally Observed OR High (Predicted). Networks were generated with a maximum
581 size of 70 genes and up to 10 networks were allowed. Networks are ranked according to
582 their degree of relevance to the 'eligible' molecules in the query data set. The network
583 score is based on the hypergeometric distribution and is calculated with the right-tailed
584 Fisher's Exact Test. The significance p-value associated with enrichment of functional
585 processes is calculated using the right-tailed Fisher Exact Test by considering the number

586 of query molecules that participate in that function and the total number of molecules that
587 are known to be associated with that function in the IKB.

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589

590 **Data Availability:** Meta-analysis summary statistics for the variants considered in this
591 study for association with CAD (SOFT definition) are available at
592 <http://www.cardiogramplusc4d.org/data-downloads/>.

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597 **Method References**

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