

G) Medications used to lower cholesterol

Statins

Statins work by slowing down the production of cholesterol in the liver, which is where most of the body's cholesterol is made.

Atorvastatin
Fluvastatin
Pravastatin
Rosuvastatin
Simvastatin

Fibrates

Due to their blocking action on certain enzymes used in the liver for the production of cholesterol and triglycerides, fibrates are particularly useful when both are raised.

Bezafibrate
Ciprofibrate
Fenofibrate
Gemfibrozil

Cholesterol Absorption Inhibitors

These drugs block the absorption of cholesterol into blood stream, from the small intestine. The cholesterol lowering effect is increased if combined with a low dose statin.

Ezetimibe
Ezetimibe/Simvastatin combination

Bile Acid Sequestrants

These drugs are known as resins. They prevent re-absorption of bile salts in the intestine, which means that cholesterol is used up in replacing them.

Colestipol
Colestyramine

Nicotinic Acid

Nicotinic acid inhibits fatty acid release from fat cells in the body, leading to a reduction in LDL-cholesterol and a rise in HDL-cholesterol.

Acipimox
Niaspan

Omega-3 Fish Oils

Fish oils reduce triglyceride levels. Eating three portions of oily fish can provide the recommended amount but fish oil capsules can provide an alternative source.

Omacor