

Tackling  
Cholesterol  
Together

# Evaluating Cardiovascular Disease Risk

Welcome to the first in a series of webinars as part of the national education programme Tackling Cholesterol Together.

Delivered in partnership by The NHS Accelerated Access Collaborative (AAC), The AHSN Network and the cholesterol charity, HEART UK

**The webinar will start at 1pm**

July 2021

All programme content, recordings and next webinar bookings will be housed in the HEART UK pages. Visit the site for the **new** e-Learning module on Statin Intolerance. <https://www.heartuk.org.uk/tackling-cholesterol-together/home>

Lowering Cholesterol!

Saving Lives.

# Tackling Cholesterol Together

The NHS Accelerated Access Collaborative (AAC) and The AHSN Network are partnering with the cholesterol charity, HEART UK, to build a new national education programme called Tackling Cholesterol Together.



Launches July 2021 and available through the HEART UK pages <https://www.heartuk.org.uk/tackling-cholesterol-together/home>.



**Free** to access, **broad range** of digital learning tools



Supports healthcare professionals in primary and secondary care to **take control** of cholesterol management



Enables professionals to discover methods to **rectify** under diagnosis and under treatment at scale



Finds ways to use **new models** to address the real-world challenges of cholesterol management



Supports the Long Term Plan's ambitions and will **boost** uptake of proven cholesterol-lowering drugs



In line with updated NICE endorsed clinical pathways, including **new** recommended therapies



# Housekeeping

The **AHSN** Network

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- 
- **This meeting will be recorded** and will be made available in the HEART UK Tackling Cholesterol Together pages

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  - **There will be time** to stop and ask questions at the end

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  - **Feel free to ask questions** or upvote questions in the chat function when it becomes available

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  - **Any questions that we are not able to cover in the Q&A** sections today will be addressed following the event

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  - **Any questions you provided** during registration will be covered during the session
-

	Topic	Presenter
01	Welcome and Introductions	Christopher Allen
02	CVD and Lipid Management in England Today	Dr Shahed Ahmad
03	Evaluating Cardiovascular Disease Risk	Dr Peter Green
04	Beyond risk scores - risk in Familial Hypercholesterolaemia (FH) and established atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (and what to do about it)	Dr Dermot Neely
05	Close and next steps	Christopher Allen

01

**Understand** effective lipid management for patients in the context of national priorities for the NHS in England in the prevention and management of CVD

02

Gain **knowledge** of the NICE guidance on CVD risk assessment tools, how to interpret risk

03

Gain **insight** into the role of cholesterol as a modifiable CVD risk factor

04

**Develop** methods to evaluate and manage risk when risk scores are not recommended



# 02

## **CVD and Lipid Management in England Today**

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**Dr Shahed Ahmad**

National Clinical Director for Cardiovascular Disease  
Prevention at NHS England and Improvement



# We will cover:

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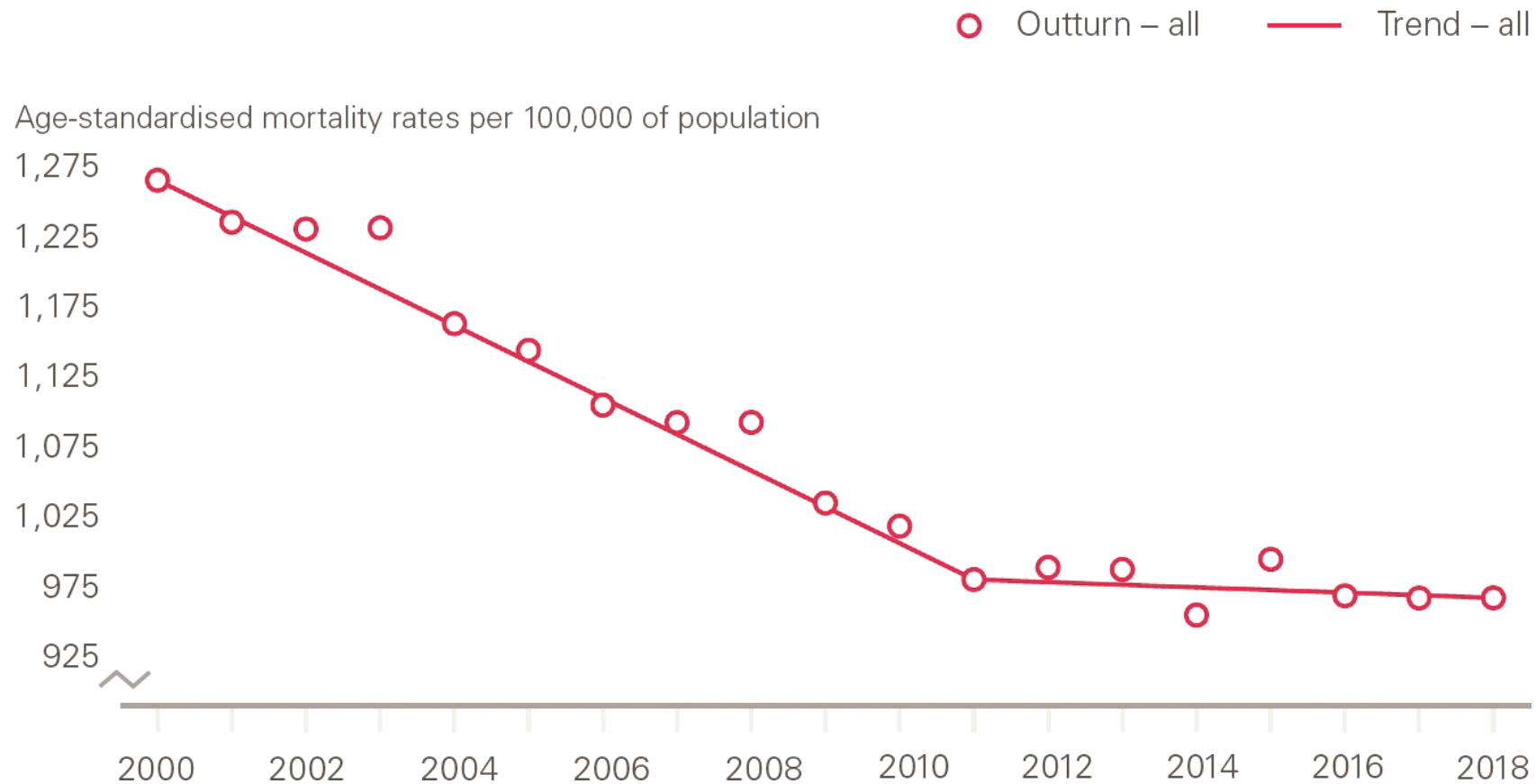


Why CVD  
is a priority

CVD and health  
inequalities

LTP national  
ambitions for CVD  
prevention in the  
NHS in England

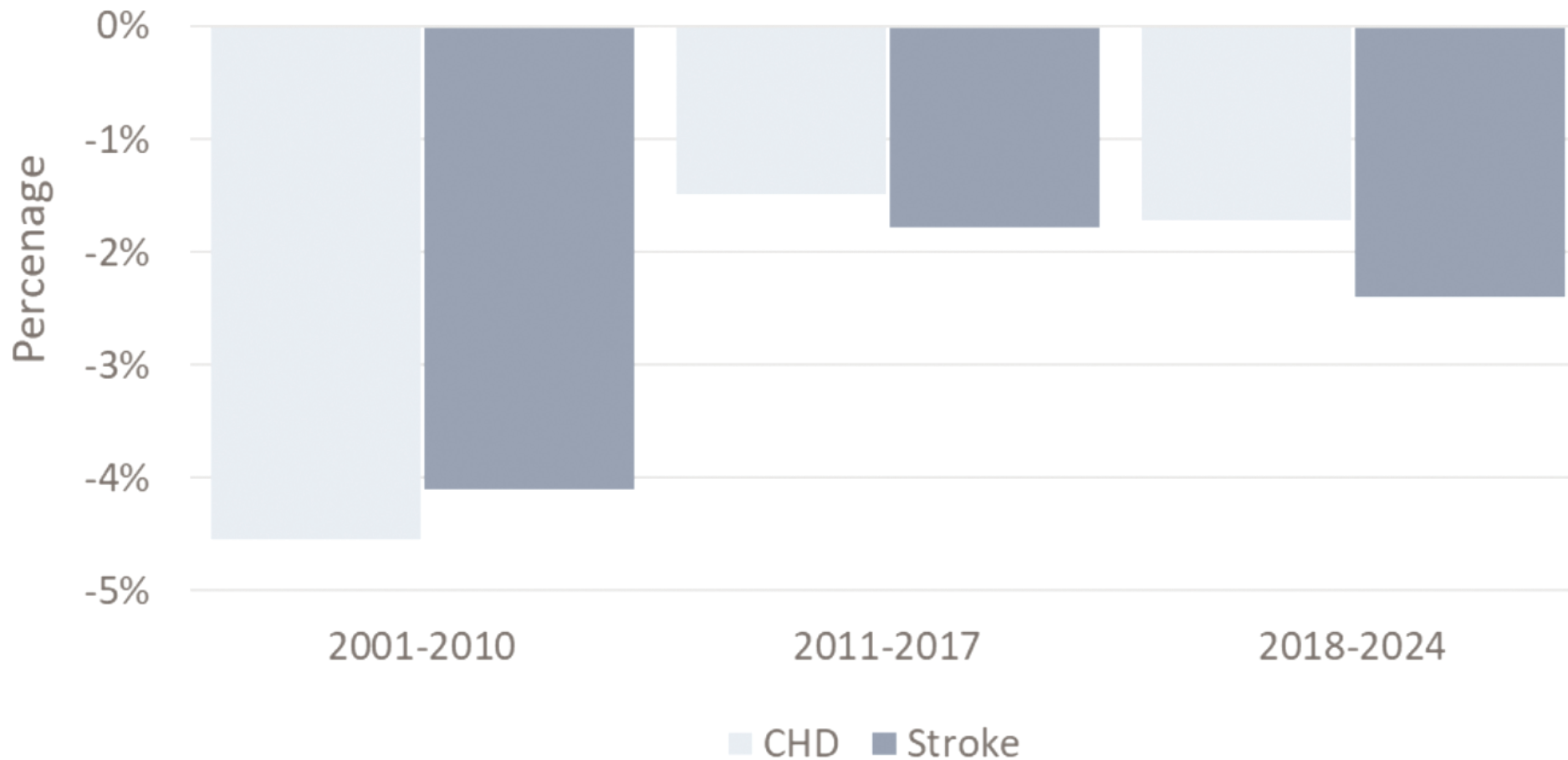
**Figure 6: The changed trend in mortality rate improvements: England and Wales, 2000–2018**



