

# DRUGS IN HYPERLIPIDEMIA

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## DRUGS IN HYPERLIPIDEMIA

**HYPERLIPIDEMIA:** ↑ levels of any or all LIPIDS &/or LIPOPROTEINS [LP] in blood.

**LIPIDS** such as: Triglycerides (TGs) & Cholesterols (C)

**LIPOPROTEINS (LIPID TRANSPORTER)** such as: Chylomicron (CM), VLDL, IDL, LDL, HDL.

**Hyperlipoproteinemia** Usually denotes as ↑ in LDL unless specified other type

**ATHEROGENIC (Apo-b):** leading to or causing **atherogenesis** (forming atheromas, plaques in the inner lining of arteries) → **Non-HDL & Cholesterol**

**ATHEROPROTECTIVE (Apo- A):** (good and has no harm) **HDL & Cholesterol** (in normal range)

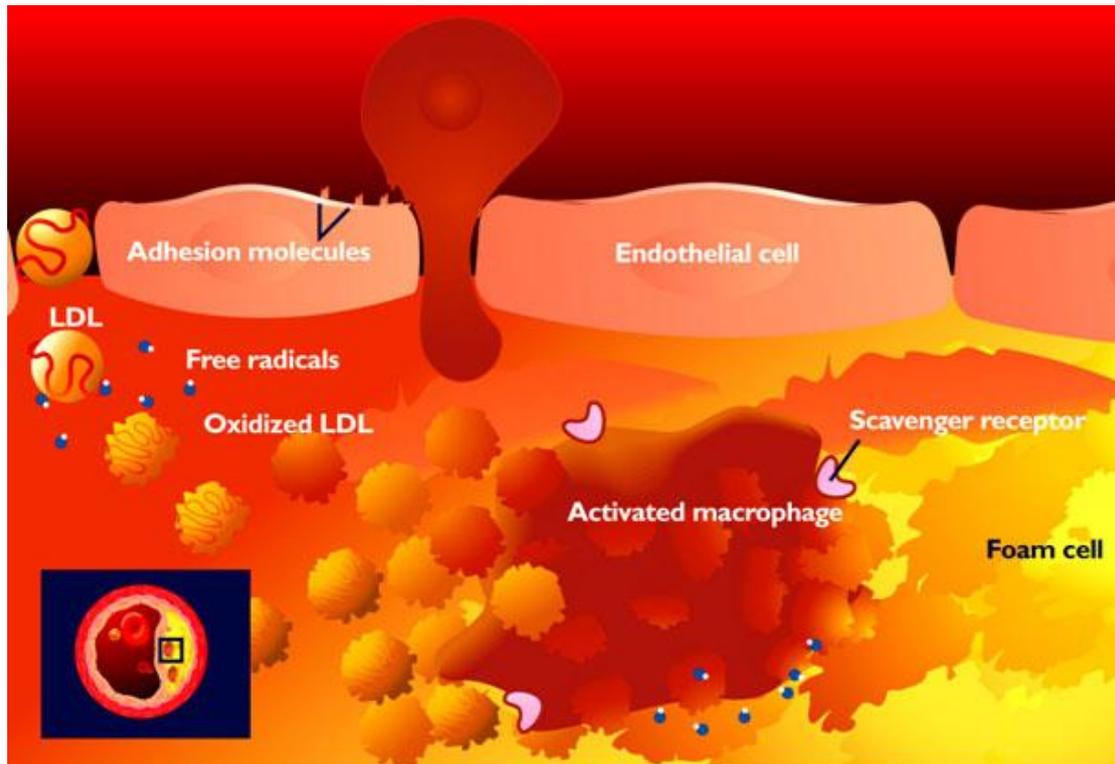
IMPORTANT!!

