

Lp(a) in Clinical Practice: Measuring, Managing, and Mitigating Risk

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American
Heart
Association.

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Lp(a) Discovery Project

High Lp(a) levels are a genetically inherited and are a common independent risk factor for heart disease, affecting approximately 1 in 5 people worldwide.

The American Heart Association (AHA) launched a 3-year national initiative, the **Lp(a) Discovery Project**, to increase Lp(a) testing by improving processes across care settings through national education.

As an enhancement to this work, the AHA launched the **Lp(a) Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Discovery Project** which seeks to identify various approaches and barriers to Lp(a) testing within FQHCs and develop national education to improve knowledge and increase awareness surrounding Lp(a).

Lp(a)
Discovery
Project



Clinicians' Guide to Frequently Asked Questions About Lipoprotein(a) Testing

Clinicians' Guide

Frequently Asked Questions About Lipoprotein(a) Testing

Elevated levels of Lp(a) have been associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular disease including coronary artery disease, stroke, and aortic stenosis.

[Clinicians' Guide \(PDF\)](#)

Lp(a) Discovery Podcast Episodes



American Heart Association
Lp(a) Discovery Perspectives from Neurology and Cardiology Part 1

25:43

Privacy policy

American Heart Association · Lp(a) Discovery Perspectives from Neurology and Cardiology Part 1



American Heart Association
Lp(a) Discovery Perspectives from Neurology and Cardiology Part 2

28:10

Privacy policy

American Heart Association · Lp(a) Discovery Perspectives from Neurology and Cardiology Part 2



American Heart Association
Lp(a) Discovery Women's Health and Cardiovascular Disease E3

20:09

Privacy policy

American Heart Association · Lp(a) Discovery Women's Health and Cardiovascular Disease E3

Lipoprotein (a): Current data that can guide clinical care



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Columbia University Irving Medical Center, Columbia Vagelos College of
Physicians and Surgeons

Department of Medicine, Division of Preventive Med. and Nutrition

Disclosures

- R01 HL139759 (2018-2023) (2024-2028) Understanding the Complexities of Lp(a). NIH
- AHA- Innovative Project Award 2023-2025 *AHA-Innovative Project Award:23IPA1054039
 - Understanding The Metabolic Pathways of Lipoprotein(a) Through Genetic Recall

Industry

- Kaneca, Inc. Lipoprotein(a) Apheresis: Proteomics and Inflammatory Pathways
- Private Donors Funds (Robin Chemers Neustein)

Case Study: Follow up Visit

57 Y/O male

MI at 52 Y/O

**Measure:
apolipoprotein B100 (apoB)
and Lipoprotein (a) [apo(a)]**

Triglycerides 65mg/dl

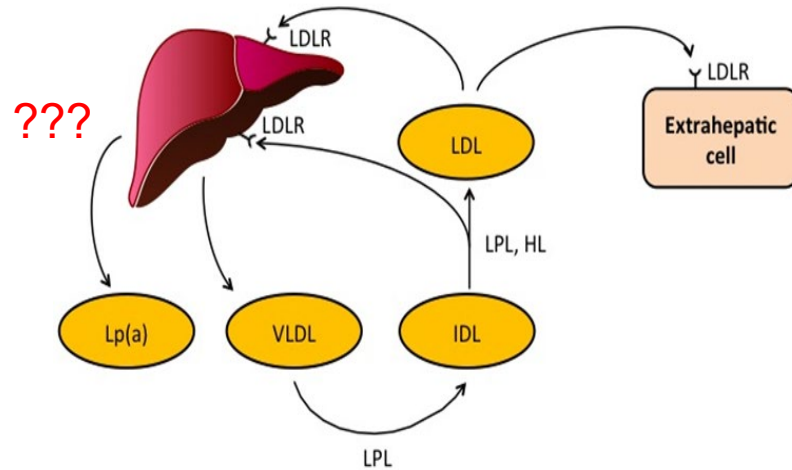
LDL-C 50mg/dl

HDL-C 40 mg/dl

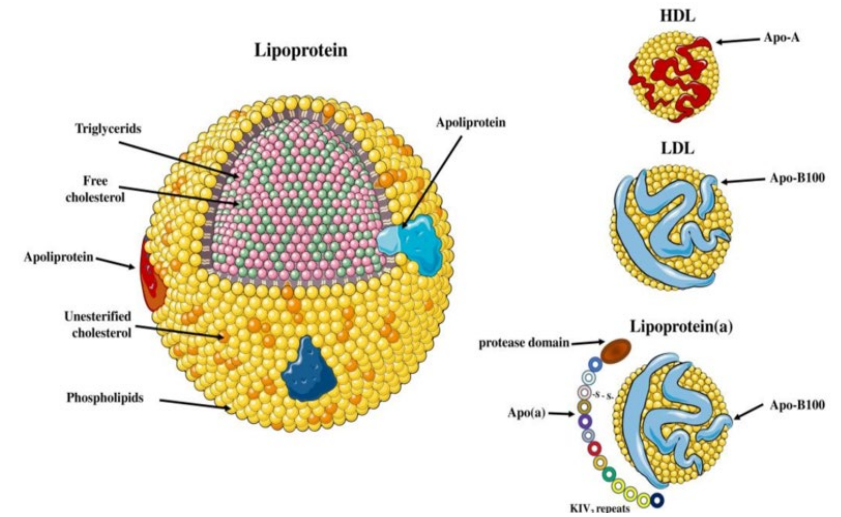
Learning Objectives

- 1. Lipoproteins: Transport of Lipids and apoproteins**
- 2. Why Should we Measure Lipoprotein(a)?**

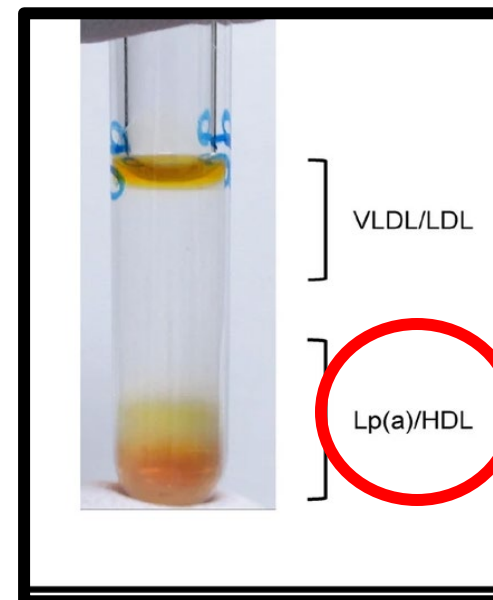
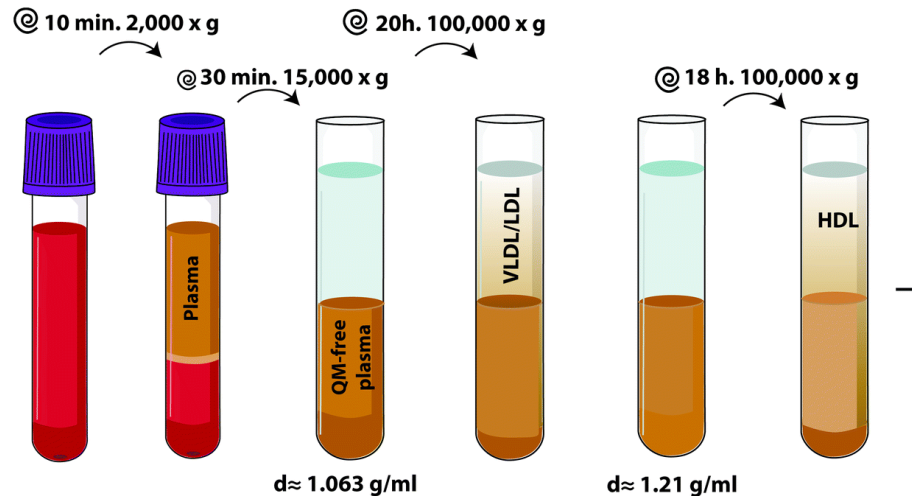
Lipoproteins: From Liver to Plasma



Dieplinger, B., & Dieplinger, H. (2012). New Insights into the Assembly and Metabolism of ApoB-Containing Lipoproteins from in vivo Kinetic Studies: Results on Healthy Subjects and Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease. InTech. doi: 10.5772/51865



Lampsas S, Xenou M, Oikonomou E, et al. Lipoprotein(a) in Atherosclerotic Diseases: From Pathophysiology to Diagnosis and Treatment. *Molecules*. 2023;28(3):969. Published 2023 Jan 18. doi:10.3390/molecules28030969



Uribe, K. B., Benito-Vicente, A., Martin, C., Blanco-Vaca, F., & Rotllan, N. (2021). (r)HDL in therapeutics: How do we apply HDL's biology for precision medicine in atherosclerosis management? *Biomaterials Science*, 9(9), 3185–3208. <https://doi.org/10.1039/D0BM01838D>

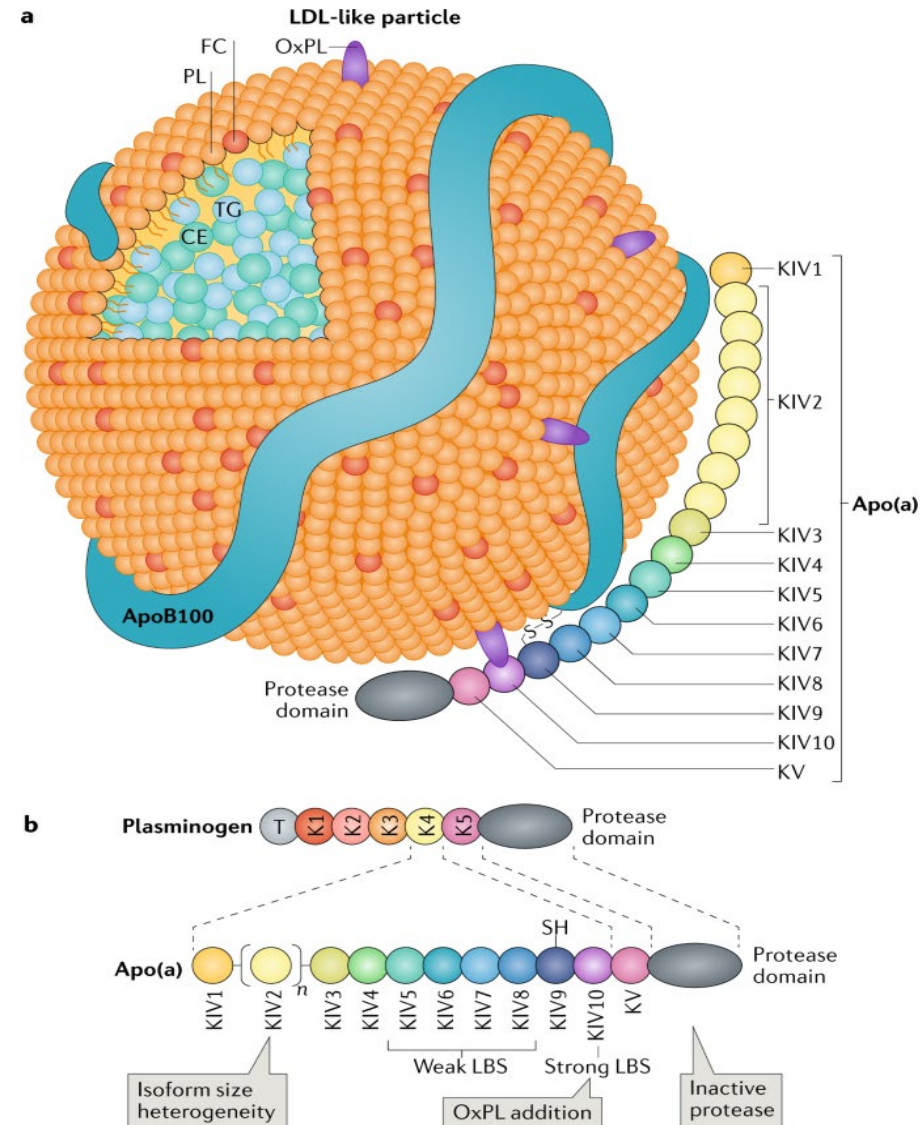


COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

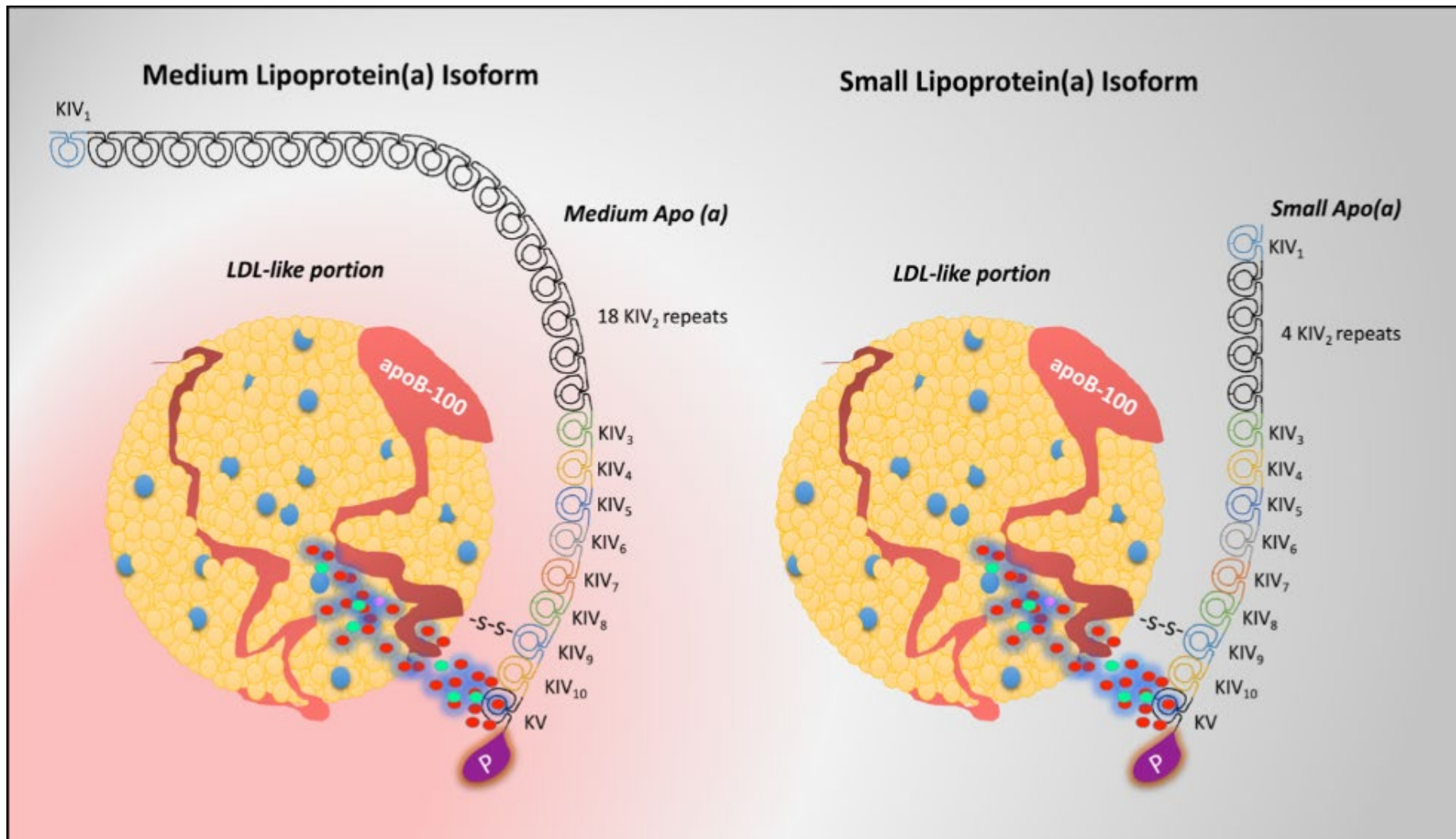
Mueller, P. A., Yerkes, E., Bergstrom, P., Rosario, S., Hay, J., & Pamir, N. (2022). A method for lipoprotein (a) isolation from a small volume of plasma with applications for clinical research. *Scientific Reports*, 12, 9138. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-13040-4>

Lipoprotein(a) Particle

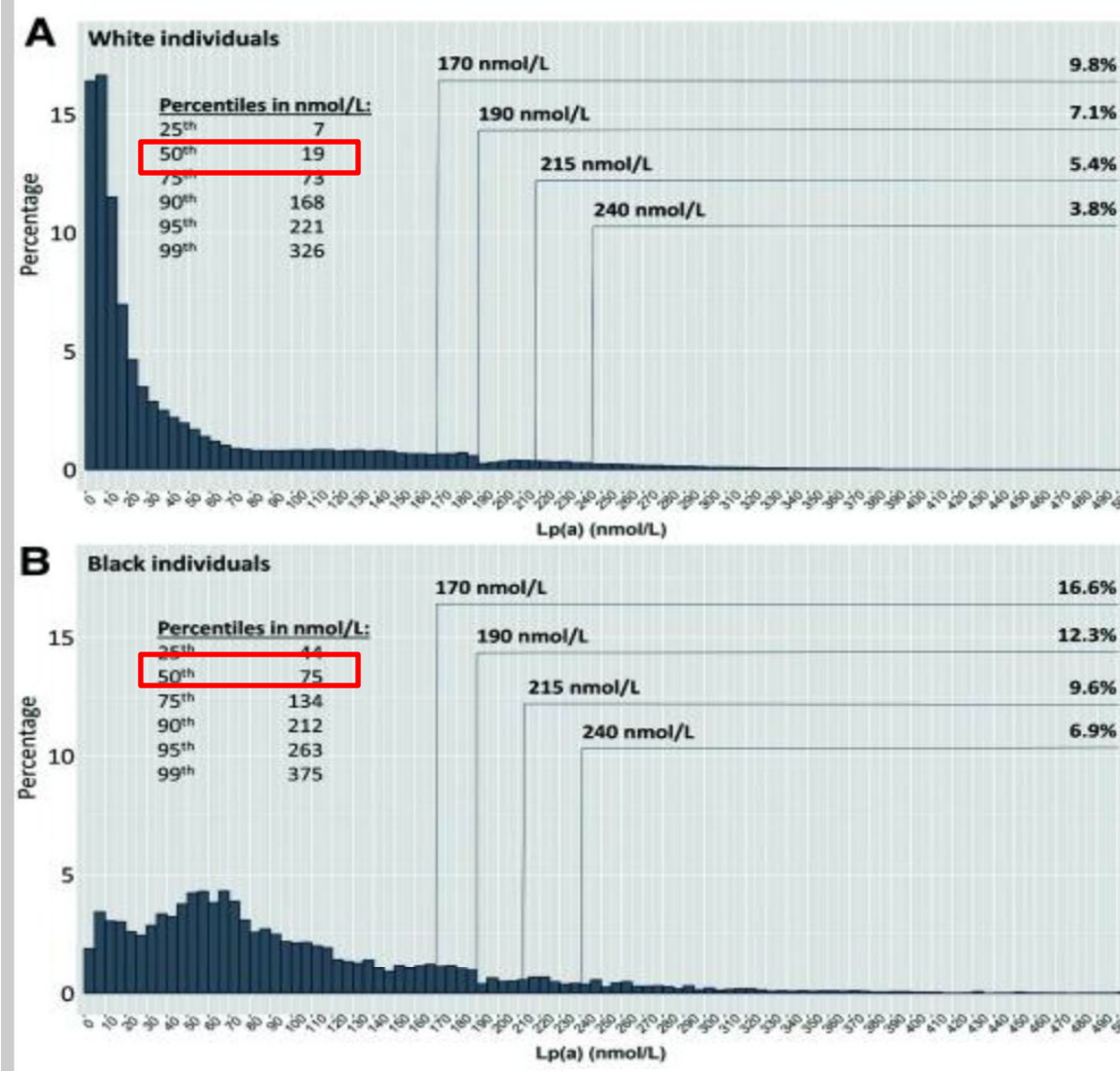
- ApoB100 containing Lipoprotein, covalently bound to apolipoprotein (a).
- LPA gene is one of the most potent monogenetic risk factors for CAD regardless of race and aortic stenosis
- Autosomal co-dominant inheritance, phenotype of both alleles is expressed.