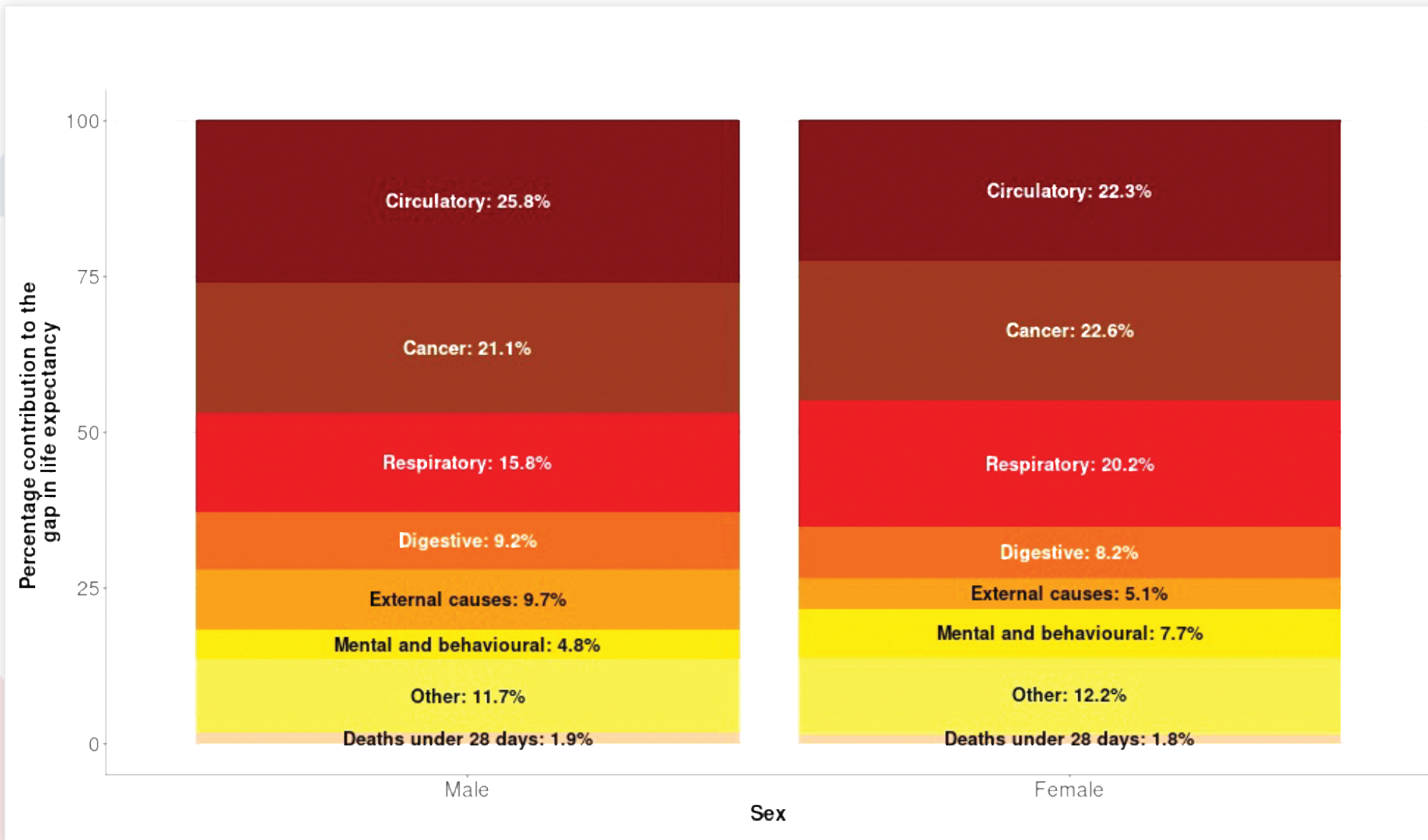


# Why is CVD a priority?

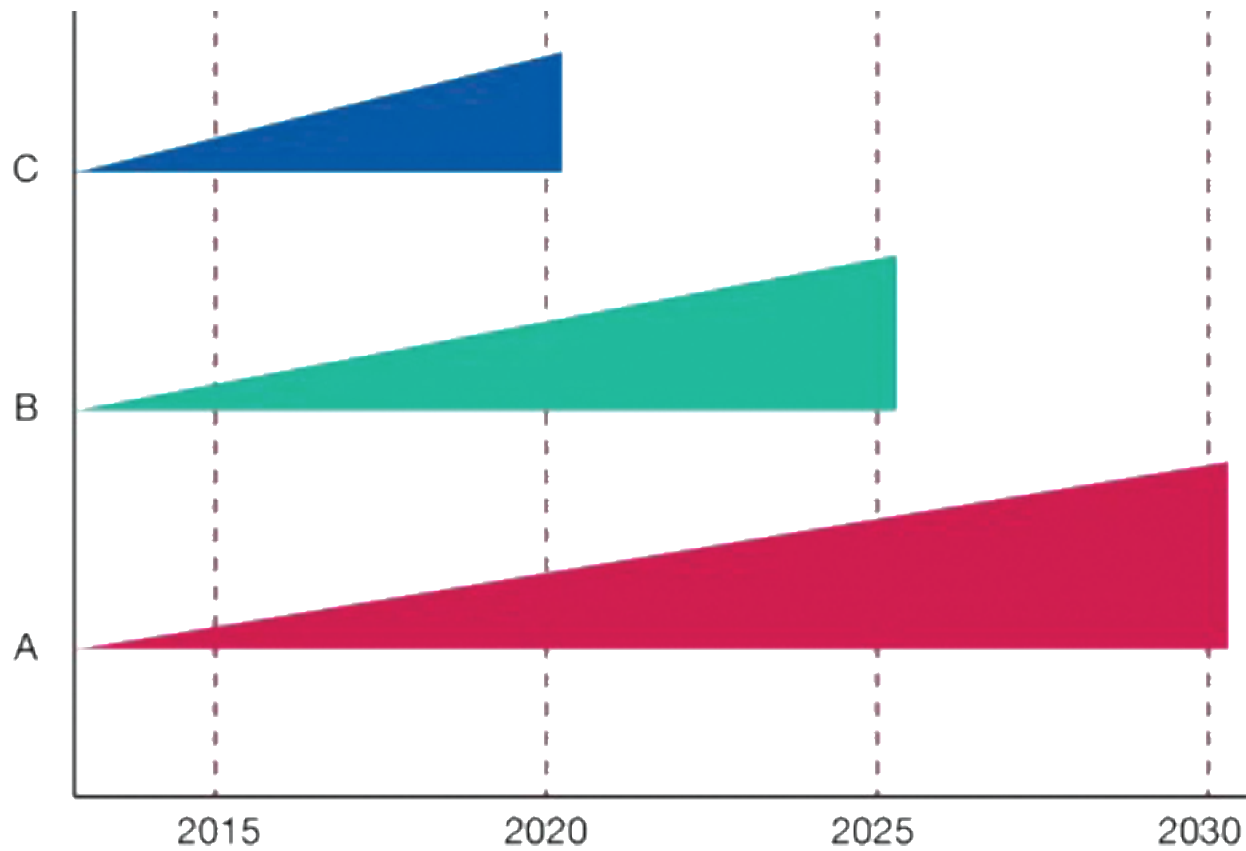
Annual mortality (age-standardised) change, CHD and stroke, England, 2001-2017, *forecast to 2024*



# Why is CVD a priority?

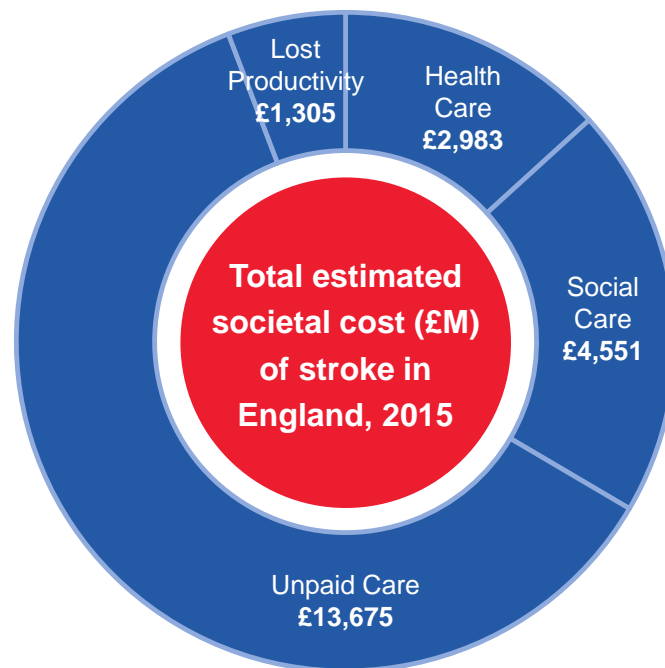


# Why is CVD a priority?



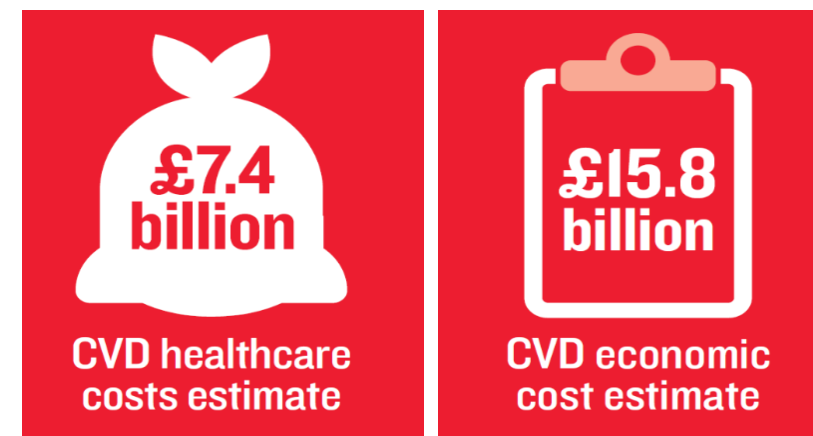
- CVD kills 136,000 people a year
- CVD differentially targets ethnic minority communities
- CVD differentially targets deprived communities
- As well as death, CVD can cause significant disability
- CVD can be prevented

## STROKE IS THE LARGEST CAUSE OF ADULT DISABILITY



Source: Stroke Association. Current, future and avoidable costs of stroke

## CVD IS EXPENSIVE



Source: BHF analysis of European Heart Network (2017) European Cardiovascular Disease Statistics 2017

# Cardiovascular disease: A major cause of health inequalities



- **CVD remains the leading cause** of premature mortality in England, and the rate of improvement seen in recent years has slowed
- **It is also one of the conditions** most strongly associated with health inequalities, with people living in England's most deprived areas being almost four times more likely to die prematurely of CVD than those in the least deprived areas
- **As well as living shorter lives on average**, people in more deprived areas are affected by a range of conditions that significantly impact on their quality of life
- **For example**, those in the most deprived communities are 30% more likely to have high blood pressure, which is the largest single risk factor for heart attack and stroke



# NHS Long Term Plan

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- The [NHS Long Term Plan](#) provides a platform to transform the way we tackle CVD in England and pledges a rejuvenated call to address CVD inequalities
- Prevention is at the heart of the [NHS Long Term Plan](#)
- The plan includes a major ambition to **prevent 150,000 heart attacks, strokes and dementia cases over the next 10 years** by improving the treatment of high-risk conditions – **hypertension, high cholesterol and atrial fibrillation**, which leave patients a greater risk of developing CVD





# Transforming CVD and lipid management as a national agenda

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The [NHS Long Term Plan](#) states that the biggest area where the NHS can save lives over the next 10 years is in reducing the incidence of CVD. CVD causes a quarter of all deaths in the UK and is the largest cause of premature mortality in deprived areas.

To help tackle the challenges with CVD management and to support the [Long Term Plan ambition](#), NHS England Improvement have commissioned a national primary care audit – CVD<sub>PREVENT</sub>.



## Assessment

By **2029**, **75%** of eligible people aged **40** to **74** without established CVD (such as a previous heart attack or stroke), have a validated CVD risk assessment and cholesterol reading recorded on a primary care data system in the last **5** years.

## Treatment

By **2029**, **45%** of people aged **40** to **74** without established CVD who are identified as having a **20%** or greater **10**-year risk of developing CVD in primary care are treated with statins.

## Diagnosis

By **2024**, **25%** of people with familial hypercholesterolaemia are diagnosed and treated in line with the [NICE guideline on familial hypercholesterolaemia](#).





03

## **Evaluating Cardiovascular Disease Risk**

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**Dr Peter Green**

Clinical lead for CVD Prevent, NHS England and NHS Improvement, Chair HEART UK, practising GP

**NICE recommendations  
and screening tools**

**Factors that  
contribute  
to CVD risk**

**The benefit of  
lipid lowering therapy in  
primary prevention  
of CVD**



# Recommendations and Tools for Effectively Screening Patients for High-Risk and Very-High-Risk CVD, and FH

## NICE recommendations<sup>1</sup>

- Use a systematic strategy to screen patients
- Prioritise people on the basis of an estimate of their CVD risk before a full formal risk assessment
- Use CVD risk factors recorded in primary care electronic medical records to estimate risk
- Prioritise people for a full formal risk assessment if their estimated 10-year CVD risk is  $\geq 10\%$
- People  $>40$  years old should have their CVD risk reviewed on an ongoing basis

## QRISK<sup>®2</sup> online tool

- Tool to assess CVD risk for the primary prevention of CVD in people aged  $\leq 84$  years<sup>1,2</sup>
- **NOT** to be used in patients with:<sup>2</sup>
  - Suspected/confirmed FH
  - Type 1 diabetes
  - Pre-existing CVD
  - eGFR  $<60$  mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> and/or albuminuria
- Available at:<sup>3</sup> <https://qrisk.org/2017/>

## Primary Care FH Identification and Lipid Optimisation tools<sup>4</sup>

- Comprehensive search tools to select and risk stratify patients
- Integrate with EMIS and SystmOne
- Allow GP practices to prioritise patients for FH, primary and secondary prevention screening
- Example tools: CDRC Precision; PRIMIS FAMCAT; UCLP Proactive Care Frameworks

# Why Do We Need to Find Patients at Risk of CVD?

~80%

Almost 80% of patients on Lipid Lowering Therapies failed to reach an LDL-C goal of  $<1.8$  mmol/L<sup>1</sup>

~1:250

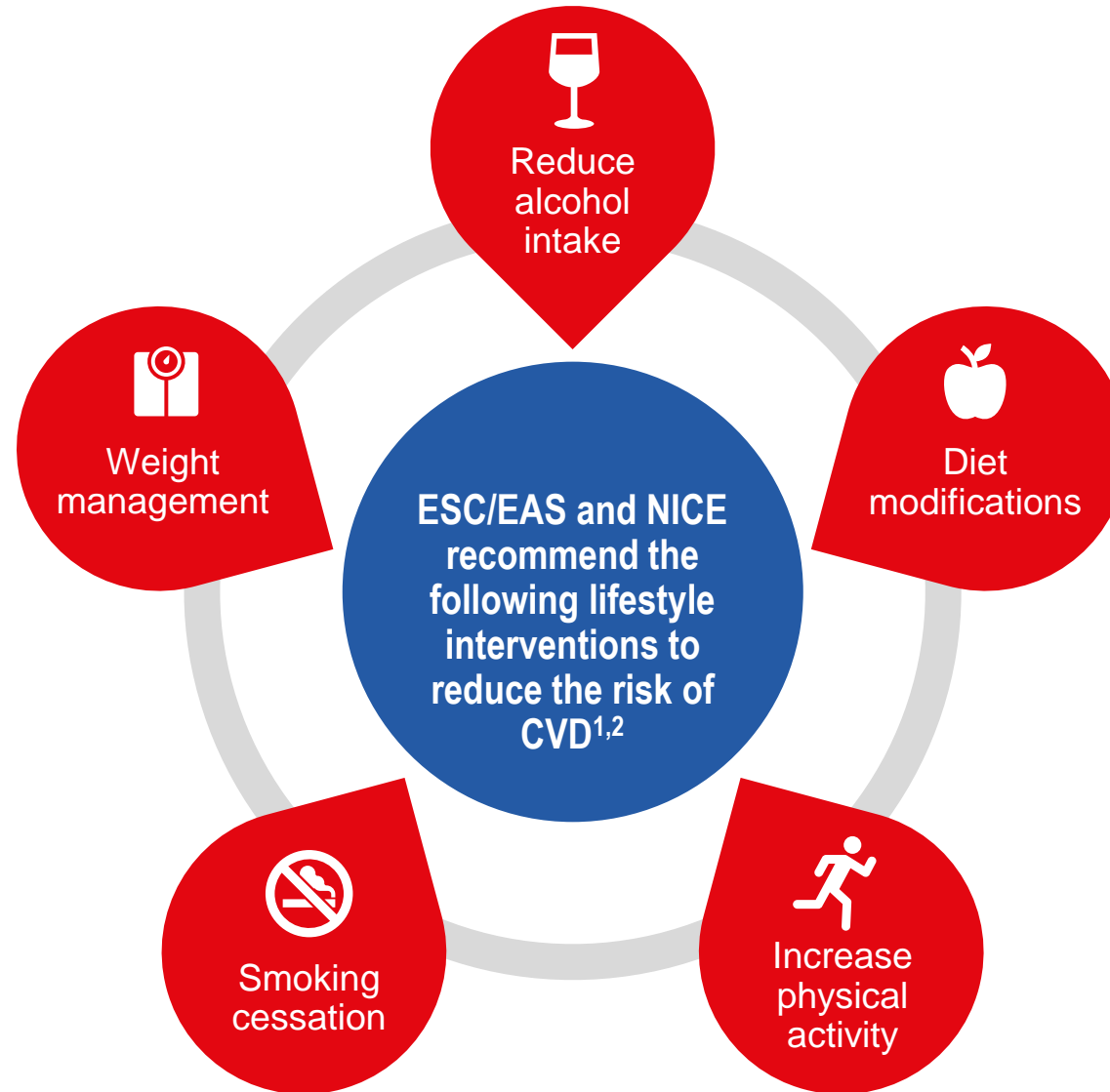
Incidence of heterozygous FH;<sup>2</sup> only 12% of cases are identified in the UK<sup>3</sup>