<u>I</u> Proteinemia	↑ LP	↑ Lipids	Risk
<b>Type I</b>	CM	TGs	-
<b>Type IIa</b>	LDL	C	↑
<b>Type IIb</b>	LDL & VLDL	TG & C	↑
<b>Type III</b>	IDL	TGs & C	↑
<b>Type IV</b>	VLDL	TGs	↑
<b>Type V</b>	VLDL & CM	TGs & C	-

**More about Atherogenesis:**

**When Cholesterol increases, the excessive amount will leak through permeable endothelium & accumulate & become modified (Oxidized-LDL which can produce inflammation in arteries in intima) this will produce MP (methylprednisolone: a glucocorticoid used therapeutically primarily as an anti-inflammatory agent) which will express SR-A (class A scavenger receptors which play an important role in host defense and in many macrophage-associated pathological processes, including atherosclerosis) so it and engulf (Ox-LDL) and trapped it inside, here we have something called Foam Cells.**

THIS PIC SHOWS THE MECHANISM



**Begins as INFLAMMATORY REACTION** triggered by;

**Endothelial dysfunction + (Dyslipidemia) ←HYPERLIPIDEMIA** is the most common form of it

**Progress as FIBRO-PROLIFERATIVE DISORDER** (characterized by accumulations of mesenchymal cells and connective tissue in critical locations, leading to organ dysfunction)

**Switch into ATHERO-THROMBOTIC INSULT at any stage of progression**

Morbidity & mortality outcomes prevented or decreased by **CONTROLLING DYSLIPIDYMIA**

## **THERAPEUTIC STRATEGIES FOR TREATMENT OF HYPERLIPIDEMIA**

### **A - THERAPEUTIC LIFESTYLE CHANGES :**

#### **1. Healthy diet; optimal Quantitative & Qualitative fat content:**

- ◆ Diet has <30% of calories as fat, <7% as saturated fat and <200mg cholesterol/day
- ◆ Avoid trans-fatty acids & acute increase in CHO intake
- ◆ Use better vegetable oils rich in unsaturated fatty acids: oleic acid, linoleic acid & linolenic acids. Diet should also contain plant stanols or sterols & soluble fibers.
- ◆ Eat food high in antioxidants vitamins

#### **2. Regular exercise**

#### **3. Cessation of hazardous habits; smoking, alcohol, ...etc**

#### **4. Weight loss**

**Can achieve a fall in LDL-C of 8-15% ... *but long-term compliance is a problem***

### **B – PHARMACOLOGICAL TREATMENT (ANTIHYPERLIPIDEMIC AGENTS) :**

**According to the mode of action :**

#### **1-Inhibits cholesterol absorption in the intestine**

Ezetimibe

#### **2-Sequester bile acids in the intestine**

Exchange resins

#### **3-Inhibits synthesis of cholesterol**

Inhibitors of hydroxymethylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase (HMG-COA Reductase)

#### 4-Alter relative levels & patterns of different plasma LPs

Fibrates, Nicotinic acids

#### 5-adjuvant agents

Omega-3-Fatty Acids, Stanols

**Adjuvant therapy:** Treatment that is given in addition to the primary (initial) treatment.

Adjuvant treatment is an addition designed to help reach the ultimate goal.

#### (TARGETING EXOGENOUS PATHWAY):

##### 1-Inhibits cholesterol absorption in the intestine :



Class	Action	Example
1A	Selective C transporter inhibitor	Ezetimibe
1B	ACAT Inhibitors	Pactimibe (not effective)
1C	Selective C Efflux Agonist	Rexinoids (under investigation)

- ACAT: The enzyme which catalyses the intracellular formation of cholesteryl esters .

مهم اعالج الارتفاع في الكولستيرول حتى لو TGs مرتفع اكثر لان الكولستيرول اخطر

## **EZETIMIBE** (Selective **Cholesterol** transporter inhibitor)

### **Mechanism** :

Ezetimibe localizes at the brush border of the small intestine, where it inhibits the absorption of cholesterol from the intestine. Specifically, it appears to bind to a critical mediator of cholesterol absorption, the Niemann-Pick C1-Like 1 (NPC1L1) protein located on brush border. It also upregulate LDL-receptors on the surface of cells and an increased LDL-cholesterol uptake into cells, thus decreasing levels of LDL in the blood plasma.

