



UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA
HEART INSTITUTE
INSTITUT DE CARDIOLOGIE
DE L'UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA



PCSK9 inhibitors

**not for every patient with
LDL-C above target**

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Faculty/Presenter Disclosure

- **Faculty:** Ruth McPherson
- **Relationships with commercial interests:**
 - **Grants/Research Support:** Pfizer
 - **Speakers Bureau/Honoraria:** Amgen, Merck, AstraZeneca, Valeant, Johnson & Johnson
 - **Consulting Fees:** Amgen, Sanofi, Aegerion

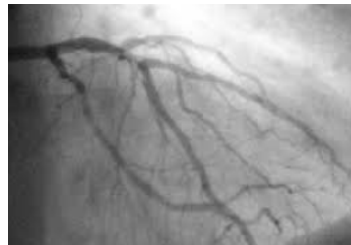
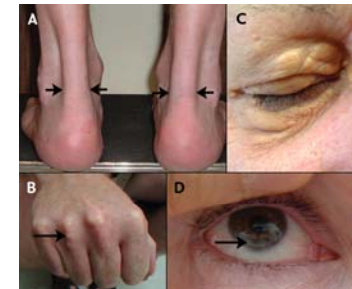


Beyond Statins Need for New Therapies

Statin intolerance



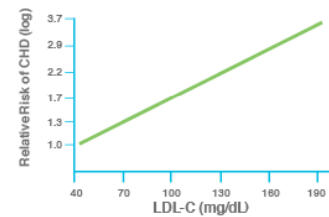
Severe familial dyslipidemia



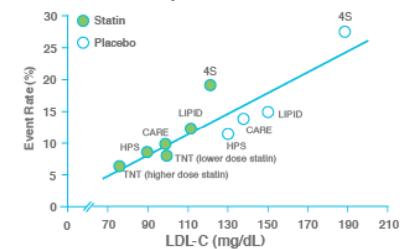
Aggressive CAD

Lower targets

Epidemiological studies have shown a log-linear relationship between LDL-C levels and relative CHD risk⁷



Interventional studies have shown a linear relationship between LDL-C levels and major cardiovascular events⁸



Why Not?

1. Statin intolerance – real or imagined
2. Familial hypercholesterolemia – treated or not
3. ASCVD – how great is the benefit of further LDL lowering when LDL-c is 1.8?
4. PCSK9 – why do we have it?
5. Economics – cost/benefit ratios



Statin Intolerance

How Great is the Problem?

Adverse events may be related to specific statin, not entire drug class; most patients can tolerate a subsequent trial of statin

In a large, retrospective cohort study 92% of those rechallenged were still taking a statin 12 months after statin-related event

ODYSSEY ALTERNATIVE (statin-intolerance) STUDY

a significant proportion of subjects withdrew due to muscle related side-effects during *placebo run-in*.

Discontinuation on blinded Rx

alirocumab (PCSK9 mAb)	18.3%
ezetimibe	25.0%
atorvastatin 20mg	25.4%



Discontinuation of Statins in Routine Care Settings

A Cohort Study

Huabing Zhang, MD; Jorge Plutzky, MD; Stephen Skentzos, BA, BS; Fritha Morrison, MPH; Perry Mar, PhD; Maria Shubina, ScD; and Alexander Turchin, MD, MS

Ann Intern Med. 2013;158:526-534.