Lipoprotein(a) Isoforms

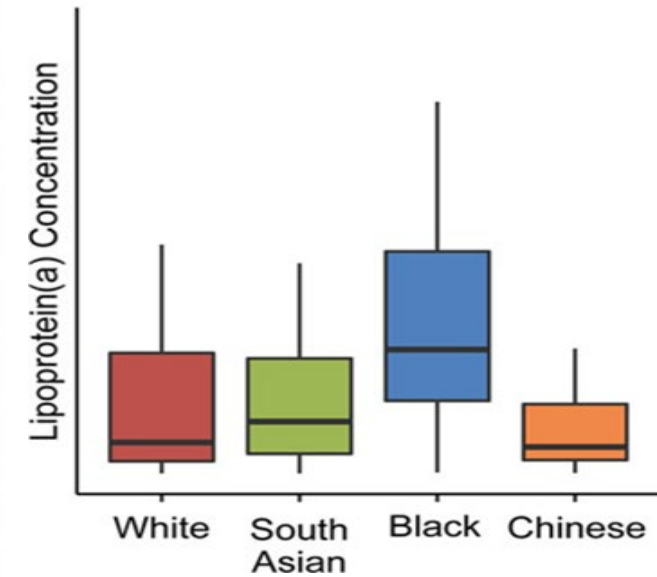


Lipoprotein(a) by Ancestry UK Biobank



460,506 Adults
in UK Biobank

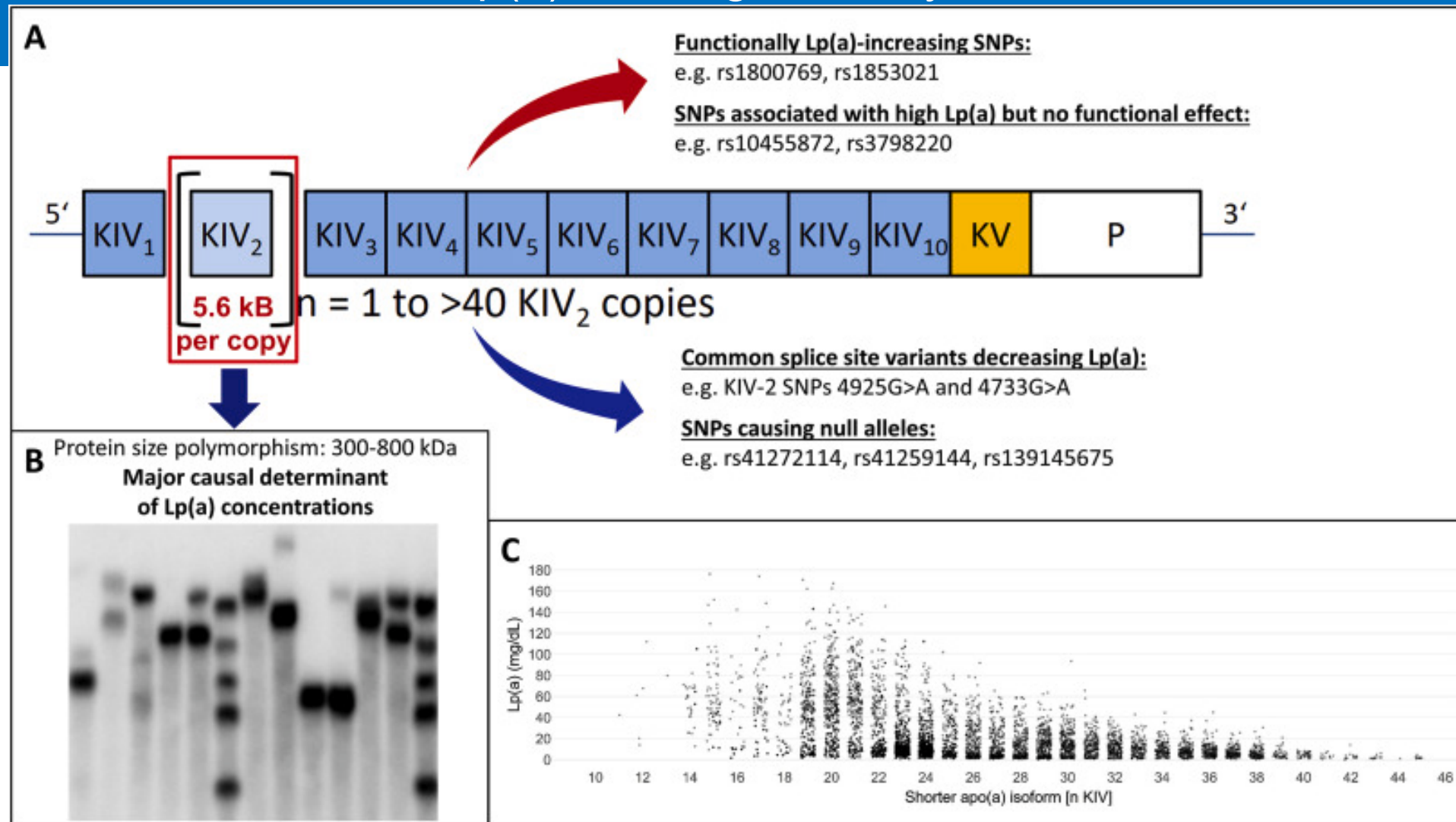
Significant differences in Lp(a)
concentrations according to race



Patel et al. Arteriosclerosis,
Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology.
2021;41:465–474

Kronenberg F et al. Eur Heart J. 2022 Oct
14; 43(39): 3925–3946.

Levels of Lp(a) are Regulated by Gene Variants



Clarke R. N Engl J Med. 2009 Dec 24;361(26):2518-28.

Kronenberg F et al. Eur Heart J. 2022 Oct 14; 43(39): 3925–3946.

Concordance of High Lp(a) in Relatives

Figure 1. Lipoprotein(a) (Lp[a]) Levels, Concordance in High Lp(a) Levels, and Numbers Needed to Screen Among Relatives of Index Participants With High Lp(a) Levels

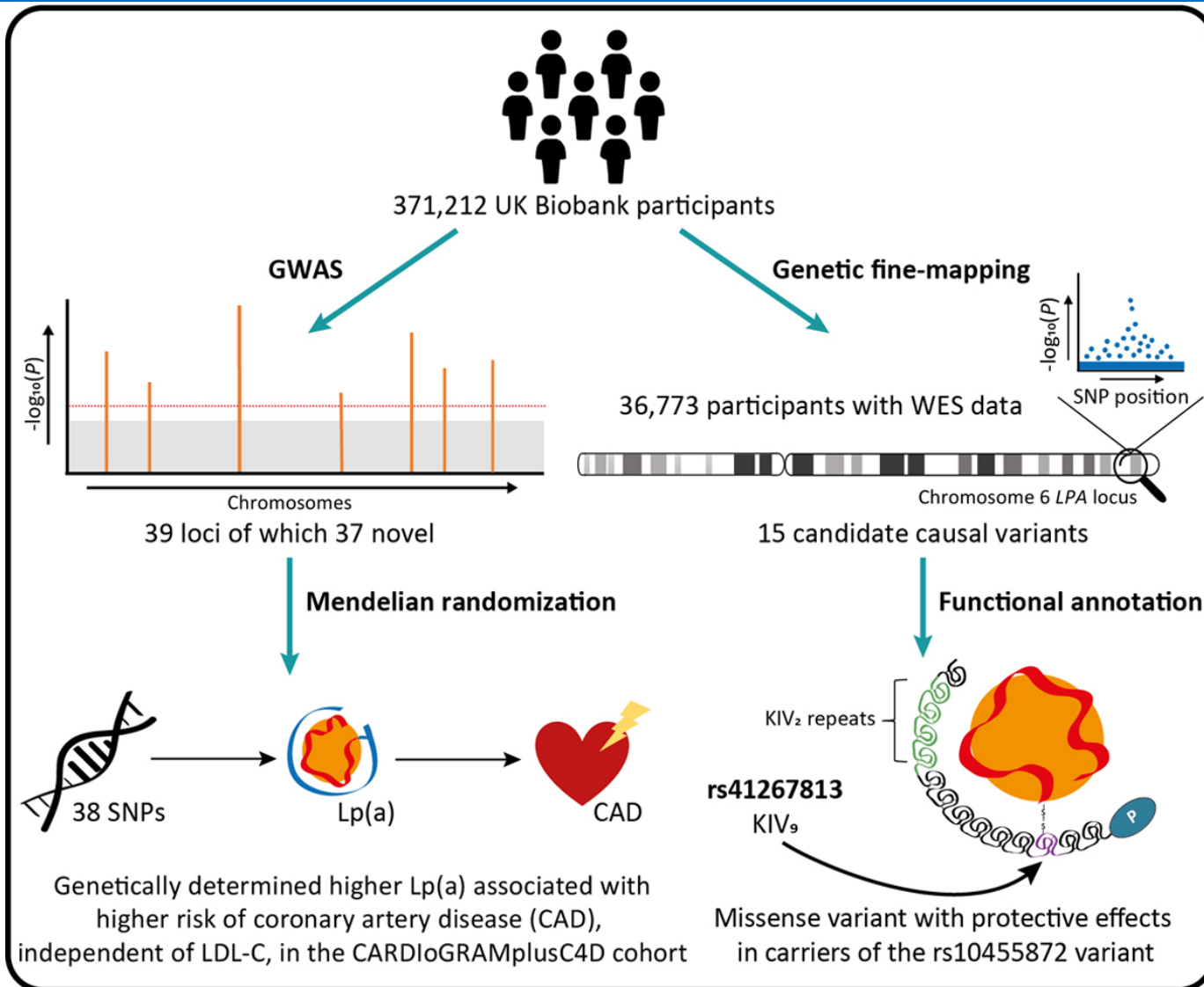
In this cross-sectional study, 1607 of 3420 (47.0%) first-degree relatives of UK Biobank participants with a lipoprotein(a) concentration at least 125 nmol/L were similarly affected, compared with 4974 of 30 258 (16.4%) unrelated individuals.

First degree Second degree Unrelated
Relation to index participant

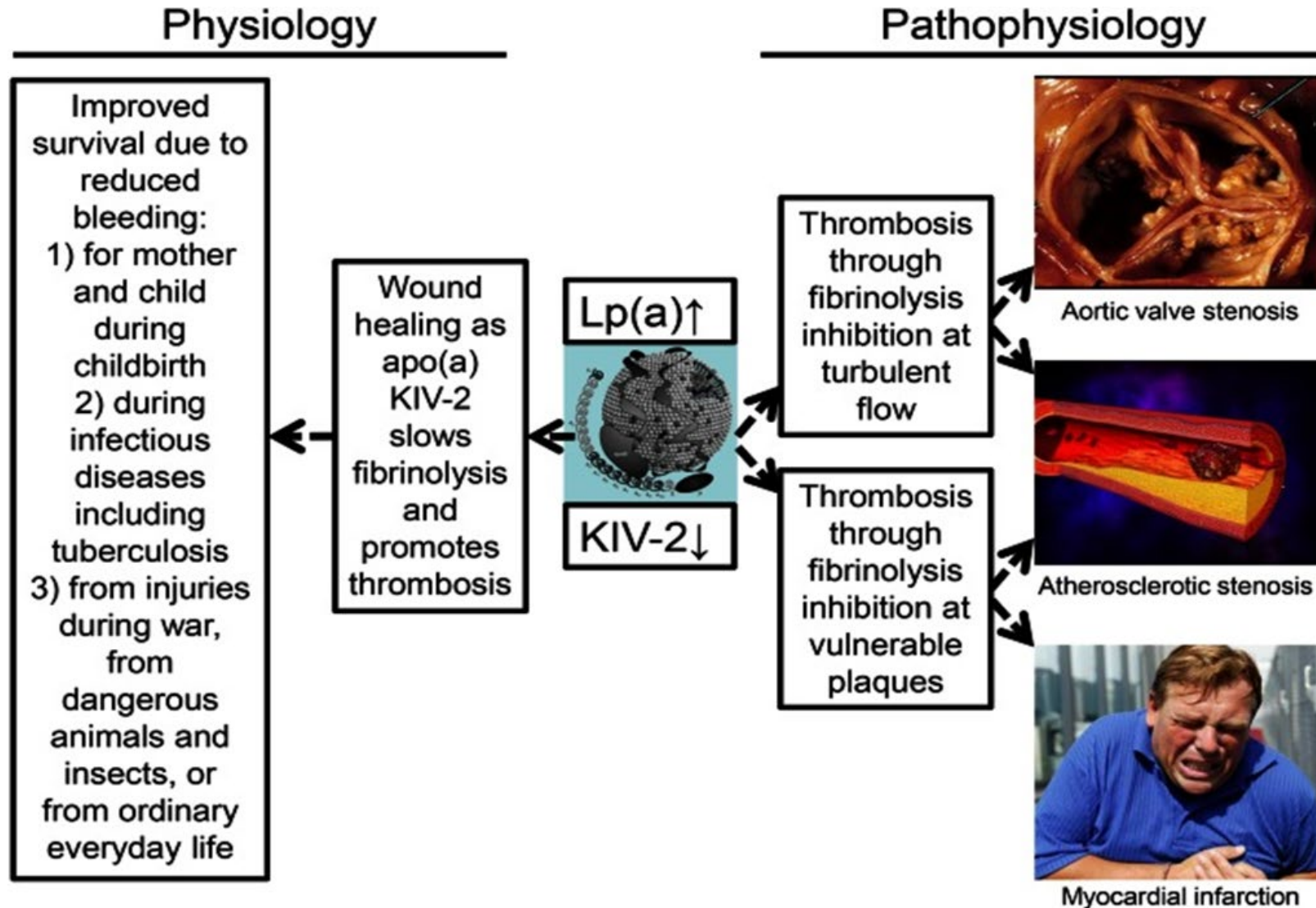
High Lp(a)
High LDL-C
High Lp(a)
High LDL-C
High Lp(a)
High LDL-C
Lipid level measured

High Lp(a)
High LDL-C
High Lp(a)
High LDL-C
High Lp(a)
High LDL-C
Lipid level measured

LPA Variants



Why do we have Lp(a)?



Lp(a) and Disease

Pro-atherogenic Effects:

- Lp(a) can promote **atherosclerosis** by depositing in arterial walls.

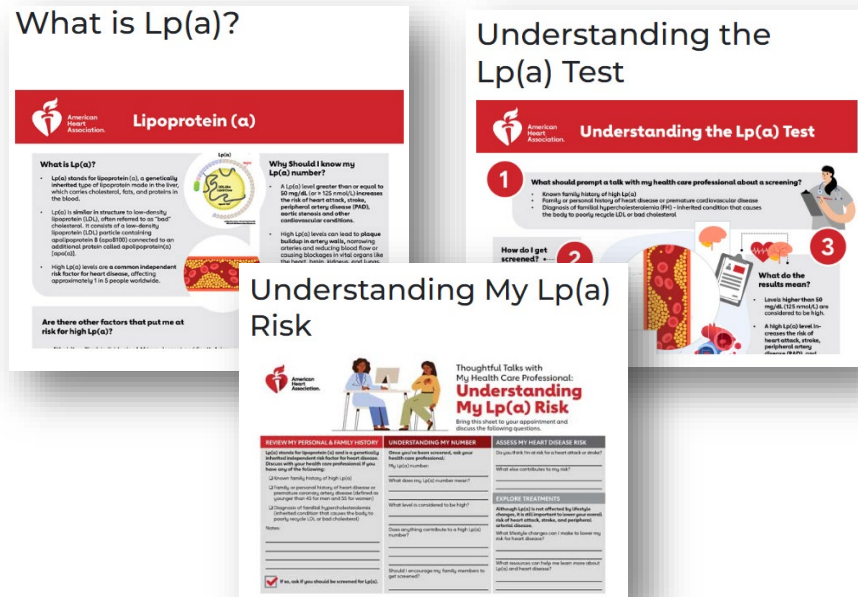
Pro-thrombotic Effects:

- Lp(a) contains **kringle IV** and **plasminogen-like** domains, which can interfere with fibrinolysis, enhancing clot formation.

