

# **Controversial Issues on New Guideline**

**2013 ACC/AHA Guideline on the Treatment of Blood Cholesterol to  
Reduce Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Risk in Adults**

So-Yeon Choi, MD, PhD  
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Ajou University Medical Center, Suwon, Korea

*Live from the AHA 2013*

# Clinical Practice Guidelines for Prevention

**Dr. Mariell Jessup (AHA president):** "I think these are the most carefully vetted guidelines ever published," "We're confident that they are based on the best evidence."

**Dr. Sidney Smith (chair of the ACC/AHA subcommittee on prevention guidelines):** "We intend to move forward with implementation of these guidelines."

*Dallas, TX, USA*

*Session chairs: Dr Mariell Jessup, University of Pennsylvania and President of the AHA  
Professor John Harold, Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute and President of the ACC*

In November 2013 the American Heart Association (AHA) and the American College of Cardiology (ACC) published joint guidelines on the treatment of blood cholesterol to reduce atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) risk.<sup>1</sup> On November 20, 2013 the Chair of the guidelines committee, Professor Neil Stone, presented on the new guidelines during the late-breaker session at the AHA. The session also included Professor Donald Lloyd-Jones presenting the new AHA and ACC guideline on the assessment of cardiovascular risk,<sup>2</sup> an important component of the new cholesterol guidelines.



# Some Issues raised over new anti-cholesterol guidelines

## Family Practice News

News and Views that Matter to Family Physicians

Guideline authors, AHA-ACC leaders confident in risk calculator

digital network

The New York Times

## Risk Calculator for Cholesterol Appears Flawed

By GINA KOLATA

Published: November 17, 2013 | 794 Comments

## Controversy, confusion over new cardiovascular-risk guidelines

By Susan Perry | 11/19/13

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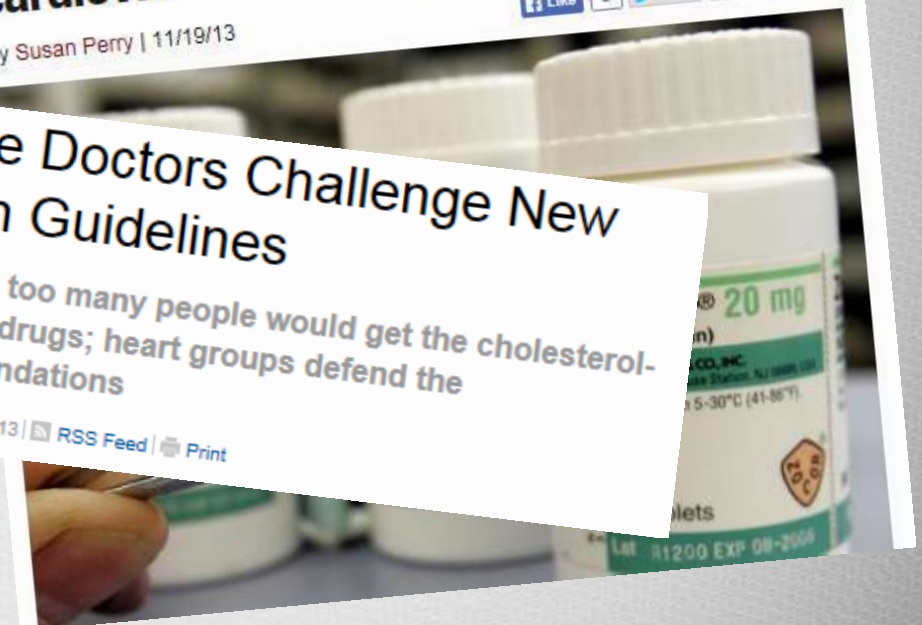
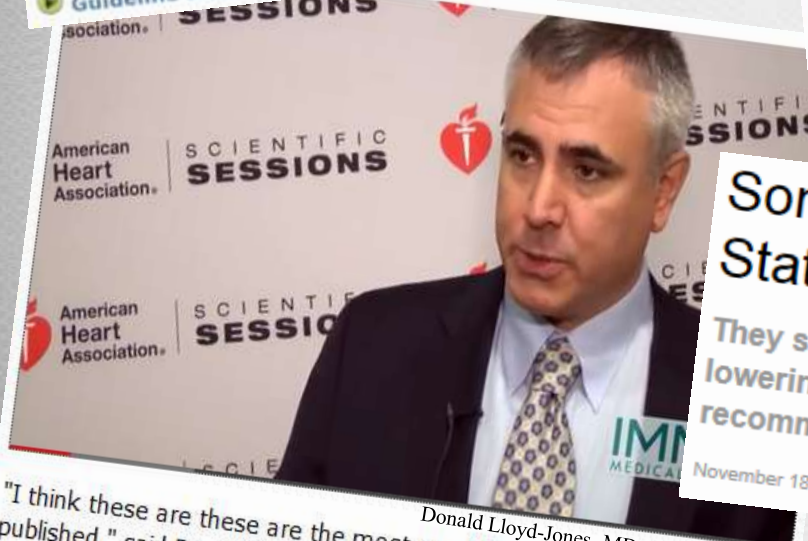
## Some Doctors Challenge New Statin Guidelines

They say too many people would get the cholesterol-lowering drugs; heart groups defend the recommendations

November 18, 2013 | RSS Feed | Print

Donald Lloyd-Jones, MD, ScM, FAHA

"I think these are these are the most carefully vetted guidelines ever published," said Dr. Mariell Jessup, AHA president. "We're confident that they are based on the best evidence."



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11/22/2013

**New guidelines in USA :: How do they compare with the EAS/ESC guidelines for management of dyslipidaemia?**

[New guidelines in USA](#)

2013 ACC/AHA Guidelines on the Treatment of Blood Cholesterol to Reduce Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Risk

**How do they compare with the EAS/ESC Guidelines for the management of dyslipidaemias?**

The EAS/ESC guidelines have worked well in Europe. They have been widely accepted and adopted and, based on the discussion above, we recommend the EAS/ESC guidelines as more fitting for Europe.

We recommend that AACE members continue to refer to AACE guidelines and position statements on Lipids and Obesity to assist decision making in their practices.



*American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists*

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Dear Members,

Note: Minor clarifications have been made to this document to update the AACE Member Alert originally distributed on November 21, 2013.

*The Voice of Clinical Endocrinology*

# What ISSUES?

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- 1. New risk calculator?**
- 2. Non-statin, is it available?**
- 3. No LDL treatment target and instead focus on the intensity of statin?**
- 4. Efficacy and Safety of high intensity statin therapy in Asian population?**
- 5. Statin therapy on CKD patients?**
- 6. Other new emerging risk factors?**



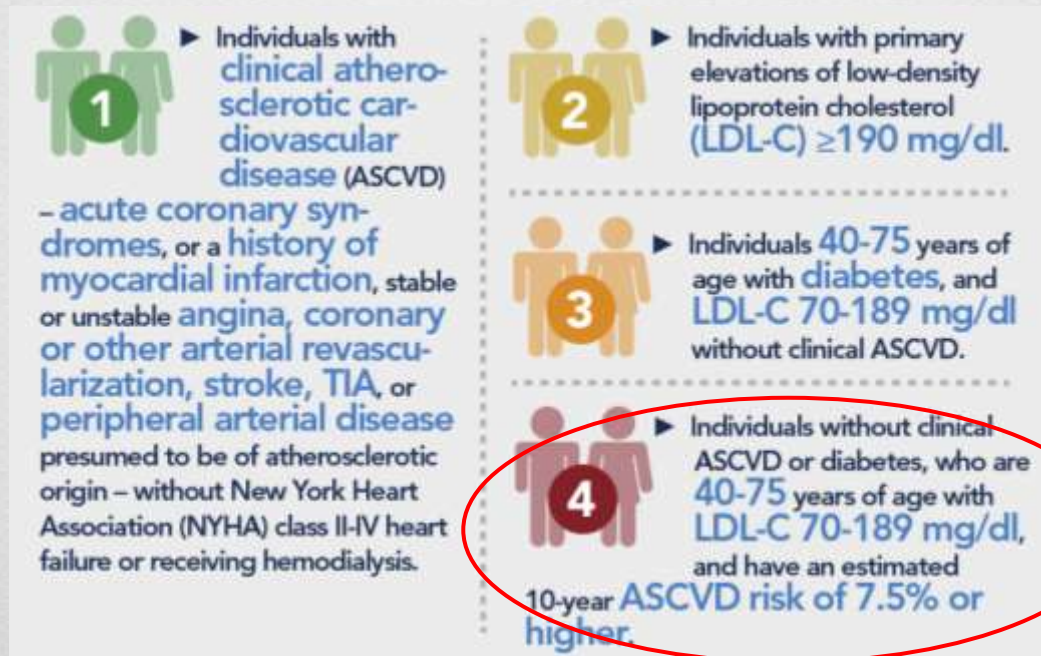
# What ISSUES?

