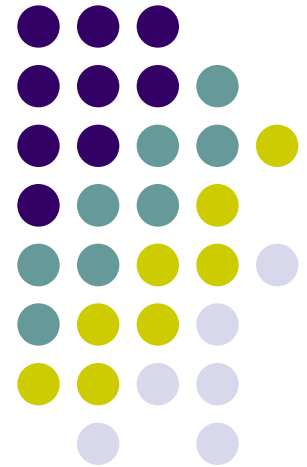


# Novel Therapies and New Targets of Treatment for Familial Hypercholesterolemia

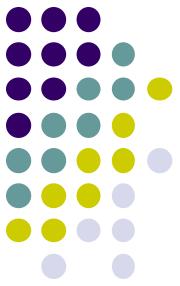
Anne Carol Goldberg, MD, FACP,  
FAHA, FNLA

Associate Professor of Medicine  
Washington University School of  
Medicine

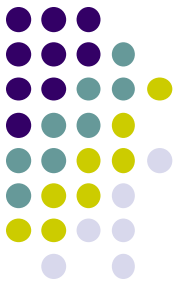
May 16, 2010



# Why do we need more LDL-lowering therapies?



- For Familial Hypercholesterolemia
  - Homozygous patients cannot approach target levels on usual therapy
  - Heterozygous patients may still need further lowering even if they achieve 70% reduction with multiple drug combinations
  - Not all FH patients can tolerate current multi-drug combinations
  - LDL-apheresis is not available everywhere and has drawbacks

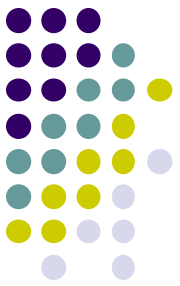


# Potential therapies

- Apolipoprotein B Antisense
- Microsomal triglyceride transfer protein inhibitors
- Squalene synthase inhibitors
- Proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9 inhibitors
- Cholesterol absorption inhibitors

Stein EA. Other therapies for reducing low-density lipoprotein cholesterol: medications in development. *Endocrinol Metab Clin North Am* 2009;38:99-119.

Davidson MH. Novel nonstatin strategies to lower low-density lipoprotein cholesterol. *Curr Atheroscler Rep* 2009;11:67-70.

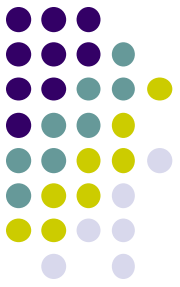


# Antisense oligonucleotides

- Single-stranded DNA corresponding to a specific mRNA sequence
- Bind to mRNA by Watson-Crick hybridization
- Induce selective degradation of mRNA
- Given as subcutaneous injections, have a long half-life and preferentially travel to liver and kidneys

