CLAIMS

1. A use of a modulatory agent in the preparation of a medicament for preventing or treating a hepatocellular carcinoma negative for Hepatitis B virus/Hepatitis C virus infection (NBNC-HCC) in a subject, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the modulatory agent for inhibiting CD36 protein expression or function.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the modulatory agent is an agent to suppress *CD36* overexpression.

3. The use of claim 1, wherein the modulatory agent blocks lipid uptake in the hepatocellular carcinoma cells.

4. The use of claim 1, wherein the modulatory agent is an anti-CD36 antibody.