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- 1.** New risk calculator
- 2.** Non-statin, is it available?
- 3.** No LDL treatment target and instead focus on the intensity of statin
- 4.** Efficacy and Safety of high intensity statin therapy in Asian population
- 5.** Statin therapy on CKD patients
- 6.** Other new emerging risk factors

Through a rigorous process, **4 groups** of individuals were identified for whom an extensive body of RCT evidence demonstrated a reduction in atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) events (including coronary heart disease [CHD], cardiovascular deaths, and fatal and nonfatal strokes) with a good margin of safety from statin therapy:

### 4 Statin Benefit Groups



# New risk calculator: Pooled Cohort Equations

Recommendations	NHLBI Grade	NHLBI Evidence Statements	ACC/AHA COR	ACC/AHA LOE
1. The race- and sex-specific Pooled Cohort Equations* to predict 10-year risk for a first hard ASCVD event should be used in nonHispanic African Americans and nonHispanic Whites, 40 to 79 years of age.	B (Moderate)	N/A	I	B (4-8)

- To evaluate ASCVD risk the patients who are not currently treated with statins
- To help assess whether an individual patient may benefit from statin therapy.



# Characteristics of new risk calculator: CVD events

Study Group	Risk Score			CVD Events			
	Study and Region	Data Source	Publication Year	MI	CHD death	Stroke	Stroke death
ATP 3	Framing-ham MA, USA	EAF, EAM	2001	✓	✓		
EURO SCORE	12 cohorts Europe	EF, EM	2003		✓		✓
QRISK*	QRESE ARCH, United Kingdom	EF, EM	2007	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pooled Cohort Equations	CARDIA, Framing-ham, ARIC, CHS, USA	EAF, EAM AAF, AAM	2013	✓	✓	✓	✓

# Characteristics of new risk calculator: Risk factors

Risk Score	Risk Factors/covariates included											
	Age	Sex	TC	HDL-C	SBP	BP Rx	Diabetes	Smoking	Family hx CVD	BMI	Social	Region
ATP 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
EURO SCORE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				✓
QRISK*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pooled Cohort Equations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				

\*QRISK also assess risk of coronary revasc, angina pectoris, unstable angina, and TIA.

# Characteristics of new risk calculator: race, sex

	Caucasian Women	African-American Women	Caucasian Men	African-American Men
N	11,240	2641	9098	1647
Age range, y	40–79	40–79	40–79	40–79
C statistic	0.81	0.82	0.75	0.71
Calibration $\chi^2$	6.43	7.25	4.86	6.71

56.4%

17.4%

- Based on evidence from broad populations of Caucasian and African-American patients
- First risk calculator to include female sex and African-American race



**Not included Hispanic, Asian and Native American**



# Risk Calculator for Cholesterol Appears Flawed

By GINA KOLATA

Published: November 17, 2013 | 794 Comments

Dr. Nancy Cook and Dr. Paul M. Ridker of Harvard Medical School found that a new online calculator used to assess heart treatment options overestimated the risks that many people face.



# Issues of New Risk Calculator

## Dr. Ridker and Cook of Harvard Medical School

The problems were identified by two Harvard Medical School professors whose findings will be published Tuesday in a commentary in *The Lancet*, a major medical journal. The professors, Dr. Paul M. Ridker and Dr. Nancy Cook, had pointed out the problems a year earlier when the National Institutes of Health's National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, which originally was developing the guidelines, sent a draft to each professor independently to review. Both reported back that the calculator was not working among the populations it was tested on by the guideline makers.

## Dr. Blaha and Blumenthal of Johns Hopkins University

The new ACC/AHA cardiovascular-risk guidelines feature updated equations for women, distinct equations for African-American individuals, and include stroke prediction. However, the equations rely on the same traditional risk factors as previous versions, are driven predominantly by age, and curtail the intermediate-risk group, in which personalized risk assessment is recommended.

## Dr. Nissen of Cleveland Clinic

**Dr Steven Nissen** (Cleveland Clinic, OH) said he has long been an advocate of using intensive doses of statins in high-risk patients, so the question for him is not about the efficacy of the drugs for reducing morbidity and mortality. "But we have to treat the right patients, and the problem is that the risk calculator in the guidelines has never been previously published and therefore could not be independently verified," he told *heart wire* .

And this is problematic because there are some instances where the risk-assessment algorithm is not consistent with best medical practice.

# Risk calculator overestimate risk!

Dr. Paul M. Ridker and  
Dr. Nancy Cook

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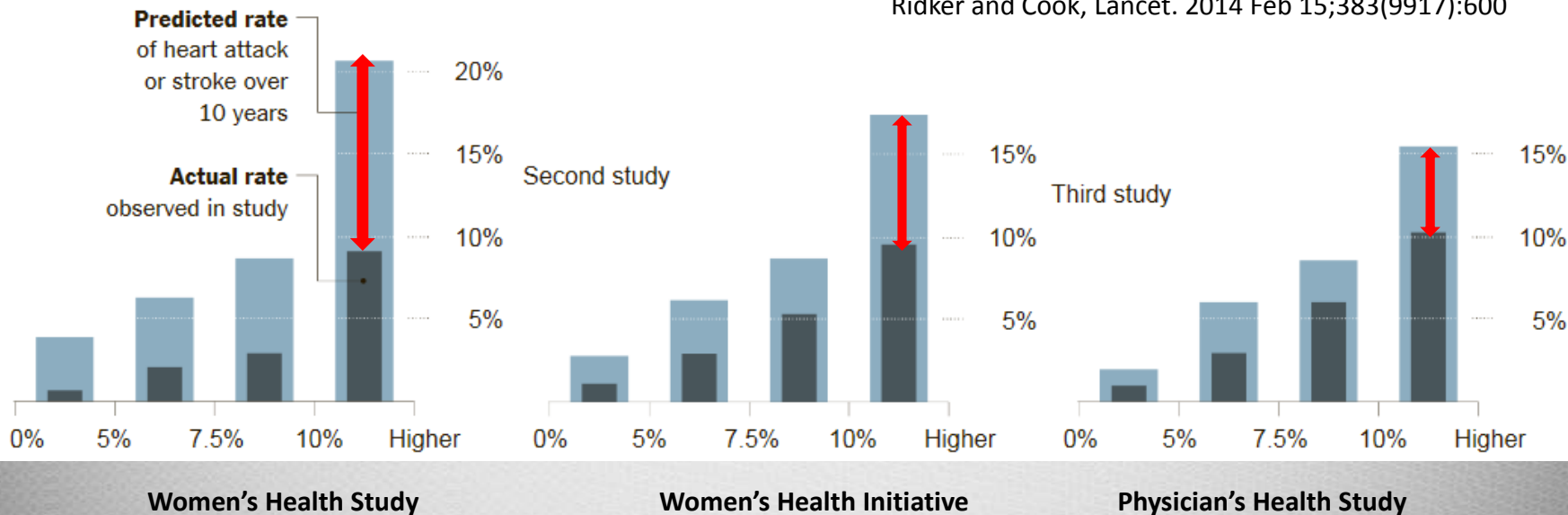
**Statins: new US guideline sparks controversy**

Full Text

PDF (174 KB)