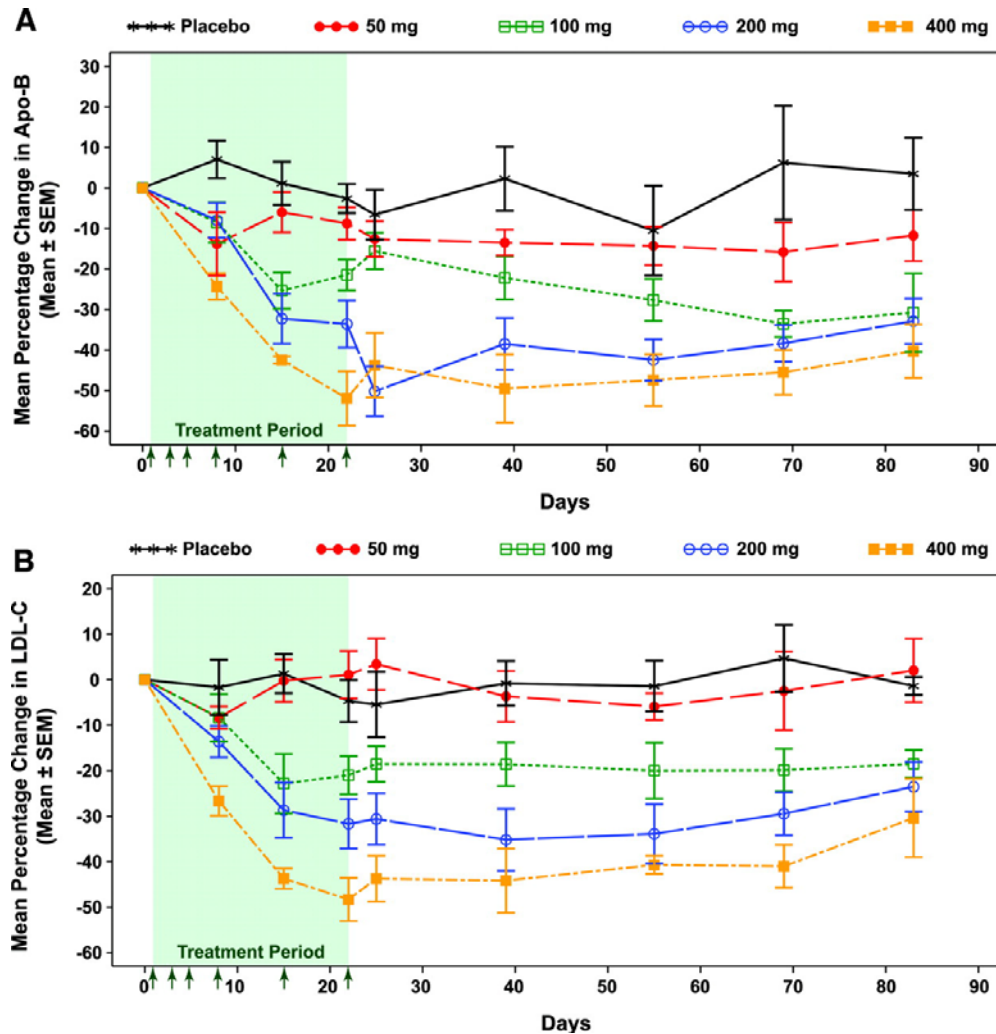
Davidson MH. Novel nonstatin strategies to lower low-density lipoprotein cholesterol. *Curr Atheroscler Rep* 2009;11:67-70.

# Antisense oligonucleotides: ApoB-100 (mipomersen)



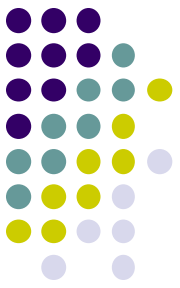
- Second generation antisense oligonucleotide
- Apo B 100 production inhibited
- Decreased secretion of apo B containing lipoproteins from the liver
- Lowers apo B, LDL-cholesterol and lipoprotein (a) in humans

# Dose-dependent effect of ISIS 301012 on (A) apoB and (B) LDL cholesterol levels, shown as mean % change from baseline



Kastelein, J. J.P. et al. *Circulation* 2006;114:1729-1735

# Mipomersen in patients with homozygous FH



- Multi-center study in 45 patients
- Baseline LDL-C on lipid drugs 11.4 mmol/L (440 mg/dL)
- Mipomersen 200 mg sc weekly or placebo for 26 weeks
- LDL-C decreased by 24.7% with mipomersen compared with -3.3% with placebo

Raal FJ, Santos RD, Blom DJ, et al. Mipomersen, an apolipoprotein B synthesis inhibitor, for lowering of LDL cholesterol concentrations in patients with homozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *Lancet*; 2010;375:998-1006.

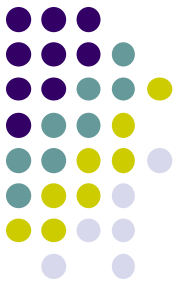
# Mipomersen in heterozygous FH patients



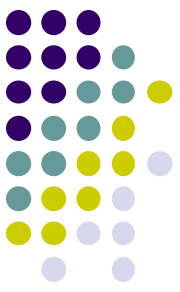
- 26 week study in 124 patients randomized to mipomersen or placebo
- Mipomersen group 28% reduction of LDL-C
- Placebo group 5% increase LDL-C
- Of 83 on mipomersen, 73 completed and 9 discontinued due to adverse reactions
- Adverse reactions similar to previous
- Liver enzymes—none met Hy's law