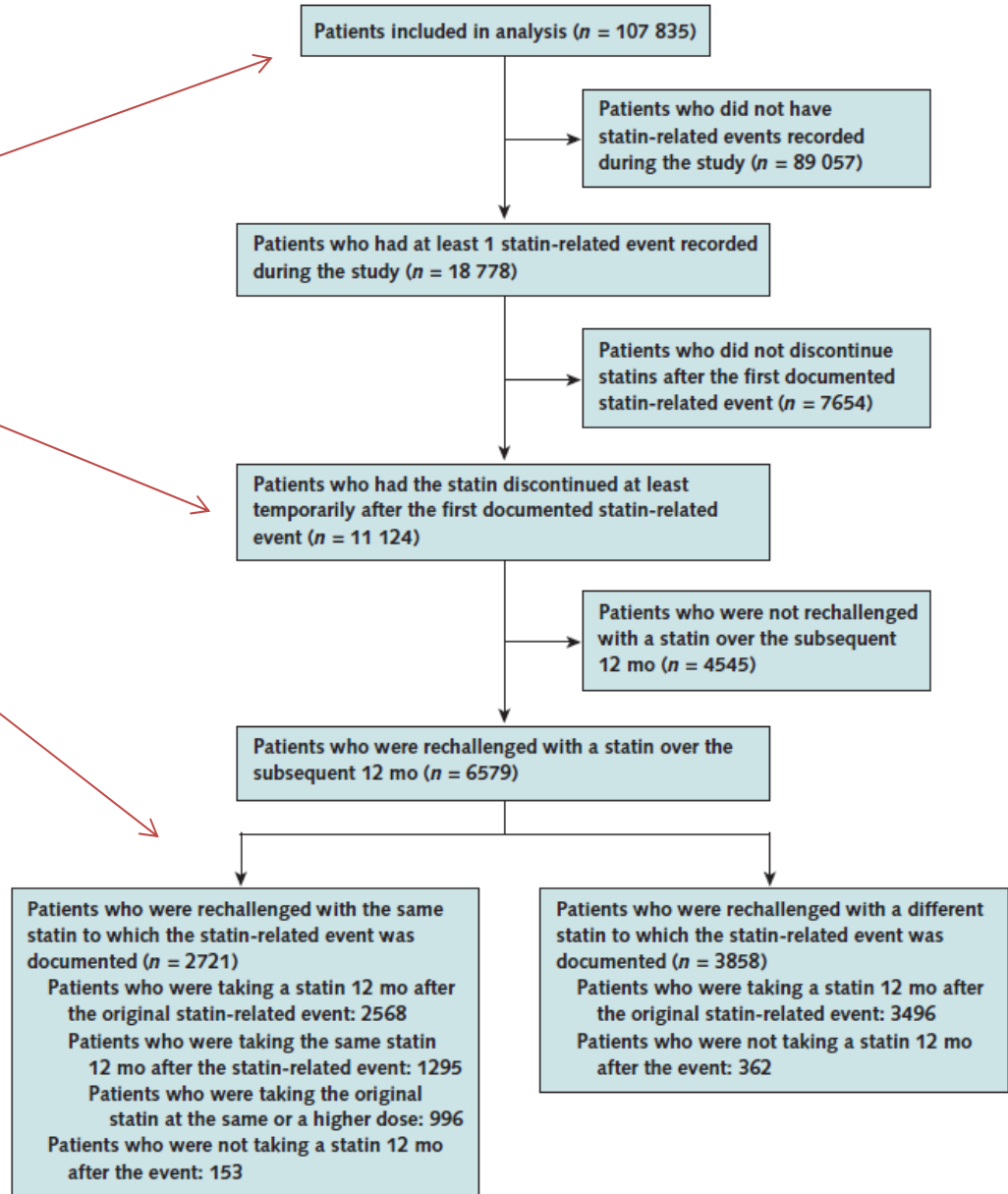
Conclusion: Statin-related events are commonly reported and often lead to statin discontinuation. However, most patients who are rechallenged can tolerate statins long-term. This suggests that many of the statin-related events may have other causes, are tolerable, or may be specific to individual statins rather than the entire drug class.

Figure 2. Statin discontinuation by patients with statin-related events.