**brush border** : is the name for the microvilli-covered surface of simple cuboidal epithelium and simple columnar epithelium cells in small intestine.

### **Pharmacological action** :

- ★ **Decrease LDL** 20% → 54% of intestinal cholesterol + phytosterol absorption are blocked
- **Decrease TG** 8% , increase HDL 1-4%
- No effect on steroids, lipid-soluble vitamins, bile acids.

### **Pharmacokinetics** :

- Absorbed & conjugated in intestine to active glucuronide (> potent )
- Reaches peak blood level in 12–14 hours
- Its half-life is 22 hours
- Undergoes enterohepatic circulation (prolong action of drug)
- 80% of the drug is excreted in feces

★ **N.B.** Drug level **increase** if with **statins** & **decrease** if with **cholystyramine**

لما أعطي EZETIMIBE مع statins يحسن أداءه  
ولما أعطيه مع cholystyramine يقلل أداءه

## **Indications :**

### As monotherapy :

Pry prevention of low risk of CHD i.e. need modest ↓LDL

**Statin-intolerant patients .**

### As combination therapy :

**safe with statins**; synergistic (In moderate/severe ↑ LDL).

If must decrease statin dose because of side effects

With other lipid : lowering drugs; As fibrates.

## **Adverse effects & interactions : Not common.**

GIT disturbance, headache, fatigue, arthralgia & myalgia.

Seldom reversible impairment of hepatic function .

## **2- bile acid sequestrants :**

**cholestyramine**, colestipol, colesevelam

Are polymeric cation exchange resins.

## **Mechanism :**

Bind to bile acids [BA] preventing their enterohepatic recycling & increase fecal excretion (10 folds).

So in liver decrease BA will decrease C absorption & its increase hepatic breakdown

compensatory increase in LDL R that will increase hepatic C uptake & decrease plasma & tissue C & decrease LDL.

Liver tries to compensate by increase C synthesis but this is usually insufficient to overcome its raised catabolism

شرح مبسط : يرتبط الدواء بالـ bile acid ويمنعها من اكمال دورتها ويخرجها من الجسم ، تقوم الكبد بمحاولة تعويض هذا النقص عن طريق زيادة تصنيع الـ bile acid ولتصنيعه فإنها تحتاج كولسترول ، تقوم الكبد باستهلاك الكوليسترول المخزن فيها وفي تزويد من LDLr عشان يزيد liver uptake وبهذا تقل نسبة الكوليسترول الكلية في الجسم .

## Pharmacological action :

- Decrease LDL 15-30%
- Increase HDL 3-5%
- increase TG & VLDL

الدواء الذي يزيد TGs فلا اعطيه للناس الي عندهم زياده في TGs

- ( initial & transient ) but show marked increase in type IIb Hyperlipoproteinemia.

## Indications :

### As Monotherapy;

- Seldom if statin is contraindicated & levels are not high

### As combination;

- with statins in type 2A Hyperlipoproteinemia.
- Statins offsets the compensatory ↑ in C synthesis by resins & potentiate ↑ LDL R → synergism
- Pruritus due to biliary stasis or obstruction
- Digitalis poisoning

N.B. Resins must be taken in 2-3 doses with meals / lack effect if between meals

### B. Other Indications

#### **Pruritus due to biliary stasis or obstruction**

#### **Digitalis poisoning**

## Adverse effects :

- ↑ GIT bloating, diarrhea, constipation, dyspepsia
- ↓ absorption of fat soluble vitamins ( A, D, E, K)

Dry flaking skin

### Contraindications :

**Biliary obstruction.**

Diverticulitis

Chronic constipation.