<http://ir.isispharm.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=222170&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1385999&highlight> Accessed 4/22/10

# Mipomersen adverse effects



- Injection site reactions
- Flu-like symptoms
- Fatigue
- Pyrexia
- Increased ALT
- Increased liver fat

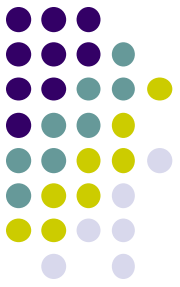


# Liver fat

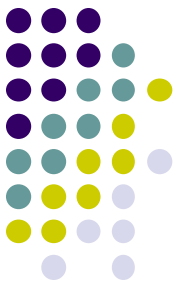
- Short term study using magnetic resonance spectroscopy
- 4 weeks and 15 weeks of treatment
- Trend toward increase in triglyceride accumulation in the liver of patients treated with mipomersen compared with placebo
  - 75% increase not statistically significant
  - 90% remained within normal range
- Need further data on long term use

Visser ME, Akdim F, Tribble DL, et al. Effect of apolipoprotein-B synthesis inhibition on liver triglyceride content in patients with familial hypercholesterolemia. *J Lipid Res*;2010;51:1057-62.  
Feingold KR. Does inhibition of apolipoprotein B synthesis produce foie gras? *J Lipid Res*;2010;51:877-8.

# Microsomal triglyceride transfer protein inhibitors



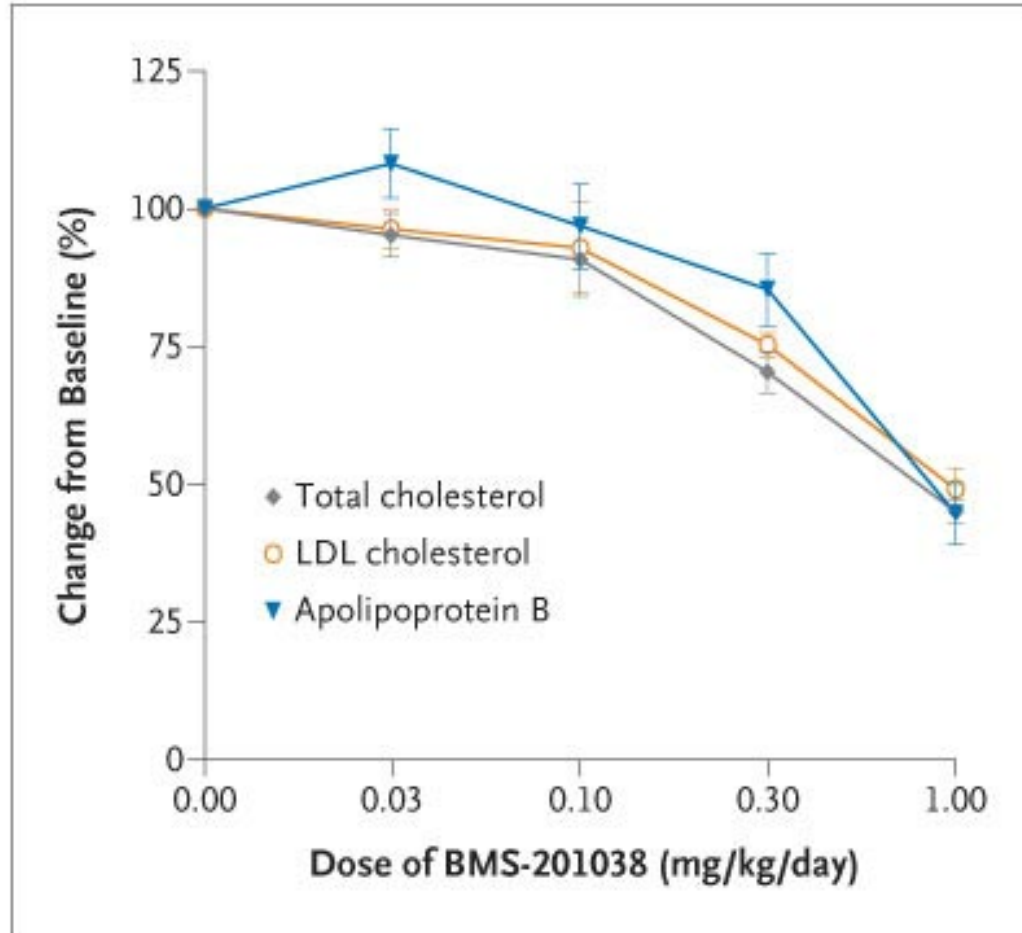
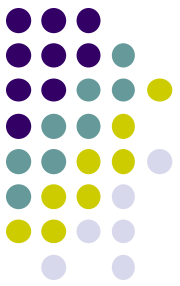
- MTP is a lipid transfer protein
- Localized in the endoplasmic reticulum of hepatocytes and enterocytes
- Critical role in lipoprotein lipidation of apoB
- Necessary for formation of chylomicrons, VLDL and downstream remnants
- MTP deficiency--abetalipoproteinemia