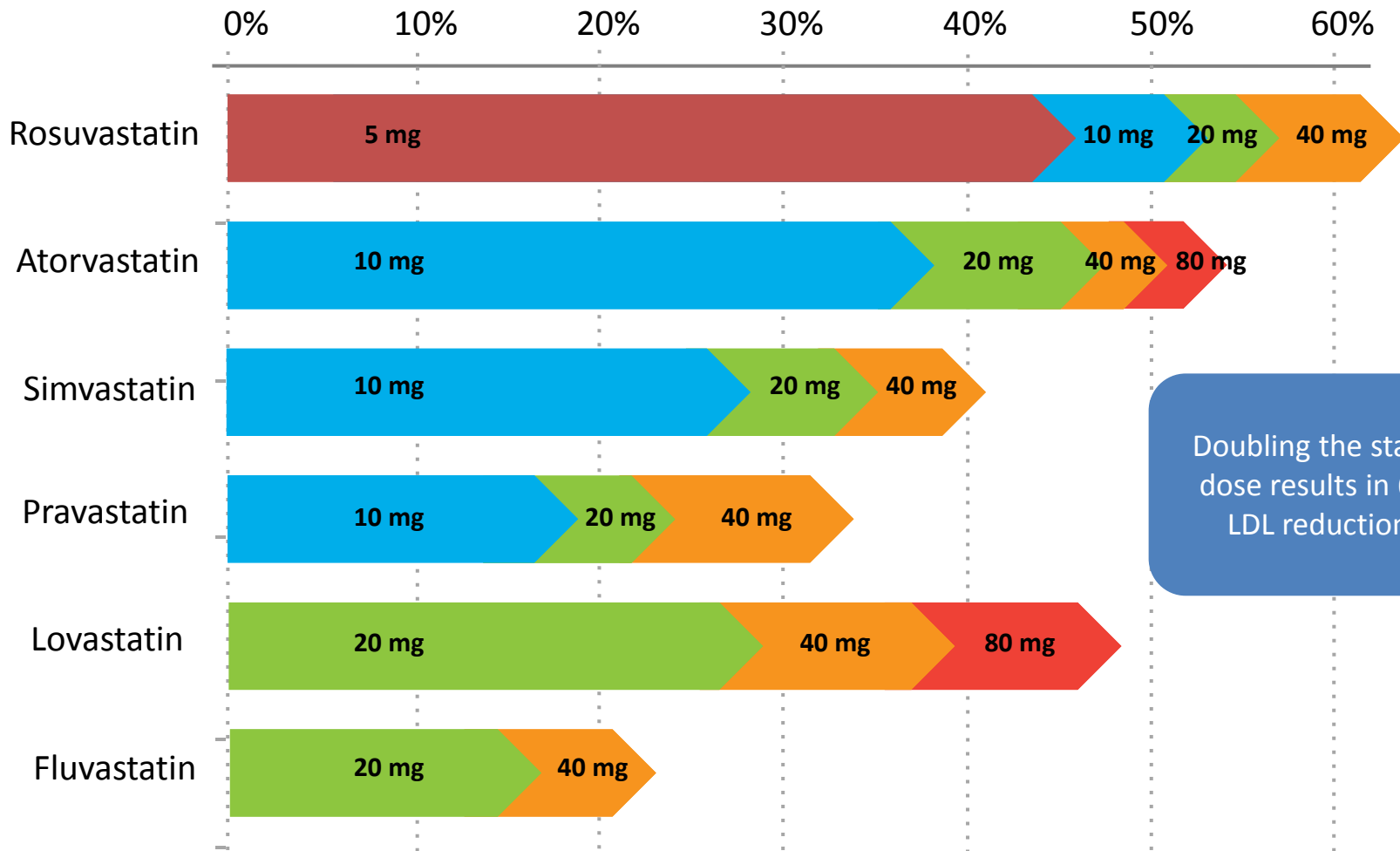
107,835 patients prescribed statins

10% of patients discontinued statin therapy because of perceived side-effects.

When rechallenged with the same or different statin, >90% of these initially "statin intolerant" patients were able to resume and continue statin Rx



Statin Monotherapy: LDL-C ↓ 20-60%



Doubling the statin dose results in 6% LDL reduction

Familial Hypercholesterolemia

No longer looks like this 

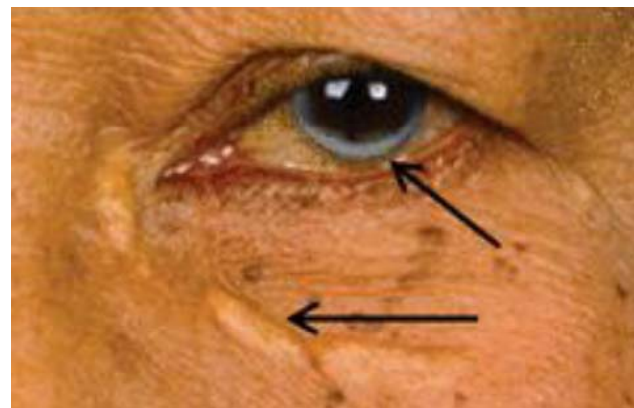
Early treatment with statin + ezetimibe

@ age 8 to 10 years of age



Sustained LDLc reduction

Marked decrease in ASCVD risk



Efficacy of statins in familial hypercholesterolaemia: a long term cohort study

Jorie Versmissen, researcher,¹ Daniëlla M Oosterveer, researcher,¹ Mojgan Yazdanpanah, epidemiologist,¹ Joep C Defesche, senior researcher,² Dick C G Basart, clinician,³ Anho H Liem, clinician,⁴ Jan Heeringa, statistician,⁵ Jacqueline C Witteman, professor of epidemiology,⁵ Peter J Lansberg, clinician,² John J P Kastelein, professor of vascular medicine,² Eric J G Sijbrands, associate professor¹

BMJ 2008;337:a2423

Design Cohort study with a mean follow-up of 8.5 years.
Setting 27 outpatient lipid clinics.
Subjects 2146 patients with familial hypercholesterolaemia without prevalent coronary heart disease before 1 January 1990.

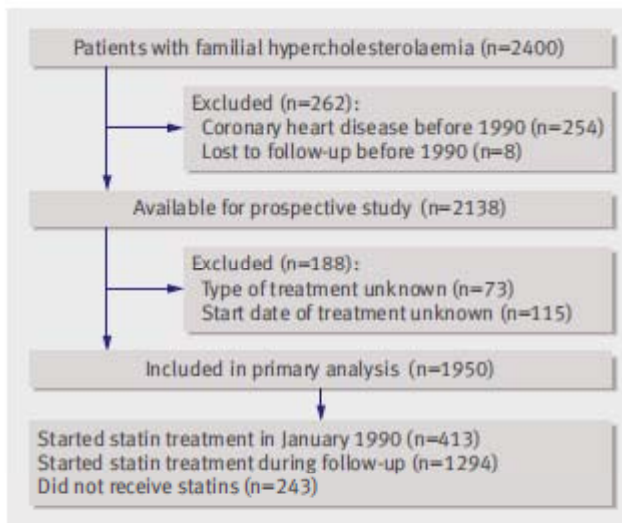


Fig 1 | Flow of patients through study

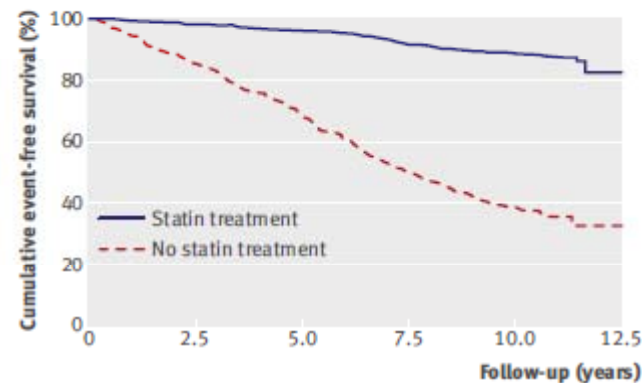


Fig 2 | Kaplan-Meier curve estimates of cumulative coronary heart disease-free survival among patients with familial hypercholesterolaemia according to statin treatment ($P < 0.001$ for difference)

