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COVER ILLUSTRATION

Scavenger receptors play a major role in the initiation and progression of atherogenesis via uptake of modified lipoproteins. At sites of vascular damage, oxidative stress induces the conversion of native LDL to OxLDL. Binding of OxLDL to mainly CD36 results in activation of monocytes and platelets, triggering foam cell formation and platelet clumping which finally leads to atherosclerotic plaque formation at the subendothelial surface. For further information on the roles of scavenger receptors in physiological and pathological processes see the review article by Ashraf and Sahu on pp. 371–380 in this issue.

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