Aggressive LDL-C targets<sup>4</sup> are based on evidence showing significant CV outcomes benefits<sup>5-9</sup>

Therefore, screening for patients with high-risk CVD and FH is a critical part of primary care

# Lifestyle Changes Are Recommended for Patients at High-Risk of CVD



# Summary of National Guidance for Lipid Management for Primary and Secondary Prevention of CVD

- Measure non-fasting **full lipid profile** (Total cholesterol, HDL-C, non-HDL-C, triglycerides) and HbA1c as part of an initial baseline assessment.
- Consider secondary causes of hyperlipidaemia and manage as needed.
- Ensure appropriate baseline and follow up tests as detailed on page 2. Measure BMI.
- Identify and exclude people with contraindications/drug interactions
- If non-fasting triglyceride above 4.5mmol/L see page 2.

**PRIMARY PREVENTION**  
Consider statin therapy for adults who do not have established CVD but fall into the categories below. Use QRISK risk assessment tool where appropriate (see page 2, 'Primary Prevention Risk Assessment')

- Age  $\leq$ 84 & QRISK  $\geq$ 10% over next 10 years
- Type 2 diabetes & QRISK  $\geq$ 10% over next 10 years
- Type 1 diabetes, if they have one or more of the following:
  - Over 40 years
  - Had diabetes for >10 years
  - Have established nephropathy
  - Have other CVD risk factors
- CKD eGFR < 60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup> and/or albuminuria
- Age  $\geq$ 85 years if appropriate consider comorbidities, frailty & life expectancy

Identify and address all modifiable risk factors - smoking, diet, obesity, alcohol intake, physical activity, blood pressure and HbA1c.

Consider additional risk factors, if present, together with QRISK score (treated for HIV, severe mental illness, taking medicines that cause dyslipidaemia, systemic inflammatory disorder (e.g. SLE), impaired fasting glycaemia, recent change in risk factors).

**PRIMARY PREVENTION**  
If lifestyle modification is ineffective or inappropriate offer statin treatment.  
**Atorvastatin 20mg OD**

- Measure full lipid profile again after 3 months (non-fasting).
- High intensity statin treatment should achieve reduction of non-HDL-C > 40% from baseline. If not achieved after 3 months:
  - Discuss treatment adherence, timing of dose, diet and lifestyle
  - If at higher risk (based on comorbidities, risk score or clinical judgement – see page 2 'Additional Risk Factors') consider increasing the dose every 2-3 months up to a maximum dose of atorvastatin 80mg OD.
  - For how to increase in people with CKD see 'Special Patient Populations' (page 2)

- If patients on a high-intensity statin have side effects, offer a lower dose or an alternative statin (see page 2 'Statin Intensity Table')
- If maximum tolerated dose of statin does not achieve non-HDL-C reduction > 40% of baseline value after 3 months consider adding Ezetimibe 10mg OD (NICE TA385)
- If recommended statin therapy is contraindicated or not tolerated;
  - Ezetimibe monotherapy may be considered. Assess response after 3 months
  - See local statin intolerance guidance / pathway where available

If non-HDL-C reduction remains < 40% of baseline despite maximal tolerated lipid lowering therapy (including people with intolerances and contraindications) consider referral to specialist lipid management clinic according to local arrangements.

## INITIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

**SEVERE HYPERLIPIDAEMIA**  
If TC>7.5mmol/L and/or LDL-C >4.9mmol/L and/or non-HDL-C >5.9mmol/L, a personal and/or family history of confirmed CHD (<60 years) and no secondary causes: suspect Familial Hypercholesterolaemia (Possible Heterozygous FH)  
Do not use QRISK risk assessment tool

**DIAGNOSIS AND REFERRAL**  
Take fasting blood for repeat lipid profile to measure LDL-C.  
Use the Simon Broome or Dutch Lipid Clinic Network (DLCN) criteria to make a clinical diagnosis of FH.  
Refer to Lipid Clinic for further assessment if clinical diagnosis of FH or if TC>9.0mmol/L and/or LDL-C >6.5mmol/L and/or non-HDL-C >7.5mmol/L or Fasting triglycerides > 10mmol/L (regardless of family history) (page 2)

**TREATMENT TARGETS IN FH**  
If clinical diagnosis of FH and/or other risk factors present, follow the recommended treatment management pathway for primary or secondary prevention as for non-FH, BUT Aim to achieve at least a 50% reduction of LDL-C (or non-fasting non-HDL-C) from baseline.  
**Consider specialist referral for further treatment and/or consideration of PCSK9i therapy IF**  
- they are assessed to be at very high risk of a coronary event\*\*  
- OR therapy is not tolerated  
- OR LDL-C remains >5mmol/L (primary prevention)  
- OR LDL-C remains >3.5mmol/L (secondary prevention)  
Despite maximal tolerated statin and Ezetimibe therapy.  
\*\*defined as any of the following:  
• Established coronary heart disease.  
• Two or more other CVD risk factors

**SECONDARY PREVENTION**  
Offer statin therapy to adults with CVD, this includes angina, previous MI, revascularisation, stroke or TIA or symptomatic peripheral arterial disease. Do not delay statin treatment if a person has acute coronary syndrome. Take a lipid sample on admission (within 24 hours)

Identify and address all modifiable risk factors - smoking, diet, obesity, alcohol intake, physical activity, blood pressure and HbA1c.

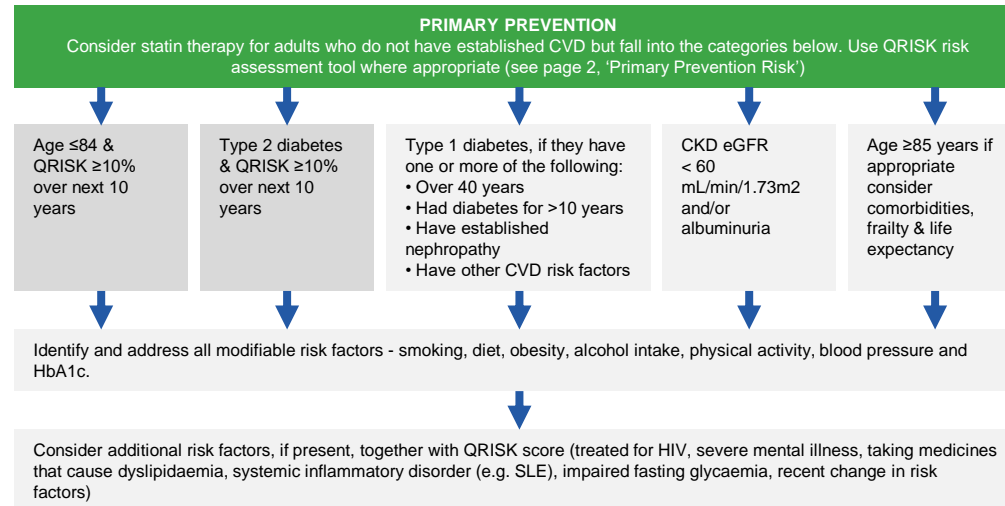
**SECONDARY PREVENTION**  
Do not delay statin treatment in secondary prevention while managing modifiable risk factors.  
Prescribe a high intensity statin:  
Atorvastatin 80mg OD  
Use a lower dose of Atorvastatin if there is a potential drug interaction, high risk of or experiencing adverse effects, or patient preference.  
Offer Atorvastatin 20mg if CKD (people with GFR< 60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>).

- Measure full lipid profile again after 3 months (non-fasting).
- High intensity statin treatment should achieve reduction of non-HDL-C > 40% from baseline. If not achieved after 3 months
  - Discuss treatment adherence, timing of dose, diet and lifestyle measures
  - If started on less than atorvastatin 80mg and the person is judged to be at higher risk (based on comorbidities, risk score or clinical judgement – see page 2 'Additional Risk Factors'), consider increasing to 80mg Atorvastatin. For how to increase in people with CKD see 'Special Patient Populations' (page 2).
  - If non-HDL-C baseline value is not available, use target non-HDL-C < 2.5mmol/L (approximately equivalent to LDL-C < 1.8mmol/L) as recommended by JBS3 consensus statement - a '**lower is better approach**'
  - If patients on a high-intensity statin have side effects, offer a lower dose or an alternative statin (see page 2 'Statin Intensity Table')

- If maximum tolerated dose of statin does not achieve non-HDL-C reduction > 40% of baseline value and/or non-HDL-C < 2.5mmol/L after 3 months consider adding Ezetimibe 10mg OD (NICE TA385)
- If recommended statin therapy is contraindicated or not tolerated
  - Ezetimibe monotherapy may be considered. Assess response after 3 months
  - See local statin intolerance guidance/pathway where available.

If non-HDL-C > 4.0mmol/L despite maximal tolerated lipid lowering therapy (including people with intolerances and contraindications), arrange a **fasting blood test** for LDL-C measurement and if **PCSK9i eligibility criteria** (see page 2 'Specialist Services') are met, refer for confirmation and initiation of PCSK9i (NICE TA 393, 394) according to local arrangements.

# Summary of National Guidance for Lipid Management for Primary and Secondary Prevention of CVD





# NICE guidelines (NG197)

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## Shared decision making

- Shared decision making is a joint process in which a healthcare professional works together with a person to reach a decision about care.
- It involves choosing tests and treatments based both on evidence and on the person's individual preferences, beliefs and values.
- It makes sure the person understands the risks, benefits and possible consequences of different options through discussion and information sharing.

## Benefits

- It allows people to discuss and share information. This makes sure people have a good understanding of the benefits, harms and possible outcomes of different options.
- It empowers people to make decisions about the treatment and care that is right for them at that time. This includes choosing to continue with their current treatment or choosing no treatment at all.
- It allows people the opportunity to choose to what degree they want to engage in decision making. Some people prefer not to take an active role in making decisions with their healthcare professionals.



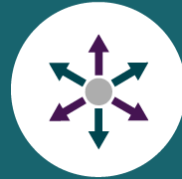
## NICE's core purpose

Improving health and wellbeing by putting science and evidence  
at the heart of health and care decision making



### Pillar 1

Rapid, robust  
and responsive  
technology  
evaluation



### Pillar 2

Dynamic,  
living guideline  
recommendations



### Pillar 3

Effective  
guidance uptake  
to maximise  
our impact



### Pillar 4

Leadership in  
data, research  
and science

# WOSCOPS: Investigation Into the Long-term Impact of LDL-C Lowering on CV Outcomes in Men With Hypercholesterolaemia

## Study design and objectives

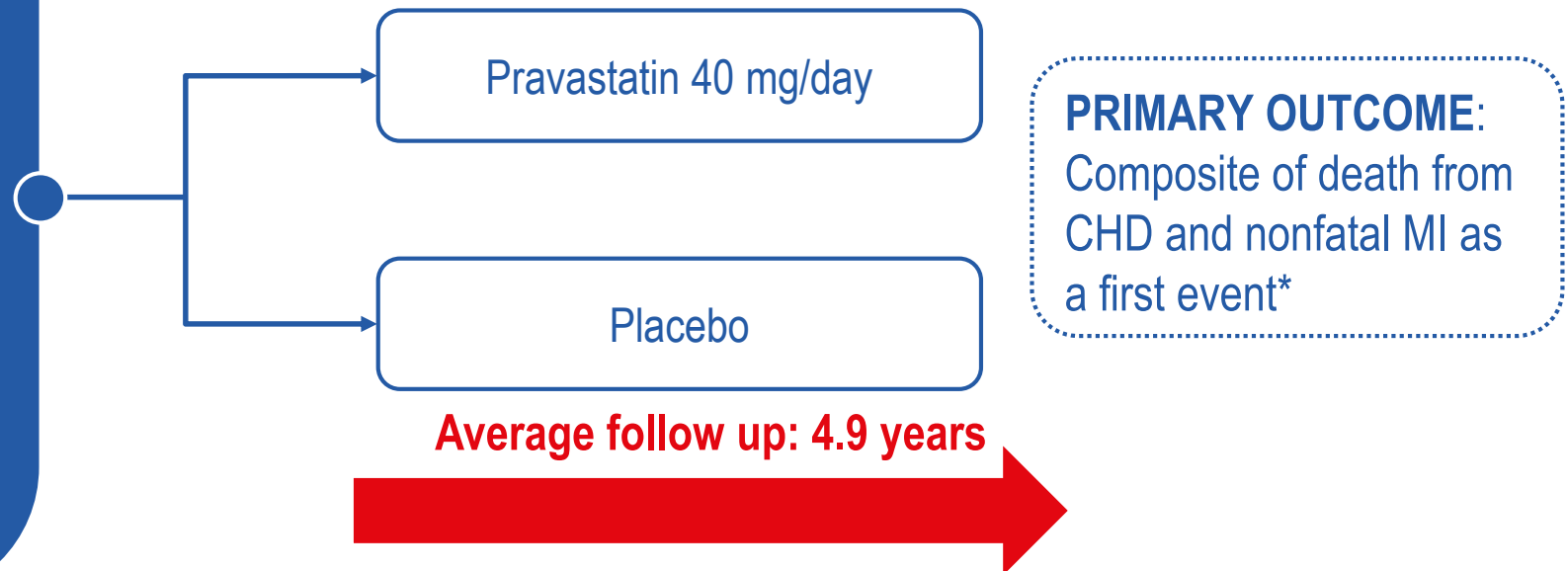
6,595 men

### KEY INCLUSION CRITERIA

- 45–65 years
- LDL-C  $\geq 4.0$  mmol/L (155 mg/dL) and  $\geq 4.5$  mmol/L (174 mg/dL) on two separate fasting lipid measurements
- No prior MI
- Not receiving LLT

### KEY EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- LDL-C  $\geq 6.0$  mmol/L (232 mg/dL) on two fasting lipid measurements<sup>†</sup>



**PRIMARY OUTCOME:**  
Composite of death from CHD and nonfatal MI as a first event\*

**Average follow up: 4.9 years**

\*Determined from medical records, electrocardiographic recordings and the national death registry.