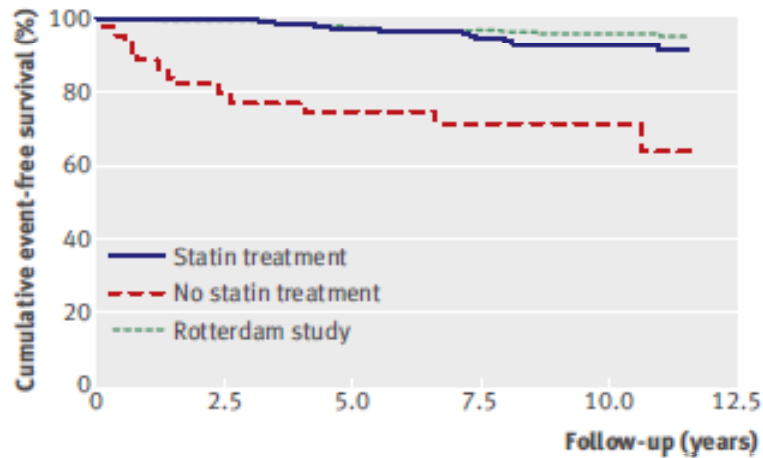


Fig 4 | Kaplan-Meier curve estimates of cumulative myocardial infarct-free survival among patients with familial hypercholesterolaemia older than 55 years according to statin treatment compared with a sample from the general population (Rotterdam study). ($P < 0.001$ for difference between untreated patients and general population; $P = 0.07$ for difference between treated patients and general population)

Statin treated FH patients older than 55 years had a similar risk of MI as did a sample of the same age from the general population (Rotterdam Study)

Reductions in all-cause, cancer, and coronary mortality in statin-treated patients with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia: a prospective registry study

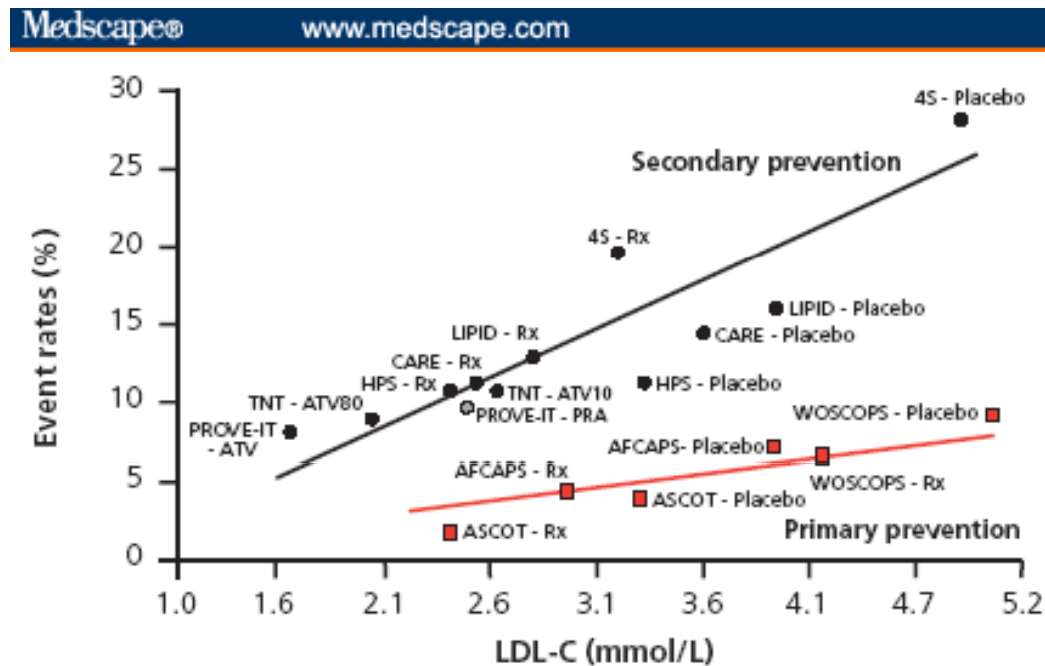
Andrew Neil^{1*}, Jackie Cooper², John Betteridge³, Nigel Capps⁴, Ian McDowell⁵, Paul Durrington⁶, Mary Seed⁷, and Steve E. Humphries² on behalf of the Simon Broome Familial Hyperlipidaemia Register Group

Table 3 Observed and expected deaths from coronary heart disease by age group and time period for patients with and without known coronary disease at registration