Severe hypertriglyceridemia

Type IIb Hyperlipoproteinemia

### Interactions :

**Decrease** absorption of some drugs; Digoxin, Thiazides, Frusemide, Propranolol,

L-thyroxin, Warfarin anticoagulant

N.B. So these drugs must be taken 1 hr before or 4 hrs after sequestrants

## TARGETING ENDOGENOUS PATHWAYS

Niacin(nicotinic)

Fibrates

Statins

### Niacin (nicotinic acid):

Is known as **Vit B<sub>3</sub>**. Its amide derivative nicotinamide **has no lipid lowering effects**

### Mechanism

Bind to a specific receptors in **adipose tissue** (**reverse effect of b-AR stimulation**) → ↓ cAMP → ↓ PKA → -ve TGs breakdown → ↓ FFA to liver → ↓ TGs hepatic synthesis & VLDL formation

This eventually ↓LDL & ↑ HDL (CETP has a role???)

In plasma: ↑ LPL activity → ↑ VLDL & CMs clearance

Inhibits VLDL secretion and TGs synthesis from liver by binding to specific receptors in adipose tissue

And this will lead to decreases **production of LDL and increase HDL**

## Pharmacological actions

↓LDL 5-25%

↑ **HDL 15-30%**

اكتر دواء عندي يرفع HDL

↓ TG & VLDL 20-50%

↓ LP(a)

↓ Fibrinogen

↑Tissue plasminogen activator

## Indications

Mono or in combination with **fibrate, resin or statin**

-**Type IIa hypercholesterolemia**

-**Type IIb hypercholesterolemia** & any combined hyperlipidemia

- Patient **with hypertriglyceridemia & low HDL-C.**

-**Hyperchylomicronemia**

## ADRs

**Sensation of warmth & flushing**

I give him Aspirin to decrease flushing

(prostaglandin induced / -v by aspirin ½ h before niacin)

Pruritus, rash, dry skin

Dyspepsia: nausea, vomiting, reactivation of peptic ulcer (↓ if taken after meal).

Reversible ↑ liver enzymes → hepatotoxicity.

Impairment of glucose tolerance → overt diabetes

↑ uric acid

## Contraindications

Gout.

↑ uric acid

Peptic ulcer.

Hepatotoxicity.

Diabetes mellitus

Impairment of glucose tolerance → overt diabetes

## FIBRATES

Peroxisome Proliferator Activator Receptor [PPARa]

## Mechanism

Bind & activate PPARa R

Dimerize with RXR

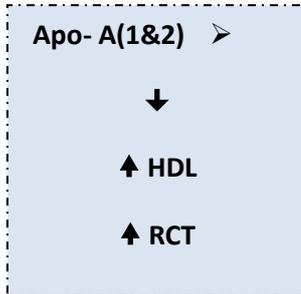
Are ligands for nuclear transcription receptor called (PPAR-a)

Increase extracellular lipoprotein lipase activity in blood vessels of tissues

HDL ويرفعون TGs يخفضون nicotinic acid & Fibrates

↓ TGs in plasma

↓ VLDL Formation by liver



## Drugs

Clofibrate (X)

↑ Gall stones/ Cancer

Fenofibrate (F)

Bezafibrate not with us

Gemfibrozil (G)

## Pharmacological actions

↓ LDL 5-20%

↑ HDL 10-20% > (G)

↓ TG & VLDL 20-50%

↓ Fibrinogen

↓ Vascular inflammation > (G)

Improve glucose tolerance > (F)

يعنى لو عند الشخص مرض السكر اعطيه F

N.B. Fenofibrate → uricosuric action → > if gout

# Pharmacokinetics

	Gemfibrozil	Fenofibrate
Bioavailability	Nearly 100%	Less
Protein binding	95%, passes to placenta	99%
Metabolism	Hepatic (CYP3A4)	Glucuronidation
t ½	1.5 hours	20 hrs
Excretion	Renal 94% > unchanged Feces 6%	Renal 60% Feces 25%