Clearance and Degradation:

- Lp(a) is cleared by the liver and possibly other tissues through mechanisms involving lipoprotein receptors.

A Heart Risk Factor Even Doctors Know Little About



[Learn about Lp\(a\)- Patient Resources](#)

E78. 41 Elevated Lipoprotein(a)
Z83. 430 Family history of elevated Lipoprotein(a)

*International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd10cm.htm>
Engler RJM et al. *Fed Pract.* 2019;36(Suppl 7):S19-S31.



By Anahad O'Connor
Jan. 9, 2018, **NY TIMES**

Bob Harper, the celebrity fitness trainer from the TV show “The Biggest Loser,” suffered a heart attack... He eventually found out the cause was a particle in the blood called lipoprotein(a), which few doctors test for.

Hilary Swift for The New York Times

Learning Objectives

1. Lipoproteins: Transport of Lipids and apoproteins

2. Why Should we Measure Lipoprotein(a)?

Why Measure Lp(a) – No Current targeted therapies?

- **Causality of Lp(a) in ASCVD has been established**

Evidence Base Medicine - Research

Mendelian Randomization Studies

Epidemiological Studies

Clinical Studies

- **Clinical Presentations show strong associations of high Lp(a) and Low isoform size with:**

Aortic Valve Stenosis

Thrombosis /Peripheral Vascular Disease

Stroke

Myocardia Infarction

Lipoprotein(a) Increases ASCVD RISK

460,506 Adults
in UK Biobank

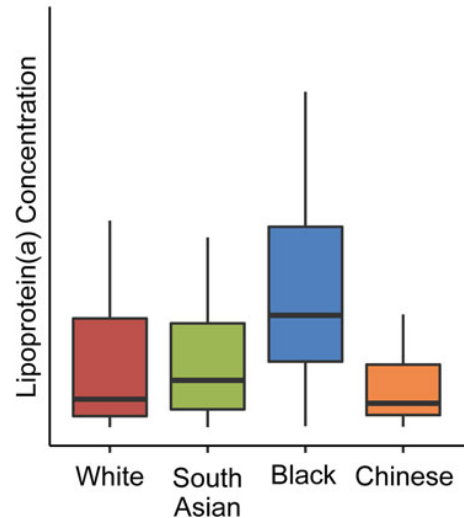


Lipoprotein(a)
Concentrations

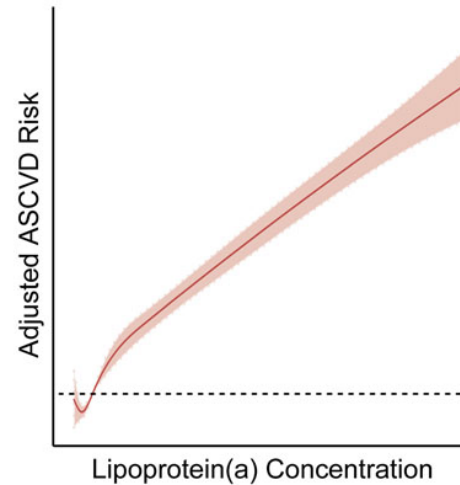


Atherosclerotic
Cardiovascular
Disease

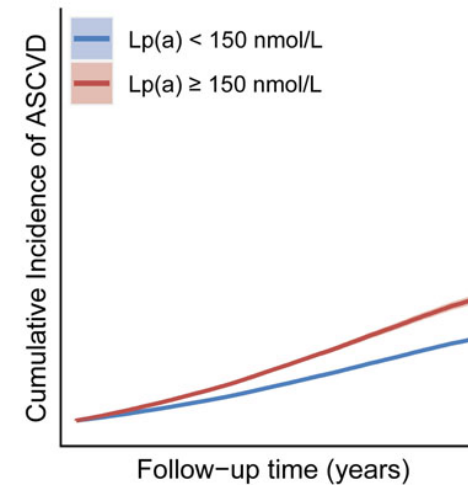
Significant differences in Lp(a)
concentrations according to race



Linear rise in ASCVD risk with
increasing Lp(a) concentration

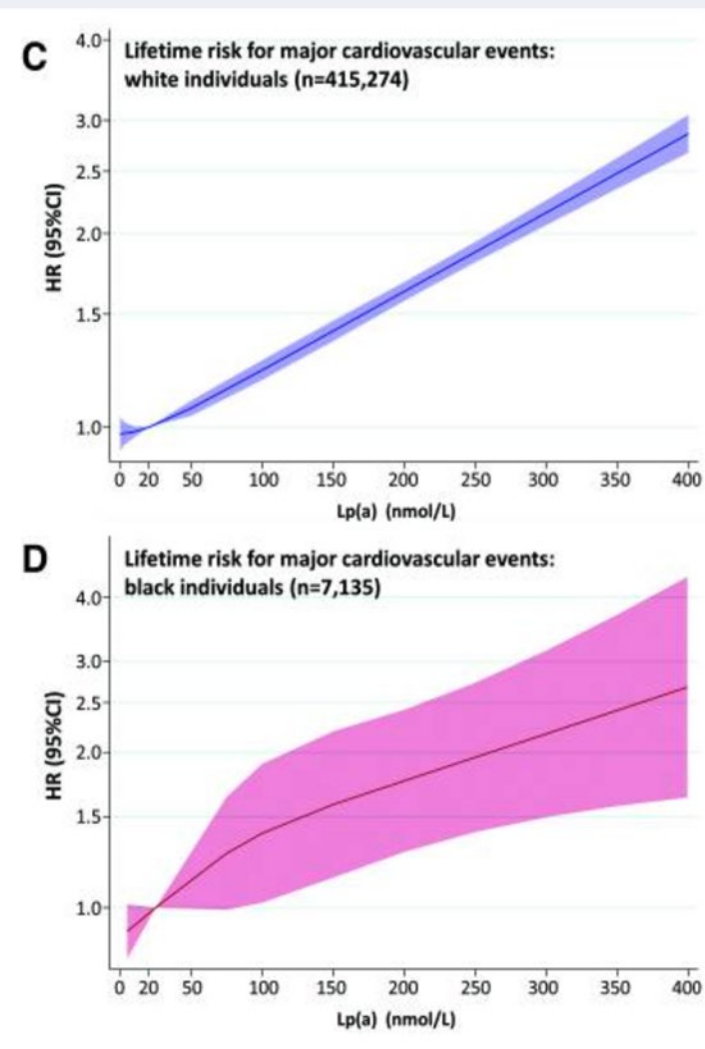
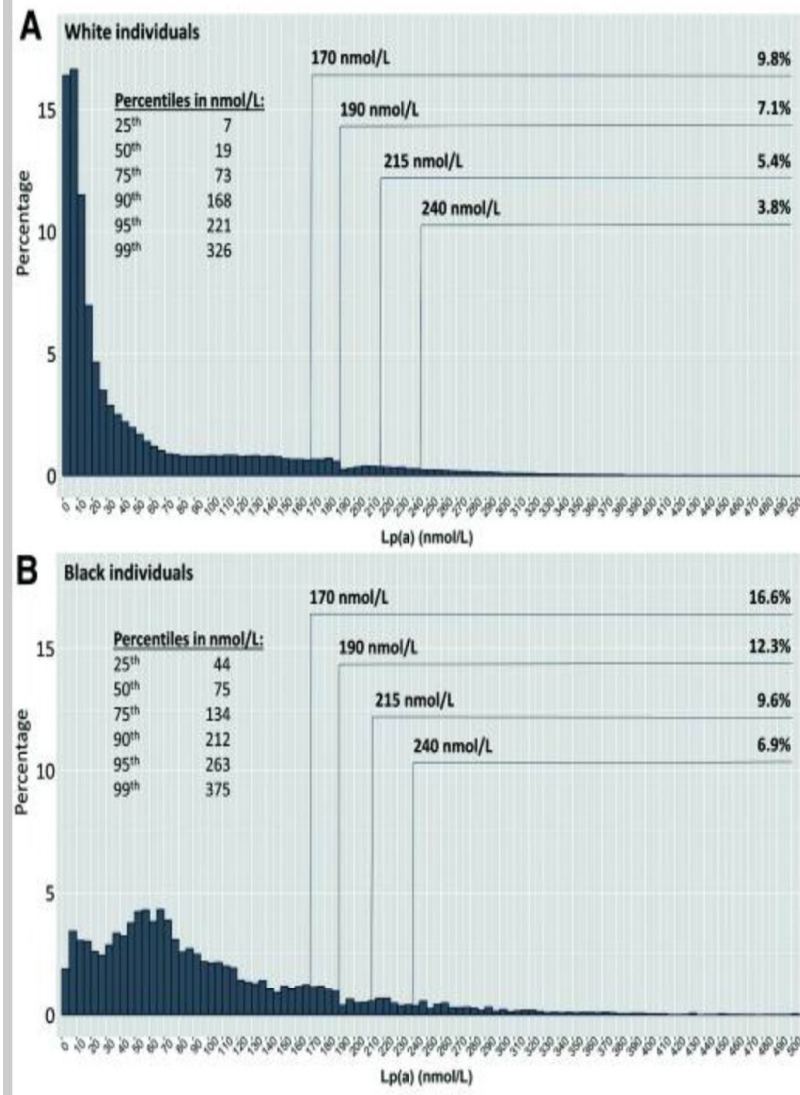


Modest increase in ASCVD risk
for high Lp(a) across racial groups

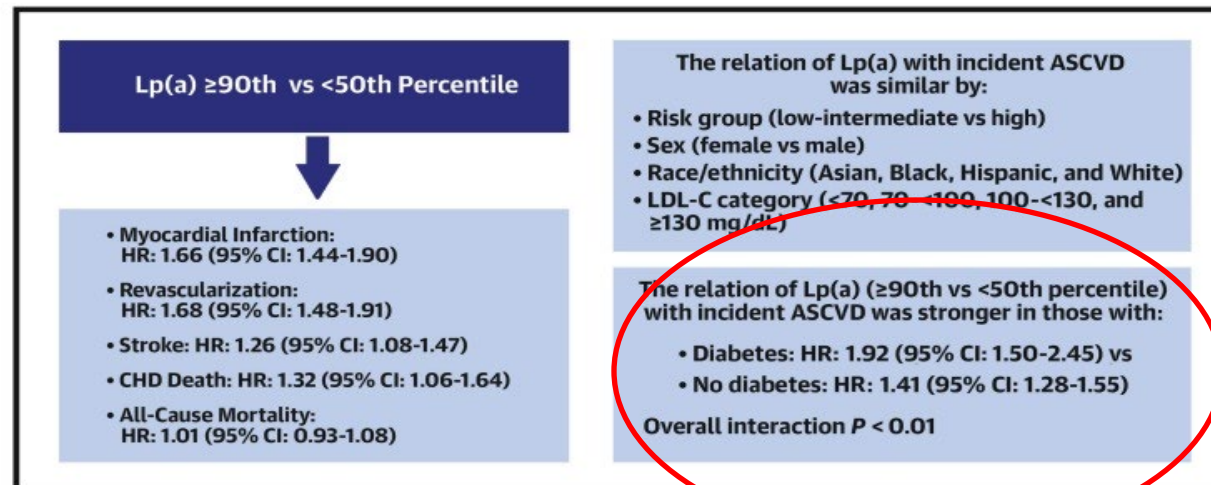
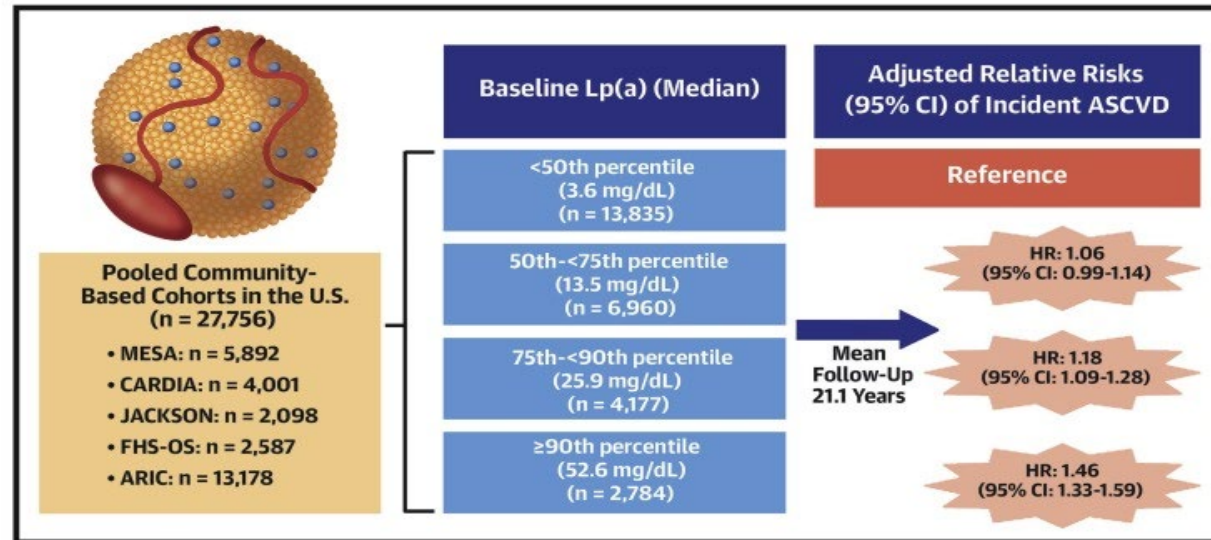


Patel et al. Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology. 2021;41:465–474

Lipoprotein(a) by Ancestry UK Biobank



CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Lipoprotein(a) and Long-Term Incidence of Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease in a Multi-Ethnic Pooled Cohort in the United States



Wong ND, et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2024;83(16):1511-1525.

Is Lp(a) more atherogenic than LDL-C?

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Relative Atherogenicity of Lipoprotein(a) and Low-Density Lipoprotein Particles

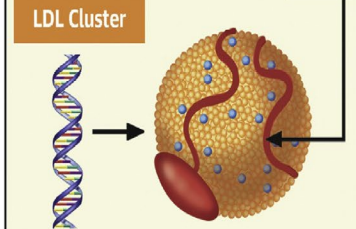
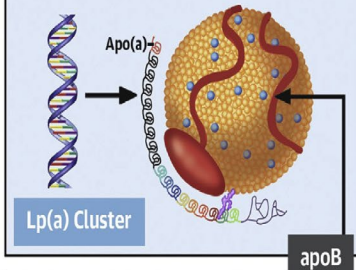
Key Question

How atherogenic is 1 particle of Lp(a) compared to 1 particle of LDL?

Key Methodology

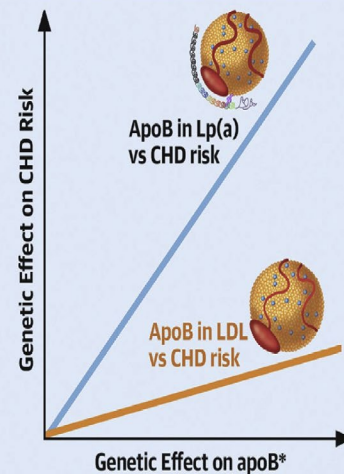
Both Lp(a) and LDL contain 1 apoB per-particle. Here, we identified genetic variants (SNPs) that affected plasma levels of either LDL particles or Lp(a) particles. For these 2 genetic SNP “clusters,” we related the change in apoB to the respective change in CHD risk. This way, we directly compared the atherogenicity of LDL and Lp(a), particle for particle.