# MTP inhibitor: homozygous FH

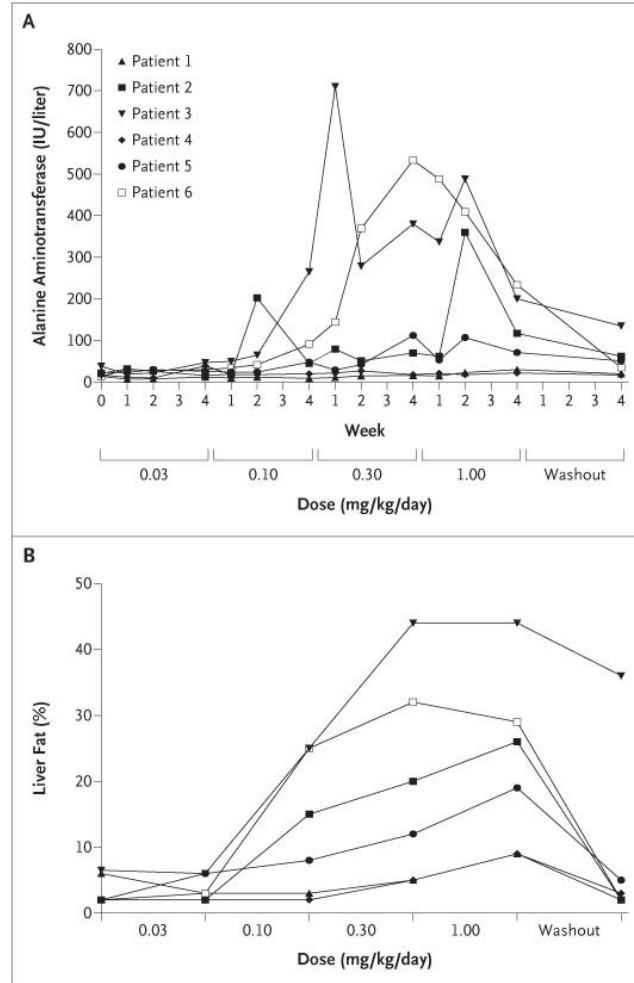
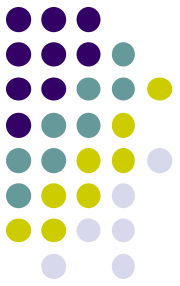
- 6 patients
- Four doses for 4 weeks each dose
- 0.03, 0.1, 0.3, and 1.0 mg per kilogram body weight
- At 1 mg/kg, LDL-C decreased by 50.9%
- Kinetic studies showed marked reduction in production of apo B
- GI side effects, increased transaminases and increased hepatic fat

# Mean % Change from Baseline of Total Cholesterol, LDL-Chol, & ApoB after Receipt of 4 Doses of BMS-201038, Each for 4 Wks