## New calculator overestimates CV risk with 75 to 150%

Ridker and Cook, Lancet. 2014 Feb 15;383(9917):600



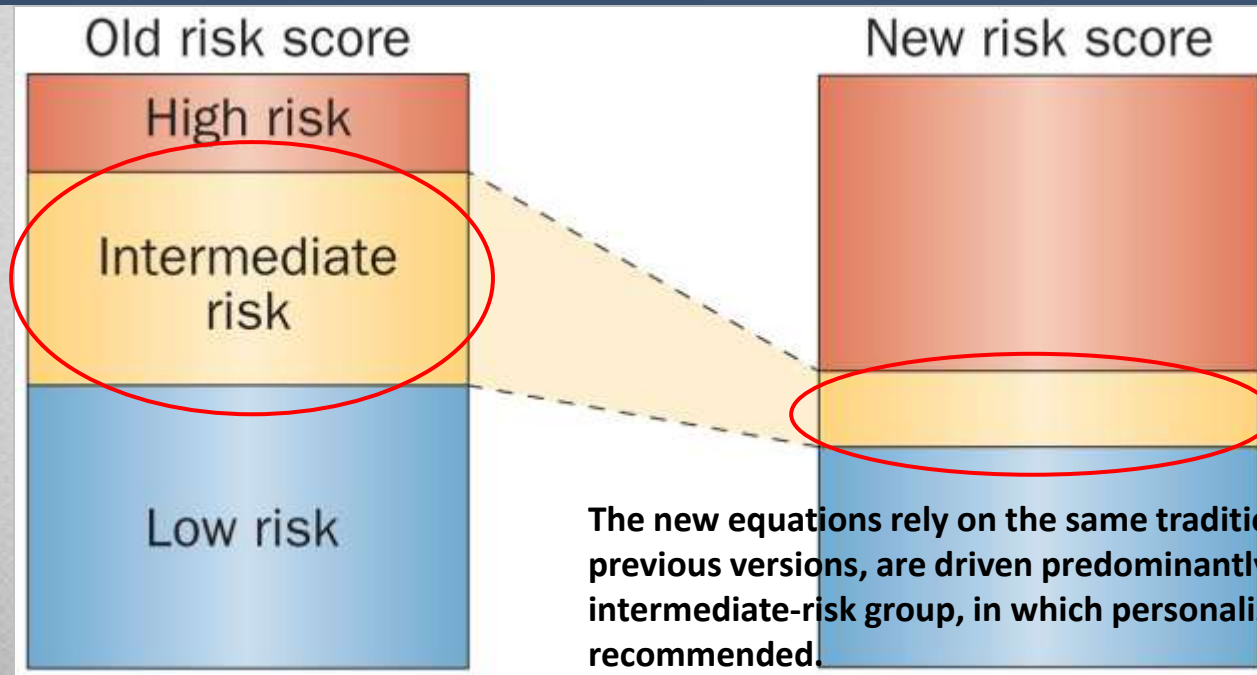


# More or less personalized?

Dr. Michael Blaha and  
Dr. Roger Blumenthal

nature  
REVIEWS  
CARDIOLOGY

## Curtailed the intermediate-risk group



ent  
nalized?

# "Age and race seem to drive it a lot"

<hypothetical case>

	Age	Sex	Race	Total cholesterol	HDL cholesterol	Systolic BP	BP Rx	Diabetes	Smoking
case 1	60	male	Black	150	45	125	No	No	No
case 2	65	male	Black	150	45	125	No	No	No

### Risk Factors for ASCVD

Gender:  Male  Female

Age: **60** years

Race: African Ame

Total Cholesterol: 150 mg/dL

HDL Cholesterol: 45 mg/dL

Systolic BP: 125 mmHg

Receiving treatment for high blood pressure (if SBP > 120 mmHg):  No  Yes

Diabetes:  No  Yes

Smoker:  No  Yes

10-year risk of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease: **7.5%**

### Risk Factors for ASCVD

Gender:  Male  Female

Age: **65** years

Race: African Ame

Total Cholesterol: 150 mg/dL

HDL Cholesterol: 45 mg/dL

Systolic BP: 125 mmHg

Receiving treatment for high blood pressure (if SBP > 120 mmHg):  No  Yes

Diabetes:  No  Yes

Smoker:  No  Yes

10-year risk of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease: **9%**

# "Age and race seem to drive it a lot"

<hypothetical case>

	Age	Sex	Race	Total cholesterol	HDL cholesterol	Systolic BP	BP Rx	Diabetes	Smoking
case 1	60	male	White	150	45	125	No	No	No
case 2	60	male	Black	150	45	125	No	No	No

### Risk Factors for ASCVD

Gender:  Male  Female

Age: 60 years

Race: **White or other**

Systolic BP: 125 mmHg

Receiving treatment for high blood pressure (if SBP > 120 mmHg):  No  Yes

Diabetes:  No  Yes

Smoker:  No  Yes

Total Cholesterol: 150 mg/dL

HDL Cholesterol: 45 mg/dL

10-year risk of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease: **6.9%**

### Risk Factors for ASCVD

Gender:  Male  Female

Age: 60 years

Race: **African American**

Systolic BP: 125 mmHg

Receiving treatment for high blood pressure (if SBP > 120 mmHg):  No  Yes

Diabetes:  No  Yes

Smoker:  No  Yes

Total Cholesterol: 150 mg/dL

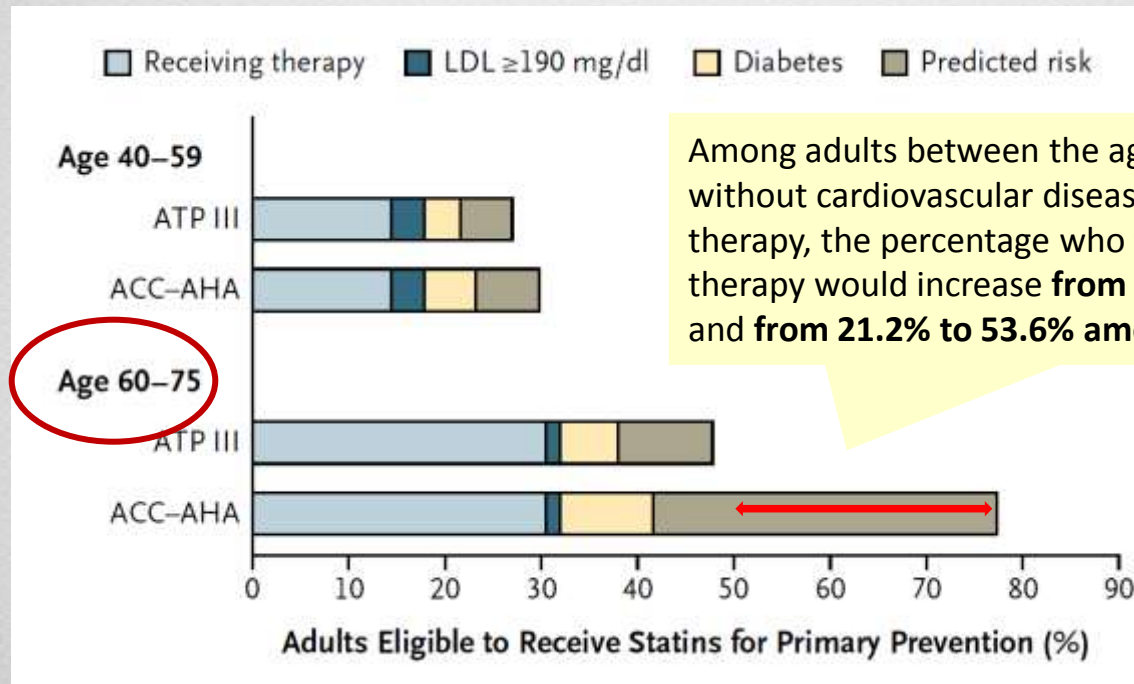
HDL Cholesterol: 45 mg/dL

10-year risk of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease: **7.5%**



# Percent of U.S. Adults Who Would Be Eligible for Statin Therapy for Primary Prevention, According to Set of Guidelines and Age Group

Using data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys of 2005 to 2010



# Opinions to support new calculator

## Refining the American guidelines for prevention of cardiovascular disease

If people took blood pressure and cholesterol lowering medicines from age 60 years without previous risk factor measurement, one third would benefit and they would, on average, gain 7 years of life without a heart attack or stroke.

Nicholas Wald, Joan Morris et al. Lancet 2014;383

## Overall agreement with other risk calculators

	Non-diabetic patients (n=64)	Diabetic patients (n=64)
ACC/AHA calculator vs other calculators <sup>1</sup>	64.4% (65.6)	65.2% (60.2)
Overall agreement among 25 calculators (18 for diabetics) excluding the ACC/AHA calculator <sup>2</sup>	64.3% (64)	72.6% (73)
Calculators with >75% categorisation agreement in either non-diabetics or diabetics with the ACC/AHA calculator		
Reynold's Risk Score	82.8%	N/A
UK Prospective Diabetes Study	71.9%	81.3%
QRISK2-2011	78.1%	87.5%
Australian Absolute CVD Risk	79.7%	76.6%
New Zealand CV Risk Charts	81.3%	78.1%
Australian Risk Charts	87.5%	73.4%
New Zealand Know Your Numbers	79.7%	57.8%
PROCAM (Health Check)	65.6%	79.7%

Data are average (median) or average. ACC/AHA=American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association.

Table: Agreement of the ACC/AHA risk calculator with a sample of other commonly used risk calculators

**It seems that the ACC/AHA risk calculator categorises patients in a similar way to many of the other available calculators. Any risk estimate should only be used as a tool to facilitate the initial discussion of benefits and harms of treatments as part of shared decision making.**

## Response of AHA.

# American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology Media Alert



November 18, 2013

DALLAS – Nov. 18, 2013 – The American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology vigorously defend the recently published risk assessment and cholesterol guidelines despite recent media reports critical of the risk assessment calculator tool.

“We stand behind our guidelines, the process that was used to create them and the degree to which they were rigorously reviewed by experts,” said Mariell Jessup, M.D., president of the American Heart Association.

The risk calculator provides an estimate of a patient’s ten year risk of having a heart attack or stroke, and is one component that healthcare providers should use as they discuss whether or not a patient would benefit from a statin drug, a type of medication that lowers artery-clogging LDL cholesterol. The guidelines and risk assessment tool are developed from, and based on, the best evidence available as determined by the expert panel. Authors say the risk assessment tool is intended to spark a conversation between patients and their physician to help drive individualized care based on that patient’s health profile.

