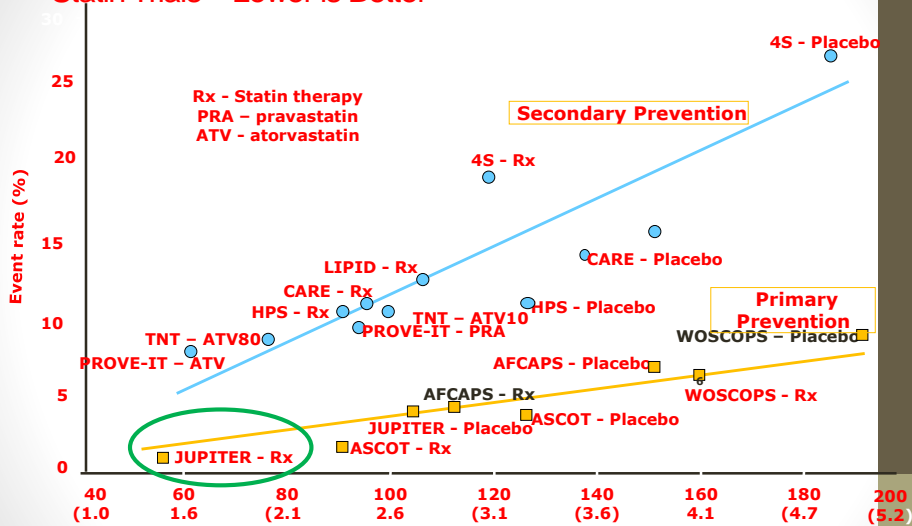


# Statin claims

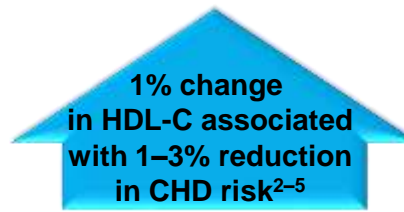
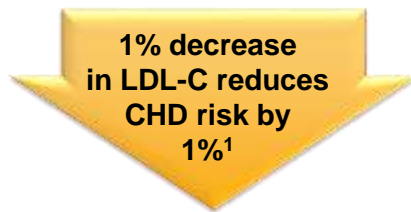
MAHMOUD SOLIMAN, MD  
2018

On-Treatment LDL-C is Closely Related to CHD Events in Statin Trials – Lower is Better



Adapted from  
LaRosa JC et al.

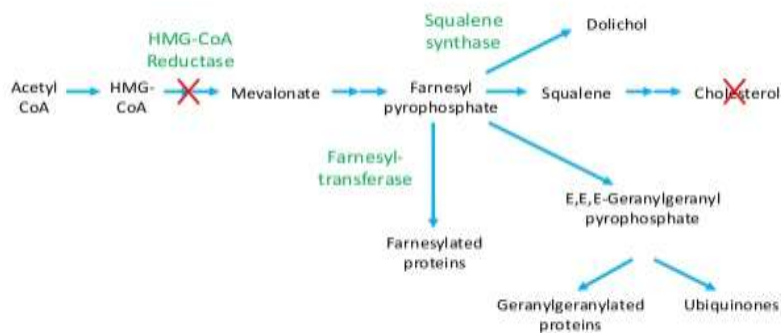
## Relationship Between Changes in LDL-C and HDL-C Levels and CHD Risk

