

# What's New in Lipids

## Medical Management

### Nothing Comes Easy

Dave Kovacich MD FACC  
Indiana Heart Physicians

# What's New in Lipids

- Challenges Impacting our Ability to Provide Optimal Care In the Lipid Arena.....
  - 1) Statin Intolerance
  - 2) Omega 3 Debacle
  - 3) Cost
  - 4) Payors
  - 5) Staffing
  - 6) Us



# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance

### Compactin (ML-236B)

Discovered in 1973 (Microbe/broth screening)

Competitive inhibitor of HMG-CoA reductase

Associated with hepatic crystals in mice

Did not drop LDL levels in mice

Associated with Lymphoma in dogs

Temporarily halted development of lovastatin

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance

SAMS=Statin Associated Muscle Symptoms

SAMS=Myalgia, fatigue, cramping (not arthralgia)

NOT a major concern with early landmark trials

Cancer and cataracts were closely monitored

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Clinical Trials

SAMS=Very common in both arms of trials

SAMS=As common as you want to look!

In randomized, double blinded statin trials, the incidence of SAMS is 1.5-5%

HPS=SAMS simva group was 32.9%, 33.1% in placebo arm

How did we get from then to now?

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance

### Major Factors Contributing to Statin Intolerance

- 1) Social Media/Internet
- 2) The Lancet
- 3) Providers

# What's New in Lipids

C	1998 Google							
I								
V		2004 Facebook						
I								
L			2006 Twitter					
I					2010 Instagram			
T							2011 SnapChat	
Y								2016 TikTok
			T	I	M	E		



# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance

### Wakefield/Lancet Timeline

- 1) 1998; Case Study Published in Lancet (n=12), Connects MMR to Developmental Disorders
- 2) 1998-present; Epidemiologic Studies Conducted Refuting MMR Link to Autism
- 3) 2004; 10/12 Authors Retract Interpretation, Lancet Exonerates all from Charges of Ethical Violations and Scientific Misconduct Despite Proof of Funding by Lawyers Involved in Lawsuits Against Vaccine Producing Companies

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance

### “Research Integrity for our Time”



# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance

### Wakefield/Lancet Timeline

- 4) 2010; Lancet Fully Retracts Paper, Citing Ethical and Scientific Concerns
- 5) 2010; BMJ Exposes Driving Force Behind Fraud-Financial Gain
- 6) 2008-present; Persistent Measles Outbreaks and Worldwide Vaccine Hesitancy, Growing Distrust in the Medical Field

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Providers

We as Providers Can do a Better Job Framing the Statin Conversation.....

- Address SAMS head on
- Explain CV Event Reduction Associated with Statin Use
- Confirm Communication Channels

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance

Journal of Clinical Lipidology (2022) 16, 361–375

Journal of  
Clinical  
Lipidology

### NLA scientific statement on statin intolerance: a new definition and key considerations for ASCVD risk reduction in the statin intolerant patient

 Check for updates

Mary Katherine Cheeley, PharmD, CLS, FNLA, Joseph J. Saseen, PharmD, FNLA, CLS, Anandita Agarwala, MD, Sudha Ravilla, MD, FNLA, Nicole Ciffone, MSN, ANP-C, CLS, FNLA, Terry A. Jacobson, MD, FNLA, Dave L. Dixon, PharmD, FNLA, CLS, Kevin C. Maki, PhD, CLS, FNLA\*

*Grady Health System, Atlanta, GA, United States (Dr Cheeley); Departments of Clinical Pharmacy and Family Medicine, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO, United States (Dr Saseen); Center for Cardiovascular Disease Prevention, Cardiovascular Division, Baylor Scott and White Health Heart Hospital Baylor Plano, Plano, TX, United States (Dr Agarwala); Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare Lipid Center, Tallahassee, FL, United States (Dr Ravilla); Arizona Center for Advanced Lipidology, Tucson, AZ, United States (Dr Ciffone); Department of Medicine, Lipid Clinic and CVD Risk Reduction Program, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA, United States (Dr Jacobson); Department of Pharmacotherapy & Outcomes Science, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy, Richmond, VA, United States (Dr Dixon); Department of Applied Health Science, School of Public Health, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN and Midwest Biomedical Research, 211 E. Lake St., Ste 3, Addison, IL 60101, United States (Dr Maki)*