<sup>†</sup>Between visits 2 and 4 before randomisation.

CHD, coronary heart disease; CV, cardiovascular; LDL-C, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LLT, lipid-lowering therapy; MI, myocardial infarction; WOSCOPS, The West of Scotland Coronary Prevention Study.

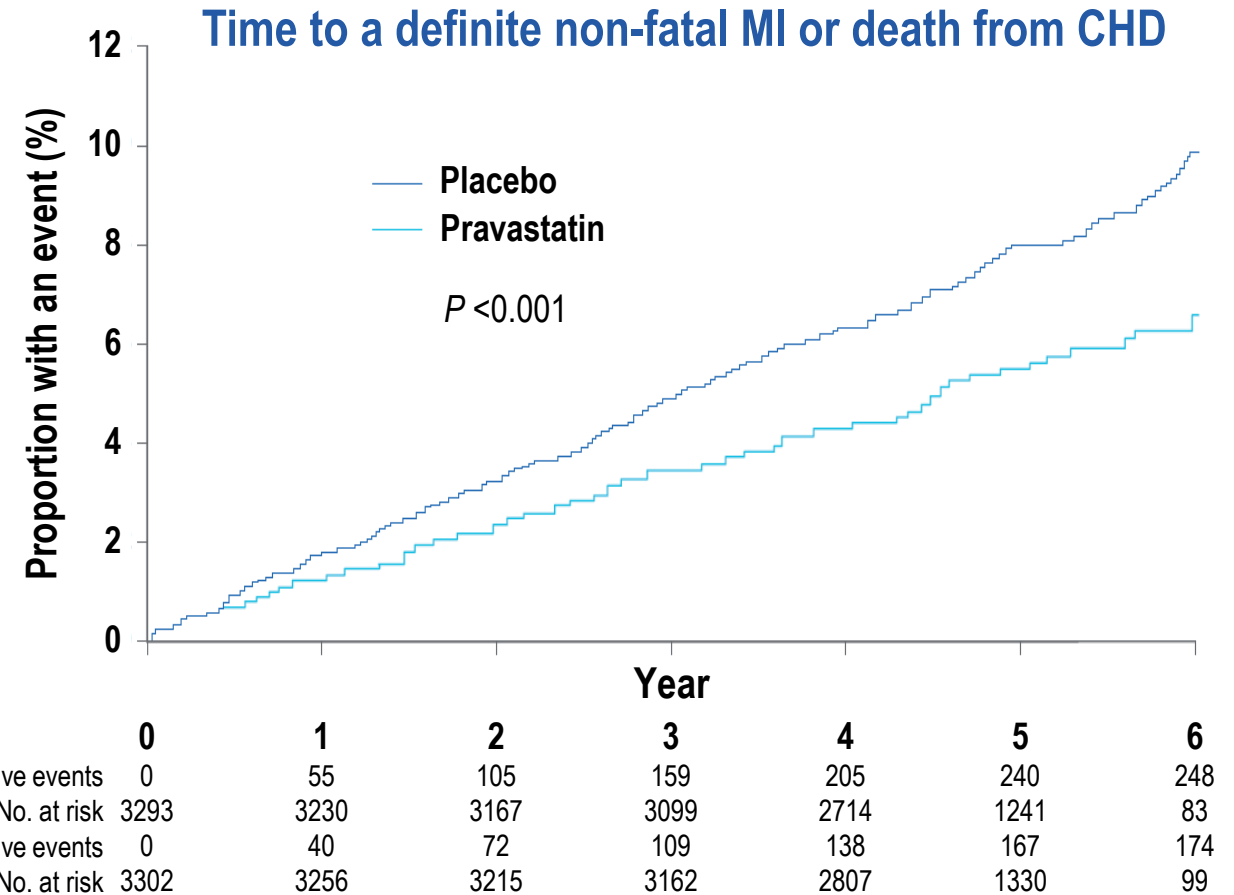
Shepherd, et al. N Engl J Med. 1995;333:1301–1307.



# WOSCOPS: Primary CVD Prevention With Pravastatin Reduced the Risk of Fatal CHD and Nonfatal MI Compared With Placebo

## Initial results

- Pravastatin lowered plasma TC and LDL-C levels by 20% and 26% from baseline, respectively; there were no changes with placebo\*
- Compared with placebo, non-fatal MI or death from CHD with pravastatin was associated with:
  - ARR: 2.4%
  - RRR: 31% (95% CI: 17–43%;  $P < 0.001$ )
- No significant difference between the two groups in:
  - Incidence of cancers (fatal or non-fatal)
  - Incidence of myalgia
  - ALT and AST elevations



\*On-treatment analysis.

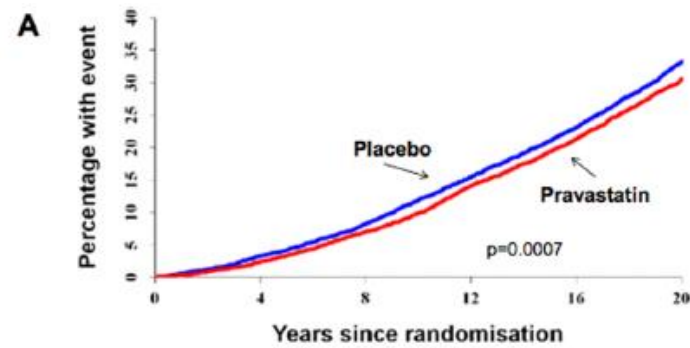
ALT, alanine aminotransferase; ARR, absolute risk reduction; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; CHD, coronary heart disease; CVD, cardiovascular disease; LDL-C, low-density lipoprotein-cholesterol; MI, myocardial infarction; RRR, relative risk reduction; TC, total cholesterol; WOSCOPS, The West of Scotland Coronary Prevention Study.

Shepherd, et al. N Engl J Med. 1995;333:1301–1307.

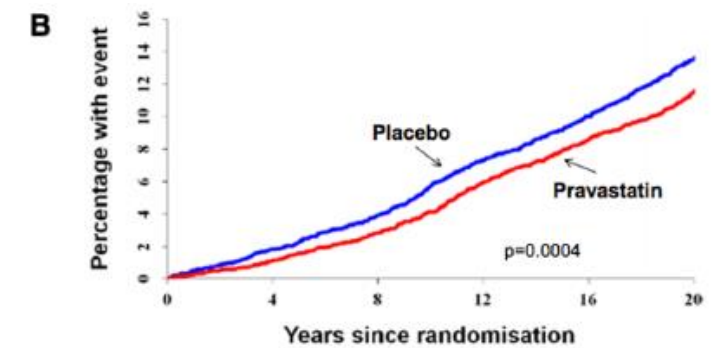
# WOSCOPS: The risk reduction from 5 years of pravastatin therapy was persistent

## 20 year follow up

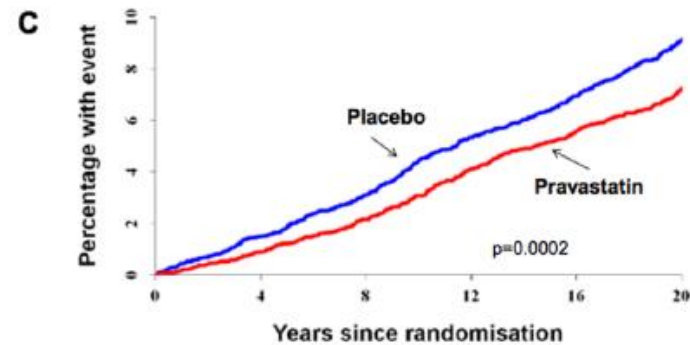
- All cause mortality rate: 38% placebo group 34.7% statin group
- Cardiovascular and CHD mortality rates were also reduced
- Mortality from stroke, non-cardiovascular causes and cancer did not change significantly.
- The risk reduction in cardiovascular outcomes from 5 years of pravastatin therapy was persistent over the 20-year period and led to reduced mortality and hospitalizations



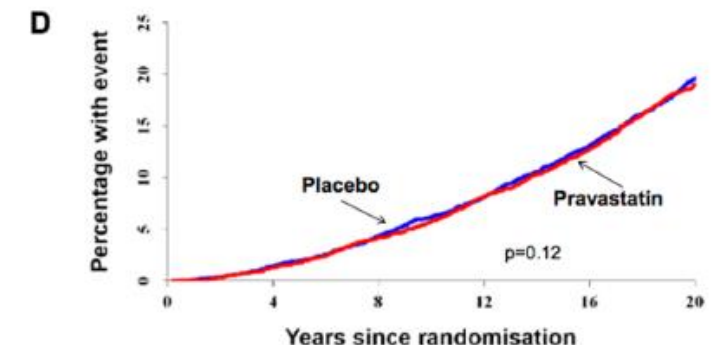
Numbers at risk:		4	8	12	16	20
Placebo	3293	3185	3021	2785	2501	2203
Pravastatin	3302	3223	3069	2838	2598	2295



Numbers at risk:		4	8	12	16	20
Placebo	3293	3185	3021	2785	2501	2203
Pravastatin	3302	3223	3069	2838	2598	2295



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Placebo	3293	3185	3021	2785	2501	2203
Pravastatin	3302	3223	3069	2838	2598	2295



Numbers at risk:		4	8	12	16	20
Placebo	3293	3185	3021	2785	2501	2203
Pravastatin	3302	3223	3069	2838	2598	2295

Figure 1. Cumulative mortality from (A) all causes, (B) cardiovascular disease, (C) coronary heart disease, and (D) non-cardiovascular disease. *P* values were determined by Cox proportional hazards model.<sup>7</sup>



04

## Beyond risk scores - risk in Familial Hypercholesterolaemia and established atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (and what to do about it)

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**Dr Dermot Neely**

Consultant Lipidologist and Specialist Adviser on Lipids to  
the AHSNs.



# We will cover:

TheAHSNNetwork

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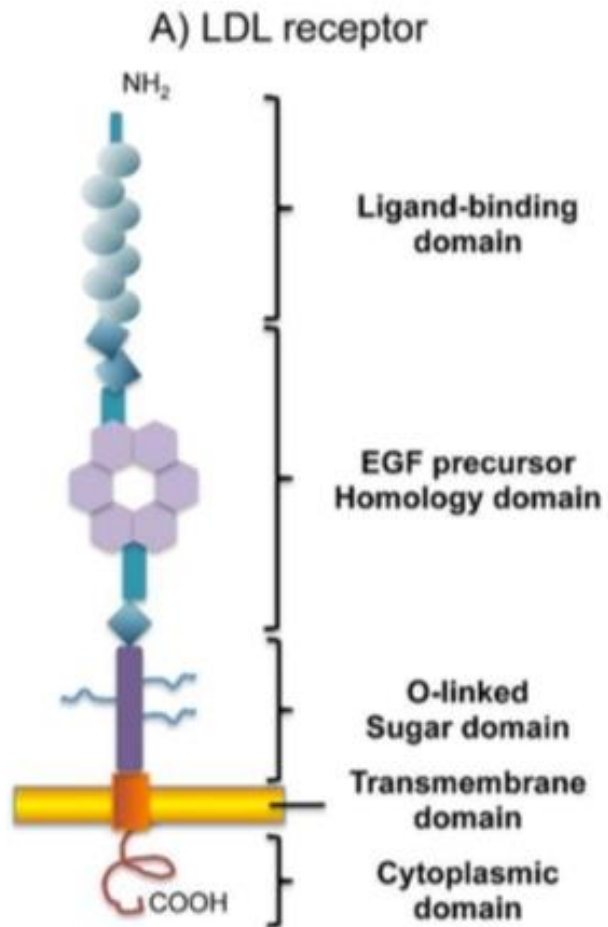


Relationship between  
LDL-C and risk for  
CV events

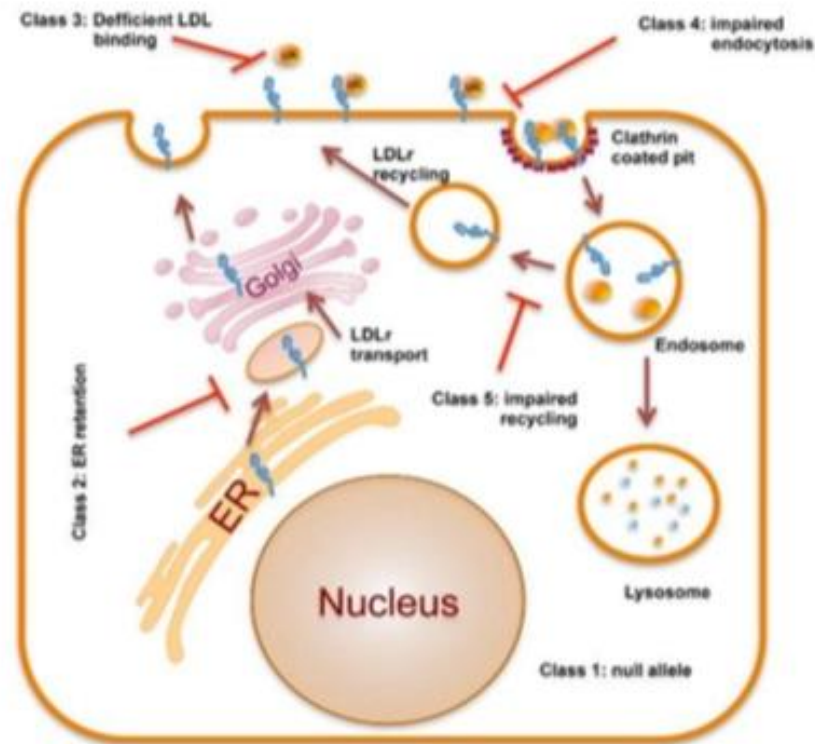
High risk conditions -  
ASCVD and  
Familial  
Hypercholesterolaemia

How can we achieve  
lower LDL-C levels  
in 2021?