“Clinical practice guidelines such as these should not take the place of sound clinical judgment. These guidelines should enable a discussion between a patient and their healthcare provider about the best way to prevent a heart attack or stroke, based on the patient’s personal health profile and their preferences. The risk calculator score is part of that discussion, because it provides specific information to the patient about their personal health. A high score does not automatically mean a patient should be taking a statin drug” said John Gordon Harold, M.D, president of the American College of Cardiology.



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CV-Risk Equations

CV Risk and Saturated  
Fats: The Debate Rolls  
On

Headlines

## NICE Suggests Expanded Use of Statin Therapy in UK

Michael O'Riordan

February 11, 2014

7 comments

Fast answers at the point-of-care  
Current Compensation: Free

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

Lipid modification  
Cardiovascular risk assessment and the  
modification of blood lipids for the primary and  
secondary prevention of cardiovascular  
disease

NICE guideline  
Draft for consultation, February 2014

NICE, an agency that provides guidance for the **National Health Service (NHS)**, is calling for **primary-prevention** patients with 10-year risk of cardiovascular disease (**QRISK2**) that exceeds **10%** to be treated with **high-intensity statin therapy**.

- For pts with type 2 diabetes + 10-year risk of CVD of >10% (**United Kingdom Prospective Diabetes Study [UKPDS]** tool) → High intensive statin (atorva 80mg)
- For pts with stage 1 or 2 CKD + 10-year risk of CVD of >10% (QRISK2 tool) → moderate intensity statin (atorvastatin 20 mg)

NICE does not recommend prescribing fibrates, niacin, bile-acid sequestrants, omega-3 fatty acids, or plant sterols for the primary and secondary prevention of CVD or in those with CKD and diabetes.

# Unsolved issues in new calculator: Pooled Cohort Equations

- New risk calculator overestimate risk then it is possible that as many as 40 to 50 percent of the 333 million middle-aged Americans targeted by new guideline.
- From the available documents it cannot be evaluated how this would work in relation to other scoring models and other race (Hispanic, Asian, native American) or other countries.
- Treatment strategies based on lifetime ASCVD risk are problematic because of the lack of data on the long-term follow-up of RCTs >15 years, the safety and ASCVD event reduction when statins are used for periods >10 years, and treatment of individuals <40 years of age.

# What ISSUES?

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1. New risk calculator
2. Non-statin, is it available?
3. No LDL treatment target and instead focus on the intensity of statin
4. Efficacy and Safety of high intensity statin therapy in Asian population
5. Statin therapy on CKD patients
6. Other new emerging risk factors



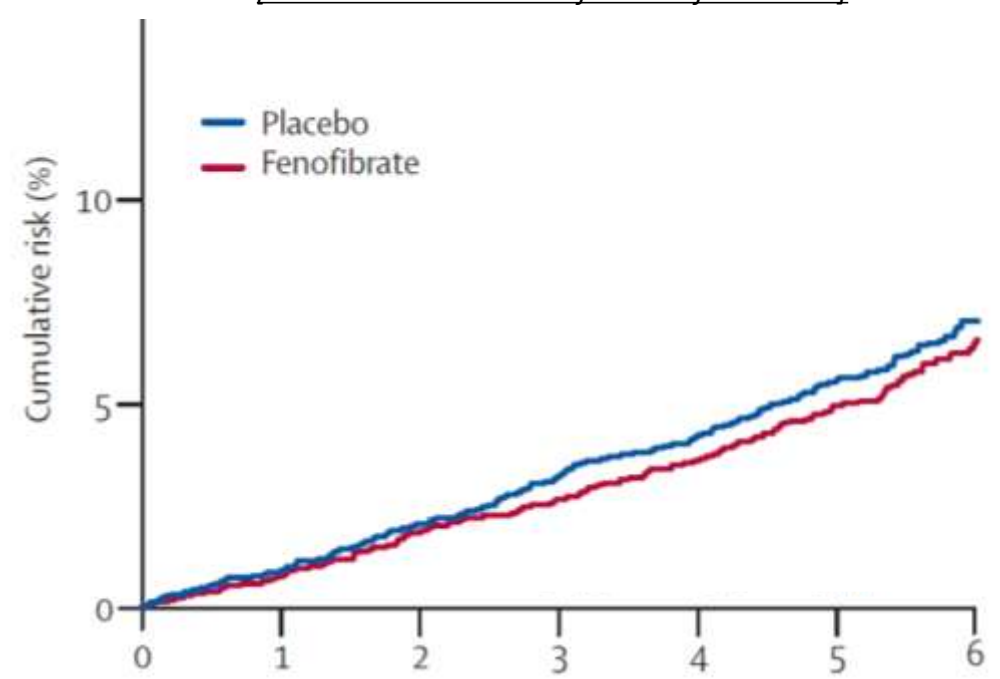
# Evidence of non-statin therapy

	Trial	Agent	Risk reduction for CHD/CVD
Fibrate	FIELD	Fenofibrate vs placebo	no reduction of primary outcomes 11% reduction of total CVD risk
	ACCORD	Fenofibrate + simvastatin vs simvastatin	No reduction of primary outcomes compared with simvastatin alone
Niacin	AIM-HIGH	niacin or placebo	No reduction of primary outcomes
	HPS2-THRIVE	niacin/laropiprant+simve or simva	No reduction of primary outcomes
Apo-A1	Apo-A1 Milano	Apo-A1 vs placebo	Decrease in coronary AS progression (change of %AV=
Omega-3	ALPHA-OMEGA	EPA-DHA vs placebo and ALA	No reduction of primary outcomes
ACAT inhibitor	Nissen et al	Pactimibe vs placebo	No decrease in coronary AS progression
CETP inhibitor	ILUMINATE	Torcetrapib+atorva vs atorva	No decrease in coronary AS progression
	dal-OUTCOMES	dalcetrapib or placebo	No reduction of primary outcomes
Phospholipase A2 Inhibitor	Serruys et al.	Darapladib vs placebo	Reduction of coronary NC in plaque
	VISTA-16	Varespladib or placebo	No reduction of primary outcomes significantly increased the risk of MI
Ezetimibe	IMPROVE-IT	Ezetimibe+simvastatin vs simvastatin	Pending

# FIELD: Effects of fenofibrate-Simvastatin in Type 2 DM

N=9,795 pts with type 2 DM  
randomized to placebo or fenofibrate

*[Cumulative risk curves of time to first events]*



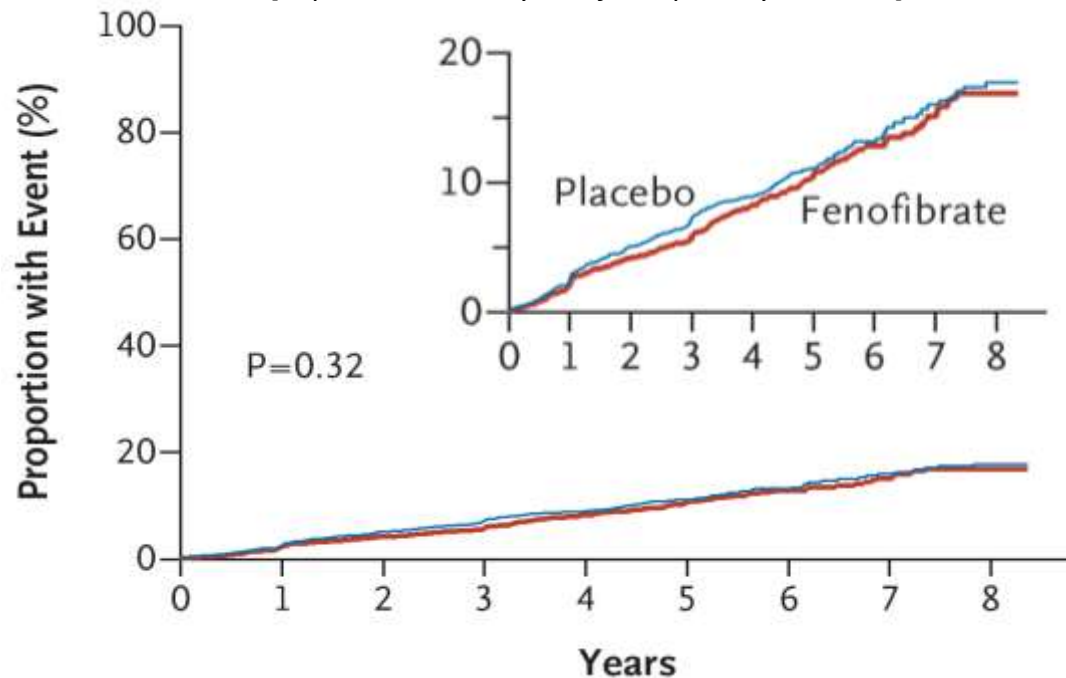
Primary End Point  
: CHD death or non-fatal MI