## Indications

As monotherapy; > (G)

Hypertriglyceridemia; Type IV lipoproteinemia

As Combined therapy with statins ; > (F)

1. Mixed dyslipidaemia; i.e type IIb & III lipoproteinemia
2. In ↓ HDL, ↑ TGs ± [~LDL] + ↑ risk of atherothrombosis [Type 2 diabetes]

N.B. (F) > (G) to combine specially with lipophilic statins for fear of interaction on CYT P450 → causing toxicity (myositis & rhabdomyolysis). Also the uricosuric action of (F) help in insulin resistance syndrome.

As Combined therapy with other lipid lowering drugs ; in severe treatment-resistant dyslipidaemia.

## ADRS

1. G.I.T upset, headache, fatigue, weight gain

2. Rash, urticaria, hair loss

مهم جدا هذا ADRS

3. **Myalgia, myositis, rhabdomyolysis** → acute renal failure → in alcoholics or in combination with lipophylic statins (each – ve metabolism of other ) also in those with impaired renal function (elimination is ↑ & protein binding ↓)

## Contraindications

Renal or hepatic impairment

**Pregnant or nursing women**

Gall-bladder disease & morbid obesity

In hypoalbuminaemia

In alcoholics

## Interactions

They **displace warfarin** from their protein binding sites → ↑ ◆  
**bleeding tendency** → anticoagulant dose must be adjusted.

They ↓ metabolism of lipophylic not hydrophilic statins → ◆  
toxicity → myalgia, myositis, .....etc. Give lower doses

N.B. *Clofibrate* > causing interactions. Also → hypoglycemia when combined with *sulphonylurea* . Also > ADRS, that is why it is least used

يُطرد ارتباط warfarin مع البروتين فيزيد تركيزه بالدم ويزيد تأثيره الذي هو Bleeding

# STATINS

## HMGR CoA Reductase INHIBITORS

### Mechanism

One of the enzymes in cholesterol synthetic pathways that controls the rate limiting step of conversion to mevalonate

hepatic C synthesis → ↓ hepatic intracellular C

1. ↑ synthesis of LDL receptors → ↑ clearance of LDL
2. ↓ secretion of VLDL & ↑ uptake of non-HDL-C

HDL يرفعون Fibrates+nicotinic acid

بينما statins لا يرفع HDL

Also by blocking cholesterol synthetic pathway it is also blocking signaling molecules responsible for progress of inflammation, vulnerability & athrothrombosis occurring 2<sup>nd</sup>ry to excess C accumulation

لها good effect on endothelial cell

### PLEIOTROPIC ANTIATHEROGENIC effects

Improve endothelial function

↓ vascular inflammation

↓ platelet aggregability

↑ neovascularisation of ischaemic tissue

↑ circulating endothelial progenitor cells

Stabilization of atherosclerotic plaque

Antithrombotic actions

Enhanced fibrinolysis

### Other effects

+ve osteoclast apoptosis

↑ synthetic activity in osteoblasts

Immune suppression.

سؤال مهم جدا مريض سكري عنده ارتفاع في TGs فانا اعطيه كاول دواء statins حتى لو نسبه  
C ماكانت مرتفعه واعطي معه fibrates علشان انقص TGs

## Classification of STATINS

PRODRUGS

ACTIVE DRUGS

Pravastatin الدواء الوحيد الذي not  
metabolism in liver

Simvastatin / Lovastatin / Fluvastatin / Atorvastatin / Pravastatin / Rosuvastatin

**Lipophylic**

**Hydrophilic**

## Pharmacokinetics

Absorption varies (40-70%), fluvastatin almost completely ♦

Absorption enhanced if taken with food, except pravastatin ♦

All have high first-pass extraction by the liver, except pravastatin ♦

Metabolized variably; ♦

By CYP3A4 → Simvastatin, Lovastatin, Atorvastatin

By CYP2C9 → Fluvastatin, Rosuvastatin

By sulphonation → Pravastatin

Excreted in bile & 5–20% is excreted in urine, except pravastatin ♦  
80-90% urine