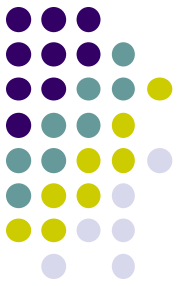


Cuchel M et al. N Engl J Med 2007;356:148-156

# Serum Levels of Alanine Aminotransferase (Panel A) and Percentage of Fat in the Liver (Panel B), as Measured by MRI at Baseline, after Receipt of Four Doses of BMS-201038 and after the 4-Week Washout Period

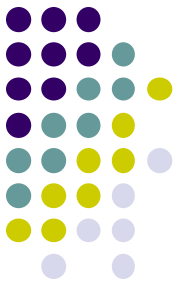


# AEGR-733



- 12 week study, 84 patients
- Randomized, double-blind
  - Ezetimibe 10 mg (n = 29)
  - AEGR with up-titration: 4 weeks 5 mg, 4 weeks 7.5 mg, 4 weeks 10 mg (n = 28)
  - Ezetimibe plus AEGR (n = 28)
- LDL-C decreased
  - Ezetimibe 20%
  - AEGR 19, 26, 30%
  - Ezetimibe + AEGR 35, 38, 46%

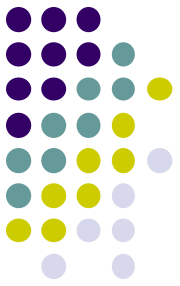
Samaha FF, McKenney J, Bloedon LT, Sasiela WJ, Rader DJ. Inhibition of microsomal triglyceride transfer protein alone or with ezetimibe in patients with moderate hypercholesterolemia. *Nat Clin Pract Cardiovasc Med* 2008;5:497-505.



# AEGR-733

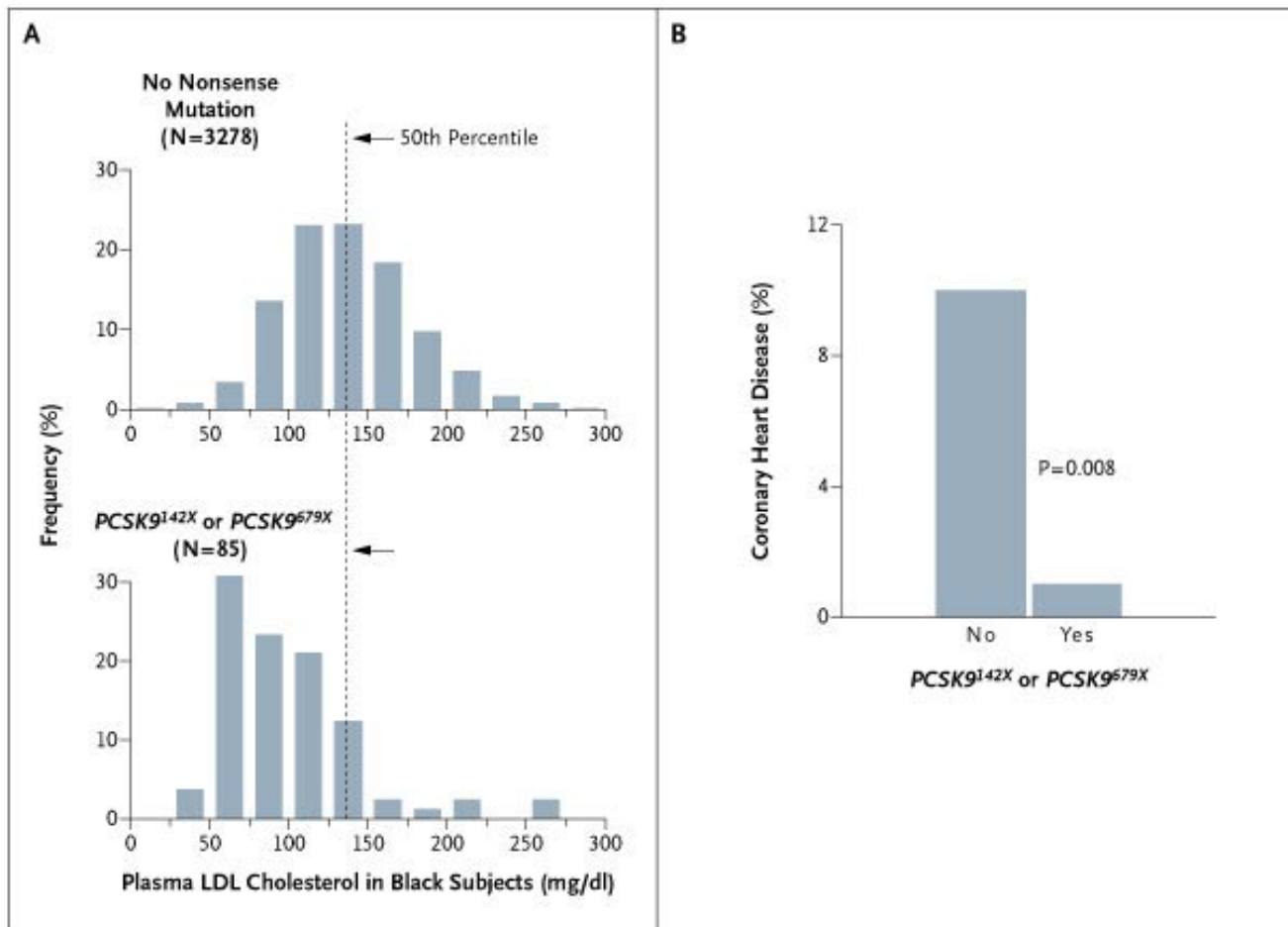
- Adverse effects
  - Elevated transaminases: 9/56
  - Gastrointestinal symptoms: nausea, diarrhea
- Discontinuations mostly due to elevated transaminases
- Same compound as in Cuchel study but much lower doses
- Patients with baseline LDL-cholesterols 160 mg/dl

# Proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9



- Member of the family of proteases involved in degradation of LDL-C receptor
- Mutations leading to loss of function are associated with lifelong low LDL-C levels and decreased risk of cardiovascular disease
- Inhibitors of PCSK9 are in development

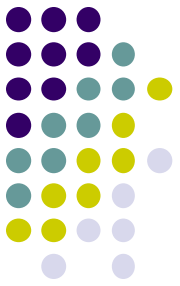
# Distribution of Plasma LDL Cholesterol Levels (Panel A) and Incidence of Coronary Heart Disease (Panel B) among Black Subjects, According to the Presence or Absence of a PCSK9<sup>142X</sup> or PCSK9<sup>679X</sup> Allele



PCSK9 (proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9 serine protease) gene

Cohen J et al. N Engl J Med 2006;354:1264-1272

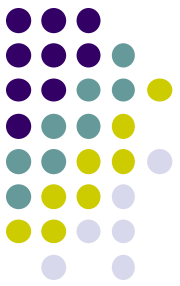
# Squalene synthase inhibitors



- Squalene synthase is a late step in cholesterol biosynthesis
- Early inhibitors showed significant toxicity
- Lapaquistat reached phase 3 clinical trials but program was discontinued
  - Liver enzyme elevations in phase 2
  - Two cases of severe liver enzyme elevations in phase 3

Stein EA. *Endocrinol Metab Clin North Am* 2009;38:99-119.

Davidson MH. *Curr Atheroscler Rep* 2009;11:67-70.

