

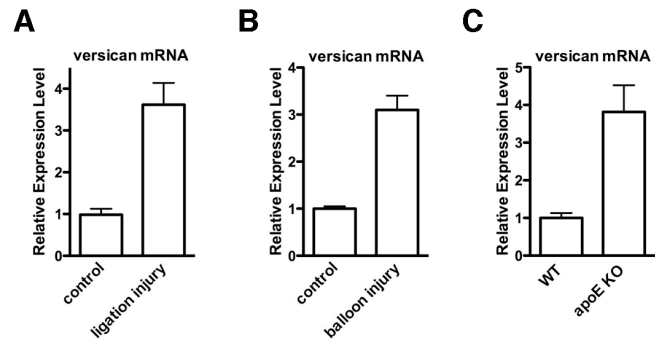
Supplemental Figure Legends

Supplemental figure 1. Versican expression in vascular injury and arteriosclerotic models. (A) Carotid artery ligation was performed in 4 week-old C57BL/6 mouse. 1-week post-operation injured and contralateral artery tissues were harvested for qRT-PCR to measure versican expression. Data presented are means±SEM from 5 mouse samples. The expression level of versican in uninjured vessels was set to 1. (B) Carotid artery balloon injury was performed in Sprague-Dawley rats. 14-day post-operation injured and control artery tissues were harvested for qRT-PCR to measure versican expression as described in 'A'. (C) Aortic artery tissues were harvested from 5-month old ApoE knock-out mice or control age-matched wild-type mice and versican expression was determined as described in panel 'A'. n=6

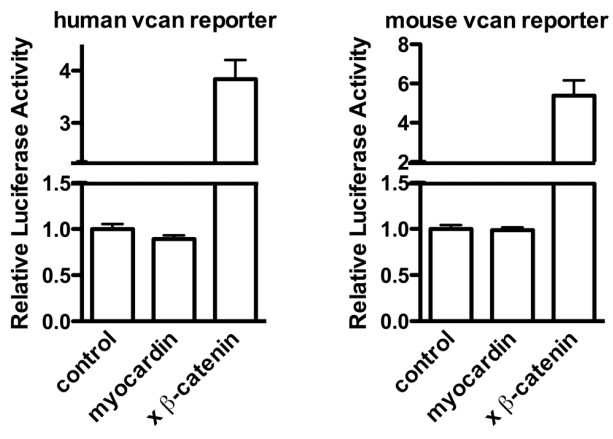
Supplemental figure 2. Effects of myocardin on human or mouse versican promoter activity. 10T1/2 cells were transfected with either empty control plasmid, myocardin expression plasmid or constitutively active (x) b-catenin plasmid together with human or mouse versican (vcan) promoter luciferase reporter gene and a minimal TK promoter-driven internal control Renilla plasmid. 24 hours following transfection dual luciferase assay was performed to assess the effects of myocardin and x b-catenin on human or mouse versican promoter activity. The relative promoter activity in control plasmid transfected samples was set to 1. N=6.

Supplemental figure 3. Effects of sequential knocking down versican and miR-143 on SMC differentiation, apoptosis and proliferation. (A, B) PAC1 SMCs were transfected with silencing RNA duplex against versican or/and miR-143 as indicated and harvested for Western blot to determine smooth muscle differentiation (A) or apoptosis (B). Cells treated with 400 nM H₂O₂ for 14 hours served as an apoptotic positive control as indicated by the increased cleavage band of PARP. (C) The rates of A7r5 SMC proliferation were measured by WST-1 cell proliferation kit at absorbance 450 nm following silencing versican or/and miR-143 as indicated.

Supplemental figure 1



Supplemental figure 2



Supplemental figure 3

