

# Your medication information for Coronary Artery Disease

## Cholesterol-lowering medicines

Active Ingredient Name	Some Common Brand Names
Atorvastatin	Atorvachol <sup>®</sup> , Lipitor <sup>®</sup> , Lorstat <sup>®</sup> , Stada <sup>®</sup> , Torvastat <sup>®</sup> , Trovas <sup>®</sup>
Fluvastatin	Lescol <sup>®</sup> , Vastin <sup>®</sup>
Pravastatin	Cholstat <sup>®</sup> , Cholvastin <sup>®</sup> , Lipostat <sup>®</sup> , Pravachol <sup>®</sup> , Pravastat <sup>®</sup>
Simvastatin	Lipex <sup>®</sup> , Ransim <sup>®</sup> , Simvacor <sup>®</sup> , Simvacor <sup>®</sup> , Simvar <sup>®</sup> , Zimstat <sup>®</sup> , Zocor <sup>®</sup>
Rosuvastatin	Cavstat <sup>®</sup> , Crestor <sup>®</sup> , Crosuva <sup>®</sup> , Rostor <sup>®</sup>
Ezetimibe	Ezetrol <sup>®</sup>
Ezetimibe with Atorvastatin	Atozet <sup>®</sup>
Ezetimibe with Rosuvastatin	Rosuzet <sup>®</sup>
Ezetimibe with Simvastatin	Vytorin <sup>®</sup>
Fenofibrate	Lipidil <sup>®</sup>
Gemfibrozil	Ausgem <sup>®</sup> , Gemhexal <sup>®</sup> , Lipazil <sup>®</sup> , Lipigem <sup>®</sup> , Lopid <sup>®</sup>

### What are cholesterol-lowering medicines?

Cholesterol-lowering medicines are used to:

- ♥ Reduce the level of cholesterol in the blood.
- ♥ Prevent the build-up of fatty 'plaque' inside the coronary arteries.
- ♥ Reduce the risk of future heart attack, stroke and death.

### What should I do while taking them?

**Take your cholesterol-lowering medicine every day according to the doctor's instructions.**

- ♥ Most cholesterol-lowering medicines are taken once daily in the evening.
- ♥ Gemfibrozil is usually taken twice a day, in the morning and evening.
- ♥ Cholesterol-lowering medicines may be taken with or without food.

**Avoid eating grapefruit or drinking grapefruit juice while being treated with atorvastatin or simvastatin.**

- ♥ Grapefruit juice can affect the way your body processes these medicines.

**See your doctor for a check-up four to six weeks after starting treatment with a cholesterol-lowering medicine, and every six to 12 months thereafter.**

- ♥ The doctor will order a blood test to check your liver function and blood cholesterol levels.

**Check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking any other medicines.**

- ♥ This includes medicines you buy over the counter from a pharmacy or health food shop.
- ♥ Cholesterol-lowering medicines can interact with some other medicines.

### What are the possible side effects?

- ♥ Tell your doctor promptly if your urine is dark (brown) or if you have unexplained muscle pain, tenderness or weakness.
- ♥ Cholesterol-lowering medicines may cause nausea, flatulence (wind), dizziness and headache. Tell your doctor if you experience side effects and they trouble you.
- ♥ Read the consumer medicines information leaflet or speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like more information about possible side effects.



**For more advice about information in this leaflet, contact:**

Monash Medicines Information -

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Version 2.1, April 2017

Consumer reviewed