Attained age (years)	Person-years observation	1 January 1980 to 31 December 1991						Rate/100 000	Person-years observation	1 January 1992 to 31 December 2006						Rate/100 000
		Observed	Expected	SMR	95% CI	P-value	Observed			Expected	SMR	95% CI	P-value			
Primary prevention																
20–39	2031	3	0.08	3750	773–10 959	<0.001	148	8227	3	0.26	1153	238–3372	<0.01	37		
40–59	2181	8	2.34	342	148–674	<0.01	367	13123	13	9.19	141	75–242	0.28	99		
60–79	686	1	3.63	27	1–153	0.25	146	8219	29	34.33	84	57–121	0.41	353		
20–79	4898	12	6.05	198	102–346	0.04	212	29 569	45	43.78	103	75–138	0.89	145		
Secondary prevention																
20–39	178	5	0.01	50000	16 235–116 683	<0.0001	2816	229	1	0			0	436		
40–59	1016	9	1.58	570	260–1081	<0.0001	886	3419	34	3.83	888	615–1241	<0.0001	995		
60–79	539	11	3.24	340	169–607	<0.001	2038	4509	73	24.01	304	238–382	<0.0001	1619		
20–79	1733	25	4.83	515	335–764	<0.0001	1442	8157	108	27.84	388	318–468	<0.0001	1324		

A total of 3382 patients (1650 men) aged <80 years were recruited from 21 lipid clinics in the United Kingdom and followed prospectively between 1980 and 2006 for 46 580 person-years. There were 370 deaths, including 190 from coronary heart disease (CHD) and 90 from cancer. The standardized mortality ratio (compared with the population in England and Wales) was calculated before and from 1 January 1992. In patients aged 20–79 years, CHD mortality fell significantly by 37% (95% CI = 7–56) from 3.4- to 2.1-fold excess. Primary prevention resulted in a 48% reduction in CHD mortality from 2.0-fold excess to none, with a smaller reduction of nearly 25% in patients with established disease. Coronary mortality was reduced more in women than in men. In patients without known CHD at registration, all-cause mortality from 1992 was 33% (21–43), lower than in the general population, mainly due to a 37% (21–50) lower risk of fatal cancer.