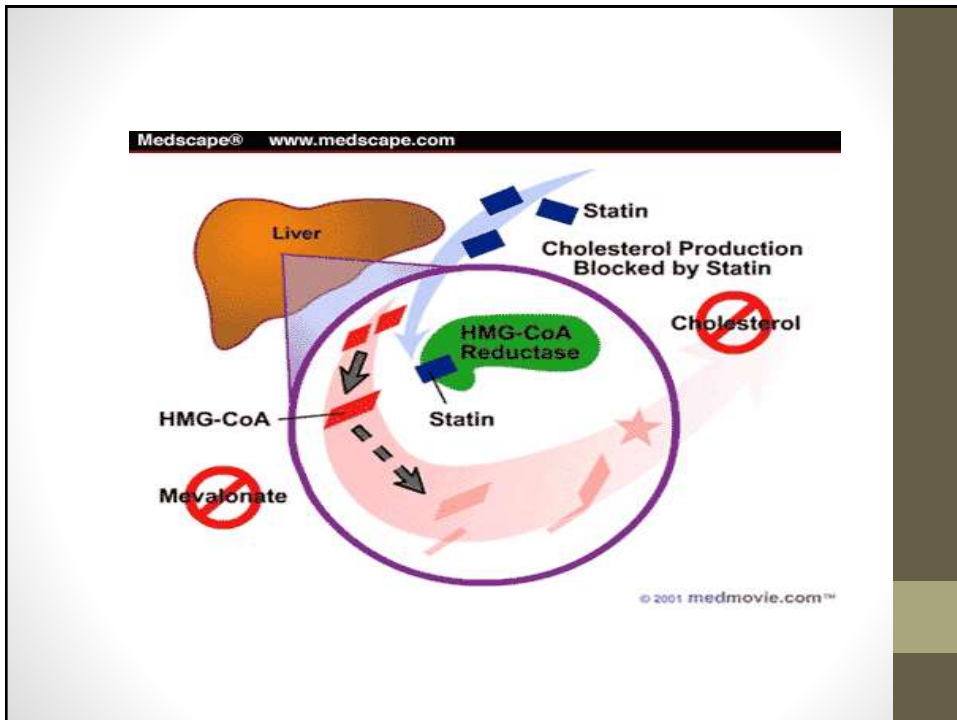


1. Grundy SM et al. *Circulation*. 2004; 110: 227–39
2. Gordon DJ et al. *Circulation* 1989; 79: 8–15
3. Boden W. *American Journal of Cardiology* 2000; 86 (Suppl): 19L–2L
4. Manninen V et al. *JAMA* 1988; 260: 641–651
5. Rubins HB et al. *N Engl J Med* 1999; 341: 410–418

## Mechanism of Action

### Inhibition of the Cholesterol Biosynthetic Pathway





37

## Pharmacological treatment of hypercholesterolaemia

Recommendations	Class	Level
Prescribe statin up to the highest recommended dose or highest tolerable dose to reach the goal.	I	A
In the case of statin intolerance, ezetimibe or bile acid sequestrants, or these combined, should be considered.	IIa	C
If the goal is not reached, statin combination with a cholesterol absorption inhibitor should be considered.	IIa	B
If the goal is not reached, statin combination with a bile acid sequestrant may be considered.	IIb	C
In patients at very high-risk, with persistent high LDL-C despite treatment with maximal tolerated statin dose, in combination with ezetimibe or in patients with statin intolerance, a PCSK9 inhibitor may be considered.	IIb	C

www.escardio.org/guidelines

European Heart Journal 2016 - doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehv272

EAS

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY

# ESC/EAS GUIDELINES 2016

## Treatment goals for low-density lipoprotein-cholesterol

Recommendations	Class	Level
In patients at VERY HIGH CV risk, an LDL-C goal of <1.8 mmol/L (70 mg/dL) or a reduction of at least 50% if the baseline LDL-C is between 1.8 and 3.5 mmol/L (70 and 135 mg/dL) is recommended.	I	B
In patients at HIGH CV risk, an LDL-C goal of <2.6 mmol/L (100 mg/dL), or a reduction of at least 50% if the baseline LDL-C is between 2.6 and 5.2 mmol/L (100 and 200 mg/dL) is recommended.	I	B
In subjects at LOW or MODERATE risk an LDL-C goal of <3.0 mmol/L (<115 mg/dL) should be considered.	IIa	C