#### KEYWORDS

Statin intolerance;  
Statin;  
Adherence;  
Persistence;  
Nocebo;  
Non-statin;  
Non-statin therapy;  
Atherogenic lipoproteins

**Abstract:** Although statins are generally well tolerated, statin intolerance is reported in 5–30% of patients and contributes to reduced statin adherence and persistence, as well as higher risk for adverse cardiovascular outcomes. This Scientific Statement from the National Lipid Association was developed to provide an updated definition of statin intolerance and to inform clinicians and researchers about its identification and management. Statin intolerance is defined as one or more adverse effects associated with statin therapy which resolves or improves with dose reduction or discontinuation and can be classified as a complete inability to tolerate any dose of a statin or partial intolerance with inability to tolerate the dose necessary to achieve the patient-specific therapeutic objective. To classify a patient as having statin intolerance, a minimum of two statins should have been attempted, including at least one at the lowest approved daily dosage. This Statement acknowledges the importance of identifying modifiable risk factors for statin intolerance and recognizes the possibility of a “nocebo” effect (patient expectation of harm resulting in perceived side effects). To identify a tolerable statin regimen it is recommended that clinicians consider using several different strategies (e.g., different statin, dose, and/or dosing frequency).

\* Corresponding author.  
E-mail address: kmaki@mbclinicalresearch.com (K.C. Maki).  
Submitted May 25, 2022. Accepted for publication May 26, 2022.

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance

NLA Scientific Statement on Statin Intolerance  
Purpose...

“To Provide an Updated Statin Intolerance Definition, with Accompanying Rationale to Inform Clinicians and Researchers in Identification, Management, and Investigation of the Syndrome of Statin Intolerance”

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance

NLA Scientific Statement on Statin Intolerance  
Purpose...From a Clinician's Perspective

- 1) Confront the 5-30% Rate of Statin Intolerance
- 2) Navigate the Nocebo Effect
- 3) Improve Our Ability to Reach Target, and Thus Reduce CV Events

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance Definition

“ One or More Adverse Effects Associated with Statin Therapy, which Resolves or Improves with Dose Reduction or Discontinuation, and can be Classified as Complete Inability to Tolerate any Dose of a Statin or Partial Intolerance, with Inability to Tolerate the Dose Necessary to Achieve the Patient Specific Therapeutic Objective.

