

Supplementary Figure 1. Acyltransferase reaction scheme for **(a)** LPLA2 and **(b)** LCAT. PC, phosphatidylcholine; lysoPC, lyso-phosphatidylcholine; NAS, *N*-acetylsphingosine; 1-*O*-acyl-NAS, 1-*O*-acyl-*N*-acetyl-sphingosine. Both enzymes preferentially transfer the *sn*-2 acyl chain, and prefer unsaturated fatty acids in this position.

Supplementary Figure 2. LPLA2 structure. **(a)** Cross-eyed stereo image of the LPLA2 $C\alpha$ trace. Domain coloring is as described in Figure 1, and the observed amino and carboxyl terminal residues are labeled N and C, respectively. **(b**) Stereo image of the active site region in the wild-type ligand-free LPLA2 structure with its corresponding 2Fo-Fc map contoured at 1.5 σ (grey wire cage). **(c)** Surface representation of LPLA2 molecule from the same point of view as in Figure 1 (left) and rotated 180° around vertical axis (right). Arrow indicates the entrance into the active site.

Supplementary Figure 3. Expression, deglycosylation, and covalent modification of LPLA2. **(a)** Coomassie stained gel of various glycosylated forms of LPLA2. The enzyme has four N-linked glycosylation sites that proved resistant to deglycosylation when expressed in HEK293T cells. Crystal structures were obtained for all but the peptide-*N*glycosidase F (PNGaseF) treated form. **(b)** LPLA2 expressed in HEK293S GnTi- cells after endoF1 treatment is just as if not more active than wild-type when evaluated using pNPB as a substrate, indicating that deglycosylation of all but the terminal sugar does not greatly affect the structure and function of the enzyme. **(c)** Acyltransferase activity of endoF1-treated LPLA2 is similar to that of wild type. Error bars in panels b and c represent the standard deviation of three independent experiments. **(d)** T_m of LPLA2 expressed in various cell lines before and after reaction with MAFP. **(e)** T_m of endoF1treated LPLA2 secreted from HEK293S GnTi⁻ cells after reaction with IDFP or MAFP. In panels d and e, the error bars represent the standard deviation of three independent experiments performed in triplicate. (* p<0.05; ns, not significant; Student's t-test)

Supplementary Figure 4. Chemical structures of fluoroposphonate inhibitors isopropyl dodec-11-enyl fluorophosphonate (IDFP) and methyl arachidonyl fluorophosphonate (MAFP).

Supplementary Figure 5. IDFP modeled to occupy track B of LPLA2 (*cf.* Fig. 3a). **(a)** IDFP in chains A, B and D of the LPLA2·IDFP structure occupies track B. Residues defining track B are shown as sticks with carbons colored according to their domain assignment as in Figure 1. **(b)** Regardless of the track, the phosphonate of the IDFP head group forms hydrogen bonds (dashed blue lines) with the backbone amides of Asp13 and Met166 comprising the oxyanion hole. Wire cages correspond to 2.5 σ |*F*o|- $|F_c|$ omit maps.

Supplementary Figure 6. The LPLA2-K202A mutation reduces, but does not eliminate LPLA2 catalytic activity. **(a)** Transacylase assay using 3:10:1 molar ratio of NAS-DOPCsulfatide liposomes. Reaction products relative to the negative control (S165A) are only observed at high enzyme concentrations. FA, fatty acid. **(b)** Esterase assay using (10:1) DOPC-sulfatide liposomes and 10 µg protein. Wild-type (WT) LPLA2 is more efficient at hydrolyzing both DOPC as well as the reaction product lysophosphatidic acid (LysoPC). K202A esterase activity is reduced judged by the amount of DOPC and LysoPC remaining after 30 min as well as by the amount of FA produced.

Supplementary Figure 7. Biochemical properties of LCAT variants. (a) LCAT_{FL} and $LCAT₂₁₋₃₉₇$ exhibit no significant difference in activity using pNPB as a substrate, indicating that the N and C terminal extensions do not contribute to catalytic activity using soluble substrates. (b) T_m values of LCAT variants before and after reaction with MAFP and IDFP. Because treatment with MAFP does not increase the T_m , its longer alkyl chain seems to prevent it from reaction, consistent with the preference of human LCAT for transfer of shorter acyl chains. The error bar represent the standard deviation of three independent experiments performed in triplicate. (ns, not significant; Student's t-test)

Supplementary Figure 8. Comparison of acyl group acceptors modeled in complex with LPLA2 and LCAT. **(a)** NAS modeled in complex with LPLA2. Arg214 in the lid loop constrains the entrance to the active site near the catalytic triad, which as a result may favor the binding of more slender acceptor substrates. The ceramide side chain (cyan carbons) cannot be long given packing constraints with Asp13. **(b)** Cholesterol modeled in complex with LCAT. The presence of Gly230 (Arg214 in LPLA2) opens up the entrance to track B such that it could more readily accommodate bulkier acyl acceptors. In each panel, side chains of residues in track B that are different between LPLA2 and LCAT are drawn as sticks.

Supplementary Figure 9. Positions mutated in FLD and FED patients mapped onto the structure of LCAT. **(a)** Structural mutations (spheres with grey carbons) most likely cause defects in LCAT folding, stability, and/or sorting. **(b)** Catalytic mutations (spheres with red carbons) most likely interfere with LCAT catalytic functions either by structural perturbation of catalytic residues or by inhibiting substrate binding. **(c)** Mutations that likely interfere either with membrane or HDL binding (spheres with cyan carbons). Cholesterol (stick model with green carbons) is modeled in the active site to indicate the expected acceptor binding site.

Supplementary Table 1. Data collection statistics for SeMet LPLA2

*Data for highest resolution shell is shown in parentheses.

Supplementary Table 2. Data collection and refinement statistics for glycosylated forms of LPLA2

Each structure was solved using data collected from a single crystal.

*Data for highest resolution shell is shown in parentheses.

Supplementary Table 3. Molecular basis for disease in FED and FLD mutations

Rows of the table are shaded according to the domain assignment of each position (see Figure 1): α/β hydrolase domain (yellow), membrane binding domain (light pink), or cap domain (light purple). CER, plasma cholesterol esterification rate (therefore represents both α and β LCAT activities); CH, compound heterozygous; DPL, assay on LDL/VLDL depleted plasma; HZ, homozygous, both mutation occur on a single allele; INT, intermediate phenotype; inv, expressed *in vitro*; LDL, assay on isolated ApoB-containing lipoproteins; na, not assayed; NC, no control for LCAT expression level; NCh, phenotype was not characterized; NP, undetectable or low protein level**;** PL, assay using patient's plasma; rH, assay on recombinant HDL proteoliposomes; wt, activity comparable to wild type LCAT; α LCAT activity, activity on HDL particles; β LCAT activity, activity on ApoB containing lipoproteins.

 $\blacklozenge, \blacklozenge$ and $\blacklozenge\blacklozenge$ correspond to mild, medium and severe reduction in LCAT activity, respectively. *Similar explanations for these variants were proposed using models of the catalytic core built by threading algorithms $40,41$.

Supplementary References

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