$t_{1/2}$  → Short 1-3 hrs → Simvastatin, Lovastatin, Fluvastatin ♦

يؤخذ بالليل لان تصنيع الكولستيرول يحدث بالليل

→ 14 hrs → Atorvastatin

→ 19 hrs → Rosuvastatin

يؤخذ في أي وقت

## Indications

### As monotherapy:

2<sup>nd</sup>ry Prevention; All ischemic insults as transient ischemic attacks, stroke,

subtypes of ACSs up to AMI, ....etc.

Is given even from 1<sup>st</sup> day of attack → stabilize plaques + help to limit ischemic zone & to salvage preferential tissues

Must be pertained for life & lipid lowering must attain goals specified

P<sup>ry</sup> Prevention; Patients with hyperlipidemia and are at risk of developing any form of ischemic insults.

In Type IIa Hyperlipoproteinemia. If no control → combine (sequestrants / ezetimibe, niacine,.. ) to ↓ C.

### As Combination therapy:

1. Mixed dyslipidaemias; i.e type IIb & III lipoproteinemia, we add to fenofibrates or niacine if necessary

2. In diabetics even if there is only hypertriglyceridemia & low HDL alone without change in LDL because these patients possess atherogenic non-HDL dyslipidemia, usually with small dense LDL + evident endothelial dysfunction + increased thrombotic profile.

## ADRs

↑ serum transaminase → can progress to liver toxicity in patient with liver disease (or alcoholic).

Thus lab investigation recommended every 6 months → if levels ↑ 3 folds at any time, statin is stopped or dose adjusted.

↑ creatine kinase activity (index of muscle injury) → measured if myalgia or myositis develops → if ↑ 3-5 folds → we;

statin doses / change to less lipophilic statin / omit combination if with fibrates / search for a concomitant interaction as (amiodarone or verapamil) that could have ↓ statin clearance & ↑ its toxicity → so adjust doses or give alternative combinations

If severe elevation + blood in urine →

Rhabdomyolysis → renal failure could be fatal → dialysis needed

Others; ↑ lenticular opacity, insomnia, rash, GIT disturbance

## Interactions

CYP3A4 , Drug inducers (Phenytoin, griseofulvin, barbiturates, rifampin, and thiazolidinediones) → ↓ efficacy & Drug inhibitors ( e.g. macrolide antibiotics, cyclosporine, ketoconazole ) ↑ toxicity of Simvastatin, Lovastatin, Atorvastatin

CYP2C9, Drug inhibitors (ketoconazole, metronidazole, sulfinpyrazone, amiodarone, and cimetidine ) ↑ toxicity of fluvastatin & rosuvastatin

### Adjuvants in hyperlipidemia

Omega-3-FA

B-Sitosterol

## Omega -3-FA

found in fish oils containing highly unsaturated FA

## Mechanism

↓ enzymes involved in TG synthesis

And this will to decrease GTs

↑ beta-oxidation of FFA

↓ platelet function

Prolongation of bleeding time

Reduction of plasma fibrinogen

These are some vascular protection

Anti-inflammatory effects

## Indications

Approved as adjunctive for treatment of very high TGs

## ADRs

Eructation, dyspepsia, altered taste

Can worsen **glycemic control in diabetics**

Can increase bleeding tendencies

## **$\beta$ -Sitosterol**

found **in plants** with **structure similar to C**

### **Mechanism & Pharmacological Effects**

Compete with dietary & biliary C absorption → ↓ levels LDL levels ±10%

### **Indications**

Given **as food supplement** before meal in hypercholesterolemia

### **ADRs**

GIT ; nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, gases, constipation...

Impotence & ↓ sex drive

**Avoided in pregnancy & breast feeding**