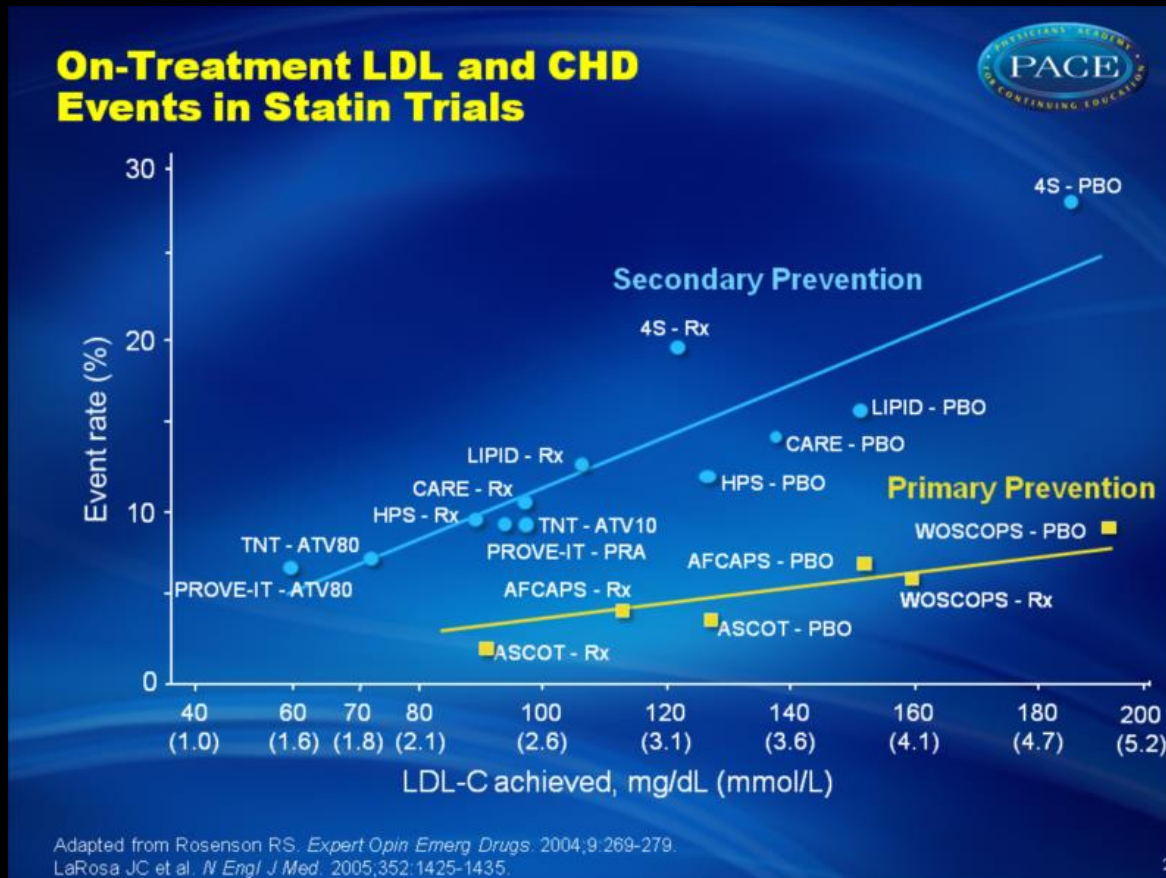


# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance Definition- Continued

“To Classify a Patient as Statin Intolerant, a Minimum of Two Statins Should have Been Attempted, Including at Least One at the Lowest Approved Daily Dose”

# “Patient Specific Therapeutic Objective”



# 2013 ACC/AHA Guidelines

The screenshot shows a web page from Mayo Clinic's Research Profiles. At the top left is the Mayo Clinic logo. The page title is "Research Profiles". A navigation bar includes "Home", "Profiles", "Departments/Divisions", "Grants", "Research output" (which is underlined), and "Prizes". A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar. The main content area features the title of the research output: "A summary and critical assessment of the 2013 ACC/AHA guideline on the treatment of blood cholesterol to reduce atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease risk in adults: filling the gaps". Below the title, the author is listed as "Francisco Lopez-Jimenez" and the department as "Cardiovascular Medicine". A breadcrumb trail reads "Research output: Contribution to journal > Article > peer-review". On the right side of the main content area, there is a circular badge showing "33 Scopus citations" and another circular badge showing "18".

MAYO CLINIC

Research Profiles

Home Profiles Departments/Divisions Grants **Research output** Prizes

Search

**A summary and critical assessment of the 2013 ACC/AHA guideline on the treatment of blood cholesterol to reduce atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease risk in adults: filling the gaps**

Francisco Lopez-Jimenez

Cardiovascular Medicine

Research output: Contribution to journal > Article > peer-review

33  
Scopus citations

18

# 2013 ACC/AHA Guidelines

## COMMENTARY

### CHAD RAYMOND, DO

Section of Preventive Cardiology, Heart and Vascular Institute, Cleveland Clinic

### LESLIE CHO, MD

Co-Section Head, Medical Director, Section of Preventive Cardiology, Heart and Vascular Institute, Cleveland Clinic

### MICHAEL ROCCO, MD\*

Section of Preventive Cardiology, Heart and Vascular Institute, Cleveland Clinic; Assistant Professor of Medicine, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