[www.escardio.org/guidelines](http://www.escardio.org/guidelines)

European Heart Journal 2016 - doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehv272



## AACE 2017 Guidelines

Table 6  
Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease Risk Categories and LDL-C Treatment Goals

Risk category	Risk factors <sup>a</sup> /10-year risk <sup>b</sup>	Treatment goals		
		LDL-C (mg/dL)	Non-HDL-C (mg/dL)	Apo B (mg/dL)
Extreme risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progressive ASCVD including unstable angina in patients after achieving an LDL-C &lt;70 mg/dL</li> <li>- Established clinical cardiovascular disease in patients with DM, CKD 3/4, or HeFH</li> <li>- History of premature ASCVD (&lt;55 male, &lt;65 female)</li> </ul>	<55	<80	<70
Very high risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Established or recent hospitalization for ACS, coronary, carotid or peripheral vascular disease, 10-year risk &gt;20%</li> <li>- Diabetes or CKD 3/4 with 1 or more risk factor(s)</li> <li>- HeFH</li> </ul>	<70	<100	<80
High risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ≥2 risk factors and 10-year risk 10-20%</li> <li>- Diabetes or CKD 3/4 with no other risk factors</li> </ul>	<100	<130	<90
Moderate risk	≤2 risk factors and 10-year risk <10%	<100	<130	<90
Low risk	0 risk factors	<130	<160	NR

## Statin mania



## What about the other side



## The moon has another face



## Muscle symptoms

### **Muscle pain and damage** •

Many people who start taking statins report muscle pain and many discontinue statins because of it. •  
Many of these people do well when they are switched to a different variety of statin.

**Rhabdomyolysis** : can cause severe muscle pain, •  
liver damage, kidney failure and death. The risk effects is extremely low, and calculated in a few cases per million of patients taking statins.

## Liver affection

Occasionally, statin use could cause an increase in the level of enzymes that signal liver inflammation.

It may be suspected when there is unusual fatigue or weakness, loss of appetite, pain in your upper abdomen, dark-colored urine, or jaundice

### Monitoring lipids and enzymes in patients on lipid-lowering therapy (2)

#### Monitoring liver and muscle enzymes (Cont'd)

##### What if liver enzymes become elevated in a person taking lipid-lowering drugs?

If ALT <3x ULN:

- Continue therapy.
- Recheck liver enzymes in 4–6 weeks.

If value rises to  $\geq 3$ x ULN

- Stop lipid-lowering therapy or reduce dose and recheck liver enzymes within 4–6 weeks.
- Cautious reintroduction of therapy may be considered after ALT has returned to normal.
- If ALT remains elevated check for the other reasons.

##### How often should CK be measured in patients taking lipid-lowering drugs?

*Pre-treatment*

- Before starting therapy.
- If baseline CK is 4x ULN, do not start drug therapy; recheck.

*Monitoring*

- Routine monitoring of CK is not necessary.
- Check CK if patient develops myalgia.

Be alert regarding myopathy and CK elevation in patients at risk such as: elderly patients, concomitant interfering therapy, multiple medications, liver or renal disease or sport athletes.

### Monitoring liver and muscle enzymes (Cont'd)

#### What if CK becomes elevated in a person taking lipid-lowering drugs?

Re-evaluate indication for statin treatment.

If  $\geq 4$  x ULN:

- If CK  $>10$ x ULN: stop treatment, check renal function and monitor CK every 2 weeks.
- If CK  $<10$ x ULN: if no symptoms, continue lipid lowering therapy while monitoring CK.
- If CK  $<10$ x ULN: if symptoms present, stop statin and monitor normalization of CK, before re-challenge with a lower statin dose.
- Consider the possibility of transient CK elevation for other reasons such as exertion.
- Consider myopathy if CK remains elevated.
- Consider combination therapy or an alternative drug.