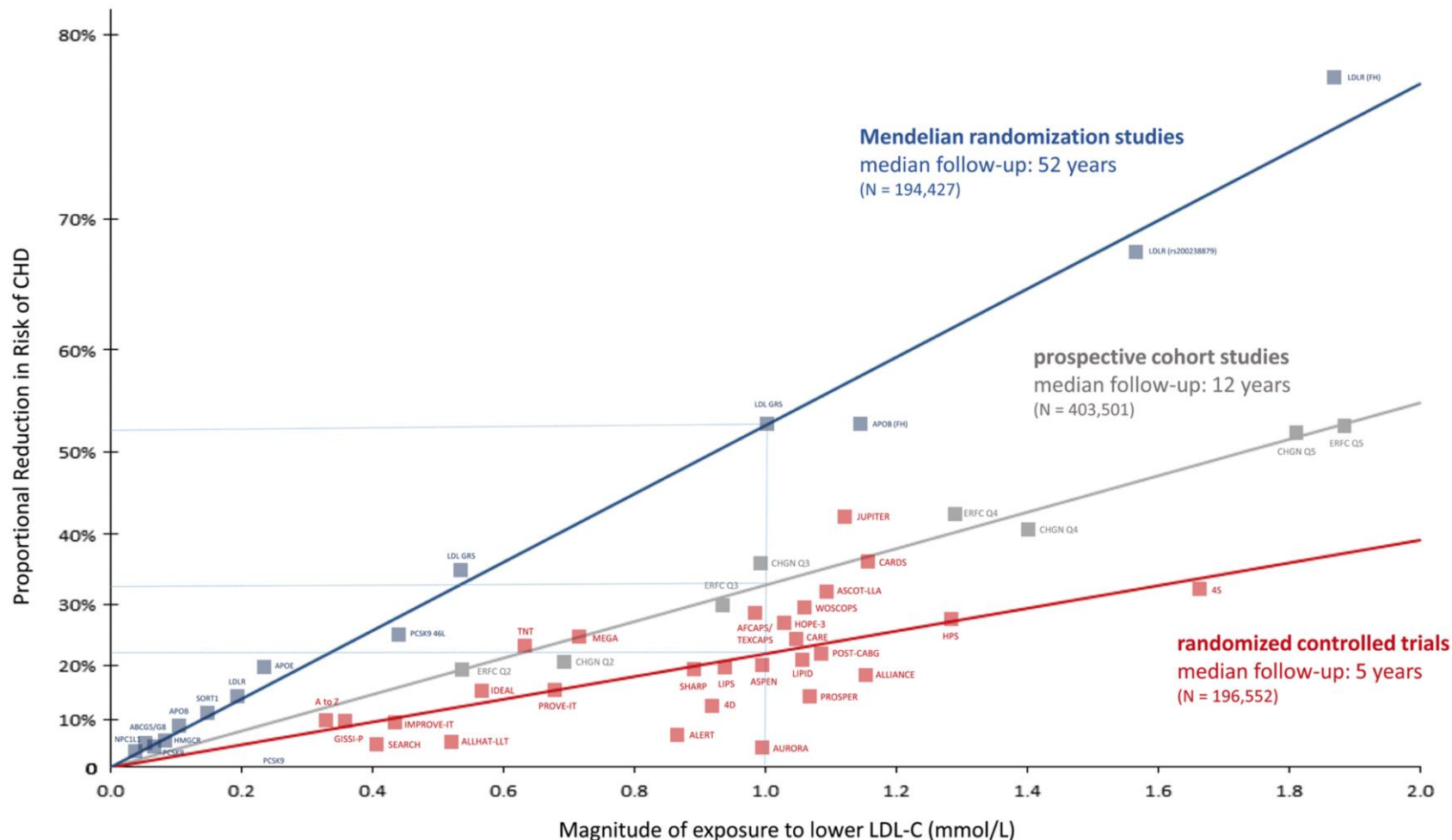
# The LDL Receptor Pathway - key to lipid lowering



B) LDLr pathway and its dysregulation



# LDL exposure drives atherosclerotic CVD



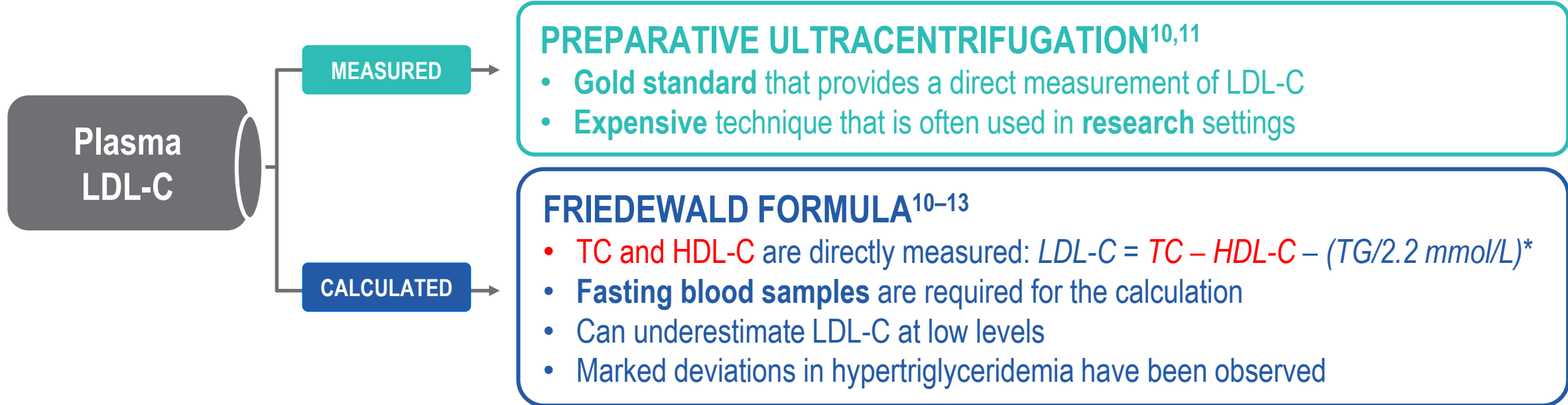
From: Low-density lipoproteins cause atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease. 1. Evidence from genetic, epidemiologic, and clinical studies. A consensus statement from the European Atherosclerosis Society Consensus Panel

Eur Heart J. 2017;38(32):2459-2472. doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehx144





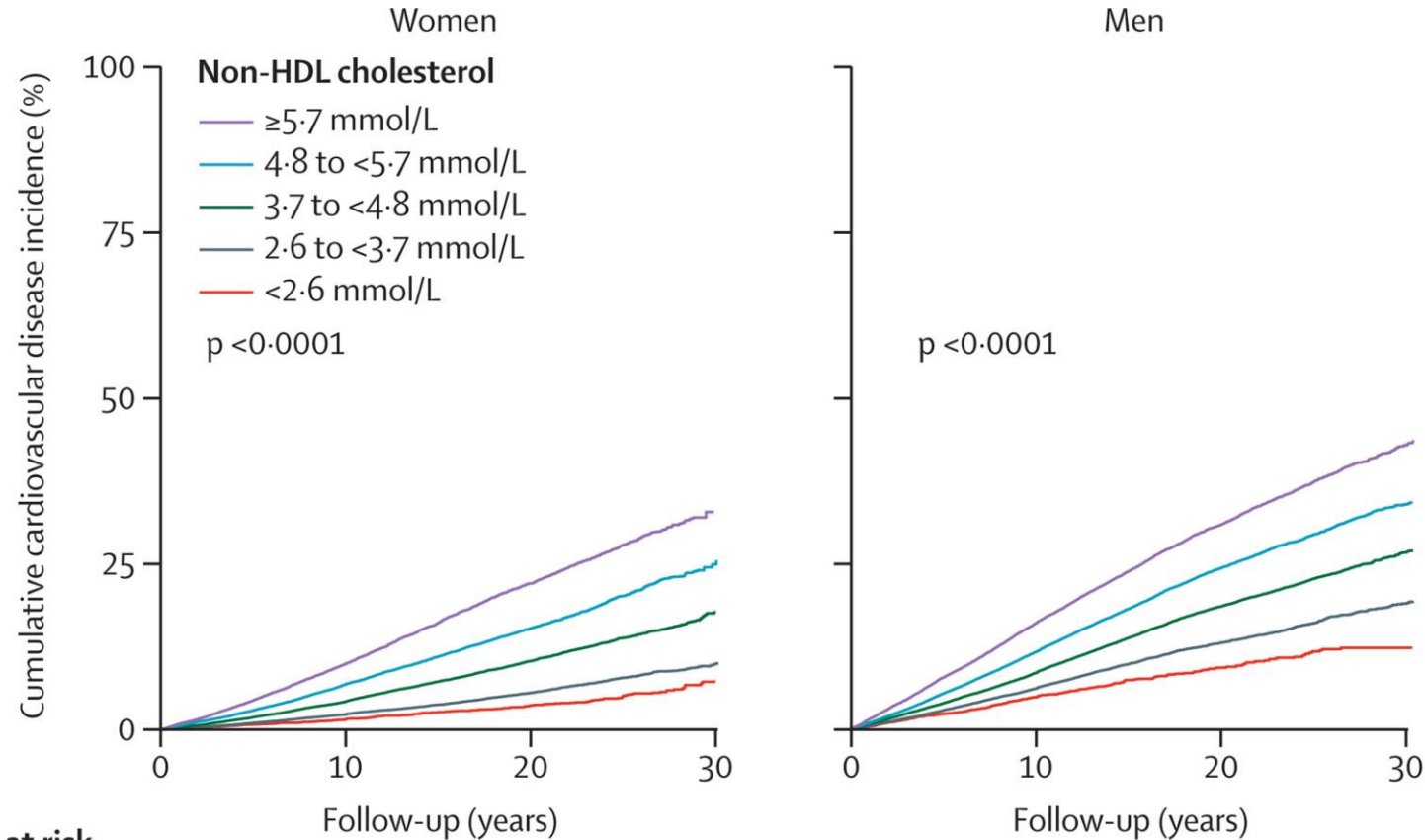
- **Non-HDL-C levels can be used in the UK to assess and monitor CV risk; however:**<sup>1</sup>
  - Most evidence for reducing CV risk is based on LDL-C levels<sup>2-6</sup>
  - Access to some treatments require a measurement of LDL-C levels<sup>7-9</sup>



\*Only applicable if TG measure is <4.5 mmol/L, as higher values can distort LDL-C value.

CV, cardiovascular; HDL-C, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDL-C, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; TC, total cholesterol; TG, triglycerides.

# Cardiovascular disease and non-HDL cholesterol



**Number at risk**

Non-HDL cholesterol	0	10	20	30	0	10	20	30
≥5.7 mmol/L	19101	11502	3758	39	29955	17871	4036	349
4.8 to <5.7 mmol/L	26054	15534	5374	104	40190	24087	5605	358
3.7 to <4.8 mmol/L	47516	28175	10061	395	60083	34694	8810	703
2.6 to <3.7 mmol/L	46249	27712	10299	1005	37918	20743	5798	597
<2.6 mmol/L	10216	5801	2034	321	5878	2940	895	129



# Q Risk – factors amenable to an intervention

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Stop Smoking



Chol/HDL Ratio



Diet



Exercise



Systolic BP



BMI



Move To A Less  
Deprived Postcode Area!