### STANLEY L. HAZEN, MD, PhD\*

Co-Section Head, Section of Preventive Cardiology, Heart and Vascular Institute, Cleveland Clinic; Professor of Molecular Medicine, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

## New cholesterol guidelines: Worth the wait?

ON NOVEMBER 12, 2013, a joint task force for the American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association released new guidelines for treating high blood cholesterol to reduce the risk of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) in adults.<sup>1</sup>

This document arrives after several years of intense deliberation, 12 years after the third Adult Treatment Panel (ATP III) guidelines,<sup>2</sup> and 8 years after an ATP III update recommending that low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) levels be lowered aggressively (to less than 70 mg/dL) as an option in patients at high risk.<sup>3</sup> It represents a major shift in the approach to and management of high blood cholesterol and has sparked considerable controversy.

In the following commentary, we summarize the new guidelines and the philosophy employed by the task force in generating them. We will also examine some advantages and what we believe to be several shortcomings of the new guidelines. These latter points are illustrated through case examples.

### ■ IN RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIALS WE TRUST

In collaboration with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National In-

stitutes of Health, the American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association formed an expert panel task force in 2008.

The task force elected to use only evidence from randomized controlled trials, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses of randomized controlled trials (and only predefined outcomes of the trials, not post hoc analyses) in formulating its recommendations, with the goal of providing the strongest possible evidence.

The authors state that "By using [randomized controlled trial] data to identify those *most likely to benefit* [emphasis in original] from cholesterol-lowering statin therapy, the recommendations will be of value to primary care clinicians as well as specialists concerned with ASCVD prevention. Importantly, the recommendations were designed to be easy to use in the clinical setting, facilitating the implementation of a strategy of risk assessment and treatment focused on the prevention of ASCVD."<sup>4</sup> They also state the guidelines are meant to "inform clinical judgment, not replace it" and that clinician judgment in addition to discussion with patients remains vital.

During the deliberations, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute removed itself from participating, stating its mission no longer included drafting new guidelines. Additionally, other initial members of the task force removed themselves because of disagreement

The document is a major shift in treating cholesterol and has sparked considerable controversy

### Drugs mentioned in this article

atorvastatin (Lipitor)	niacin (Niaspan)
ezetimibe (Zetia)	pitavastatin (Livalo)
fluvastatin (Lescol)	rosuvastatin (Crestor)
lovastatin (Mevacor)	simvastatin (Zocor)

\*M.R. is a speaker for Abbott and Amgen.

\*S.L.H. is named as co-inventor on pending and issued patents held by Cleveland Clinic relating to cardiovascular diagnostics and therapeutics. S.L.H. reports he has been paid as a consultant by the following companies: Cleveland Heart Lab, Esperion, Liposcience, Merck & Co., Fibre, and Procter & Gamble. S.L.H. reports he has received research funds from Abbott, Astra Zemea, Cleveland Heart Lab, Esperion, Liposcience, Procter & Gamble, and Takeda. S.L.H. has the right to receive royalty payments for inventions or discoveries related to cardiovascular diagnostics and therapeutics from Abbott Laboratories, Cleveland Heart Lab, Esperion, Frantz Biomarkers, and Liposcience.

doi:10.3949/cjcm.81a.13161

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Nocebo Effect

Nocebo Effect- Situation Where a Negative Outcome Occurs due to a Belief that the Intervention Will Cause Harm.

- Samson Trial
- StatinWISE Trial

Up to 90% of Statin Intolerance is Due to Nocebo Effect

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance- NLA Key Points

- Statin intolerance is a continuum
- Look for Risk Factors: ETOH, Drug Interactions, Hypothyroidism, Low Vit D
- Do Not Delay Non Statin Therapy in High Risk Pts
- Nocebo Effect Does Not Make Symptoms Clinically Less Relevant or Reduce Need for Therapy

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Lifestyle Modification

- Healthy Diet
- Weight Loss if Applicable
- Smoking Cessation if Applicable
- Regular Activity
  - Minimum 150 Minutes Moderate Intensity, or
  - Minimum 75 Minutes High Intensity, Plus
  - 2 Sessions of Resistance Training

