

CANADIAN LIPID STUDY – OBSERVATIONAL (CALIPSO)

Fact Sheet

Study objectives

To document usual care of primary hypercholesterolemia in the clinical setting:

- Describe current treatment patterns of physicians who prescribe statins
- Ascertain the proportion of statin-treated patients achieving treatment LDL-C (bad cholesterol) goal

Methodology

- Study was conducted from July to December 2003
- 324 physicians were selected from Ontario and Quebec
- 3,721 patients over the age of 18, diagnosed with hypercholesterolemia, and who had been taking a statin for at least eight weeks were enrolled by their physician in the study

Patient characteristics

- 58% males
- 42% females
- Average age was 65 years
- 60% were hypertensive
- 46% had established Coronary Heart Disease (CHD)
- 42% had abdominal obesity
- 34% had diabetes

Results

Data analysis was made using the 2003 Canadian updated recommendations for the management and treatment of cholesterol.

- 68% of patients were diagnosed at high risk for CHD according to the 2003 recommendations
- 27.2% of patients were not at recommended treatment goals
- Amongst patients not at recommended treatment goal, 91% were at high risk for CHD

Investigators' conclusions

- A significant percentage of patients taking statins do not reach the LDL-C treatment goal
- The vast majority of these patients are at high risk for CHD
- Despite the use of medium to high doses of statins, many patients still require a significant further LDL-C reduction to reach goal
- Strategies are needed to promote lipid treatment goal achievement including dual inhibition of cholesterol