

### Supplement 3. Screening pilot-test form

#### Level 1 screening

1. Does the study include patients with atherosclerotic cardiovascular diseases?

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ UNCLEAR \_\_\_

2. Were the patients treated with proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9 (PCSK9) inhibitors?

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ UNCLEAR \_\_\_

3. Is this a randomized controlled trial?

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ UNCLEAR \_\_\_

If you answer NO to any of these questions, the citation will be excluded. All other citations will be included in L2 screening.

#### Level 2 screening

1. Does the study include adults (>18 years old) with atherosclerotic cardiovascular diseases?

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ UNCLEAR \_\_\_

2. Is this a phase 2 or phase 3 double-blind randomized controlled trial?

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ UNCLEAR \_\_\_

3. Does the study report at least one of the inflammatory markers levels at begin and end of the trial, or a net change of the inflammatory markers levels? Inflammatory markers include circulating inflammatory markers such as hs-CRP, CRP, lipoprotein(a), white blood cell counts, IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-6, and TNF- $\alpha$ , and local

inflammatory markers like the most diseased segment target-to-background ratio of the index vessel.

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ UNCLEAR \_\_\_

4. Were the patients treated with PCSK9 inhibitors alone or in combination with another lipid-lowering drug?

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ UNCLEAR \_\_\_

5. Were the patients treated with PCSK9 inhibitors compared to others with no treatment or treated with placebo, or other conventional lipid-lowering agents?

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ UNCLEAR \_\_\_

If you answer NO to any of these questions, the citation/study will be excluded. All other full-text articles will be included.