**4S** SCANDINAVIAN  
SIMVASTATIN  
SURVIVAL STUDY

# Design<sup>1</sup>

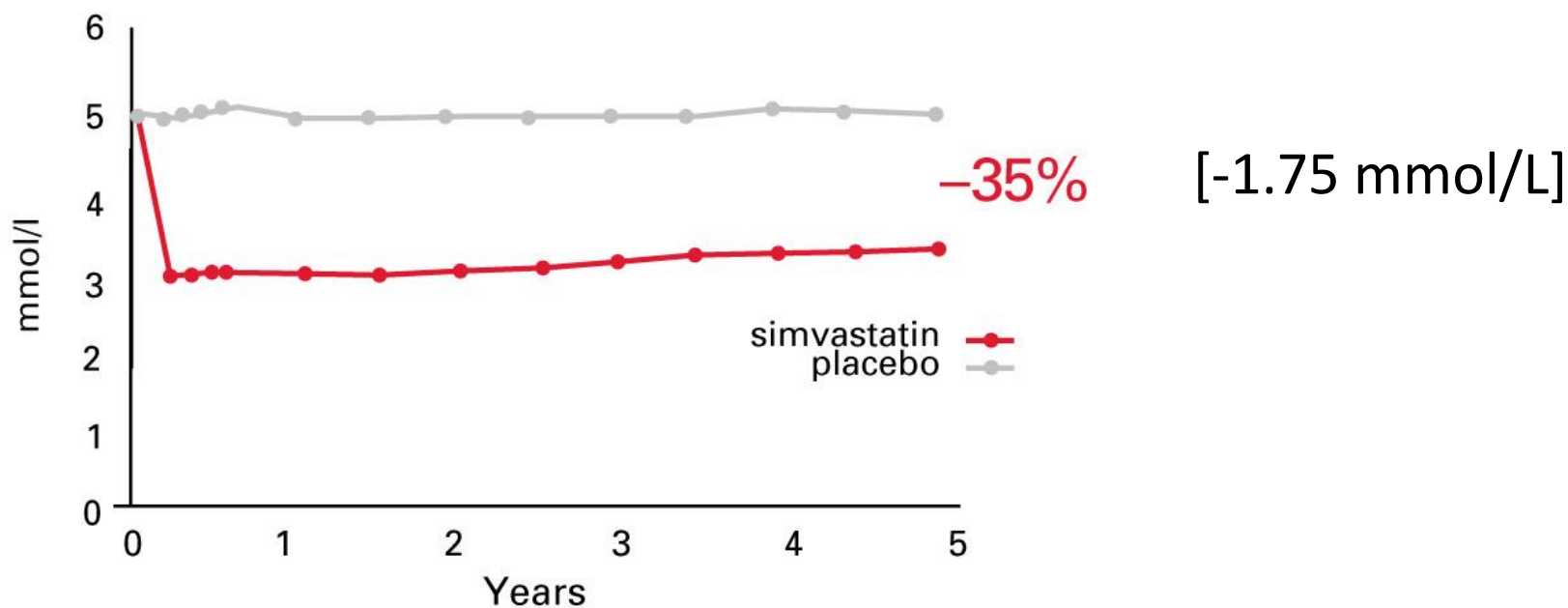
Double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled

- 94 centres in 5 countries
- 4444 men and women 35 to 70 years of age
- Prior myocardial infraction and/or angina pectoris
- Total cholesterol: 5.5-8.0 mmol/l
- Follow-up until approximately 440 deaths occurred
- 95% power to detect 30% reduction in total mortality

# 4S SCANDINAVIAN SIMVASTATIN SURVIVAL STUDY

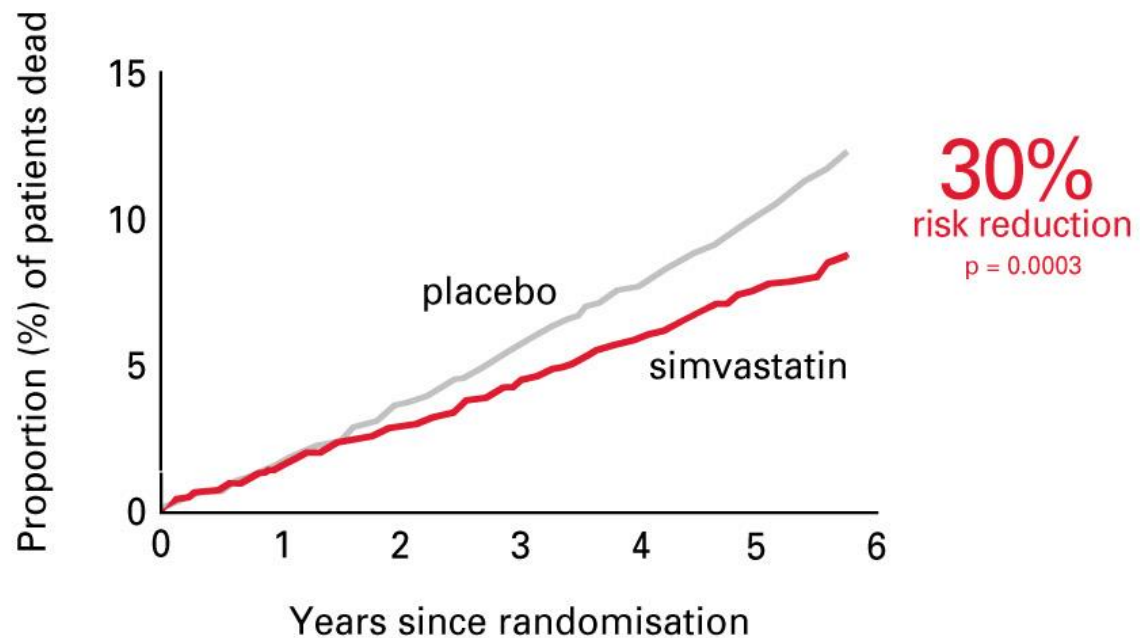
# LDL cholesterol<sup>2</sup>

### Mean LDL cholesterol reduction



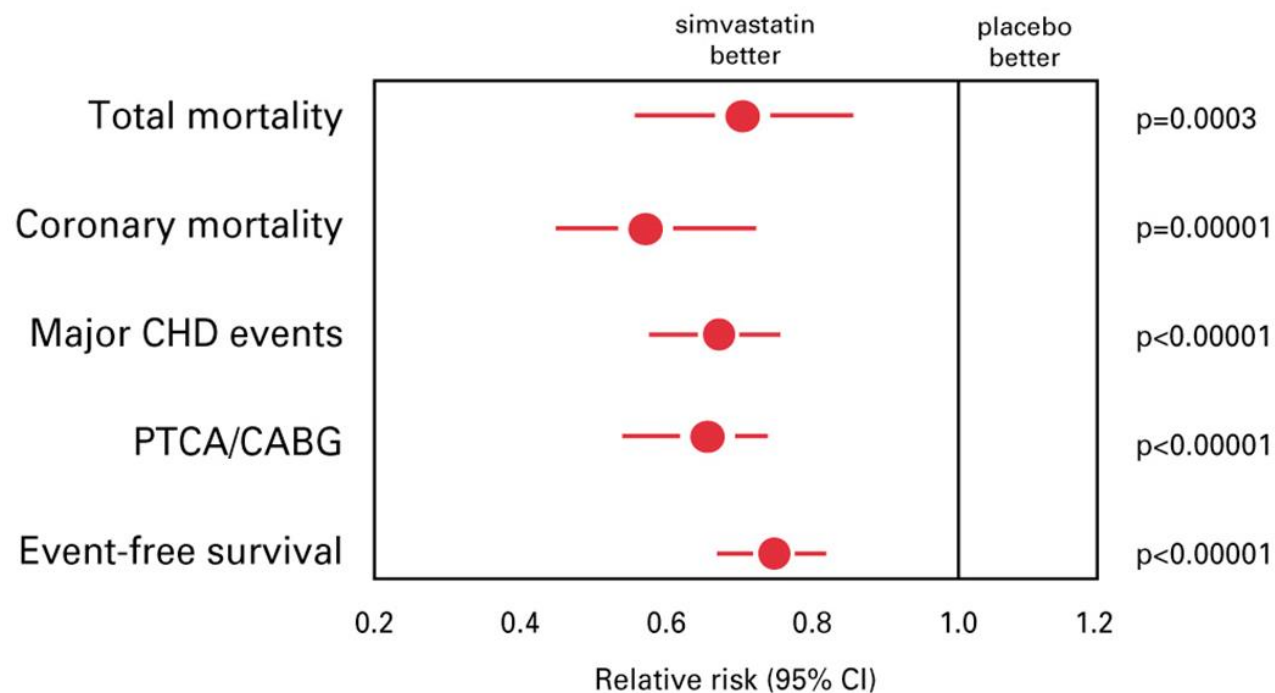
# 4s SCANDINAVIAN SIMVASTATIN SURVIVAL STUDY

## Overall survival<sup>1</sup>

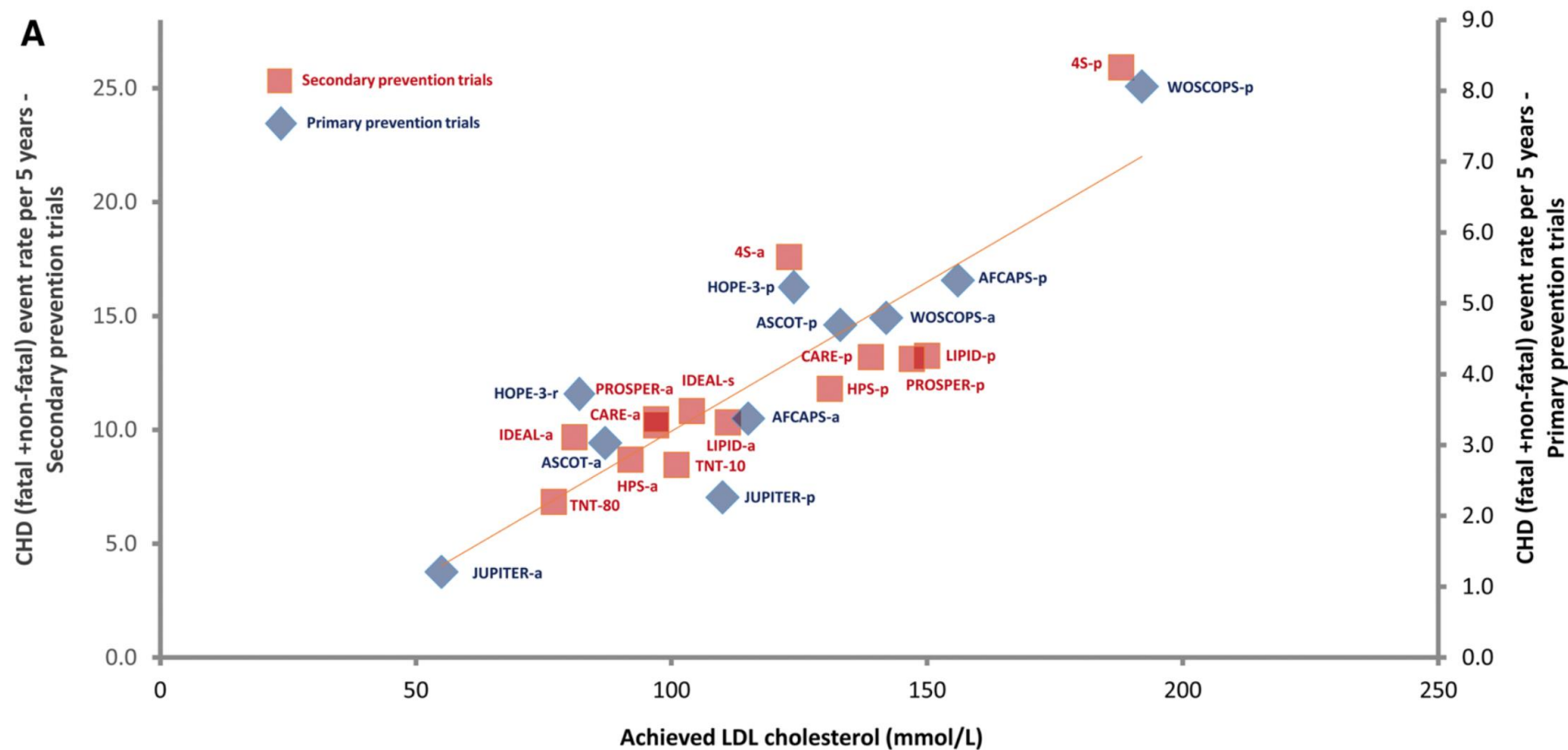


# 4s SCANDINAVIAN SIMVASTATIN SURVIVAL STUDY

## Summary of key end-point results<sup>1,2</sup>



# Lower achieved LDL-C reduces CVD events





# Familial Hypercholesterolaemia FH – a monogenic disorder of the LDL-receptor pathway

**Familial hypercholesterolaemia causes lifelong elevation of LDL-C levels<sup>1</sup>**

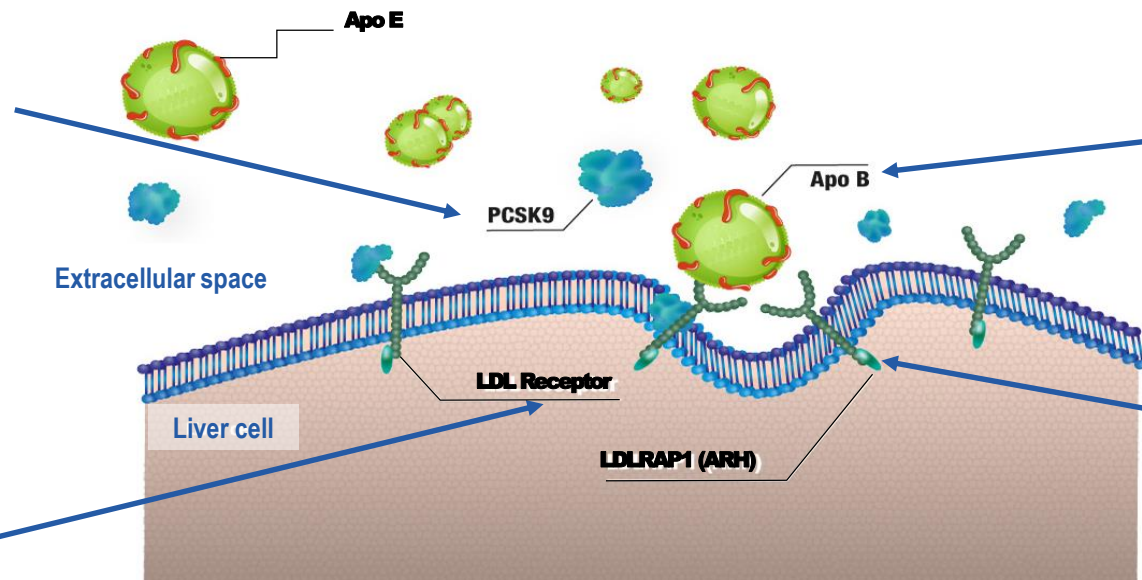
Mutations in key genes regulating LDL receptors reduces LDL uptake by hepatocytes and elevated plasma LDL-C<sup>1,2</sup>