If  $<4$  x ULN:

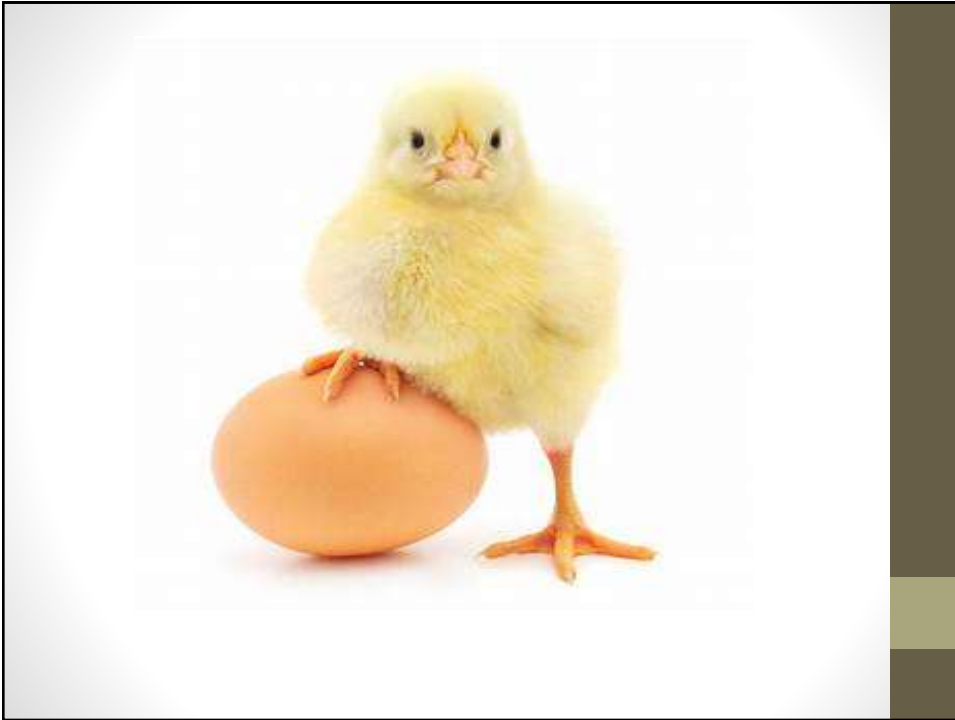
- If no muscle symptoms, continue statin (patient should be alerted to report symptoms; check CK).
- If muscle symptoms, monitor symptoms and CK regularly.
- If symptoms persist, stop statin and re-evaluate symptoms after 6 weeks; re-evaluate indication for statin treatment.
- Consider re-challenge with the same or another statin.
- Consider low-dose statin, alternate day or once/twice weekly dosing regimen or combination therapy.

## STATIN & DIABETES

Association????????????? •

Causality ?????????????????? •





## Evidence from clinical trials

**.In 2008, (JUPITER) trial :** •

**showed 26% higher incidence of diabetes •  
in the rosuvastatin group.**

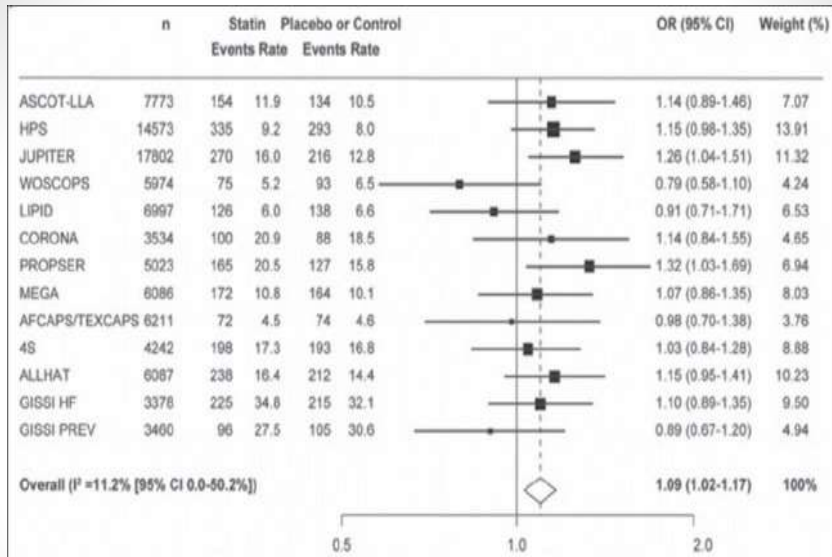
In, 2012, the FDA added new safety label •  
changes for the statin class of  
cholesterol-lowering drugs regarding  
the potential for **increased (HbA1c)**  
**and fasting plasma glucose.**