**HR 0.89, (0.79-1.08), P = 0.16**

# ACCORD : Effects of fenofibrate in Type 2 DM

N=5,518 pts with type 2 DM  
randomized to statin or fenofibrate+ statin

*[Kaplan-Meier Analysis of the primary outcome]*



**Primary End Point**  
: nonfatal MI, nonfatal stroke,  
or CV death.

**The annual rate  
of the primary outcome  
2.2% vs 2.4%  
(0.92; 0.79-1.08; P = 0.32).**

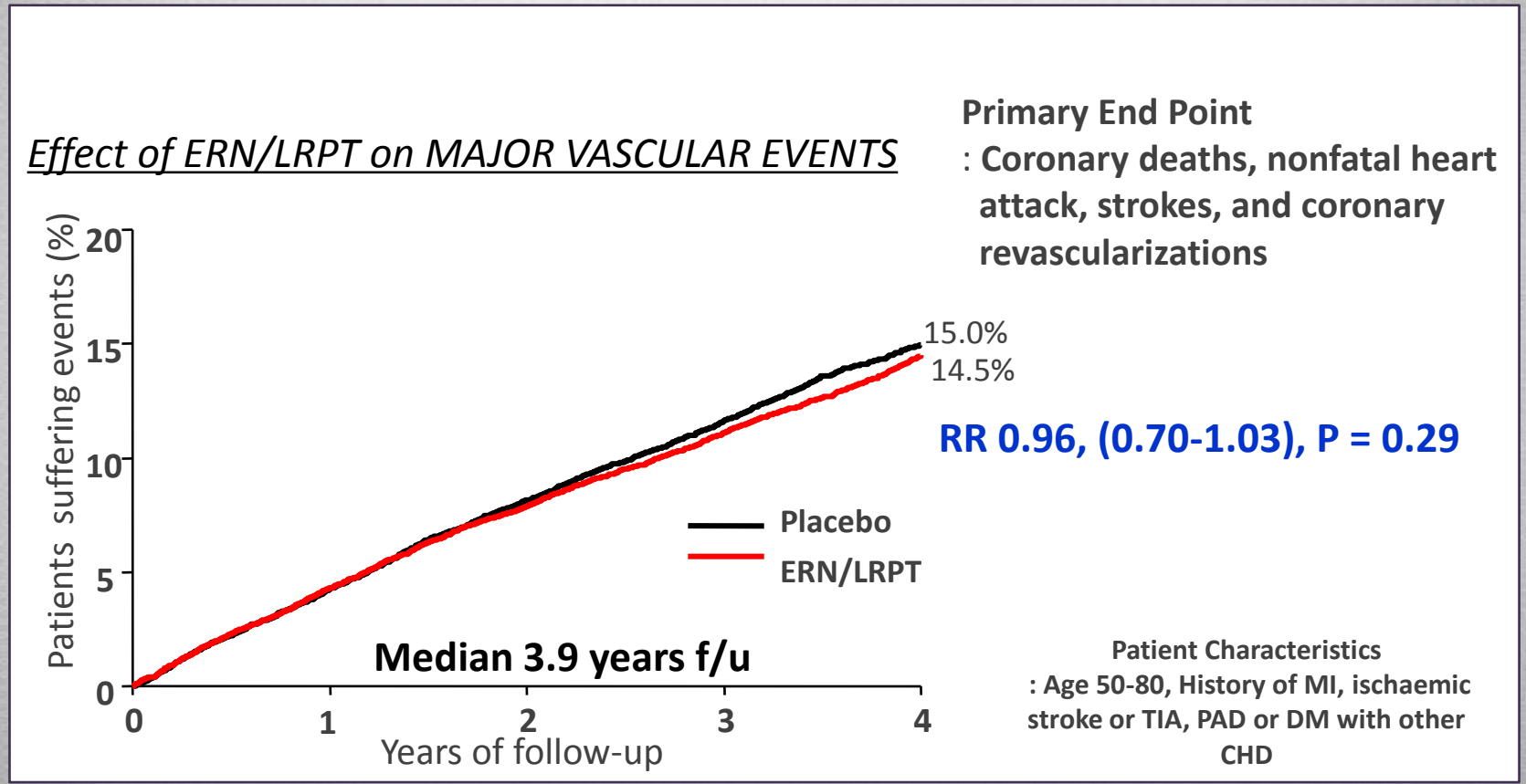


# ER niacin and laropiprant (secondary prevention)

## HPS2-THRIVE

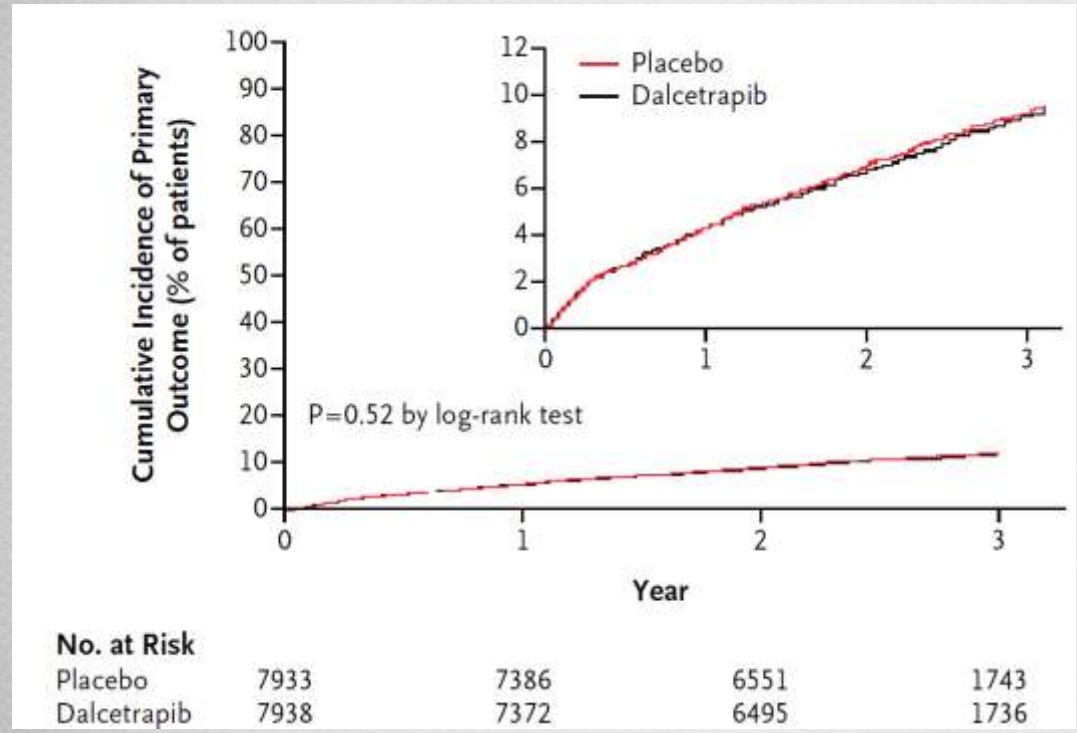
N=25,673 pts with ACS

randomized to niacin/laropiprant+simva or placebo (simva 40mg c/s ezetimibe 10mg)