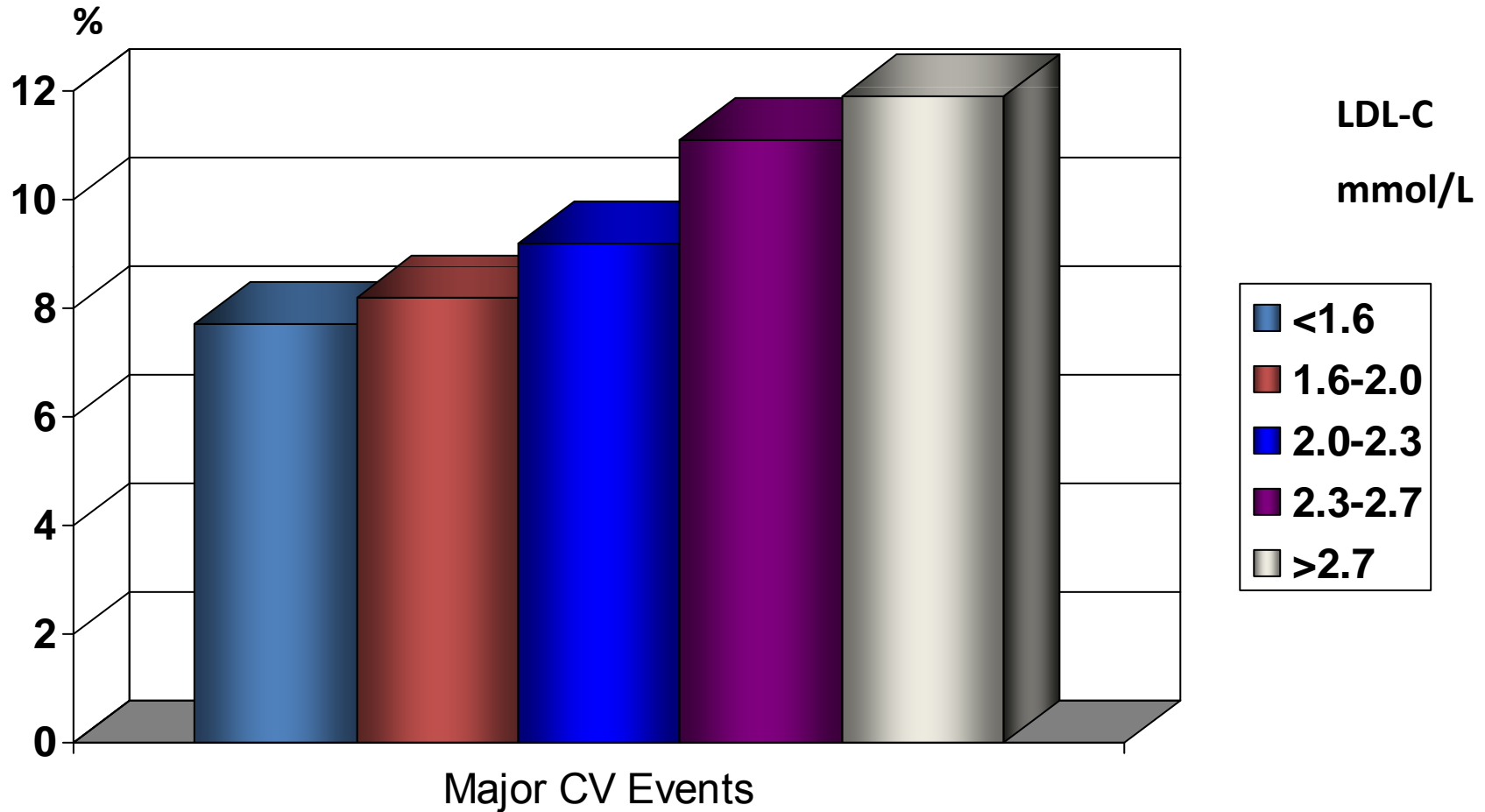
ASCVD- Lower is (how much?) Better



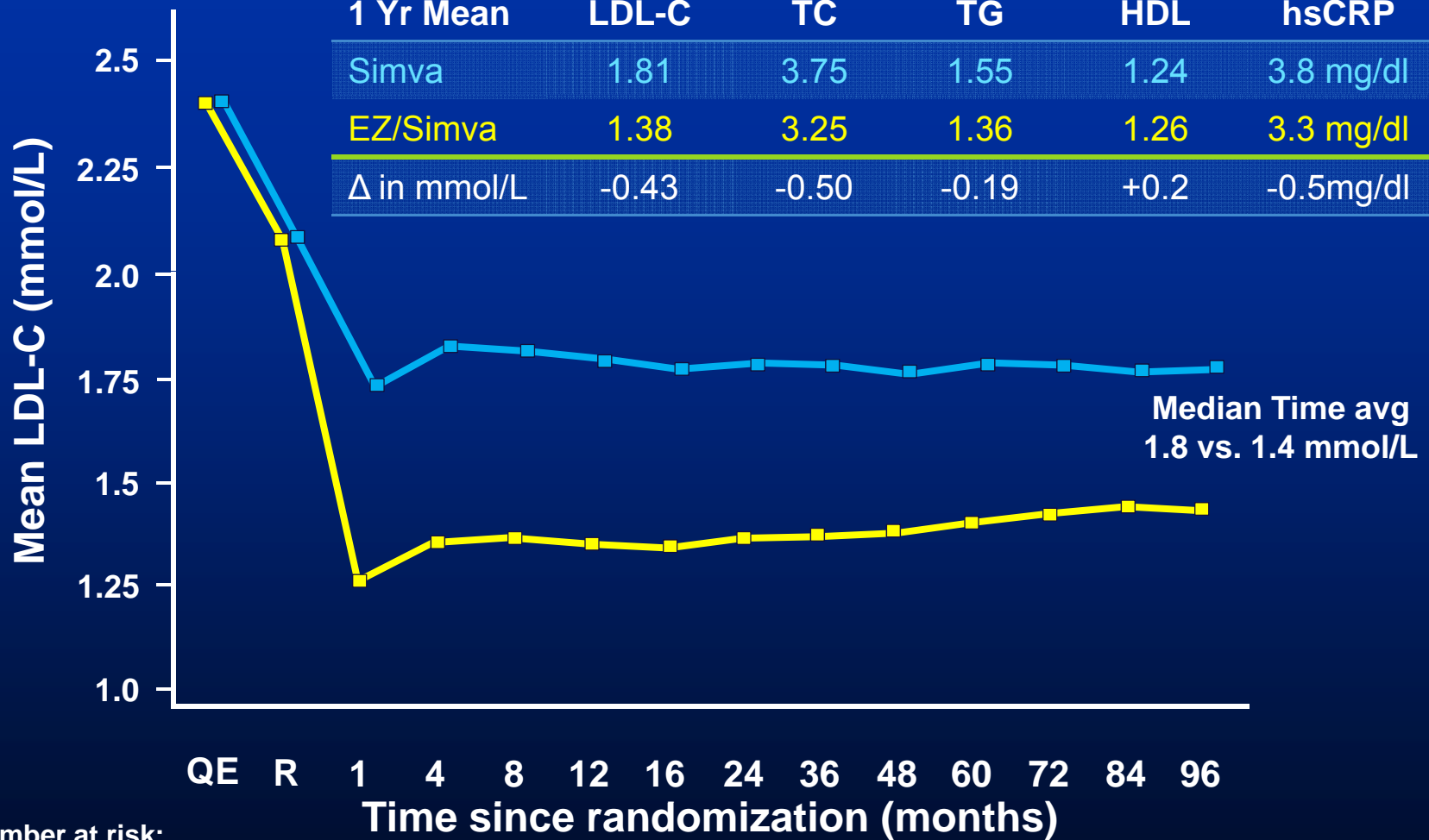
Key: LDL-C= low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; Rx= statin therapy;
PRA = pravastatin; ATV = atorvastatin