Genetic variants that raise apoB by raising Lp(a)



Genetic variants that raise apoB by raising LDL

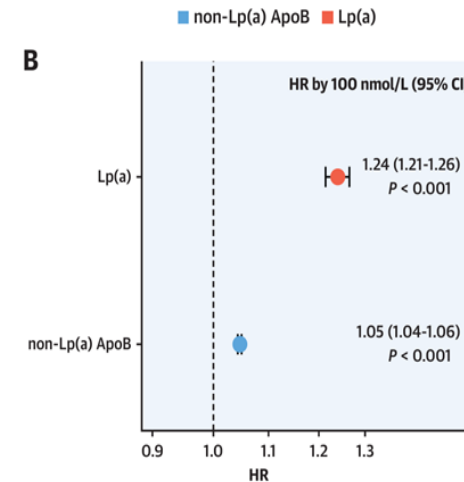
Mendelian Randomization



* apoB attached to either an LDL or Lp(a) particle

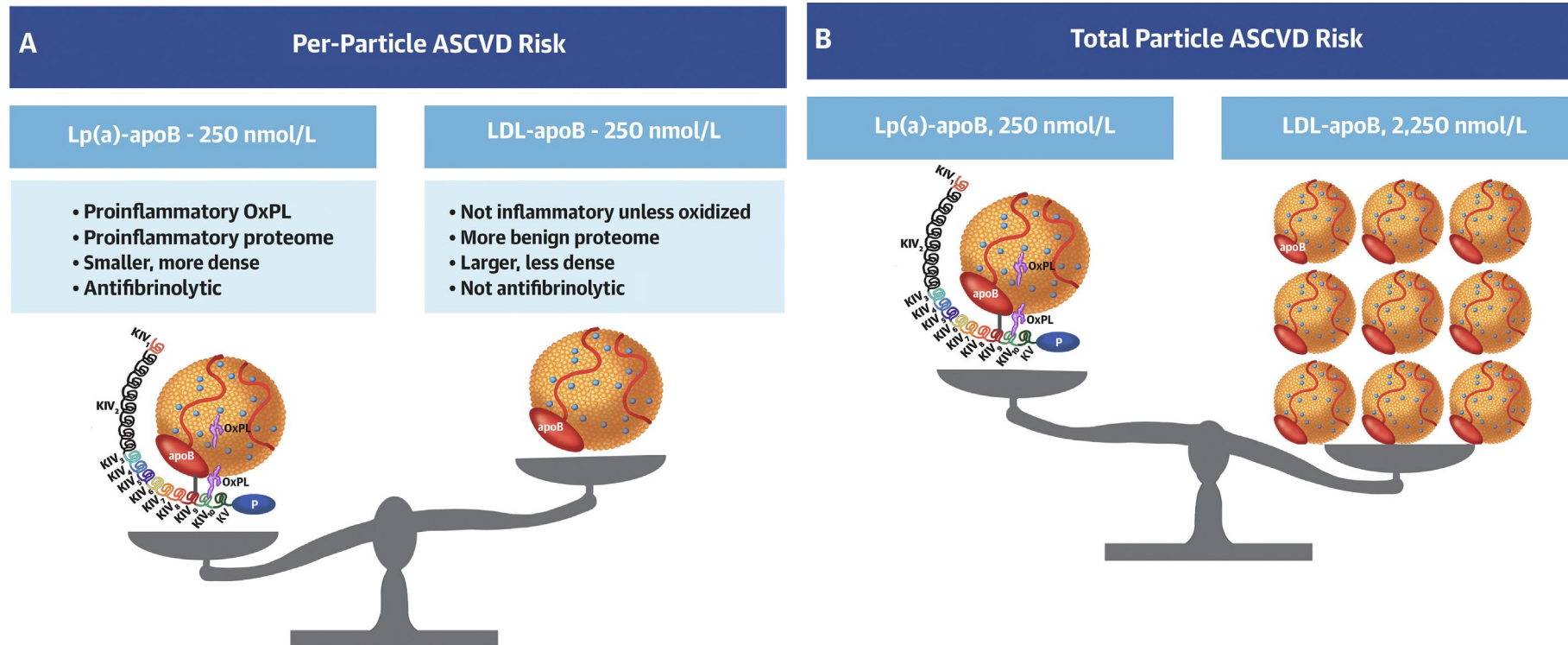
Take-Home Message: In most people, LDL particles are much more abundant than Lp(a) and carry the greatest proportion of overall CVD risk; however, on a per-particle basis, Lp(a) is about 6 times more atherogenic than LDL.

B



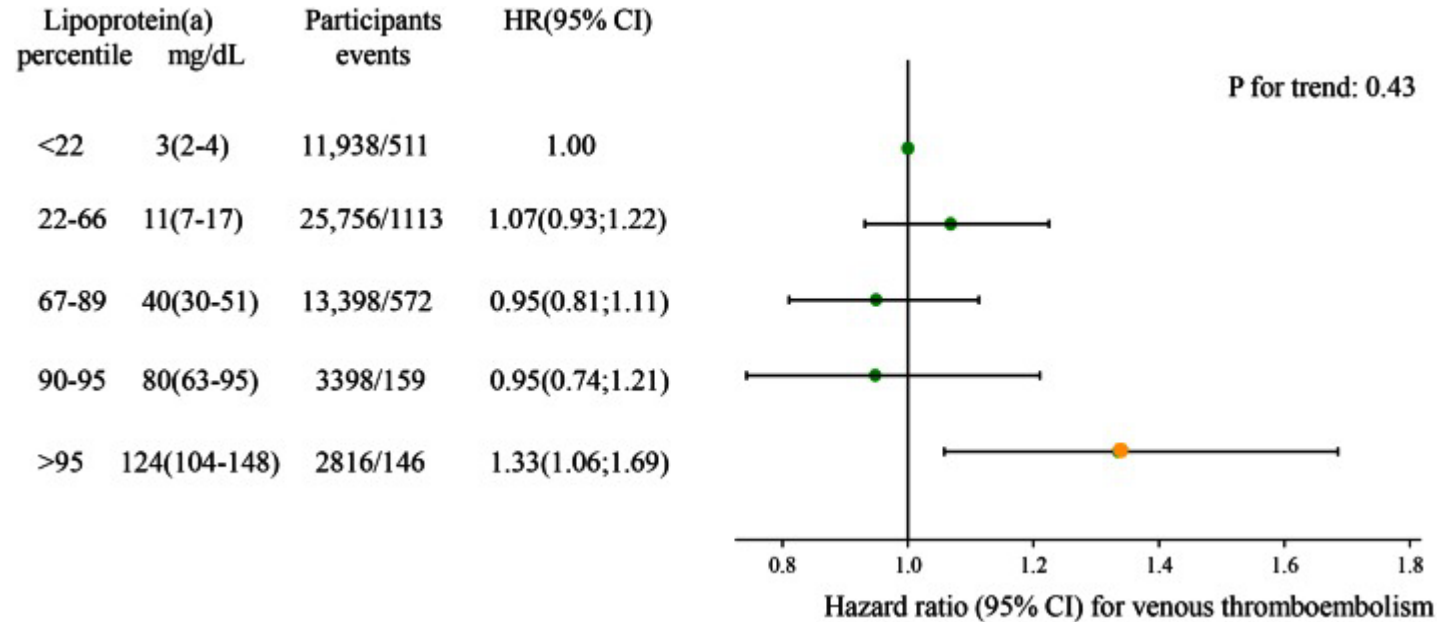
Björnson E, et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2024;83(3):385-395.

ASCVD and Lp(a)



“ LDL particles are significantly more prevalent in most patients than Lp(a) particles. These observations put into clinical context the risk of ASCVD mediated by Lp(a) and LDL-C and suggest **particle characteristics and particle number are both important variables in predicting ASCVD risk.**”

Observational associations between high plasma Lp(a) concentrations and risk of venous thromboembolism and Calcific Aortic Stenosis.



Genetic associations with **valvular calcification and aortic stenosis**. Thanassoulis G et al., CHARGE Extracoronary Calcium Working Group. N Engl J Med. 2013 Feb 7; 368(6):503-12.



European Heart Journal (2013) 34, 3268–3276
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehs053

Controversies in cardiovascular medicine

When should we measure lipoprotein (a)?

Karam M. Kostner¹, Winfried März^{2,3,4*}, and Gerhard M. Kostner⁵

The Association for
Clinical Biochemistry &
Laboratory Medicine
Better Science, Better Testing, Better Care

Lp(a): When and how to measure it

Jaimini Cegla¹, Michael France², Santica M Marcovina³ and R Dermot G Neely⁴

Abstract

Lipoprotein(a) has long been regarded as a risk factor for cardiovascular disease; however, its routine use in clinical practice has been hampered by difficulties inherent in the measurement of this complex lipoprotein. The major challenges relate to its size heterogeneity and related issues including (1) use of appropriate calibrators (2) standardization of calibration protocols (3) traceability and (4) reporting units. In the UK, results from the current EQA schemes

Annals of Clinical Biochemistry
2021, Vol. 58(1) 16–21
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DOI: 10.1177/0004563220968473
journals.sagepub.com/home/acb
SAGE

Personal View

Ann Clin Biochem 2000; 37: 571–580

Lipoprotein(a): what's in a measure?

G Wieringa

From the Department of Biochemistry, Christie Hospital NHS Trust, Wilmslow Road, Manchester M20 4BX, UK

Lipoprotein(a) [Lp(a)] was first identified by Kare Berg in 1963 as an LDL variant.¹

domains, termed kringles (K). Apo(a) contains ten sequences that closely resemble plasmino-

Atherosclerosis 289 (2019) 181–183



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Atherosclerosis

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/atherosclerosis



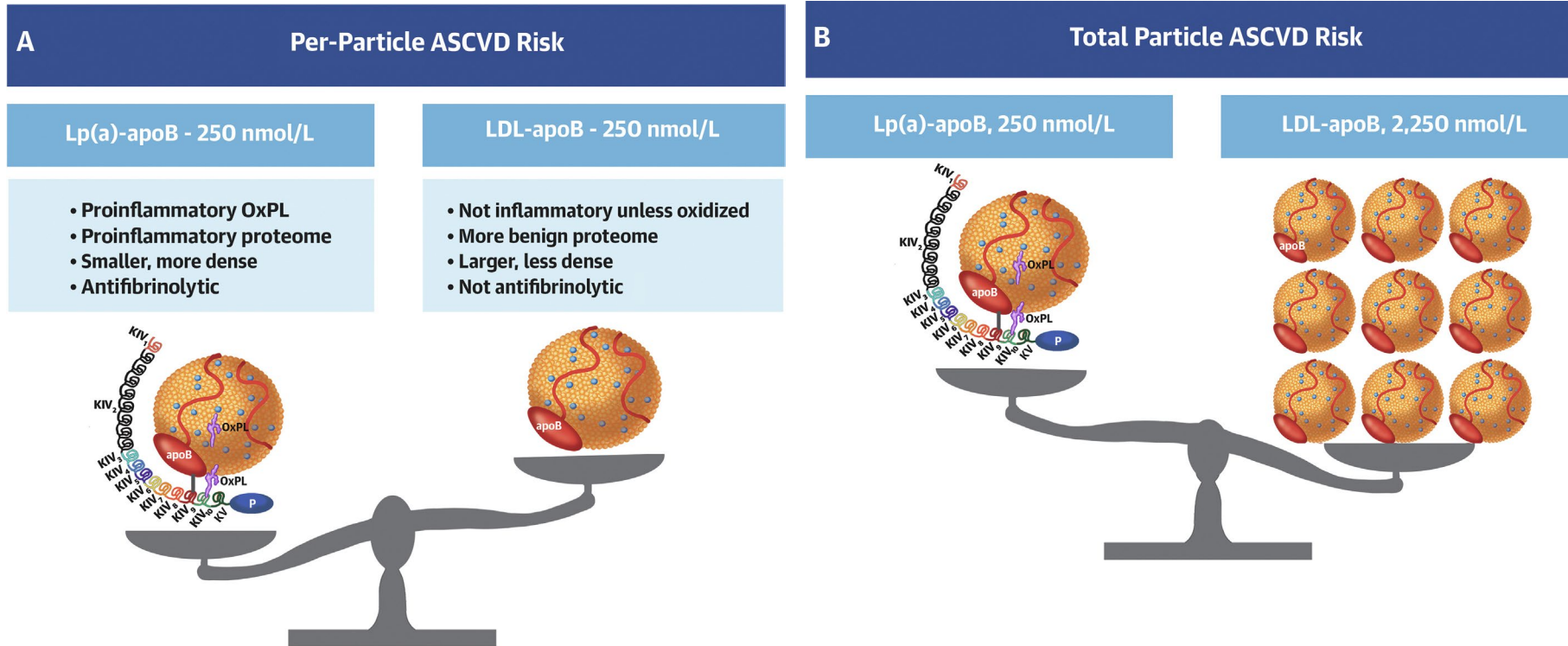
trial

challenges of measuring Lp(a): A fight against Hydra?

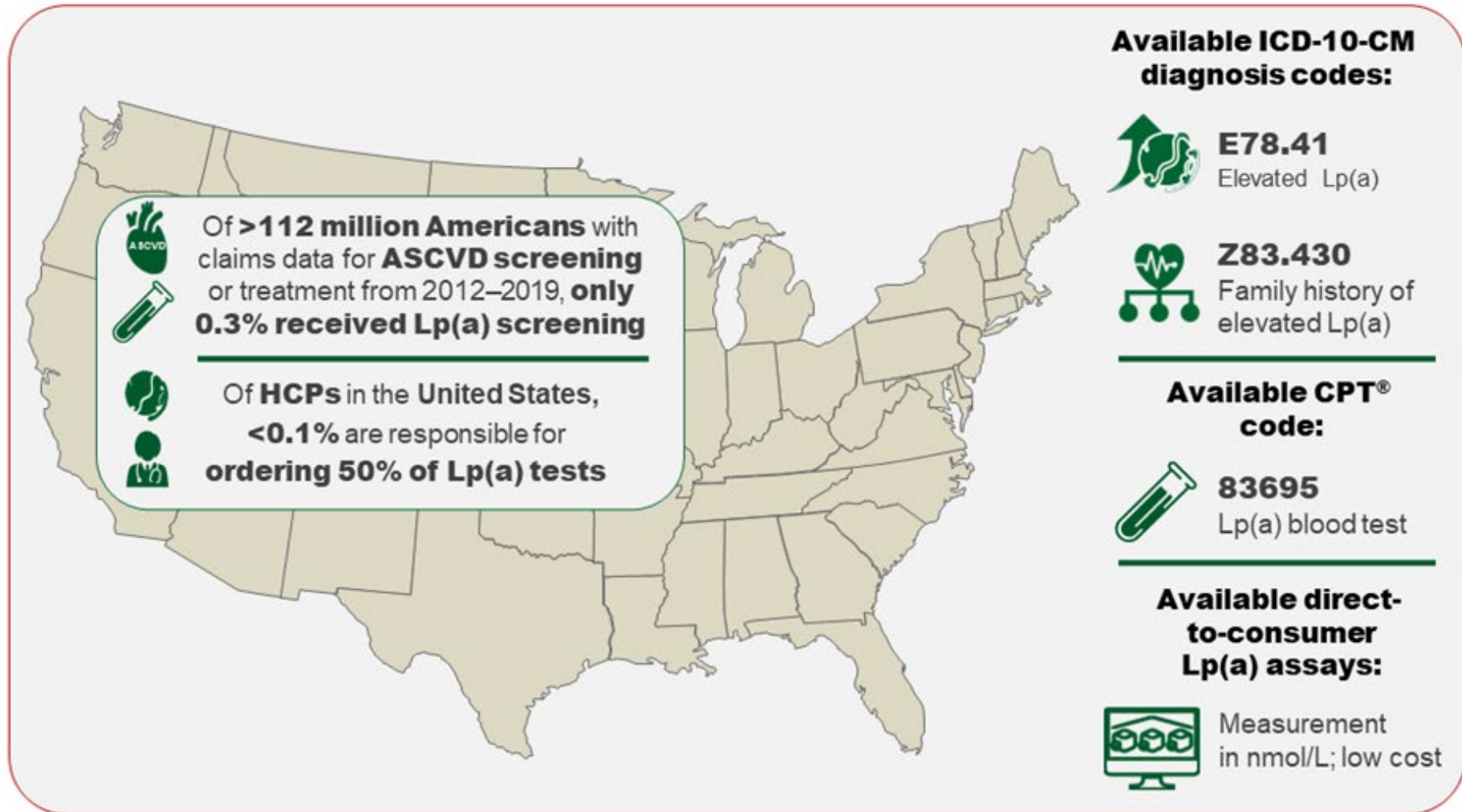
ie Hydra of Lerna is a serpentine water monster in Greek mythology. The Hydra possessed many heads that had an enormous regenerative capacity: whenever a head was cut off, the Hydra would grow two heads. Thus, it was not easy for the ancient hero Heracles to gainst this constantly regenerating problem. During recent decades, high serum levels of lipoprotein(a) (Lp(a)) have been found to be one of the strongest genetically determined risk factors for cardiovascular disease [1–4]. Lp(a) concentrations have been reported as a mass of the entire particle (mass of apolipoprotein(a), apolipoprotein B 100, and cholesterol, cholesterol ester, and triglyceride)

used in clinical assays are not well characterized and since almost all are polyclonal in nature almost certainly are directed against the repetitive KIV structure. This may result in a measurement bias where serum concentrations of small isoforms with a lower number of KIV₂ repeats, which are usually associated with elevated levels, are underestimated, while serum concentrations of large isoforms with a large number of KIV₂ repeats, usually associated with low levels, are overestimated (Fig. 1A). Assays having this bias are called apo(a) isoform-sensitive assays. This problem has been well recognized already a long time ago but a thorough separation between isoform sensitive and

Lp(a) Measurements Mass vs. Particle Number



“ LDL particles are significantly more prevalent in most patients than Lp(a) particles. These observations put into clinical context the risk of ASCVD mediated by Lp(a) and LDL-C and suggest **particle characteristics and particle number are both important variables in predicting ASCVD risk.**”



When Do We Measure Lp(a)

		When?	Who?				Why?			
										
		At least once in a lifetime	All individuals	Family and/or personal history of Premature ASCVD [†]	Moderate to high ASCVD risk	Refractory elevation of LDL-C (eg, statin resistance)	Identify individuals with very high Lp(a)	Reclassify borderline moderate- and high-risk individuals	Optimize management and treatment of other CVD risk factors	Identify familial risk
	NLA [†]									
	ACC [†]									
	AACE/ACE [†]									
	NLA [†]									
	AHA/ACC [*]									
	CCS [*]									
	EAS [†]									
	ESC/EAS [*]									

Are we measuring Lp(a)?