## dal-OUTCOMES

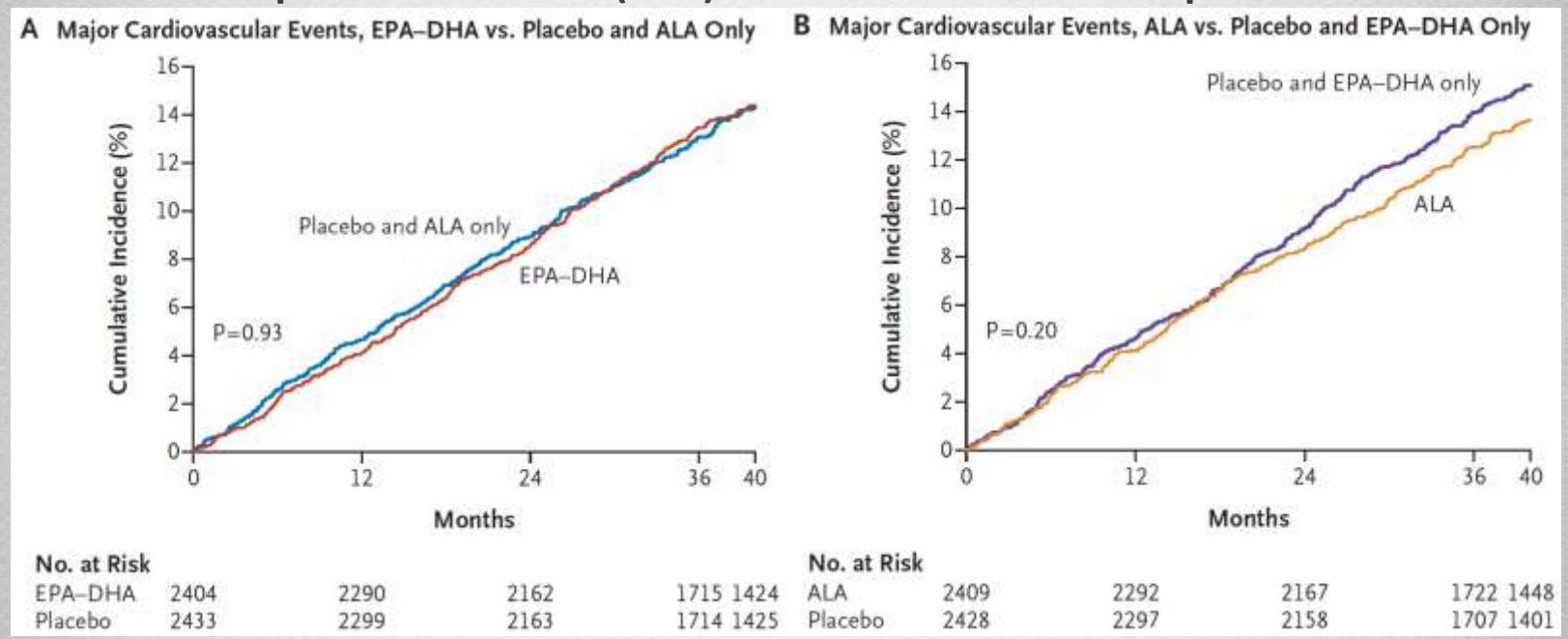
N=15,871 pts with ACS  
randomized to dalcetrapib or placebo



**Primary End Point**  
:death from CHD, nonfatal MI, ischemic stroke, UA, or cardiac arrest with resuscitation

## ALPHA-OMEGA

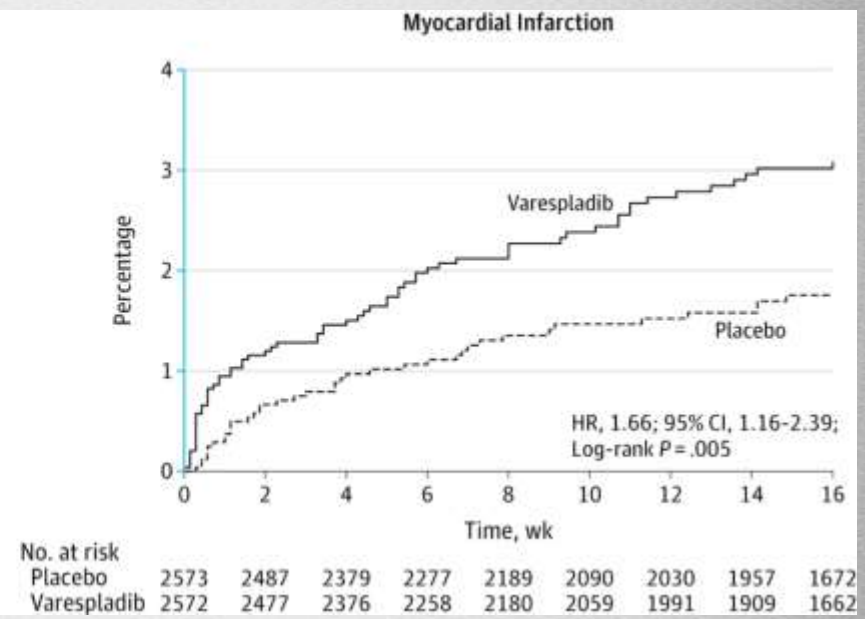
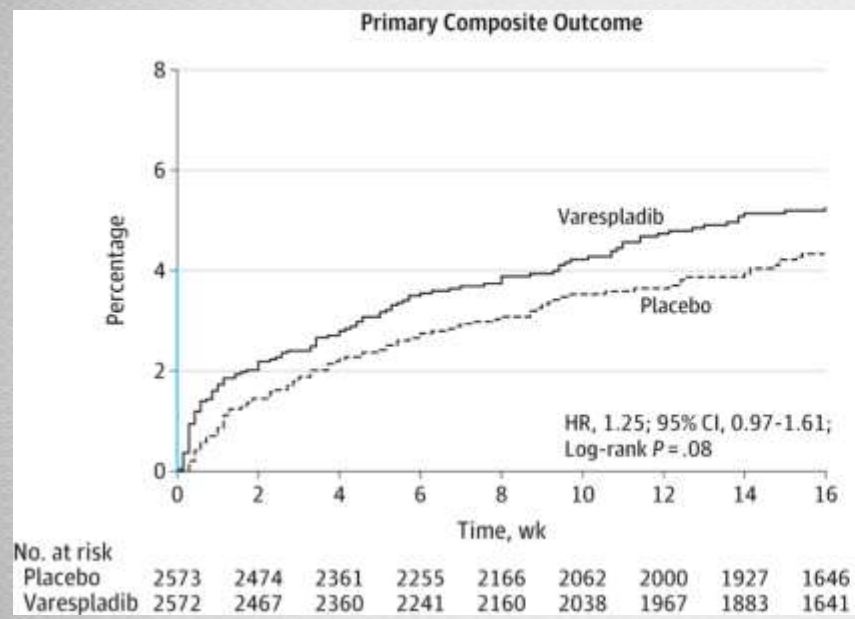
N=4837 with myocardial infarction  
 randomized to eicosapentaenoic acid(EPA) and docosahexaenoic acid(DHA)  
 or alpha-linolenic acid(ALA) or EPA-DHA and ALA or placebo



**Primary End Point :fatal and nonfatal cardiovascular events and cardiac interventions**



N=5145 with ACS  
 Randomized to varespladib or placebo



**Primary End Point : CV mortality, nonfatal MI, nonfatal stroke, or UA with evidence of ischemia requiring hospitalization**

# Nonstatin therapy recommendation.

- Non-statin drugs are **not recommended for first-line treatment.**
- No data supporting the routine use of non-statin drugs combined with statin therapy.
- Non-statin drugs combined with statin therapy may consider
  - High-risk patients *who have a **less-than-anticipated response** to statins*
  - High-risk patients *who are **unable to tolerate** a less-than-recommended intensity of a statin*
  - High-risk patients *who are completely **statin intolerant***
- ❖ *High-risk patients : ASCVD, LDL-C  $\geq$ 190 mg/dL, Diabetes*

# What ISSUES?

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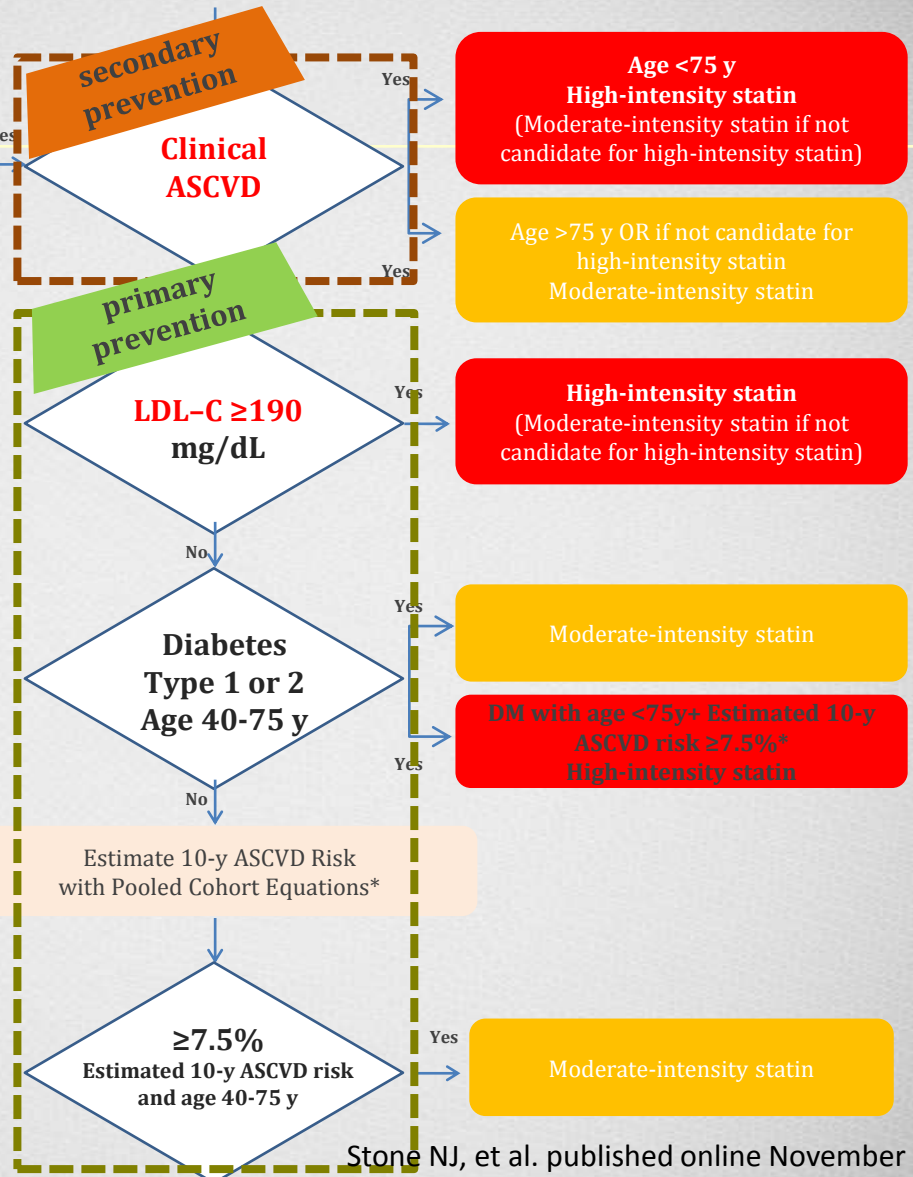
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# Major Recommendation for Statin