## Use of statins increases risk of developing diabetes

Date: March 4, 2015 •

Source: **Diabetologia** •

Summary: Statin therapy was •  
associated with a 46% increased risk  
of type 2 diabetes after adjustment for  
confounding factors, suggesting a  
higher risk of diabetes in the general  
population than previously reported.



Lancet, Vol. 375, Sattar *et al.* Statins and risk of incident

## Statins and New-Onset Diabetes Mellitus:

### LDL Receptor May Provide a Key Link

2017 •

Qi Yu<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>, Ying Chen<sup>1,4</sup> and Cang-Bao Xu<sup>1,2</sup> •

## AACE 2017

- **R57.** For clinical decision-making, mild elevations in blood glucose levels and/or an increased risk of new-onset T2DM associated with intensive statin therapy do not outweigh the benefits of statin therapy for ASCVD risk reduction (Grade A, BEL 1).

## Statin & grapefruit



## Mechanism of interaction

Grapefruit contains a compound • called **bergamottin** that interacts cytochrome P-450 and P-glycoprotein.

These enzyme system responsible • for statin breakdown leading its accumulation

Not all statins are incompatible with • grapefruit, but the ones that are, include:

**atorvastatin** •

**Lovastatin** •

**Simvastatin** •

Other statins do not interact with grapefruit • including:

**rosuvastatin** •

**pravastatin** •

**fluvastatin** •

**pitavastatin** •

## Statin and Alzheimer

Zissimopoulos et al tracked almost 400,000 •  
statin users, all aged 65 or older, who took  
the medications between 2006 and 2013.

The researchers linked high use of statins to •  
a 15 percent lower risk of Alzheimer's in  
women and a 12 percent lower risk in men  
compared to those who had low use.

## Statin and cancer

Many researchers believe statin •  
therapy **may raise the risk** of  
developing cancer or worsen existing  
cancer. Other studies, though, suggest  
that the cholesterol-lowering drugs **may  
actually offer some cancer protection.**

## Statin and Coenzyme Q10

coenzyme Q10 deficiency may be one mechanism for statin-induced myopathies. However, coenzyme Q10 supplements have not been shown to routinely improve muscle function. Additional research in this area is warranted

Statins are smart drugs

???

## Who's at risk of developing statin side effects?

- Taking multiple medications to lower your cholesterol
- Female sex
- Low body weight
- Age 65 or older
- Drinking too much alcohol
- kidney or liver disease

## Drugs and food that interact with statins

- Grapefruit
- Some drugs :
  - Amiodarone,
  - Gemfibrozil
  - Protease inhibitors, such as saquinavir and ritonavir
  - Some antibiotic and antifungal medications, such as clarithromycin and itraconazole)
  - Some immunosuppressant medications, such as cyclosporine



## conclusion

**Statins** trials enriched the science of lipidology by a •  
wealth  
Of data through the last decades •

**However** ,we must care about •

**LIVER •**  
**MUSCLE SYMPTOMS •**  
**DIABETES •**  
**DRUG INTERACTIONS •**  
**PREDISPOSED PATIENTS •**

# THANK YOU