Marianna Pavlyha, MD O-PGY4 UCLA Vascular Surgery



Yihao Li, Data Scientist

SRRE

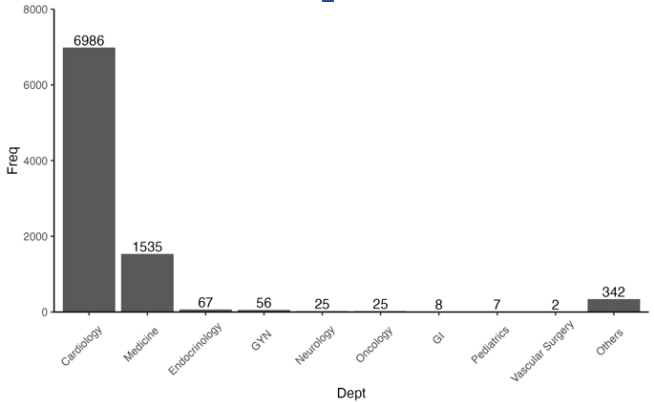
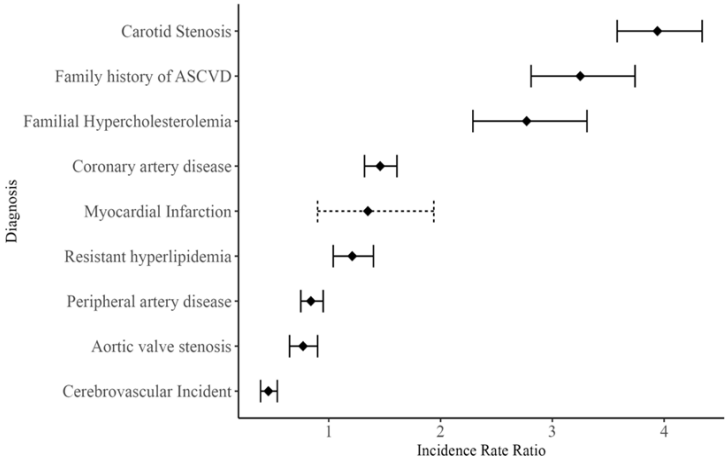
SRRE	RR	P-value
Black	0.39	<0.001***
Hispanic	0.35	<0.001***
Others/ Unknown	0.82	<0.001***
White		

Environment/ Socioeconomic score (SES)

SES	RR	P-value
SES 1 low		
SES 2	0.54	<0.001***
SES 3 high	0.63	<0.001***

N=56,833 4% (2,249)
0.3% tested in general population
73% of patients compliant with test

Diagnosis



Ordering Providers

Personal Income/ Insurance

Medicaid vs no Medicaid

SRRE	RR	P-value
No Medicaid		
Medicaid	0.65	<0.001***



AHA SCIENTIFIC STATEMENT

Lipoprotein(a): A Genetically Determined, Causal, and Prevalent Risk Factor for Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association

Gisette Reyes-Soffer, MD, FAHA, Chair, Henry N. Ginsberg, MD, FAHA, Lars Berglund, MD, PhD, P. Barton Duell, MD, FAHA, Sean P. Heffron, MD, MS, MSc, Pia R. Kamstrup, MD, PhD, Donald M. Lloyd-Jones MD, ScM, FAHA, Santica M. Marcovina, PhD, ScD, FAHA, Calvin Yeang, MD, PhD, and the American Heart Association Council on Atherosclerosis and Cardiovascular Radiology



ESC
European Society
of Cardiology
European Heart Journal (2022) 43, 3925–3946
<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehac361>

SPECIAL ARTICLE
Miscellaneous

Lipoprotein(a) in atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease and aortic stenosis: a European Atherosclerosis Society consensus statement

Florian Kronenberg¹, Samia Mora², Erik S.G. Stroes³, Brian A. Ference⁴, Benoit J. Arsenault⁵, Lars Berglund⁶, Marc R. Dweck⁷, Marlys Koschinsky⁸, Gilles Lambert⁹, François Mach¹⁰, Catherine J. McNeal¹¹, Patrick M. Moriarty¹², Pradeep Natarajan¹³, Børge G. Nordestgaard^{14,15}, Klaus G. Parhofer¹⁶, Salim S. Virani¹⁷, Arnold von Eckardstein¹⁸, Gerald F. Watts¹⁹, Jane K. Stock²⁰, Kausik K. Ray²¹, Lale S. Tokgözoğlu²², and Alberico L. Catapano^{23,24}

ARTICLE IN PRESS

JID: JACL

Journal of Clinical Lipidology (2024) 000, 1–12

[mNS; March 29, 2024; 17:27]

Journal of
Clinical
Lipidology

A focused update to the 2019 NLA scientific statement on use of lipoprotein(a) in clinical practice

Marlys L. Koschinsky, PhD, Archana Bajaj, MD, MSCE, Michael B. Boffa, PhD, Dave L. Dixon, PharmD, Keith C. Ferdinand, MD, Samuel S. Gidding, MD, Edward A. Gill, MD, Terry A. Jacobson, MD, Erin D. Michos, MD, MHS, Maya S. Safarova, MD, PhD, Daniel E. Soffer, MD, Pam R. Taub, MD, Michael J. Wilkinson, MD, Don P. Wilson, MD, Christie M. Ballantyne, MD*



Case Study: Follow up Visit

57 Y/O male

MI at 52 Y/O

current symptom: SOB, chest pain, lower
extremity pain.

Currently on:

Statins, Ezetemibe, PCKS9 Inh

Total Chol 150mg/dl

Triglycerides 65mg/dl

LDL-C 50mg/dl

HDL-C 40 mg/dl

Please add apoB, Lp(a)?

Internal and External Teams and Collaborators

- **Research Participants**
- **Lab Members (Current)**

- Lab Tech:

Nelsa Matienzo (BA)

- Staff Scientist

Anastasiya Matveyenko (BA, MS, MS) *

- T32-Post-Doc
4)

Marianna Pavlyha, MD (UCLA vascular surgery PGY-4)

- Nurse Practitioner:

Lau Y. Yung, NP (Cindy)

- Modeling/Statistics Team:

Tiffany Thomas PhD/

Rajasekhar Ramakrishnan ScD

- Data Scientist

Yihao Li, BS

- **CUIMC Collaborators**

- Henry Ginsberg and Laboratory

Neurology: Badri Vardajeran

Other Collaborators Santica Marcovina- Medpace



Prevention of ASCVD in the Setting of Elevated Lp(a): 2025 and Beyond

Donald M. Lloyd-Jones, FAHA FACC FASPC
Alexander Graham Bell Professor of Medicine
Director, Framingham Center for Population & Prevention Science
PI, Framingham Heart Study
Section Chief of Preventive Medicine & Epidemiology
Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine
Past President, American Heart Association



Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine



Disclosures

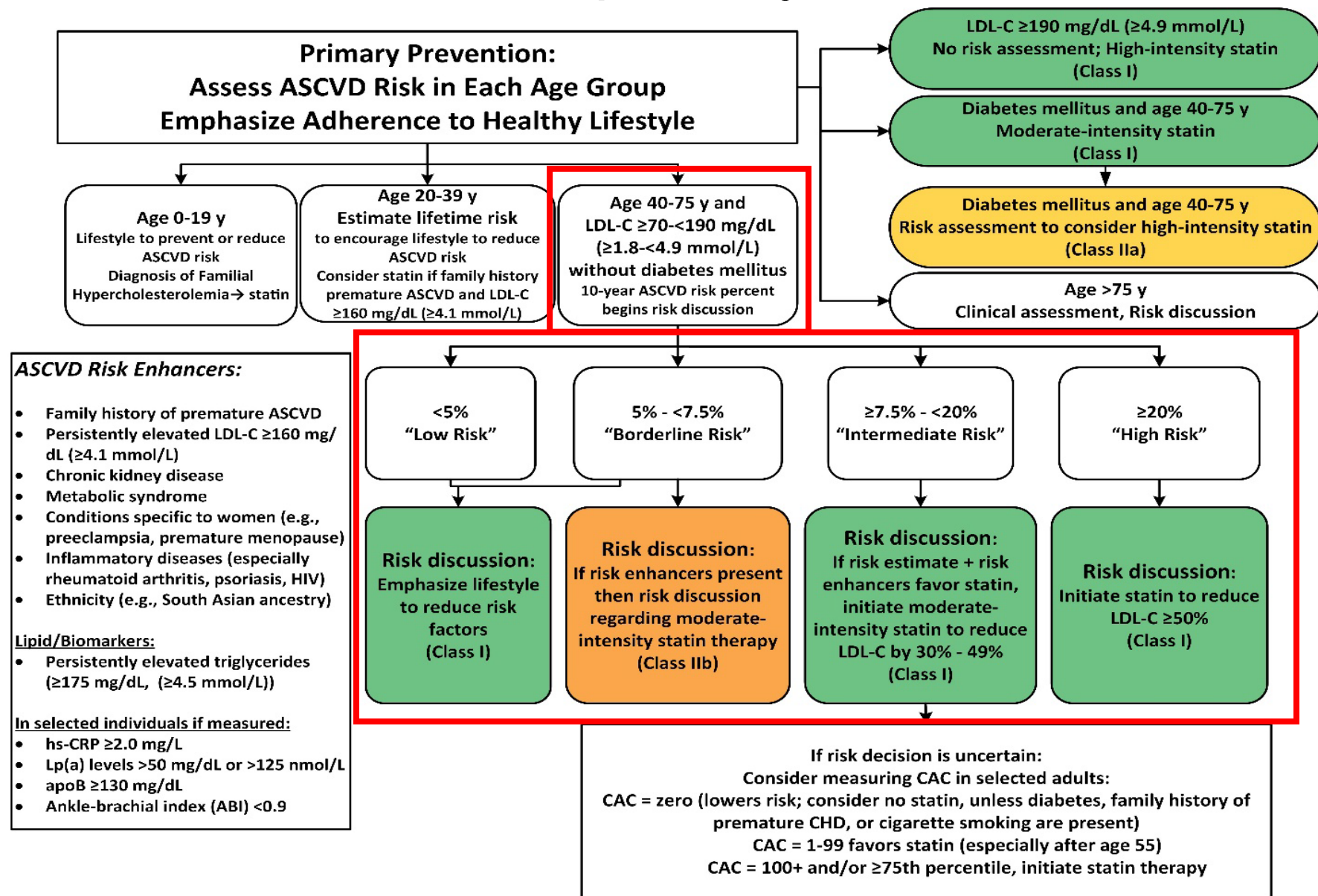
- Dr. Lloyd-Jones has no relationships with industry/conflicts of interest
 - Grant funding: NIH, CMS, AHA
- Dr. Lloyd-Jones serves as an unpaid fiduciary director of the American Heart Association

Outline and Objectives

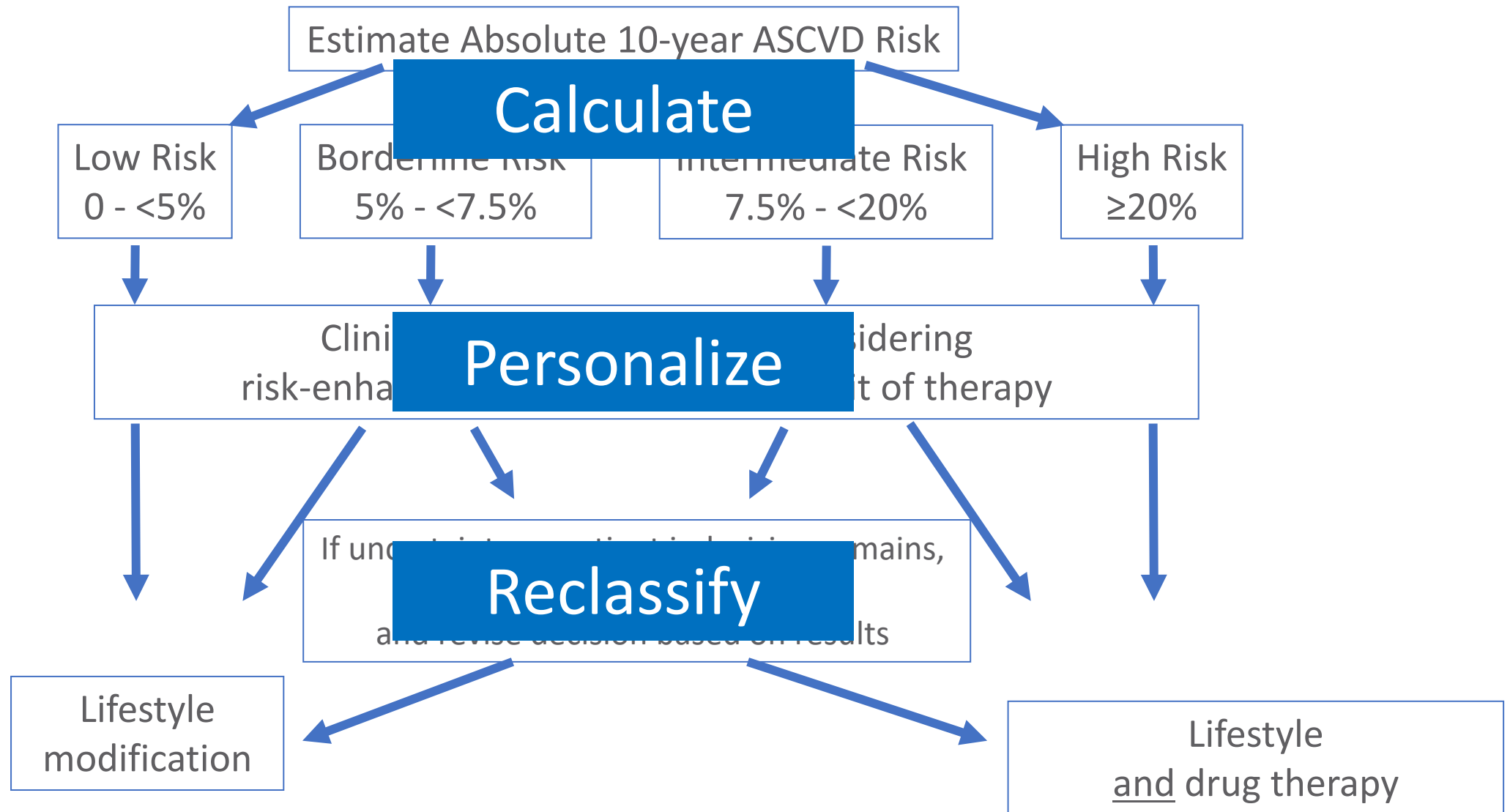
- Context of risk
- Current prevention strategies
 - Lifestyle
 - LDL-C (and ApoB!) lowering
 - NOT niacin or estrogen
- Future prevention strategies?
 - Direct Lp(a) inhibition (stay tuned)

Context of Underlying Risk

2018 AHA/ACC/Multi-Specialty Cholesterol Guidelines



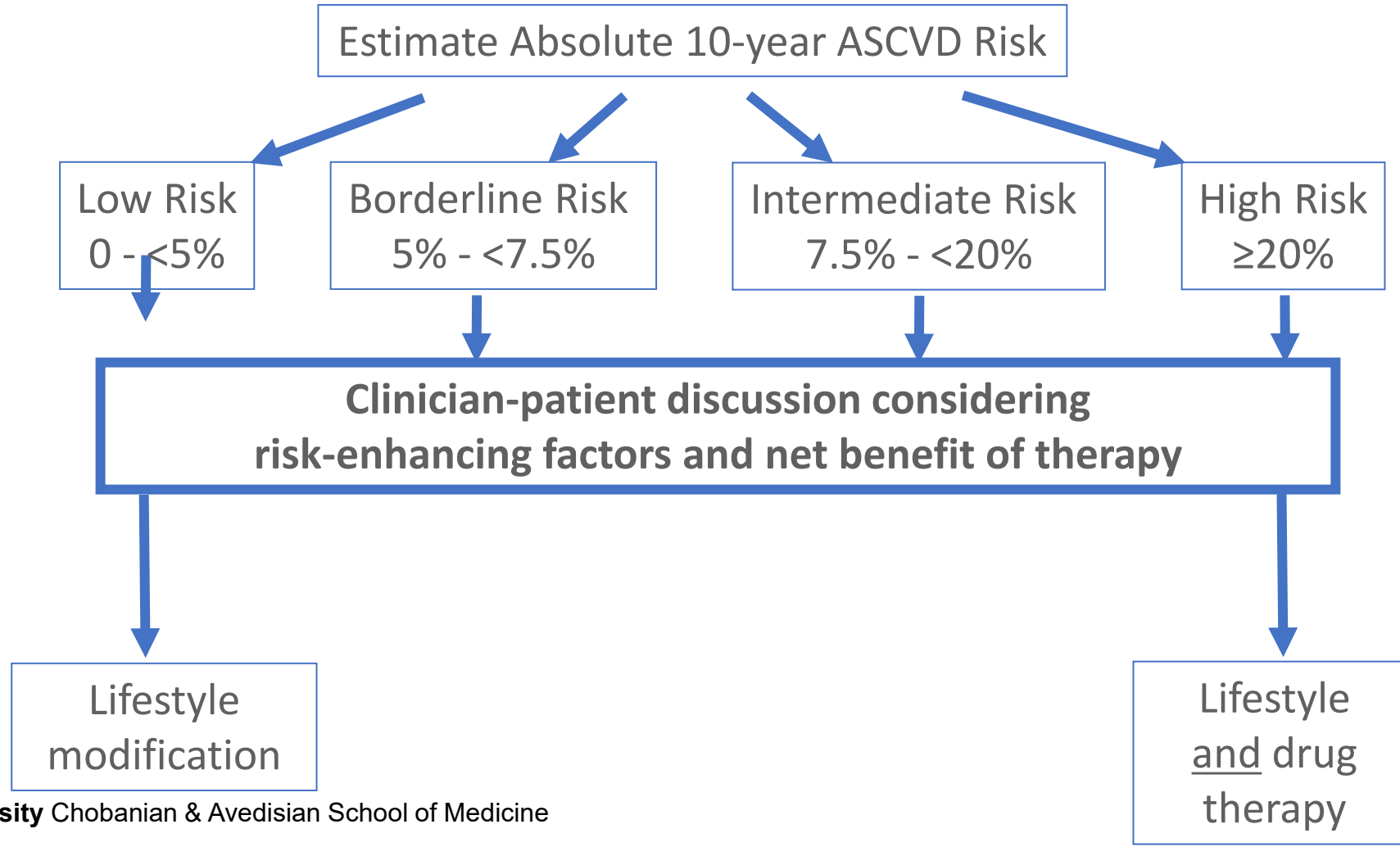
Approach to Risk Assessment in 1° Prevention