Adults age >21 y and a candidate for statin therapy



# Intensity of Statin Therapy

High-Intensity Statin Therapy	Moderate-Intensity Statin Therapy	Low-Intensity Statin Therapy
Daily dose <b>lowers LDL-C</b> on average, by approximately <b>≥ 50%</b>	Daily dose lowers LDL-C on average, by approximately <b>30% to &lt; 50%</b>	Daily dose lowers LDL-C on average, by <b>&lt; 30%</b>
<b>Atorvastatin(40)-80 mg</b> <b>Rosuvastatin 20 (40) mg</b>	<b>Atorvastatin 10 (20) mg</b> <b>Rosuvastatin (5) 10 mg</b> <b>Simvastatin 20-40 mg</b> <b>Pravastatin 40 (80) mg</b> <b>Lovastatin 40 mg</b> Fluvastatin XL 80 mg <b>Fluvastatin 40 mg bid</b> Pitavastatin 2-4 mg	Simvastatin 10 mg <b>Pravastatin 10-20 mg</b> <b>Lovastatin 20 mg</b> Fluvastatin 20-40 mg Pitavastatin 1 mg

\* Specific statins and doses are noted in bold that were evaluated in RCTs

# No LDL Target

## We lost our road map?



- The final choice of strategy is often left to the doctor's clinical judgment.
- No treatment goals in LDL-C can certainly be argued because it can be that treatment goals are arbitrary.
- Treatment goals are widely used in different clinical settings
- Targets are a most important tool in daily practice, aiding patient-to-doctor communications and optimizing compliance.



# No LDL Target

Go straight! **Lower is best!**



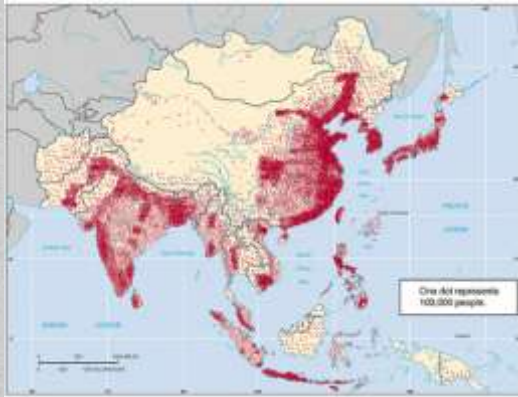
1. Current clinical trial data do not indicate what the target should be.
2. We do not know the magnitude of additional ASCVD risk reduction that would be achieved with one target lower than another.
3. It does not take into account potential adverse effects from multidrug therapy that might be needed to achieve a specific goal.

Use of LDL-C targets may result in **under-treatment** with evidence-based statin therapy or **overtreatment with nonstatin drugs** that have not been shown to reduce ASCVD events in RCTs.

# Efficacy and Safety Issues

## Especially for Asian population

- Do we need high intensive statin?
- Is high intensive statin safe for Asian?



**“Statin benefit is indisputable, but they need to be taken with care and knowledge of their side effects.”  
from FDA, Feb 2012**

Potency  
Evidence

**Efficacy**

Data  
Drug Interaction

**Safety**

**Patient  
Compliance**  
Price  
Convenience

## Do we need high intensive statin?

# Statin studies regarding plaque regression from Asian populations

Study	Methods	Design	FU
• <b>ESTABLISH</b> Okazaki S et al. Circulation 2004;110:1061-1068	Coronary, IVUS	ACS, <b>Atorva 20mg</b> (n=35) vs control (n=35)	6m
• <b>REACH</b> Yamada T et al. Circ J 2007;71:1845-1850	Coronary, IVUS	CAD with hyperchol, <b>Atorva 10-20mg</b> (n=26) vs usual care? (n=32)	12m
• <b>JAPAN-ACS</b> Hiro T et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2009;54:293-302	Coronary, IVUS	RCT, open labeled, ACS c PCI, <b>Atorva 20mg</b> (n=127) vs <b>Pitava 4mg</b> (n=125)	8-12m
• <b>COSMOS</b> Takayama T et al. Circ J 2009;73:2110-7	Coronary, IVUS	Multicenter open-label trial, <b>Rosuva 2.5-20mg</b> (n=125), incremental dose	18m
• <b>ARTMAP</b> Lee et al. Am J Cardiol 2012;109:1700			6m
• Kawasaki et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2005;45:1946-1953			6m
• Yokoyama M et al. Am Heart J 2005;150:287	Coronary, RF-IVUS	PCI, <b>Atorva 10mg</b> (n=25) vs control (n=25)	6m
• Hong et al. JACC Cardiovasc Interv 2009;2:679-688	Coronary, RF-IVUS	CAD, Simva 20mg (n=50) vs <b>Rosuva 10mg</b> (n=50)	12m
• Takarada et al. Atherosclerosis 2009;202:491-497	Coronary, OCT	AMI c PCI, <b>Statin (simva 20mg or Rosuva 10mg)</b> (n=23) vs control (n=17)	9m

**No RCT data regarding clinical outcomes of statin in Asian populations!**



# Statins safety recommendation

Additional characteristics that may modify the decision to use higher statin intensities may include, but are not limited to:

- ❖ History of hemorrhagic stroke
- ❖ Asian ancestry

Table 8. Summary of Statin Safety Recommendations

Recommendations	NHLBI Grade	NHLBI Evidence Statements	ACC/AHA COR	ACC/AHA LOE
<b>Safety</b>				
<p>1. To maximize the safety of statins, selection of the appropriate statin and dose in men and nonpregnant/nonnursing women should be based on patient characteristics, level of ASCVD* risk, and potential for adverse effects.</p> <p>Moderate-intensity statin therapy should be used in individuals in whom high-intensity statin therapy would otherwise be recommended when characteristics predisposing them to statin-associated adverse effects are present.</p> <p>Characteristics predisposing individuals to statin adverse effects include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple or serious comorbidities, including impaired renal or hepatic function.</li> <li>• History of previous statin intolerance or muscle disorders.</li> <li>• Unexplained ALT elevations &gt;3 times ULN.</li> <li>• Patient characteristics or concomitant use of drugs affecting statin metabolism.</li> <li>• &gt;75 years of age.</li> </ul> <p>Additional characteristics that may modify the decision to use higher statin intensities may include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History of hemorrhagic stroke.</li> <li>• Asian ancestry.</li> </ul>	A (Strong)	46-55	I	B

