

- suppression of lipopolysaccharide-induced tumor necrosis factor alpha gene expression. *Infect Immunol* 57:2837-2841
35. Spengler RN, Spengler ML, Strieter RM, Remick DG, Larrick JW, Kunkel SL 1989 Modulation of tumor necrosis factor-alpha gene expression: desensitization of prostaglandin E₂-induced suppression. *J Immunol* 142:4346-4351
36. Harada K, Shimano H, Kawakami M, Ishibashi S, Gotoda T, Mori N, Takaku F, Yamada N 1990 Effect of tumor necrosis factor/cachectin on the activity of the low density lipoprotein receptor on human skin fibroblasts. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun* 172:1022-1027
37. Harris HW, Grunfeld C, Feingold KR, Rapp JR 1990 Human VLDL and chylomicrons can protect against endotoxin-induced death in mice. *J Clin Invest* 86:696-702
38. Ulevitch RJ, Johnston AR, Weinstein DB 1979 New function for high density lipoproteins. Their participation in intravascular reactions of bacterial lipopolysaccharides. *J Clin Invest* 64:1516-1524
39. Sernatinger J, Hoffman A, Hardman D, Kane JP, Levy JA 1988 Neutralization of mouse xenotropic virus by lipoproteins involves binding to the virus. *J Gen Virol* 69:2651-2661

Announcement

The Australian NHMRC Twin Registry: A Resource for Pediatric Research

The Australian NHMRC Twin Registry contains more than 4000 pairs of twins under 10 years old and 3000 more up to the age of 18 years. The parents of these twins have volunteered to consider requests from researchers for studies in *bona fide* projects approved by the Registry. This represents a major resource for studies in pediatric and adolescent epidemiology. There are numerous ways in which twins can be used to address scientific and medical questions. Some examples include examining genetic and environmental variation, co-twin control studies based on disease discordant or exposure discordant pairs, longitudinal studies, and studies of gene-environment interaction (Clifford and Hopper: The Australian NHMRC Twin Registry. A resource for the Australian scientific community. *Med J Aust* 60:149, 1986). Although there have been more than 70 projects conducted over the last 12 years on the 17000 adult pairs in the Registry, to date there have been few studies making use of the younger pairs. Baseline information has been computerized on about 50% of these pairs. Applications to use the Registry can be made from researchers throughout the world. There may be some charge, depending on costs and level of work required by local staff. All applications are reviewed by the Executive Committee of the Registry, and advice on study design and practicalities is available. *For more information, contact:* Dr. John L. Hopper, Director, Australian NHMRC Twin Registry, 151 Barry Street, Carlton, Victoria 3053, Australia.