C = Calculate: Tools for Risk Estimation

- Pooled Cohort Equations – App or Online (or EHR programmable)
- ACC ASCVD Risk Estimator Plus (online/app)
 - <http://tools.acc.org/ASCVD-Risk-Estimator-Plus/#!/calculate/estimate/>
- AHA ASCVD Risk Calculator (online/app)
 - <http://static.heart.org/riskcalc/app/index.html#!/baseline-risk>

P = Personalize: Refine Risk for Individual Patients

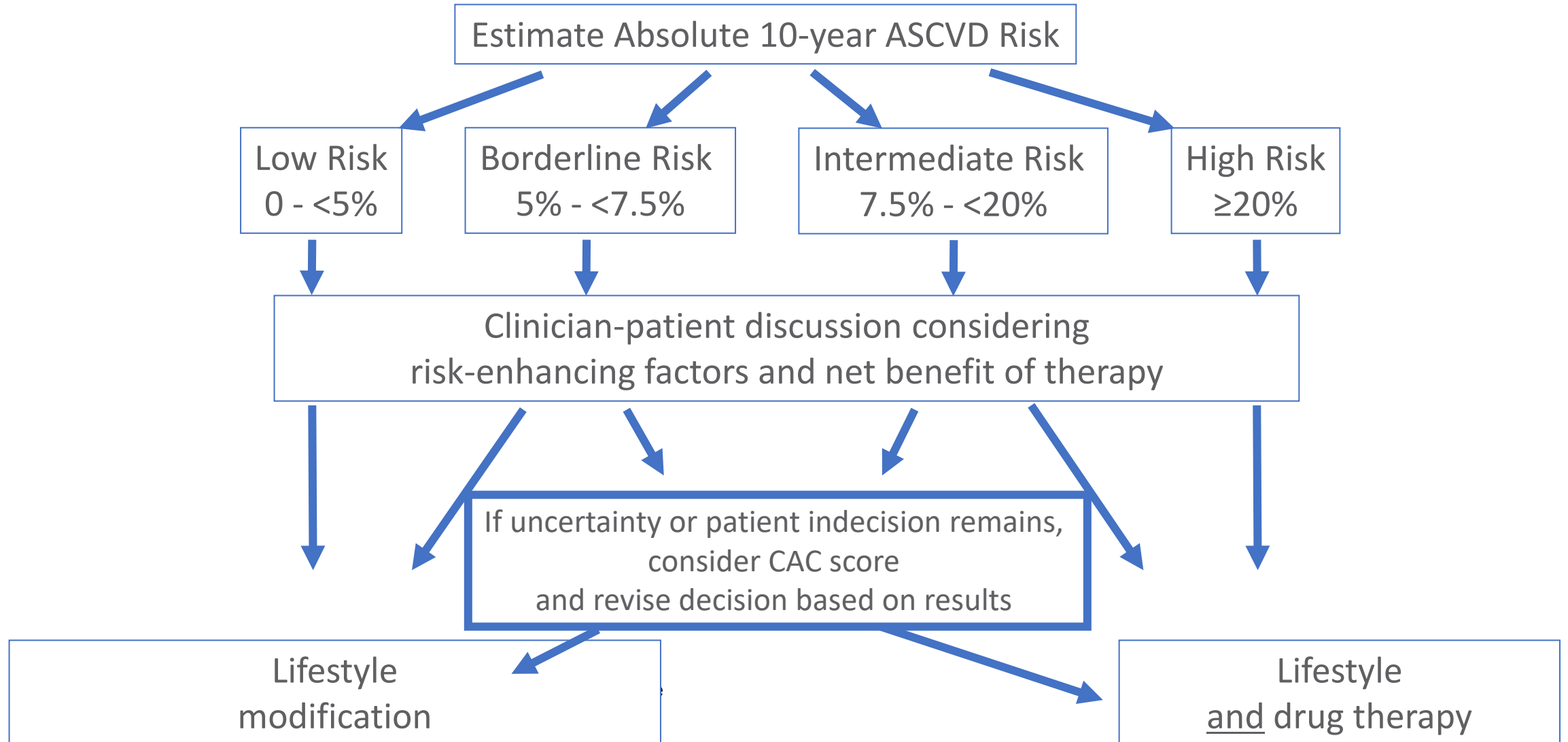


P = Personalize: Refine Risk for Individual Patients

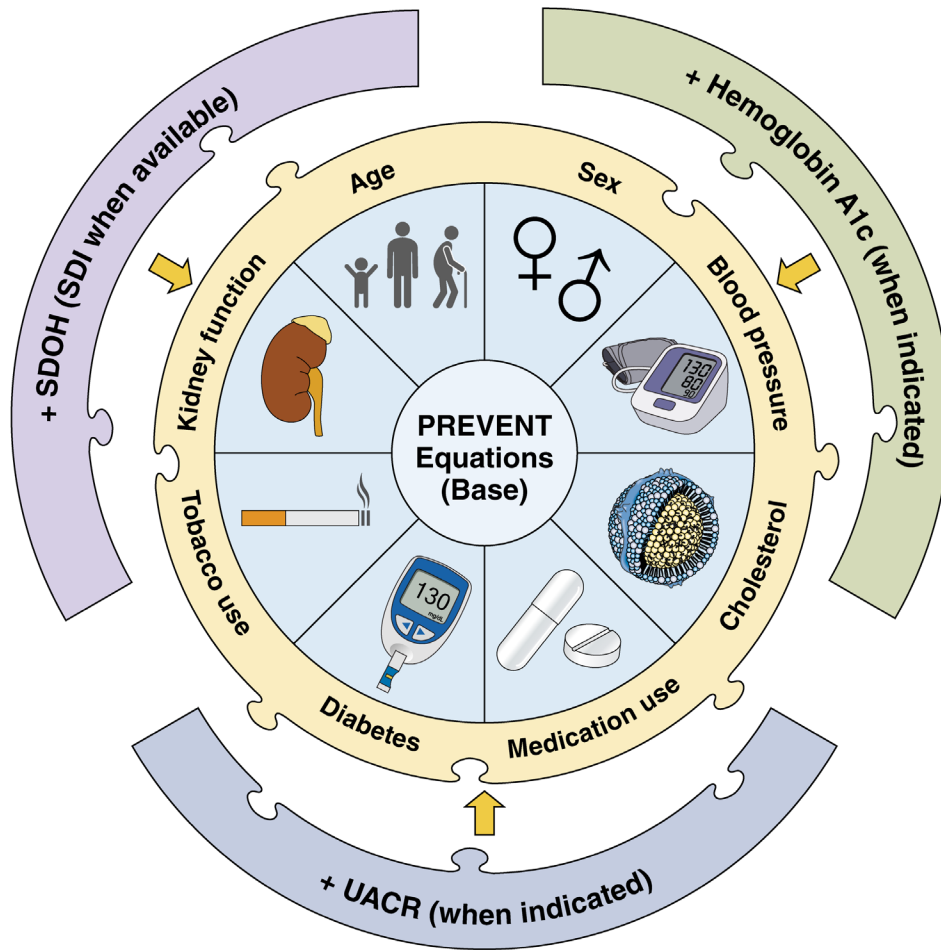
Risk-Enhancing Factors

- Family hx of premature ASCVD
- 1° hypercholesterolemia (LDL-C 160-189 mg/dL)
- Metabolic syndrome
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic inflammatory conditions (RA, psoriasis, HIV)
- Hx premature menopause or pregnancy-associated risk conditions
- High-risk race/ethnic groups
- Lipid/biomarkers
 - 1° hypertriglyceridemia
 - If measured:
 - Elevated hs-CRP ≥ 2 mg/L
 - Elevated Lp(a) ≥ 50 mg/dL
 - Elevated apoB ≥ 130 mg/dL
 - ABI < 0.9

R = Reclassify Risk in Selected Patients



New paradigm for CVD risk: PREVENT™



Predictors:

- Base: Traditional risk factors (SBP, non-HDL cholesterol, diabetes, anti-hypertensive, lipid-lowering, smoking,) plus eGFR, BMI
- Add-on (if known): UACR, HbA1c, SDI

Abbreviations: CVD indicates cardiovascular disease; PREVENT, Predicting Risk of CVD Events; SDI, social deprivation index; SDOH, social determinants of health; and UACR urine albumin-to-creatinine ratio.

New paradigm for CVD risk: PREVENT™

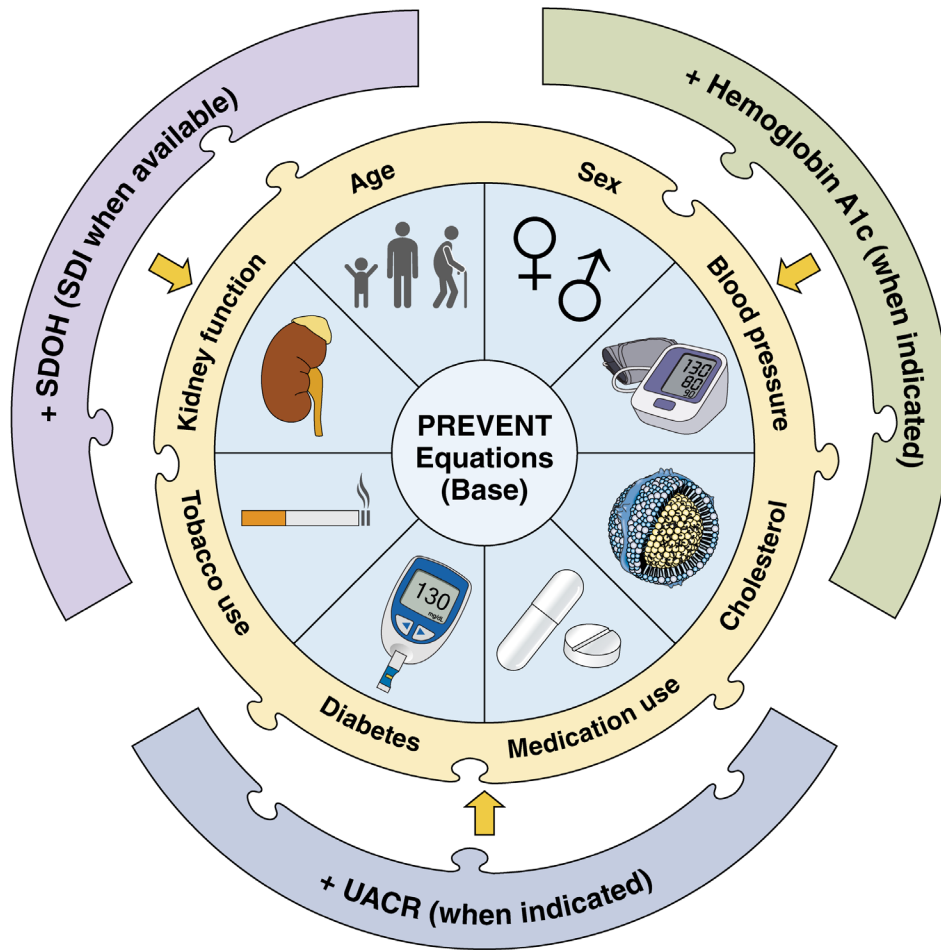


Figure 4. Key Takeaways of the AHA PREVENT Equations

1. Include a large, contemporary, and diverse sample of US adults for derivation and external validation
2. Predict the risk of total or global CVD as a composite of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease and heart failure as well as for each CVD subtype separately
3. Broaden the outcome to include prediction of heart failure
4. Remove race from risk prediction acknowledging that race is a social construct and not a biological predictor
5. Lower the age to begin risk prediction as early as age 30 years and capture a greater proportion of the adult life course
6. Provide risk estimates for CVD over a 10-year and 30-year time span
7. Offer optional models that incorporate add-on measures of kidney and metabolic health when indicated given the growing burden of cardiovascular-kidney-metabolic (CKM) syndrome
8. Include a measure of place-based social disadvantage (social deprivation index [SDI]) to acknowledge the role of social determinants of health in cardiovascular disease risk

New paradigm for CVD risk: PREVENT™

PREVENT™ Online Calculator

Welcome to the American Heart Association **Predicting Risk of cardiovascular disease EVENTS** (PREVENT™). This app should be used for primary prevention patients (those without atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease or heart failure) only.

Sex ☒ Male ☐ Female

Age years 

Total Cholesterol mg/dL 

HDL Cholesterol mg/dL 

SBP mmHg 

BMI 

eGFR 

Diabetes ☒ No ☐ Yes 

Current Smoking ☒ No ☐ Yes 

Anti-hypertensive medication ☒ No ☐ Yes 

Lipid-lowering medication ☒ No ☐ Yes 

The following three predictors are optional for further personalization of risk assessment. When they are clinically indicated or available, please click on yes and enter the value

UACR ☒ No ☐ Yes 

HbA1C ☒ No ☐ Yes 

Zip Code (for estimating social deprivation index [SDI]) ☒ No ☐ Yes 

☒ Risk of CVD ☐ Risk of ASCVD ☐ Risk of Heart Failure

<https://professional.heart.org/prevent>

Khan SS et. al. *Circulation* 2023

New paradigm for CVD risk: PREVENT™

PREVENT™ Online Calculator

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Sex ☒ Male ☐ Female

Age
 years 

Total Cholesterol
 mg/dL 

HDL Cholesterol
 mg/dL 

SBP
 mmHg 

BMI
 

- **Derivation:**
 - 25 datasets
 - N=3,281,919
- **Validation:**
 - 21 datasets
 - N=3,330,085
- **Models:**
 - Sex-specific
 - 10- and 30-year risk estimates
 - Adjusted for competing risk
- **Outcomes:**
 - Total CVD: ASCVD plus HF
 - ASCVD, HF

<https://professional.heart.org/prevent>

Results: model performance for PREVENT™

	Total CVD		ASCVD		HF	
	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males
Events	50,324	46,804	31,277	31,328	27,931	23,707
C-Statistic	0.794 (0.763, 0.809)	0.757 (0.727, 0.778)	0.774 (0.743, 0.788)	0.736 (0.710, 0.755)	0.830 (0.816, 0.850)	0.809 (0.777, 0.827)
Calibration Slope (IQI)	1.03 (0.81, 1.16)	0.94 (0.81, 1.13)	1.09 (0.93, 1.33)	1.04 (0.95, 1.19)	1.00 (0.55, 1.15)	0.89 (0.49, 1.07)

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Lp(a) as a risk-enhancing factor: How to quantify?

- Log-linear relationship of Lp(a) level with risk

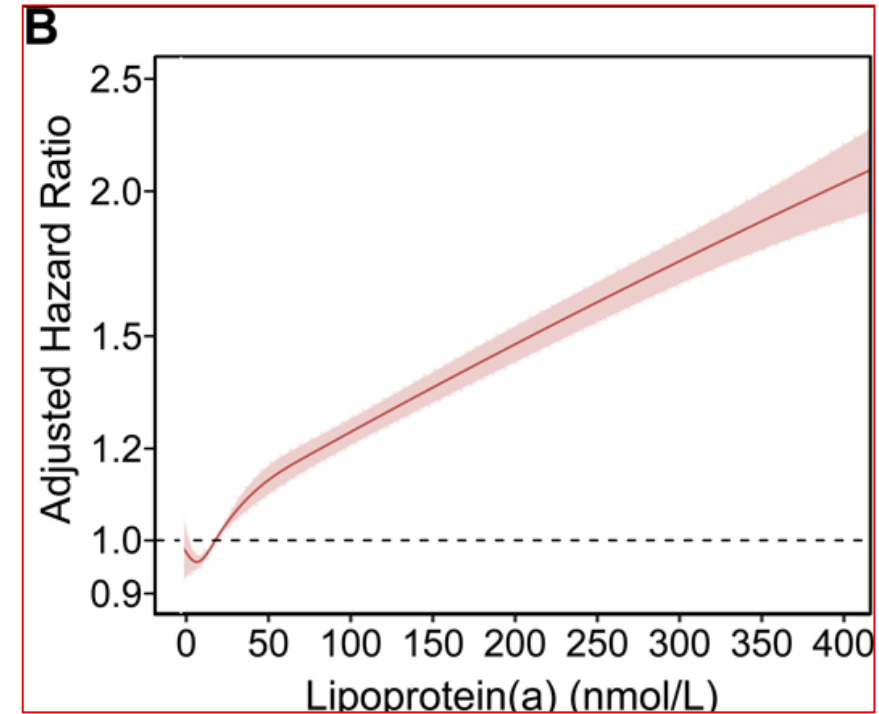
- Approximate updated 10-y risk estimate:

Predicted 10-y risk $\times [1.11^{(\text{patient's Lp(a) level in nmol/L}/50)}]$

Example: Patient with 10-yr risk of 10% and

Lp(a) = 250 nmol/L

$$10.0\% \times 1.11^{(250/50)} = 10.0\% \times 1.11^5 = 10.0\% \times 1.69 \\ = 16.9\%$$



Lifestyle for All!

