



**Supplementary Figure 1.** Overall experimental scheme of this study was illustrated from mRNA or protein screening to serum level measuring. Especially, increased expression of RNAs or proteins were presented in red color and decreased expression in blue. ATP-binding cassette subfamily A member 1 (ABCA1) showed higher expression in rupture carotid plaque tissue compared to non-rupture carotid plaque tissue and this result was consistent with the detected ABCA1 level in serum. qPCR, quantitative polymerase chain reaction; APOA1, apolipoprotein A1; CD44, cluster of differentiation 44; KLF2, Krüppel-like factor 2; PLIN2, perilipin 2; ACTB,  $\beta$ -actin; ENO1, enolase 1; IHC, immunohistochemistry; ELISA, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.