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Medications

### Ezetimibe

#### Cholesterol Absorption Inhibitor

- 15-20% LDL Reduction Monotherapy, 20-25% with Statin
- Modest Event Reduction on Top of Statin in Improve-It Trial
- More Pronounced Event Reduction in Monotherapy in EWTOPIA Trial
- Enhance Trial-Doomed by Poor Design in More Ways Than One



# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Medications

PCSK9 Inhibitors

Alirocumab-Praluent

Evolocumab-Repatha

- Both Lower LDL by at Least 50-60%
- Both Have CV Outcomes Data Combined with Statin Therapy

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Medications

PCSK9 Inhibitors/SiRNA

Inclisiran-Leqvio

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Medications

ATP Citrate Lyase Inhibitor

Bempedoic Acid-Nexletol

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Medications

### Bile Acid Sequestrants

- Cholestyramine/Colestipol/Colesevelam
- LDL Reduction of 13-25%, Trig Rise of 5-20%
- Pre Statin Data: LRC-CPPT Trial, Modest Event Reduction
- Beware Binding Up Other Meds

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Medications

PPAR Alpha Modulators-Fibrates

Fenofibric Acid, Fenofibrate, Gemfibrozil

- Lipid Effect Dependent on Phenotype
- Study Results Mixed

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Medications

### PPAR Alpha Modulators-Fibrates

Gemfibrozil-Helsinki Heart, VA- Hit

- CV Event Rates Reduced Modestly (No Statin)

Fenofibrate- Field, Accord Trials

- No Event Reduction
- Beware Using Gemfibrozil with Statins!

# What's New in Lipids Statin Intolerance-Medications



# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Medications

### Omega 3s

- Pure EPA or EPA/DHA Combination
- Regulated or Supplement



# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Medications

### Clinical Trials

- Ascend-Lovaza-EPA and DHA- No Benefit in 15,000 Diabetic Patients
- Strength-Epanova-EPA and DHA- No Benefit in 13,000 High Risk CV Patients
- Reduce It-IPE-Significant CV Event Reduction
- IPE Incorporated into AHA, ADA, AACE,ESC, NLA Guidelines

# What's New in Lipids

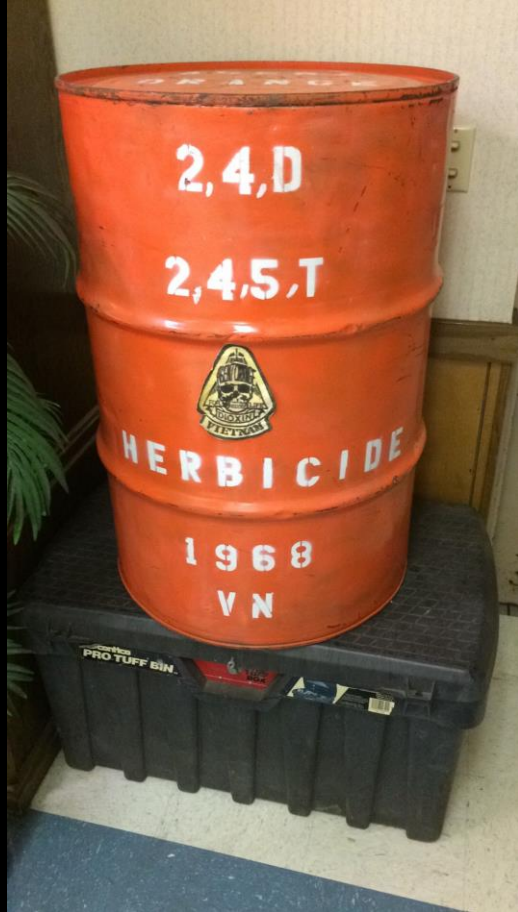
## Statin Intolerance-Medications

### IPE

- Branded not Covered by Payors
- Generic Difficult to Find
- Toxic Mineral Oil Theory

# What's New in Lipids

## Statin Intolerance-Medications



# Worldwide Supplements CEO



Questions?