Adapted from: Rosensen RS. *Exp Opin Emerg Drugs* 2004;9:269-79 and La Rosa JC⁴

TNT: CV Events by On-treatment LDL-C



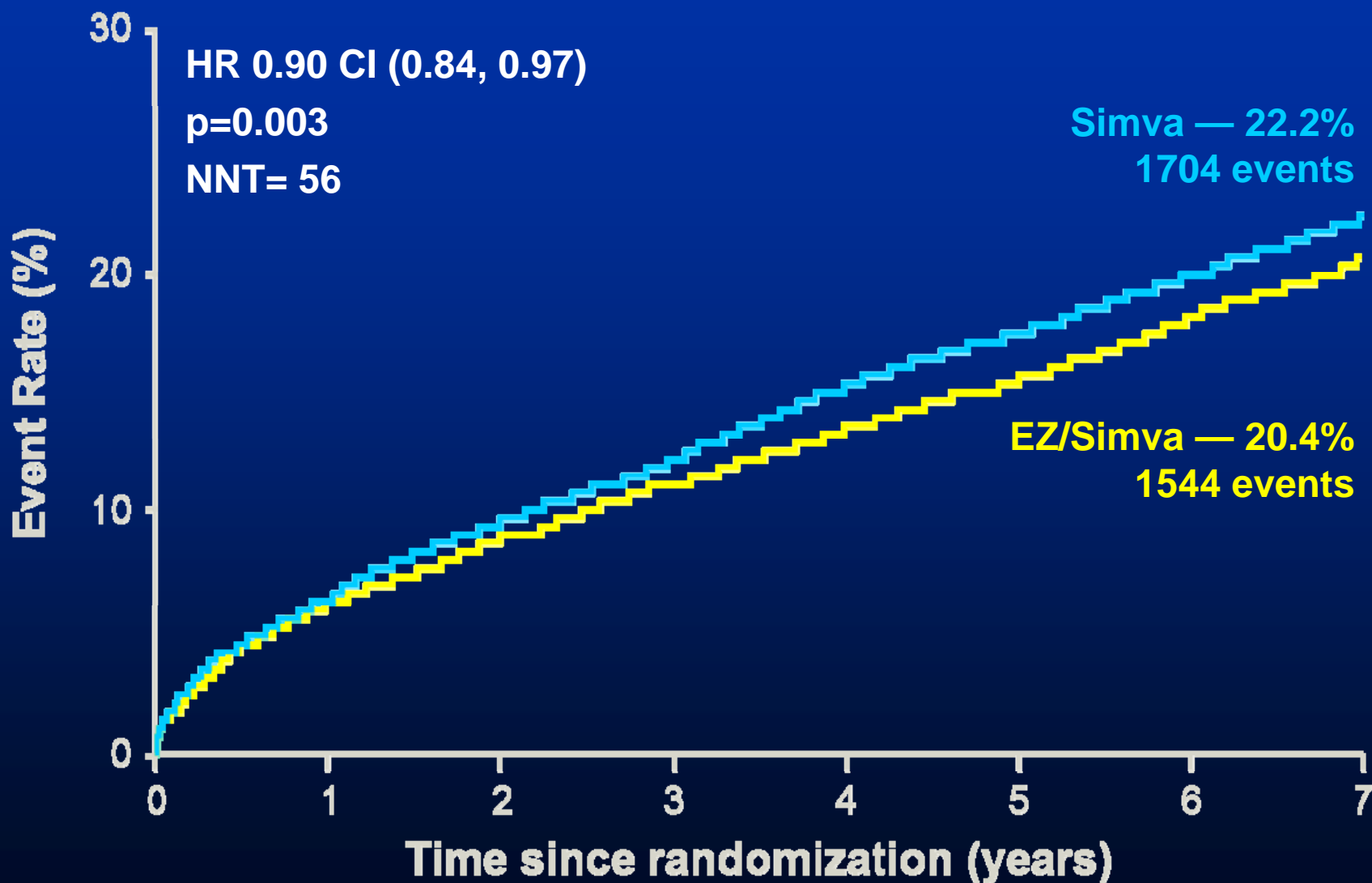
LDL-C and Lipid Changes



Number at risk:

	QE	R	1	4	8	12	16	24	36	48	60	72	84	96
EZ/Simva	8990	8889	8230	7701	7264	6864	6583	6256	5734	5354	4508	3484	2608	1078
Simva	9009	8921	8306	7843	7289	6939	6607	6192	5684	5267	4395	3387	2569	1068