## Key Proteins Involved in LDL Uptake

**PCSK9** binds to the LDLR, leading to LDLR degradation<sup>2,3</sup>

**ApoE** is an accessory ligand for the LDLR, assisting binding of LDL<sup>4</sup>










**LDLR** binds to ApoB on an LDL particle, inducing endocytosis of the LDL particle<sup>2,3</sup>



**ApoB** acts as a ligand for the LDLR, mediating the binding of LDL<sup>2,3</sup>

Internalisation of the LDLR-LDL-C complex by endocytosis is mediated by the LDLR adaptor protein, **LDLRAP1**<sup>3</sup>

# Characteristics of Heterozygous (HeFH) and Homozygous FH (HoFH)

	 HeFH	 HoFH
 Genetic mutation <sup>1</sup>	One mutated allele	Two mutated alleles
 Prevalence <sup>2</sup>	~1:250	1:160,000–300,000
 Total cholesterol <sup>3</sup>	8–15 mmol/L	12–30 mmol/L
 LDL-C levels <sup>4–7</sup>	≥5 mmol/L	>13 mmol/L
 Physical presentation <sup>4–6,8</sup>	Xanthomas* or corneal arcus	Xanthomas* or corneal arcus in childhood
 Acute MI <sup>5,8,10</sup>	Usually >30 years old	Early childhood/adolescence <sup>†</sup>
 CHD development <sup>3–6</sup>	<55–60 years old	Childhood/adolescence <sup>‡</sup>

\*Subcutaneous cholesterol deposits in peripheral tissues;<sup>9</sup> †If left untreated, patients with HoFH die before the age of 20;<sup>3,6</sup> ‡For FH homozygotes, >40% of individuals will develop CHD before the age of 20.<sup>10</sup>

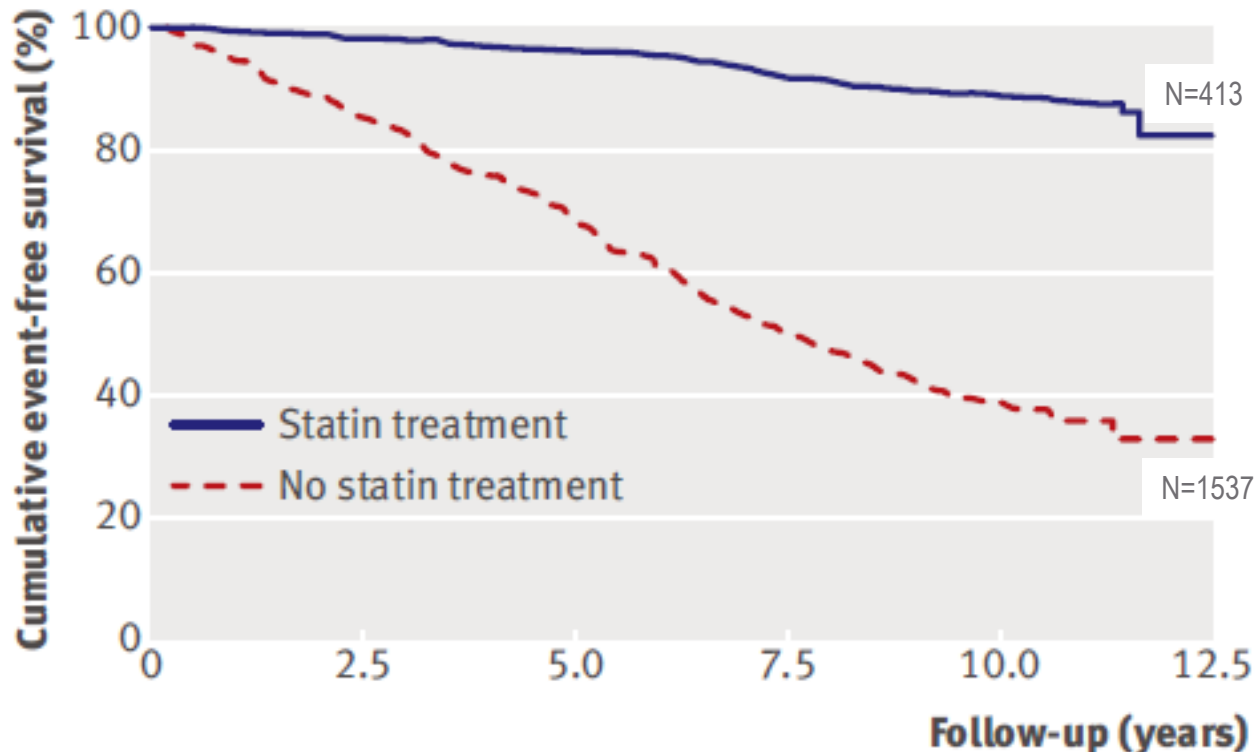
CHD, coronary heart disease; HeFH, heterozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia; HoFH, homozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia; LDL-C, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDLR, low-density lipoprotein receptor; MI, myocardial infarction.

# Untreated FH- risk of ischaemic heart disease

Age (years)	♂ % CHD	♀ % CHD
<30	5.4	0
30-39	23.7	2
40-49	51.4	12.2
50-59	85.4	57.5
60-69	100	74.4

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

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

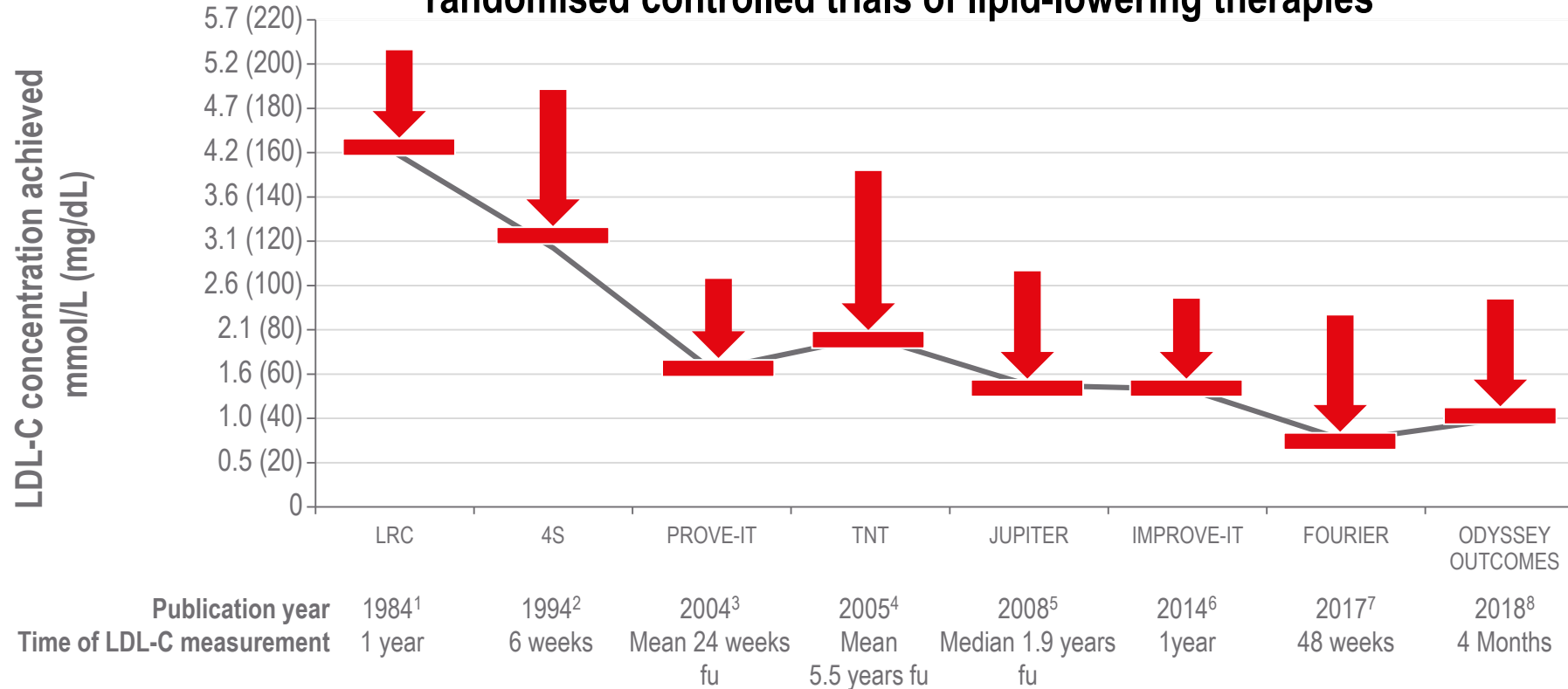


“We observed an overall risk reduction of 76% (hazard ratio 0.24 (95% confidence interval 0.18 to 0.30),  $P < 0.001$ ). In fact, the risk of myocardial infarction in these statin treated patients was not significantly greater than that in an age-matched sample from the general population (hazard ratio 1.44 (0.80 to 2.60),  $P = 0.23$ ).”



# Lipid-lowering Therapies Have Evolved Over the Years to Achieve Lower LDL-C Levels

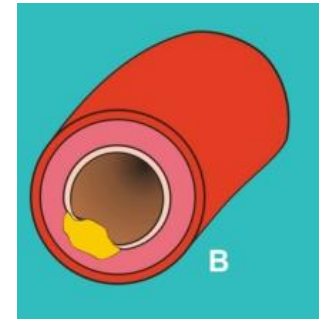
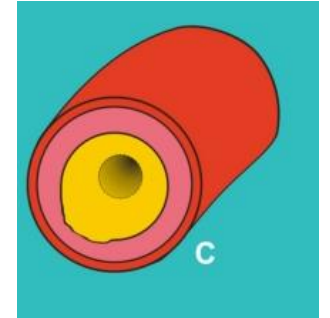
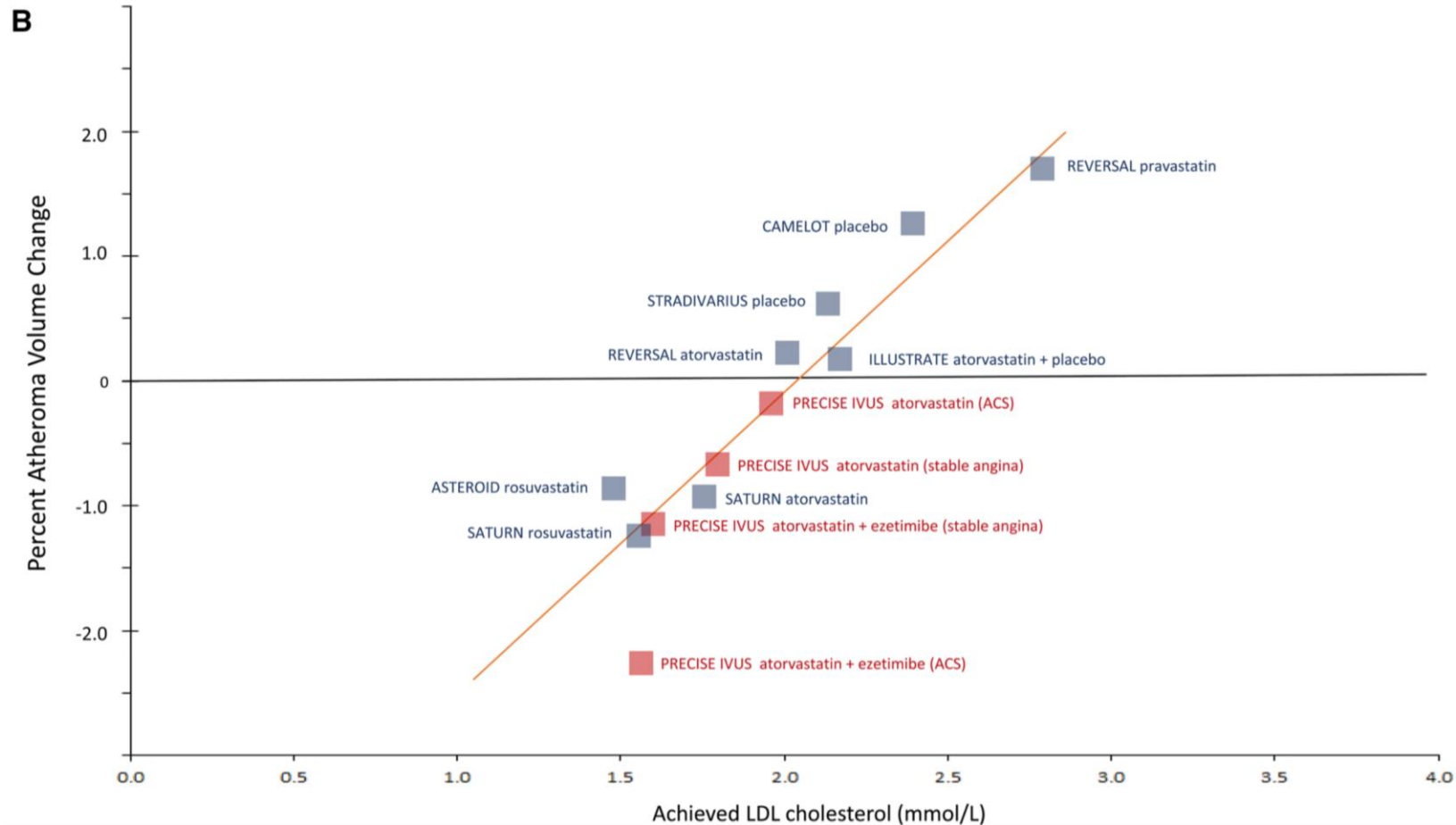
Historical perspective of LDL-C levels achieved in major randomised controlled trials of lipid-lowering therapies



