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), wherein the modulatory agent controls a genetic alteration of CD36 gene and/or ABCG4 gene in a subject.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the genetic alteration comprises *CD36* amplification.

3. The use of claim 1, wherein the genetic alteration comprises *ABCG4* deletion.

4. The use of claim 1, wherein the genetic alteration comprises *CD36* amplification and *ABCG4* deletion.

5. 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 and/or promoting ABCG4 protein expression or function.

6. The use of claim 5, wherein the modulatory agent is an agent to suppress *CD36* overexpression.

7. The use of claim 5 or 6, wherein the modulatory agent blocks lipid uptake in the hepatocellular carcinoma cells.

8. The use of claim 7, wherein the modulatory agent is an anti-CD36 antibody.

9. The use of claim 5, wherein the modulatory agent is an agent to induce *ABCG4* expression.

10. The use of claim 5 or 9, wherein the modulatory agent promotes cholesterol transport within the hepatocellular carcinoma cells.

11. The use of claim 10, wherein the modulatory agent is an ABCG4 protein.