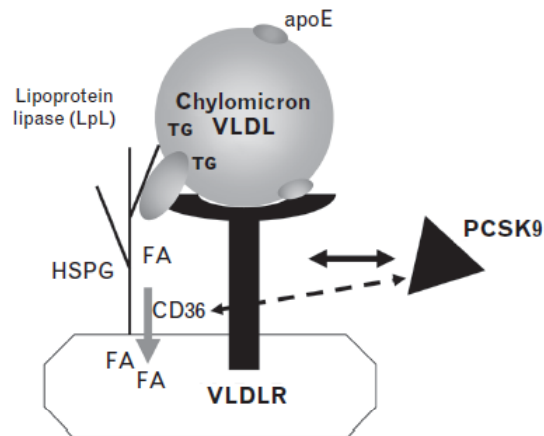
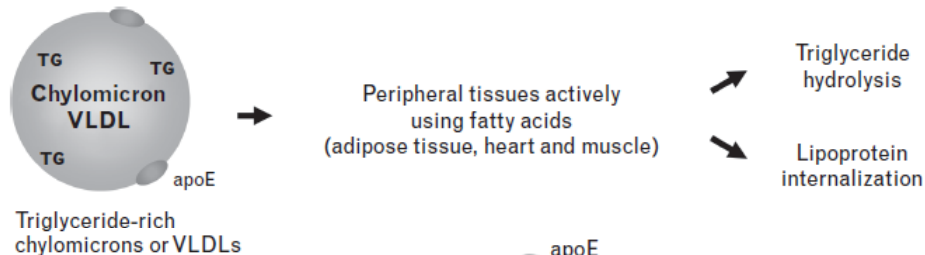
CV Death, Non-fatal MI, or Non-fatal Stroke



7-year event rates

PCSK9 – A function beyond increasing LDLc?

Visceral fat accumulation in PCSK9-deficient mice



New developments in proprotein convertase subtilisin-kexin 9's biology and clinical implications

Nabil G. Seidah

Volume 27 • Number 3 • June 2016

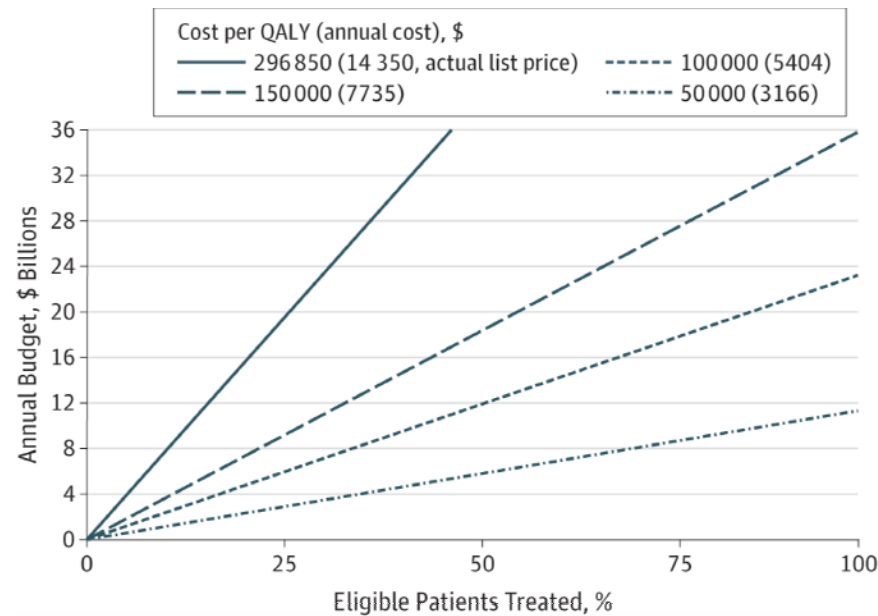
PCSK9 also targets other receptors for degradation, including the VLDLR, ApoER2, low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 1, CD36, and CD81. The role of PCSK9 in the induced degradation of VLDLR and CD36 rationalizes some of its functions in the regulation of triglyceride metabolism, whereas its ability to enhance the degradation of LDLR, VLDLR, and CD81 likely explains its proposed protective role in HCV infection, especially for HCV genotype 3.

Economics of evolocumab/alirocumab Rx



From: **Proprotein Convertase Subtilisin/Kexin Type 9 (PCSK9) Inhibitors for Treatment of High Cholesterol Levels: Effectiveness and Value**

JAMA Intern Med. 2016;176(1):107-108. doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2015.7248



CVD Policy Model

- familial hypercholesterolemia
- CVD statin intolerant
- CVD not at target

Figure Legend:

Cost-effectiveness Analysis of PCSK9 Inhibitor Treatment in 4 Cost Scenarios The lines represent results from 4 scenarios, varying possible annual drug prices, percentage of eligible patients treated, and their effect on cost-effectiveness ratios and the potential effect on budget. PCSK9 indicates proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9; QALY, quality-adjusted life-year.

CDN Costs @ Current Price

Patient Group	Estimated # pts	NNT ₅	Cost per QALY
Familial Hypercholesterolemia	60,000	28	\$145,000
CVD/Statin intolerant	146,000	21	\$137,000
CVD/LDL-C>1.8 on max statin	727,000	21	\$151,000
	933,000		

Role for PCSK9 Directed Therapies

- Statins are the cornerstone of therapy for lipid lowering and CVD prevention
- Ezetimibe is a useful 2nd agent now with supportive RCT data
- Accumulating evidence that lower (*than guideline recommendations*) is better
- Many high risk individuals do not achieve ideal LDLc levels



**Potentially Important Role for PCSK9 inhibitors in Optimizing Rx
in a select group of patients**

A major issue is cost

PCSK9 Pyramid

*on background of
maximally tolerated
dose of statin +
ezetimibe*