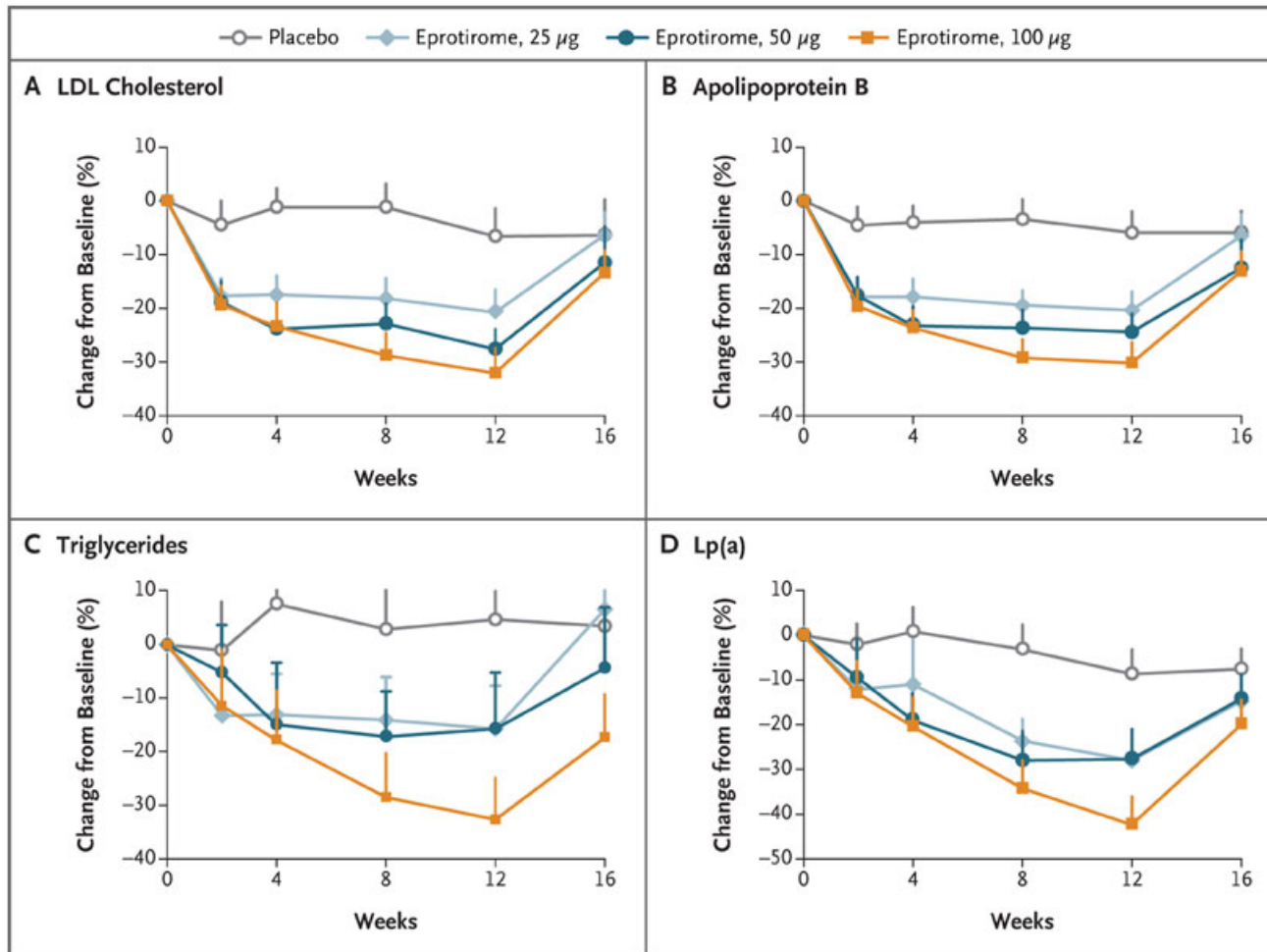
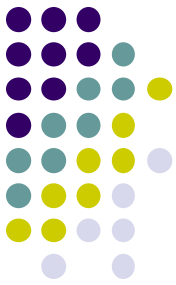


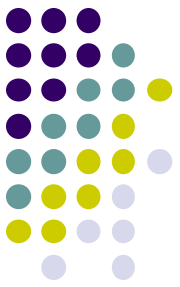
# Thyroid hormone analogue

- Thyroid hormone lowers LDL-cholesterol
- Eprotirome –thyroid hormone analogue
- 12 week study
- Reduced LDL-cholesterol
- No change in TSH, thyroxine level decreased

Ladenson PW, Kristensen JD, Ridgway EC, et al. Use of the thyroid hormone analogue eprotirome in statin-treated dyslipidemia. *N Engl J Med* 2010; 362:906-916.

# Effects of Eprotirome on Serum Levels of Cholesterol, Lipoproteins, and Triglycerides





# New Therapies for FH

- Several new types of therapy are in clinical trials
- It may be several years before any of these get to market
- Issues of long term safety and benefit on cardiovascular outcomes remain to be resolved