Particularly important for those with family history/genetic risk

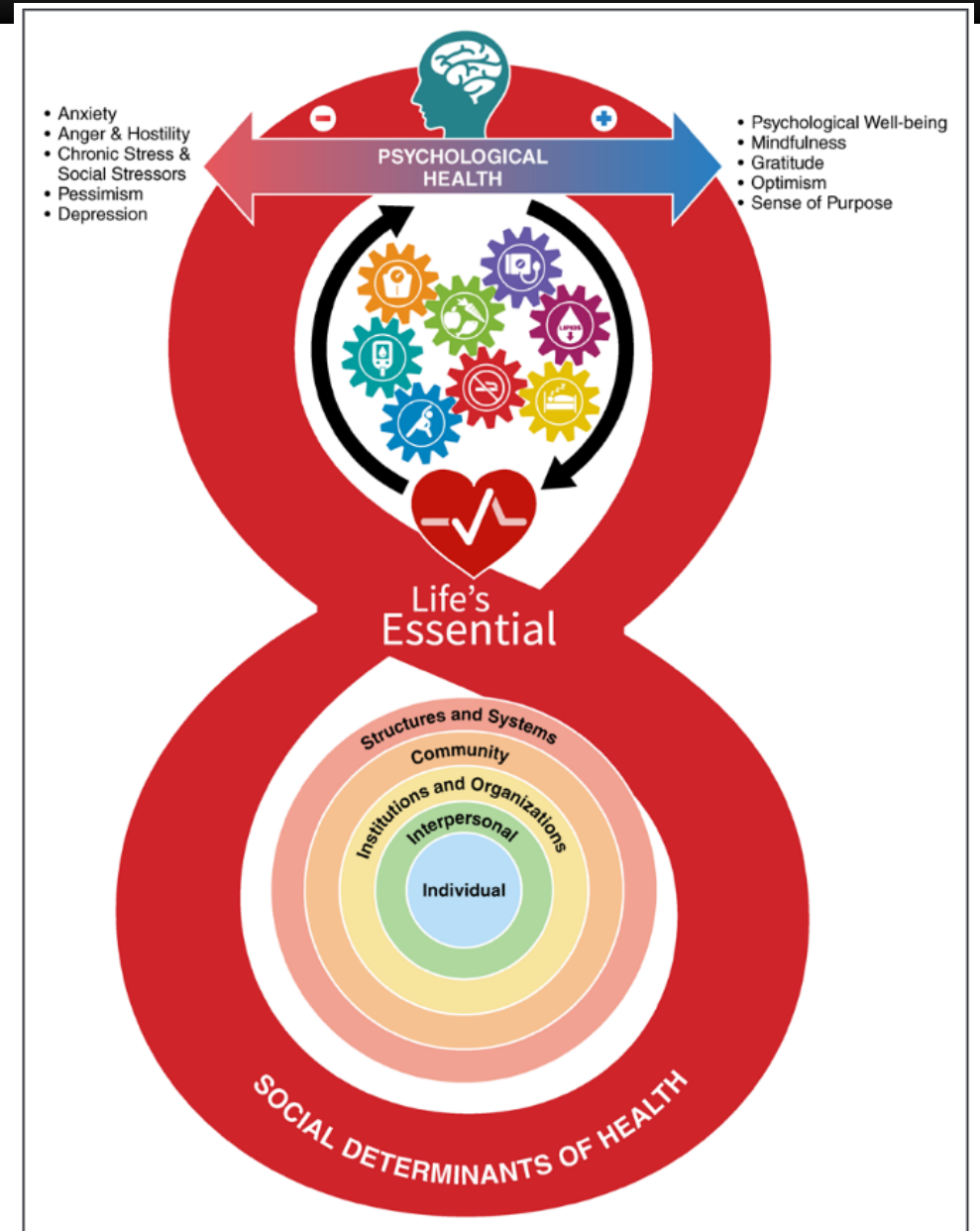
Goals with lifestyle therapy

- Goal is to reduce underlying risk – not to reduce Lp(a) levels directly
- Diet, PA, etc have minimal effects on Lp(a) levels *per se*
- But they can additively reduce risk for CVD events, reducing the background risk through direct effects and indirect effects on other RFs

AHA PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY

Life's Essential 8: Updating and Enhancing the American Heart Association's Construct of Cardiovascular Health: A Presidential Advisory From the American Heart Association

Donald M. Lloyd-Jones, MD, ScM, FAHA, Chair; Norrina B. Allen, PhD, MPH, FAHA; Cheryl A.M. Anderson, PhD, MPH, MS, FAHA; Terrie Black, DNP, MBA, CRRN, FAHA; LaPrincess C. Brewer, MD, MPH; Randi E. Foraker, PhD, MA, FAHA; Michael A. Grandner, PhD, MTR, FAHA; Helen Lavretsky, MD, MS; Amanda Marma Perak, MD, MS, FAHA; Garima Sharma, MD; Wayne Rosamond, PhD, MS, FAHA; on behalf of the American Heart Association



What's new?

Updated scoring algorithm for each metric and overall: 0-100 points

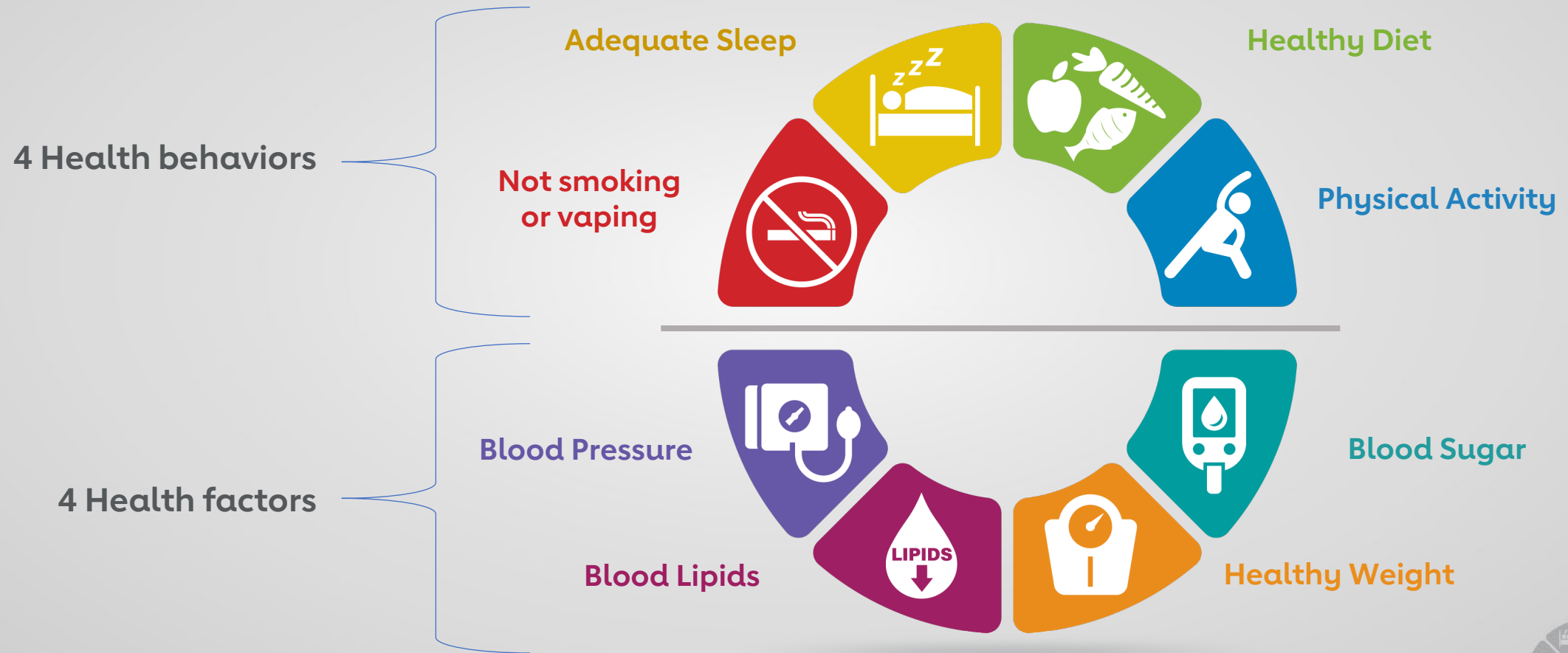
Life's Essential 8 contains one new element, **SLEEP HEALTH**

Defined by sleep duration, or the average hours of sleep a person gets per night



Life's Essential 8 factors

Life's Essential 8 consists of the following vital elements:



My Life Check



GOOD HABITS BUILD BETTER HEALTH

We've helped millions of people make healthier choices.

The AHA is the nation's oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. For nearly 100 years, we've been helping people like you live longer, healthier lives.

[Get Started](#)



<https://mlc.heart.org/>

My Life Check - LE8 Assessment and Tracking

WELCOME

Update your Heart Health Score
Make sure your Heart Health Score is current to most accurately reflect your health.

MY LIFE CHECK ASSESSMENT

 **PROFILE**

8 Questions Remaining

>

 **HEALTH BEHAVIORS**

8 Questions Remaining

>

 **HEALTH FACTORS**

8 Questions Remaining

>

 **WELL-BEING**

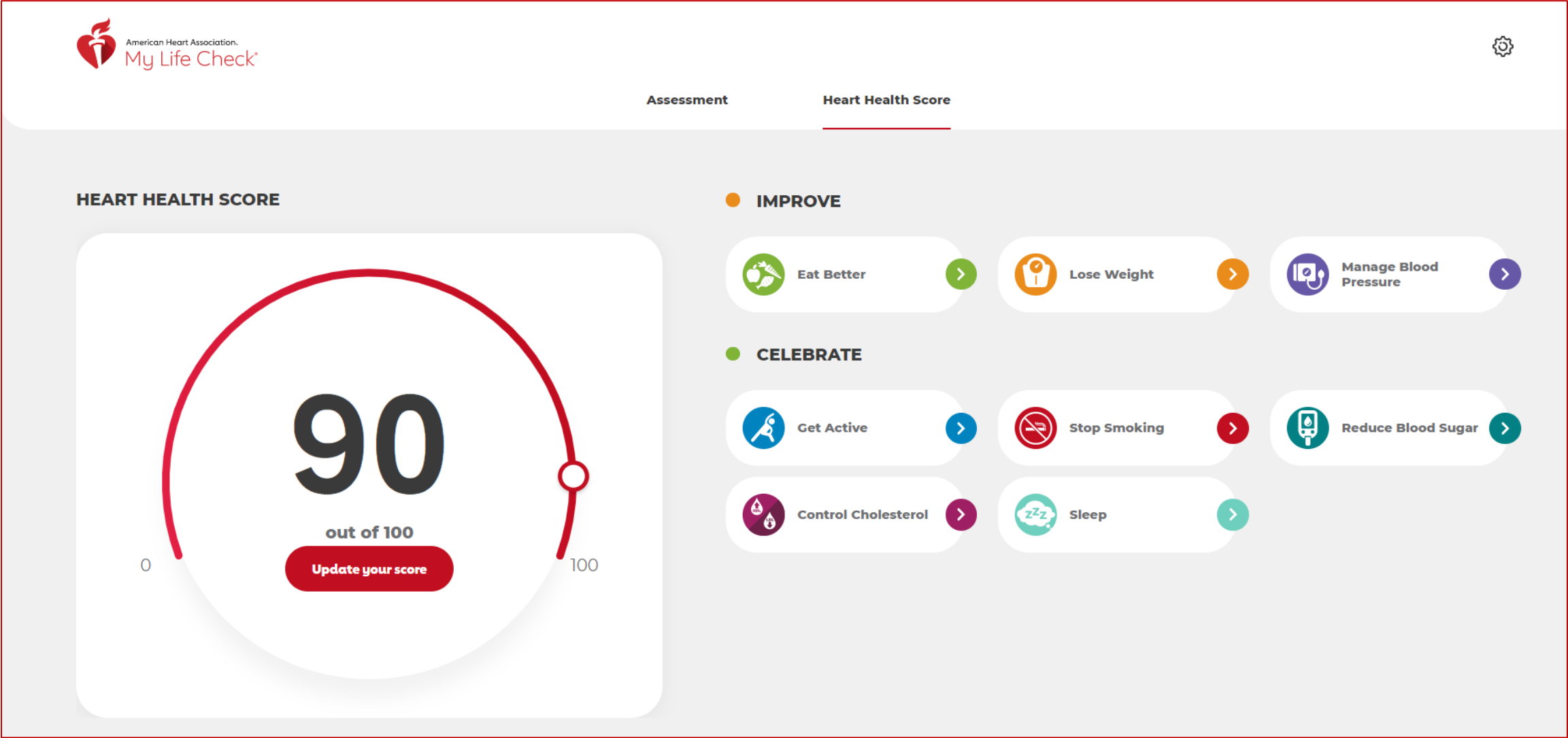
12 Questions Remaining

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 **YOUR HEART HEALTH SCORE**

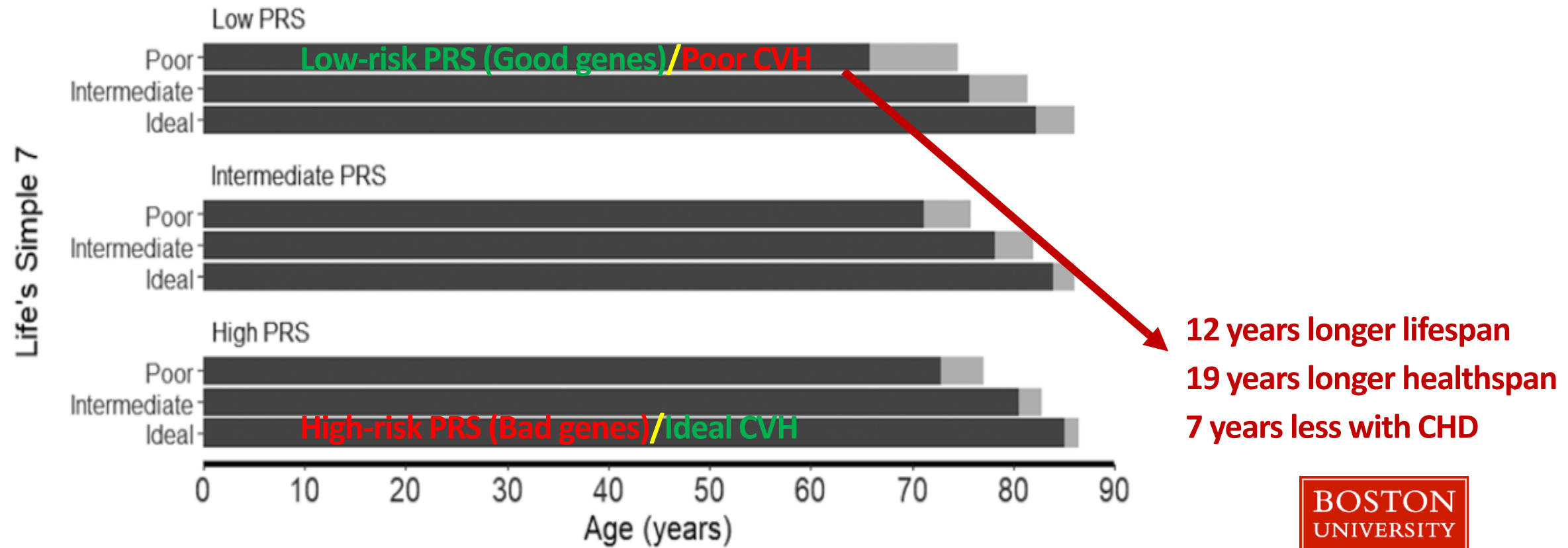
Not Ready Yet

My Life Check – Improving LE8



Healthspan and Lifespan by Joint PRS and CVH Status – CVH/Lifestyle Can Mitigate Genetic Risk

