**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. Use of a therapeutically effective amount of an anti-IL-6 antibody in the manufacture of a medicament for treating cardiovascular disease in a subject, wherein the subject has at least one copy of the *TMPRSS6* rs855791 major allele.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the cardiovascular disease is atherosclerosis.

3. The use of claim 2, wherein the cardiovascular disease is inflammatory.

4. The use of claim 1, wherein the subject has chronic kidney disease.

5. The use of claim 4, wherein the subject has KDOQI stage 1 chronic kidney disease.

6. The use of claim 4, wherein the subject has KDOQI stage 2 chronic kidney disease.

7. The use of claim 4, wherein the subject has KDOQI stage 3 chronic kidney disease.

8. The use of claim 4, wherein the subject has KDOQI stage 4 chronic kidney disease.

9. The use of claim 4, wherein the subject has KDOQI stage 5 chronic kidney disease.

10. The use of claim 3, wherein the inflammation in the subject is characterized by elevated levels of serum IL-6 and/or CRP relative to a reference level.

11. The use of claim 3, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the anti-IL-6 antibody is an amount effective to neutralize inflammation.

12. The use of claim 3, wherein the subject has a pre-treatment CRP level greater than 2 mg/ml.

13. The use of claim 3, wherein the medicament is to be administered at a dose, on a schedule, and for a period sufficient to reduce the subject’s CRP levels below pre-treatment levels.

14. The use of claim 13, wherein the medicament is to be administered at a dose, on a schedule, and for a period sufficient to reduce the subject’s CRP levels by at least 50 percent as compared to pre-treatment levels.

15. The use of claim 1, wherein the anti-IL-6 antibody comprises all six variable region CDRs of MED5117.

16. The use of claim 15, wherein the anti-IL-6 antibody comprises the VH and VL of MED5117.

17. The use of claim 16, wherein the anti-IL-6 antibody is MED5117.

18. The use of claim 17, wherein the cardiovascular disease is atherosclerosis and inflammatory;

wherein the subject has chronic kidney disease selected from KDOQI stage 3 chronic kidney disease, KDOQI stage 4 chronic kidney disease and KDOQI stage 5 chronic kidney disease;

wherein the subject has a pre-treatment CRP level greater than 2 mg/L; and

wherein the medicament is to be administered at a dose, on a schedule, and for a period sufficient to reduce the subject's CRP levels by at least 50 percent as compared to pre-treatment levels.