# Similar incidence of adverse events across dose range

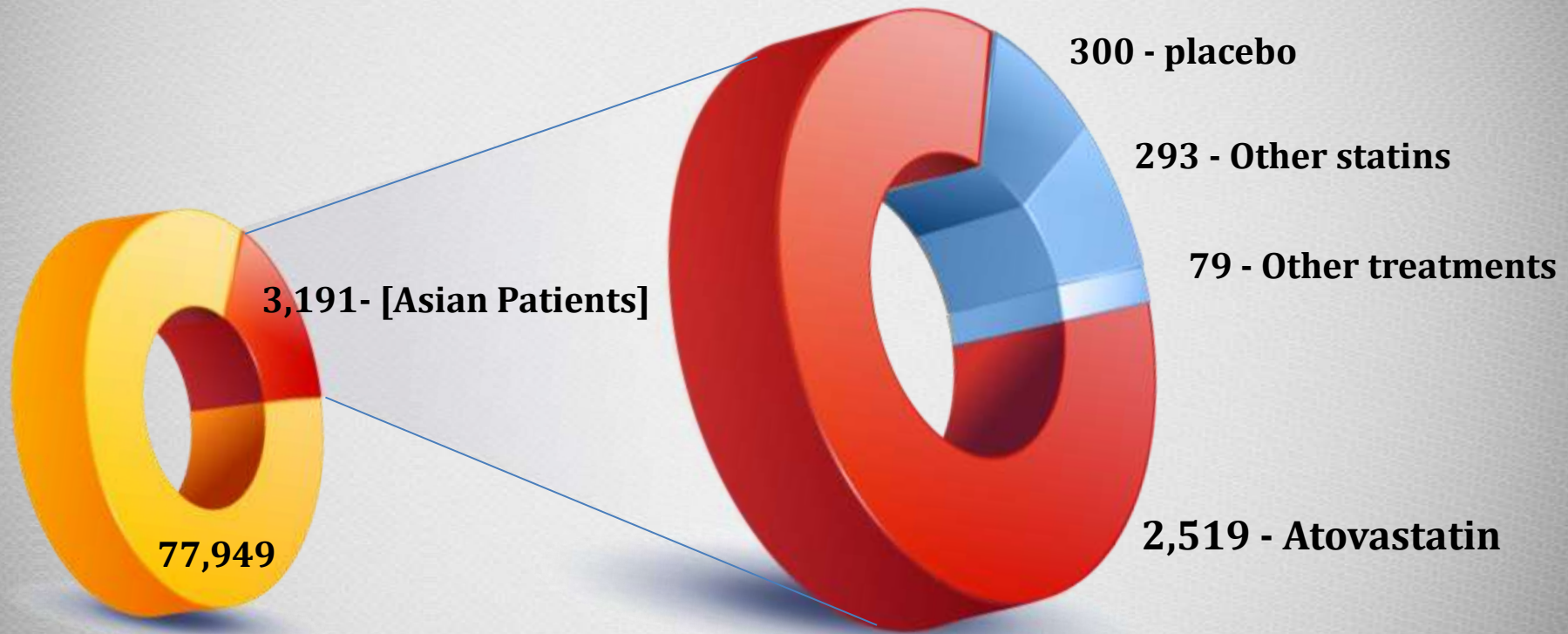
*Data from 2006 safety meta-analysis involving 14,236 patients from 49 trials*

	Number of patients (%)		
	Placebo (n=2180)	Atorvastatin 10 mg (n=7258)	Atorvastatin 80 mg (n=4798)
Patients with ≥1 AE			
All	768 (35.2)	3870 (53.3)	2285 (47.6)
Treatment-associated	270 (12.4)	983 (13.5)	699 (14.6)
Withdrawals due to AEs			
All	51 (2.3)	251 (3.5)	136 (2.8)
Treatment-associated	27 (1.2)	171 (2.4)	84 (1.8)
Serious nonfatal AEs			
All	122 (5.6)	453 (6.2)	385 (8.0)
Treatment-associated	92 (4.2)	12 (0.2)	25 (0.5)
Deaths	2 (0.09)	29 (0.40)	17 (0.35)

# Comparison between Total and Asian populations

[Total Number of Patients]

[Asian Patients]



\* Asian populations data from 58 trials of atorvastatins

Asian population : Asian, Oriental, South Asian, Indian and Pacific Islanders.



# Similar safety profile of Atorvastatin in Asian patients

## ► Liver Safety

### ALT >3xULN

- Long-term trials : 2.1% vs 2.8% → Similar
- Short-term trials : 2.4% vs 3.0% → Similar

\* Long-term trials : median 3.1 - 4.9 years/ Short-term trials : median 4 - 72 weeks

## ► Musculoskeletal Safety

**Rhabdomyolysis** : None

**Myalgia** : Lower in Asian patients than in all patients (6.7% vs 8%)

\* Asian populations data from 58 trials of atorvastatins

Asian population : Asian, Oriental, South Asian, Indian and Pacific Islanders.

# Similar safety profile of Lipitor in Korea patients

Single-step titration, open-label study

425 pts with atorvastatin starting doses of 10 - 40 mg depended on CV risk and LDL-C levels

*Comparison of the geographic variations among three similar AT GOAL trials*

	Korea study	Thai study	US study		
Sample size(n)	425	242	1,295		
Risk category(%)					
Low	7	22	26		
Intermediate	10	11	20		
High	<b>83</b>	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	<b>54</b>
LDL-C goal achievement at 4 week(%)	81.9	87.1	84.2		
LDL-C goal achievement at 8 week(%)	86	89	85		
LDL-C reduction(%)	42	46	42		
Treatment-related AEs(%)	5.6	14.9	17.4		
Serious AE(%)	0.7	0.8	1.7		

# What ISSUES?

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- 1.** New risk calculator
- 2.** Non-statin, is it available?
- 3.** No LDL treatment target and instead focus on the intensity of statin
- 4.** Efficacy and Safety of high intensity statin therapy in Asian population
- 5.** Statin therapy on CKD patients
- 6.** Other new emerging risk factors



# 2013 ACC/AHA guideline

- ❖ In adults with CKD and CHD/CVD (excluding hemodialysis)

Atorvastatin 80 mg reduced CHD/CVD events more than fixed lower-dose statin treatment.

- ❖ In adults aged >40 with CKD without CVD (excluding hemodialysis)

Simvastatin 20 mg plus ezetimibe 10 mg reduced CVD event

but modestly increased the risk for muscle symptoms requiring discontinuation of treatment.

# 2013 KDIGO Lipid management guideline

- ❖ In adults aged  $\geq 50$  years with  $\text{eGFR} < 60 \text{ ml/min/1.73 m}^2$  without dialysis or transplantation,
  - recommend treatment with a statin or statin/ezetimibe combination. (1A)
- ❖ In adults aged  $50 \geq$  years with CKD and  $\text{eGFR} \geq 60 \text{ ml/min/1.73 m}^2$ 
  - recommend treatment with a statin. (1B)
- ❖ In adults aged **18–49 years with CKD** without dialysis or transplantation,
  - suggest statin treatment in people **with CVD or CVD risk**. (2A)
    - : known coronary disease (MI or coronary revascularization), DM, prior ischemic stroke and estimated 10-year incidence of coronary death or non-fatal MI  $> 10\%$

\*KDIGO, Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes

# 2013 KDIGO Lipid management guideline

## ❖ At the time of *dialysis initiation*

in patients already receiving statins or statin/ezetimibe combination,

- suggest that statins or statin/ezetimibe combination not be initiated. (2A)

## ❖ In adults with *dialysis-dependent CKD*,

- suggest that these agents be continued. (2C)

## ❖ In adult with *kidney transplant recipients*,

- suggest treatment with a statin. (2B)



# What ISSUES?

---

- 1.** New risk calculator
- 2.** Non-statin, is it available?
- 3.** No LDL treatment target and instead focus on the intensity of statin
- 4.** Efficacy and Safety of high intensity statin therapy in Asian population
- 5.** Statin therapy on CKD patients
- 6.** Other new emerging risk factors

**2013 ACC/AHA Guideline on the Assessment of Cardiovascular Risk: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines**

David C. Goff, Jr, Donald M. Lloyd-Jones, Glen Bennett, Sean Coady, Ralph B. D'Agostino, Sr, Raymond Gibbons, Philip Greenland, Daniel T. Lackland, Daniel Levy, Christopher J. O'Donnell, Jennifer Robinson, J. Sanford Schwartz, Susan J. Shero, Sidney C. Smith, Jr, Paul Sorlie, Neil J. Stone and Paul W. Wilson

## Role of Biomarkers and Noninvasive Tests

### < Summary of Recommendations for Risk Assessment >

*Circulation* published online November 12, 2013  
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Recommendations	NHLBI Grade	NHLBI Evidence Statements	ACC/AHA COR	ACC/AHA LOE
3. If, after quantitative risk assessment, a risk-based treatment decision is uncertain, assessment of 1 or more of the following—family history, hs-CRP, CAC score, or ABI—may be considered to inform treatment decision making.	E (Expert Opinion)	Appendix 1	I <b>b</b> †	B (9-17)
4. The contribution to risk assessment for a first ASCVD event using ApoB, CKD, albuminuria, or cardiorespiratory fitness is uncertain at present.	N (No Recommendation For or Against)	Appendix 1	N/A	N/A
5. CIMT is not recommended for routine measurement in clinical practice for risk assessment for a first ASCVD event.	N (No Recommendation For or Against)	Appendix 1	III: No Benefit†	B (12,16,18)

# Future Update



- Treatment of TG/non HDL-C?
- Apo B, Lp(a), or LDL particles are useful for decision?
- Non-invasive imaging
- Lifetime ASCVD risk should be used?
- Patients with heart failure or undergoing hemodialysis that might benefit from statin therapy?
- Statin-associated new onset diabetes and management





## EDITORIAL

**Target cardiovascular risk rather than cholesterol concentration**

BMJ 2013; 347 doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.f7110> (Published 27 November 2013)  
Cite this as: *BMJ* 2013;347:f7110

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**“New American guidelines are a brave and wise departure from current practice!”**

Harlan M Krumholz, Harold H Hines Jr professor of medicine  
Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, USA