Supplementary Figure Legends

Figure S1. Effect of pH on the size of HDL₂. (A) SEC Profile of HDL₂ at different pH. HDL₂ (1 mg/ml) was incubated in either 20 mM MES (pH 5.5) or 20 mM Tris (pH 7.5) for 24 h after which HDL samples were centrifuged at 10 000 g for 10 min. Aliquots of the supernatants (50 μ l) were injected into the Superose HR6 column and eluted with PBS buffer (pH 7.4). Main fractions are labeled as Peaks I and II. nHDL₂ = non-incubated HDL₂. Each profile is representative of three to four independent experiments. (B) HDL₃ or (C) HDL₂ (1 mg/ml) was incubated at pH 5.5 for 24 h and aliquots of nHDL and acidic pH-treated HDL (10 μ g) were loaded on 0.6% agarose gel using the Paragon electrophoresis system and proteins were transferred from the agarose gel to the polyvinylidene difluoride (PVDF) membrane by pressure blotting. ApoA-I was identified using a monoclonal anti-human apoA-I antibody.

Figure S2. Effect of pH on structure of LDL. (A) SEC Profile of LDL at different pH. LDL (1 mg/ml) was incubated in either 20 mM MES (pH 5.5) or 20 mM Tris (pH 7.5) for 24 h after which LDL samples were centrifuged at 10 000 g for 10 min. Aliquots of supernatant (100 μ l) were injected into Superose HR6 column and eluted with PBS buffer (pH 7.4). (B) Far-UV CD analysis of LDL. LDL (1 mg/ml) was incubated in 20 mM MES (pH 5.5) or 20 mM Tris (pH 7.5) for 30 min, after which aliquots of samples were diluted to 50 μ g/ml for CD measurement as described in the Methods. nLDL= non-incubated LDL. Data are representative of at least two independent experiments.

Figure S3. Time-dependent effect of acidic pH on HDL₂. (A) SEC Profile of HDL₂ at different incubation times. HDL₂ (1 mg/ml) was incubated in 20 mM MES (pH 5.5) for the indicated times. Aliquots of the supernatants (50 µl) were analyzed by SEC. Each profile is representative of at least two independent experiments. (B) Time-dependent effect of acidic pH on preβ-HDL level. HDL₂ (1 mg/ml) was incubated for various times at pH 7.5 or pH 5.5 after which α-HDL and preβ-HDL contents were measured using 2-dimensional crossed immunoelectrophoresis. The amounts of preβ-HDL are expressed as a percentage of the sum of the preβ- and α-mobile areas.

Figure S4. Effect of acidic pH on HDL₃ size and preβ-HDL formation as a function of HDL₃ concentration. (A) SEC Profile of HDL₃ at different concentrations. HDL₃ at different concentrations (0.1-2 mg /ml) was incubated in 20 mM MES (pH 5.5) for 24 h after which the samples were analyzed by SEC. Aliquots of the supernatants (50 µl for HDL₃ at concentration 0.5-2 mg/ml and 100 µl for HDL₃ at concentration below 0.25 mg/ml) were injected into Superose HR6 column and eluted with PBS buffer (pH 7.4). Main fractions are labeled as Peaks I and II. Non-incubated HDL₃ (1 mg/ml) served as a control. Each profile is representative of at least two independent experiments. (B) Formation of acidic pH-induced preβ-HDL at low concentration. HDL₃ (0.1-0.25 mg /ml) was incubated in 20 mM MES (pH 5.5) for 24 h after which α-HDL and preβ-HDL contents were measured using 2-dimensional crossed immunoelectrophoresis. The amounts of preβ-HDL are expressed as a percentage of the sum of the preβ- and α-mobile areas.









