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Where diet and combined drug therapy have failed to prevent coronary heart disease in patients with severe hypercholesterolaemia (familial hypercholesterolaemia, familial defective apolipoprotein B-100), LDL apheresis has become the treatment of choice. Experience with LDL apheresis in this group of patients now spans more than 8 years. This volume summarizes data accumulated on LDL apheresis in relation to practical aspects, safety, side effects and effects on the course of coronary heart disease. Four different procedures are evaluated: immunoadsorption; dextran sulfate adsorption; heparin precipitation; and cascade filtration. In addition, an update on drug treatment is provided

and aspects of the epidemiology, genetics and metabolism of tri-glyceride-rich lipoproteins are discussed.