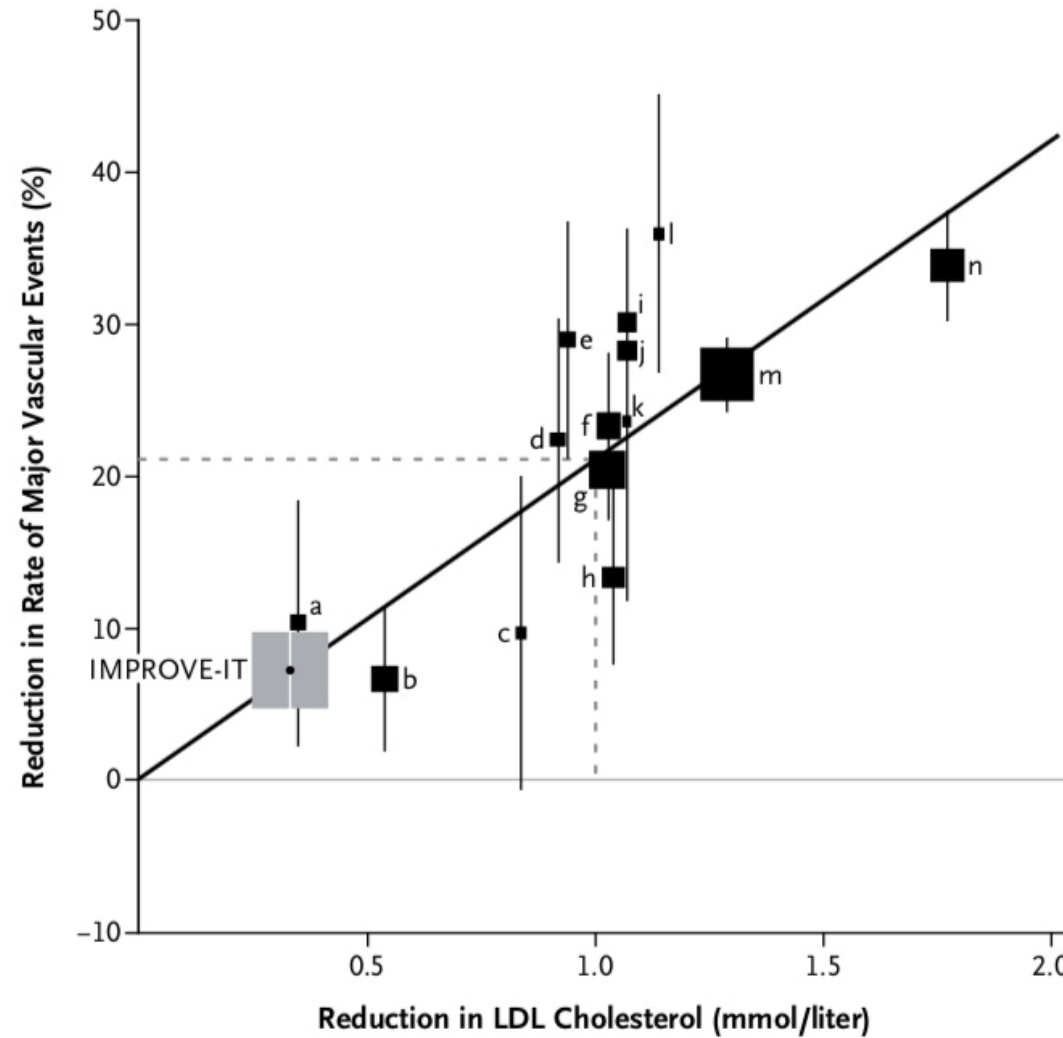
For illustrative purposes only; individual trials should not be directly compared.

Figure adapted from: Masana, et al. J Clin Lipidol. 2018;12(2):292-299.e3. Red arrows indicate the mean LDL decrease obtained in the study. fu, follow up; LDL-C, low-density lipoprotein-cholesterol.

# Lower LDL-C promotes regression

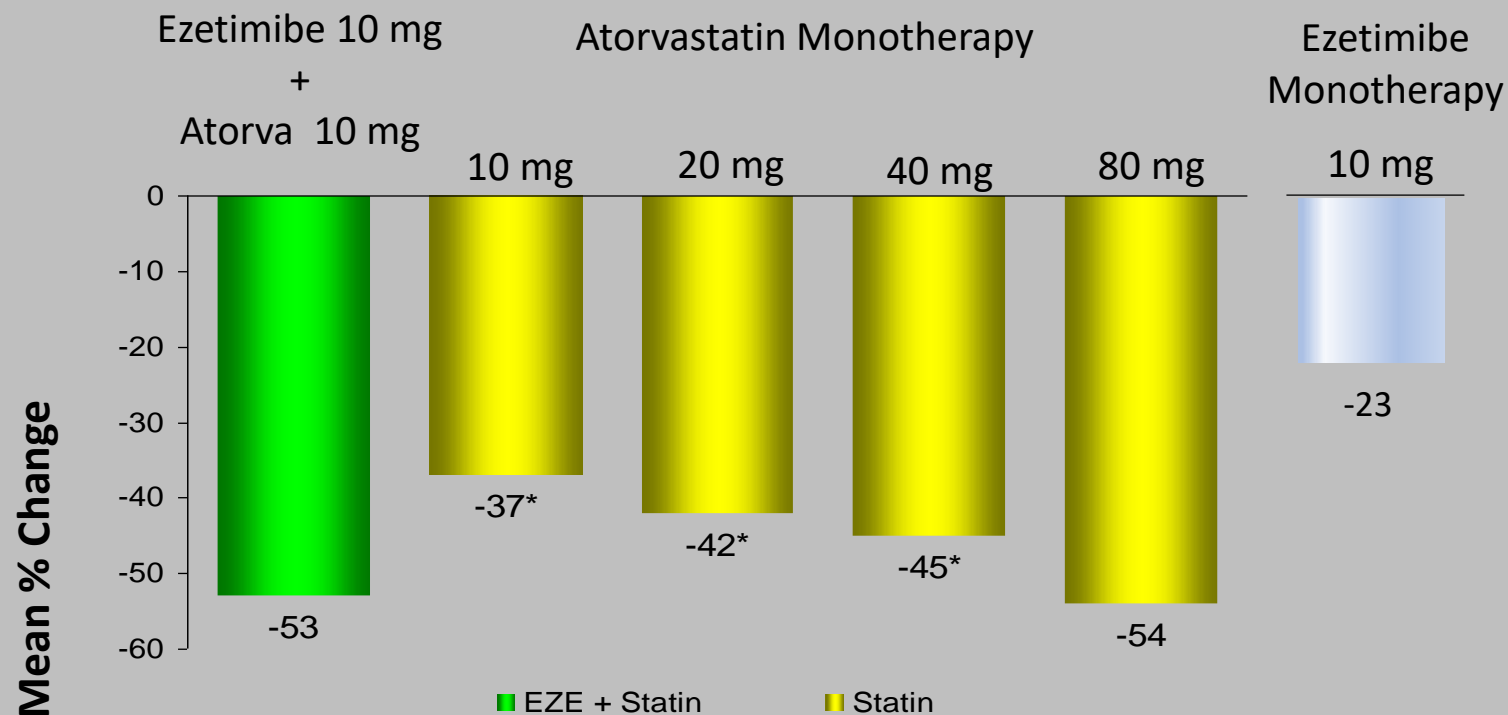


# IMPROVE-IT worth adding ezetimibe to a statin?



The difference in MACE per mmol/L LDL-C is in line with statins

# Ezetimibe + statin – a quick win?



\* p<0.01 combination therapy versus statin alone



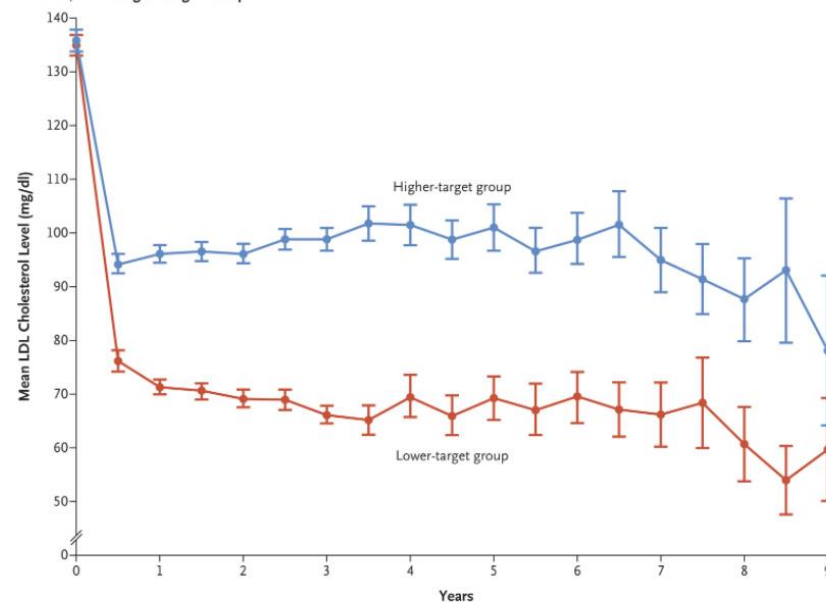
# A Comparison of Two LDL-C Targets after Ischemic Stroke

Titration or statin dose and/or addition of ezetimibe to achieve lower target of LDL-C

- <1.7 mmol/L vs higher target LDL-C <2.6 mmol/L reduced MACE by a further 22%

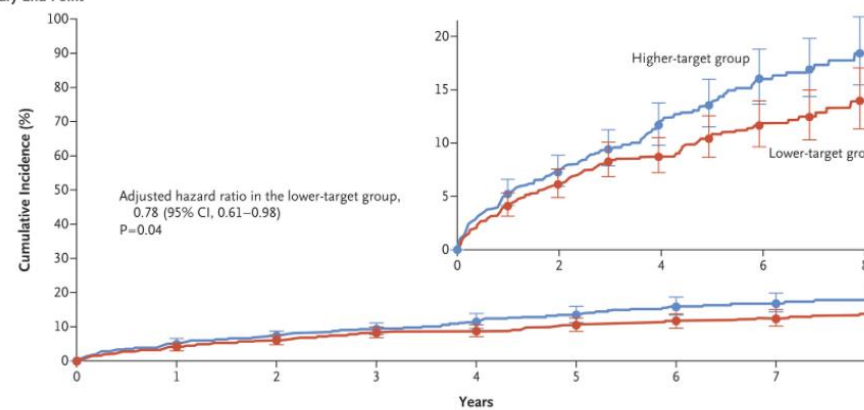
(LDL-C <1.7 mmol/L = non-HDL-C <2.5 mmol/L)

A LDL Cholesterol Level, According to Target Group



No. at Risk	1420	1115	989	787	792	681	598	292	242	185	164	133	114	80	83	67	31	22	5
Higher target	1414	1102	965	879	774	653	570	277	227	180	169	141	126	81	73	46	26	21	6
Absolute difference	-1.14	-18.3	-24.7	-26.1	-27.1	-29.8	-32.5	-36.6	-32.0	-32.8	-31.9	-29.5	-29.4	-34.6	-29.0	-23.2	-26.9	-39.2	-18.5

B Primary End Point



No. at Risk	1430	1146	973	730	590	487	392	253	106
Higher target	1430	1128	964	740	586	475	353	238	104

Lipid management of high risk patients in the UK remains suboptimal despite effective treatment recommended by NICE

Recommended High intensity statins (HIST) and ezetimibe are underused

Many high risk patients are on no lipid lowering therapy at all

NICE endorsed pathways summarising Lipid Management and Statin Intolerance are now available to guide lipid optimisation in practice

Non-fasting non-HDL-cholesterol replaces fasting LDL-cholesterol for monitoring and assessment of adequacy of response to therapy- with HIST we should achieve at least 40% reduction; if not consider adding ezetimibe

Where baseline lipid measurements are unavailable for setting secondary prevention targets, non-HDL-C <2.5 mmol/L can be used

Consider specialist referral for people at high risk of CVD who are statin intolerant or who remain poorly controlled despite maximum tolerated doses of statins and ezetimibe



05 Q&A

**Next steps: Join us for the next webinar:  
NICE CG181: what's in it for me?  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 1-2pm**

**Helen Williams**

National Specialty Adviser for Cardiovascular Disease Prevention at NHS  
England and NHS Improvement

**Dr Dermot Neely**

Consultant Lipidologist and Specialist Adviser on Lipids to the AHSNs

All programme content, recordings and next webinar bookings will be housed in the  
HEART UK pages. Visit the site for the new e-Learning module on Statin Intolerance.

Tackling  
Cholesterol  
Together

# Thank you

**This webinar has now finished.**

Today's slides and recording will be available after the webinar on the HEART UK pages.

Visit the site for the **new** e-Learning module on Statin Intolerance.  
<https://www.heartuk.org.uk/tackling-cholesterol-together/home>

*Some content in this deck is based on slides created and provided by Amgen UK in scientific exchange to our speakers, which have been adapted for this talk*

Lowering Cholesterol!

Saving Lives.