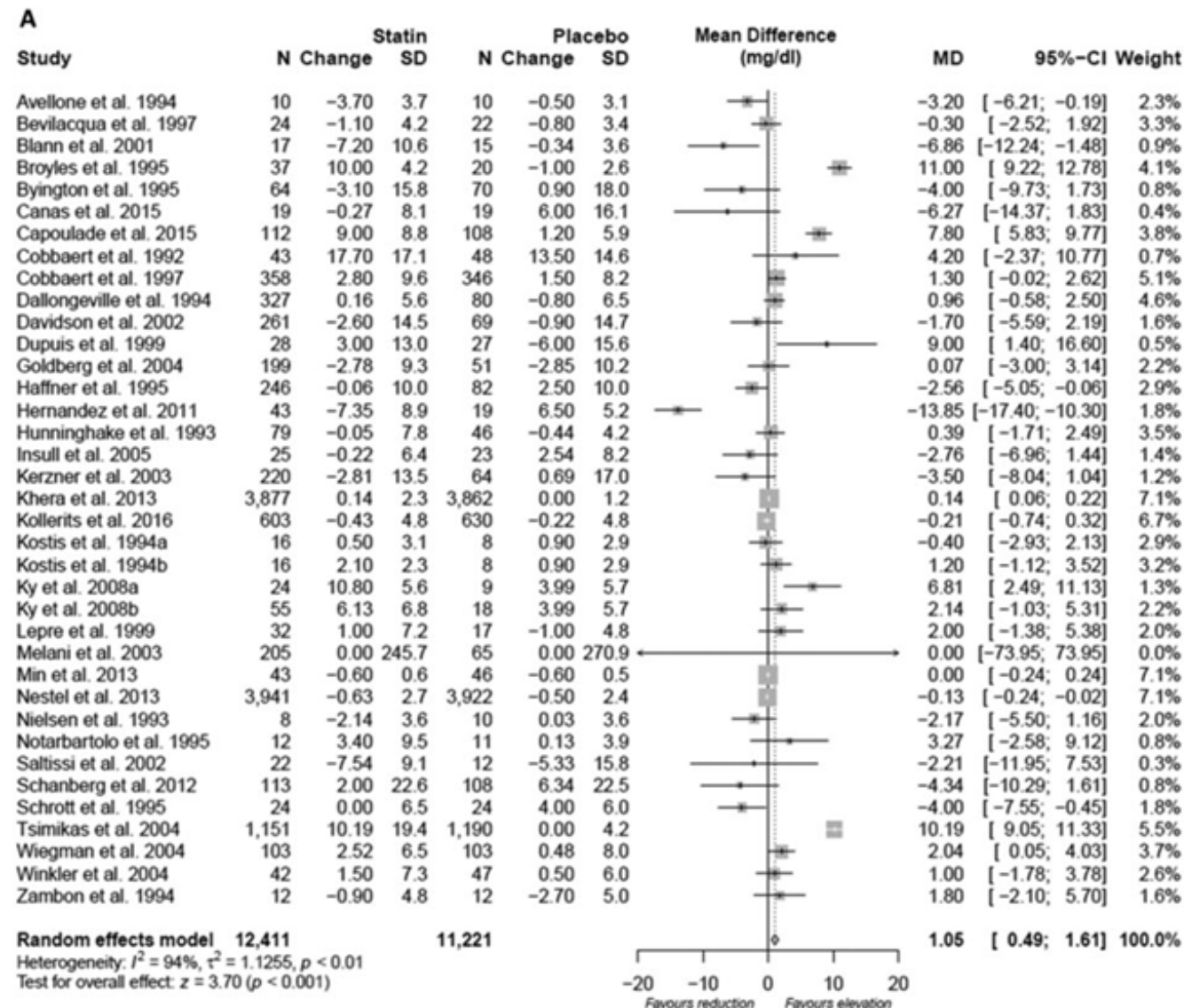
A All Participants



Medical therapy

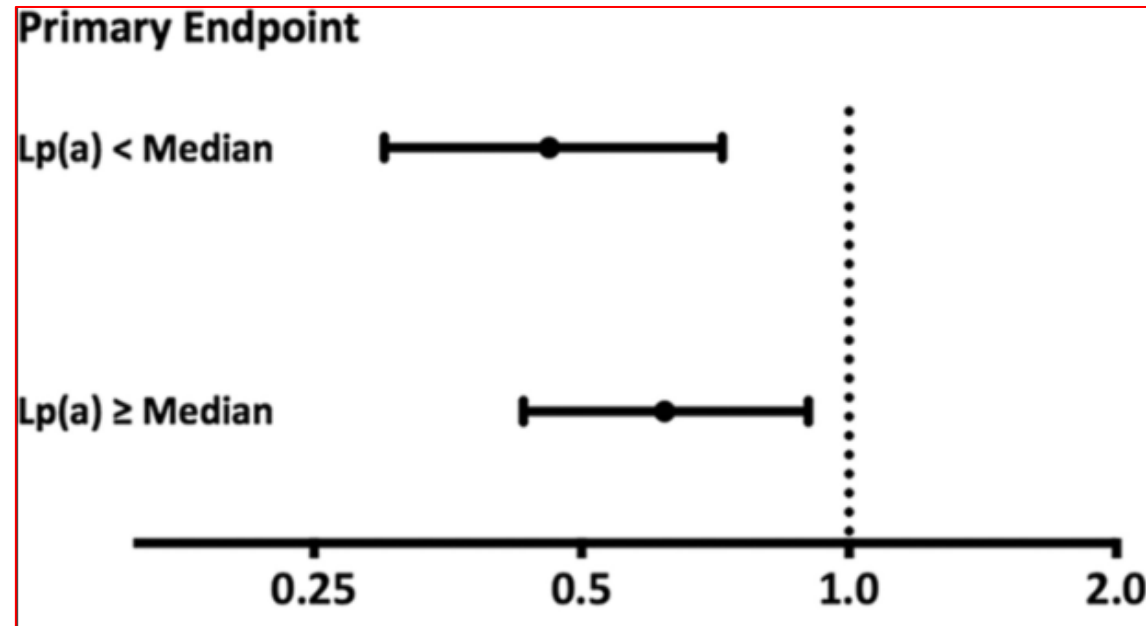
LDL-C reduction remains the cornerstone of therapy for now

Statins do not alter Lp(a) levels



Statins reduce ASCVD events – even in people with Lp(a)

- JUPITER trial: Similar RRR, greater ARR with elevated Lp(a)
- BUT Lp(a) represents one mechanisms of “residual risk”



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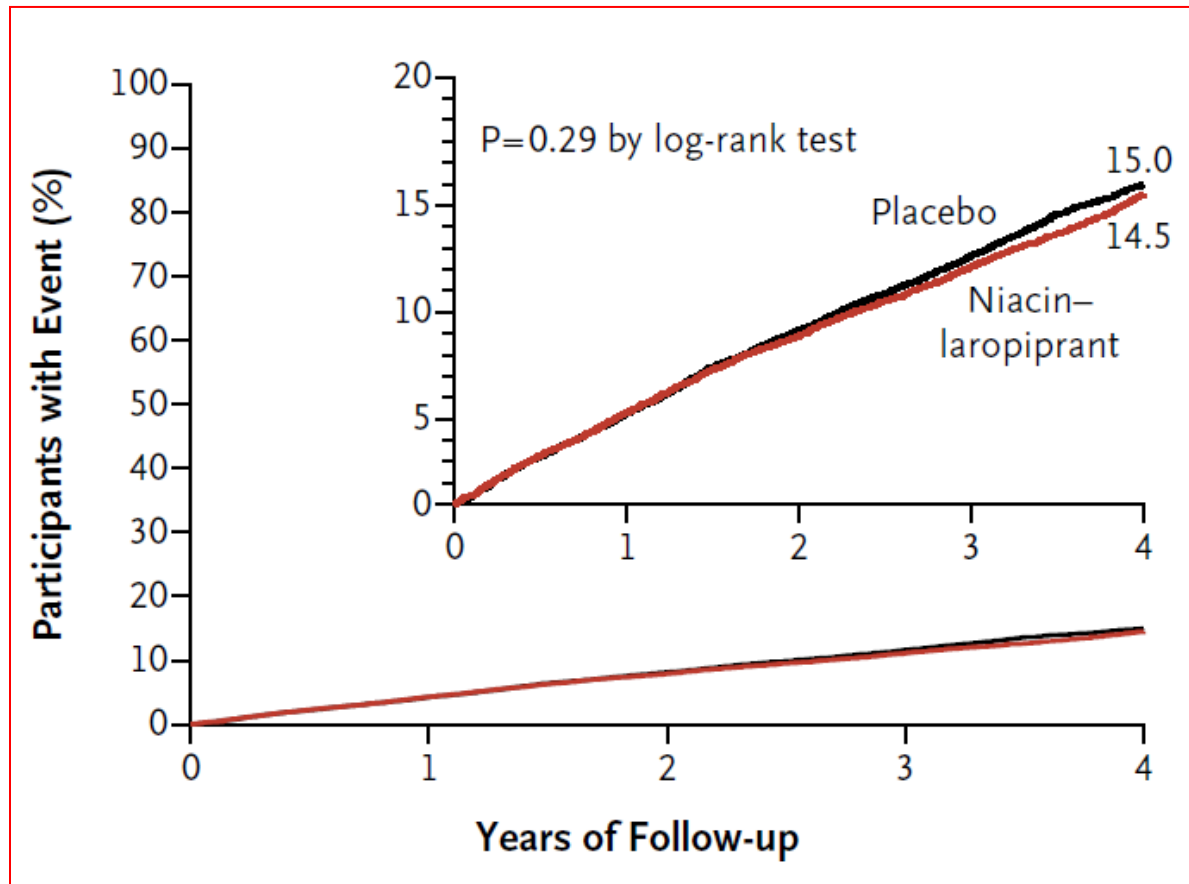


Personal approach to care for patients with elevated Lp(a)

- Remove the vector (LDL-C particles)
 - LDL-C <100 mg/dL for primary prevention (ApoB <90)
 - LDL-C <70 mg/dL for high-risk primary and secondary prevention (ApoB <70)
 - LDL-C <55 mg/dL for very high-risk secondary prevention (ApoB <55)
- Checking ApoB can help avoid residual risk related to LDL-C particles
- Consideration of aspirin in higher-risk patients (this appears to be one group with net benefit)

Niacin: HPS2-THRIVE (N=25,000)

ER niacin/laropriprant-simvastatin vs. simvastatin:
No ASCVD event reduction vs placebo-simvastatin

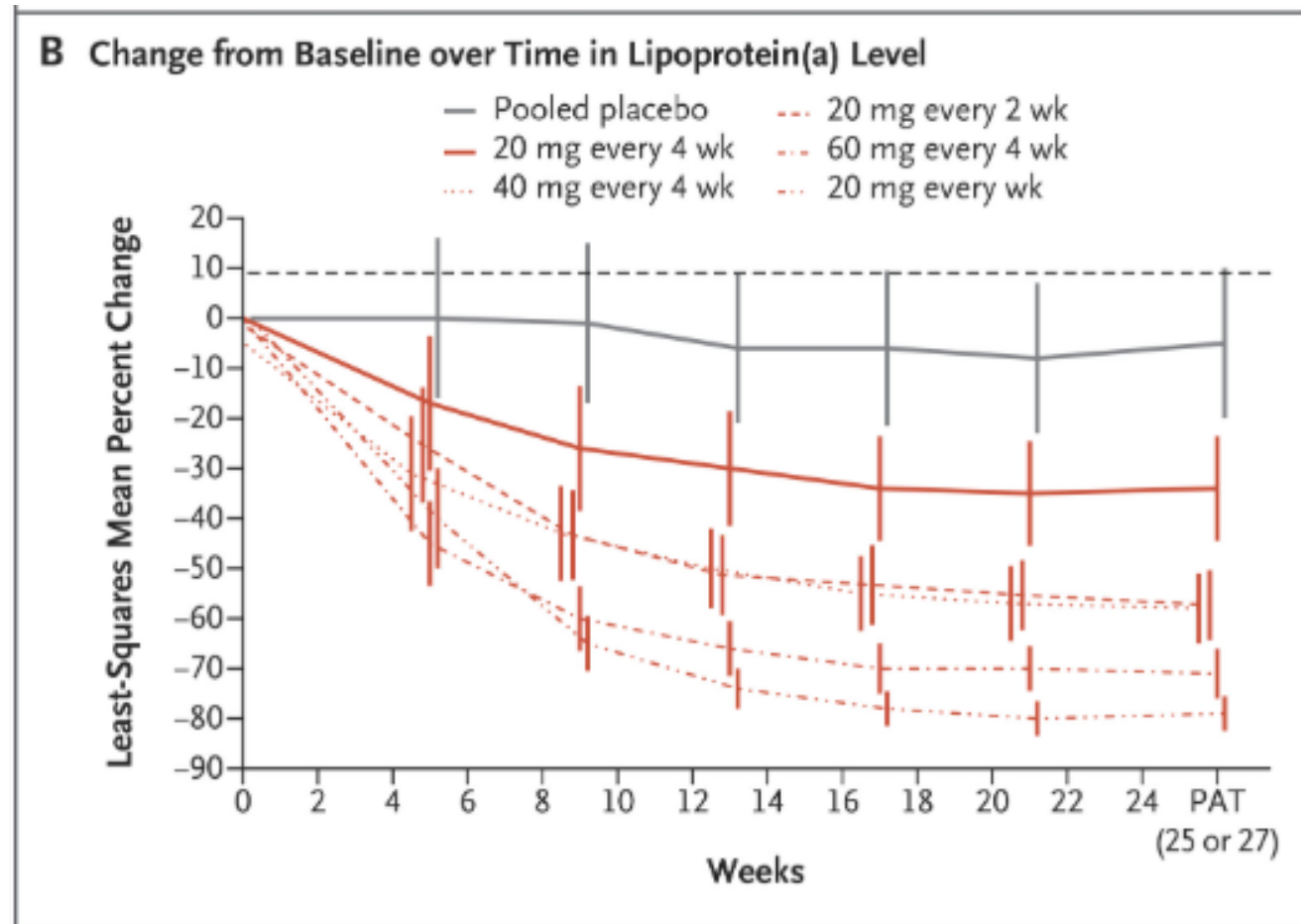


LDL-c	-10 mg/dL
HDL-c	+6 mg/dL
TG	-33 mg/dL

- Usual side effects (skin, GI, HbA1c)
- Increase in GIB, infections
- Borderline increase in mortality

The Future – Direct inhibition of apo(a) production

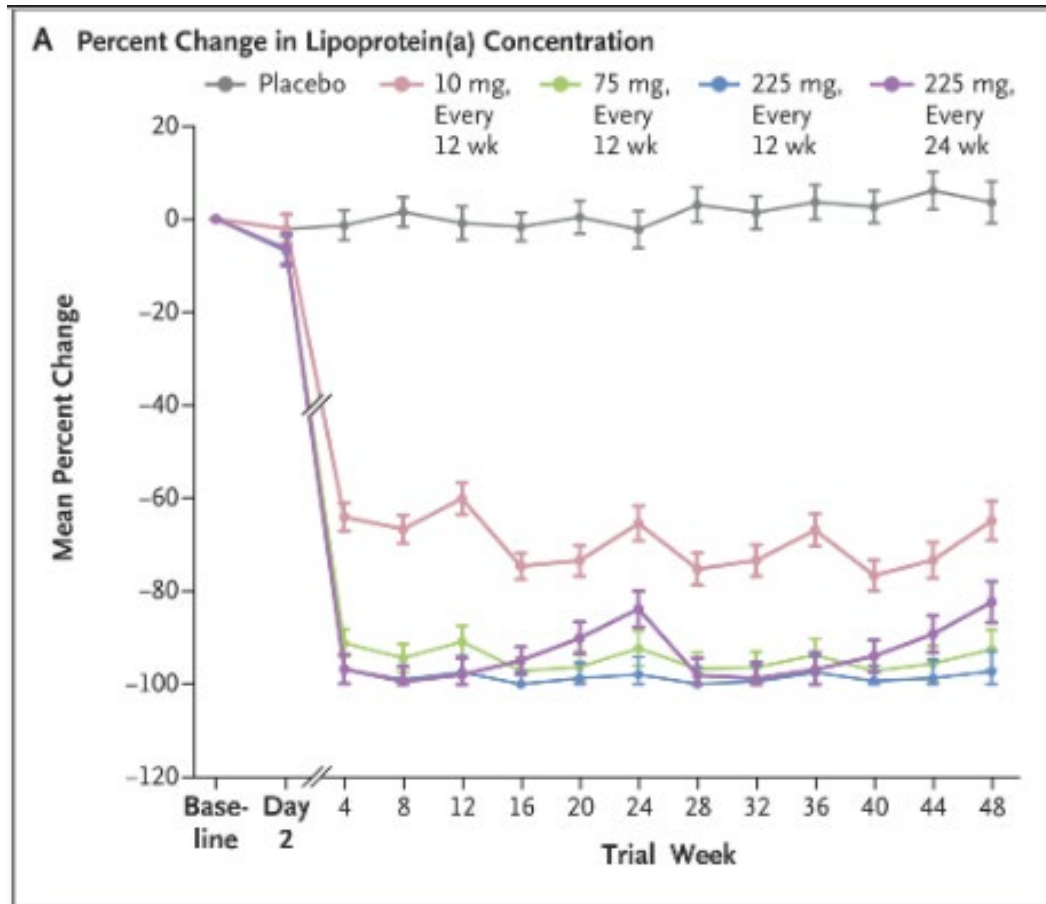
Pelacarsen – ASO dose-ranging study



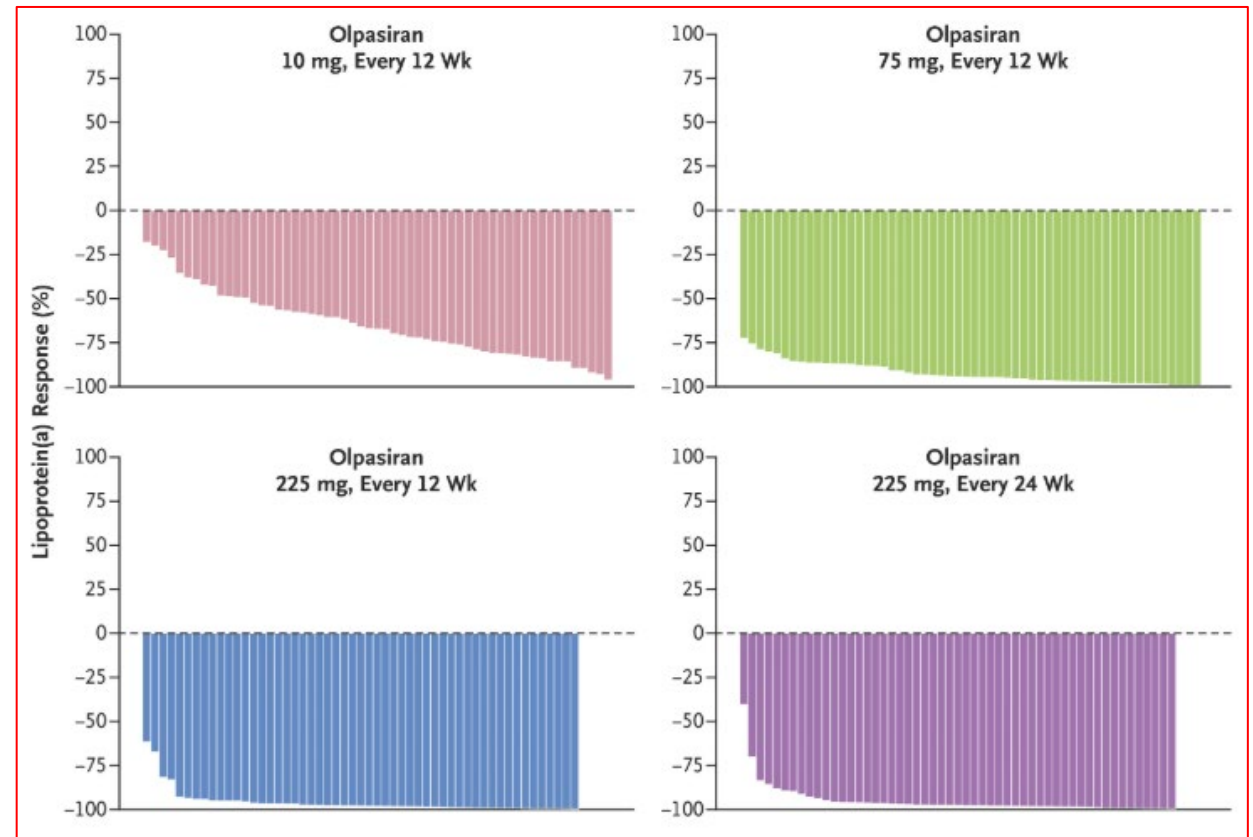
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Olpasiran – siRNA dose-ranging trial



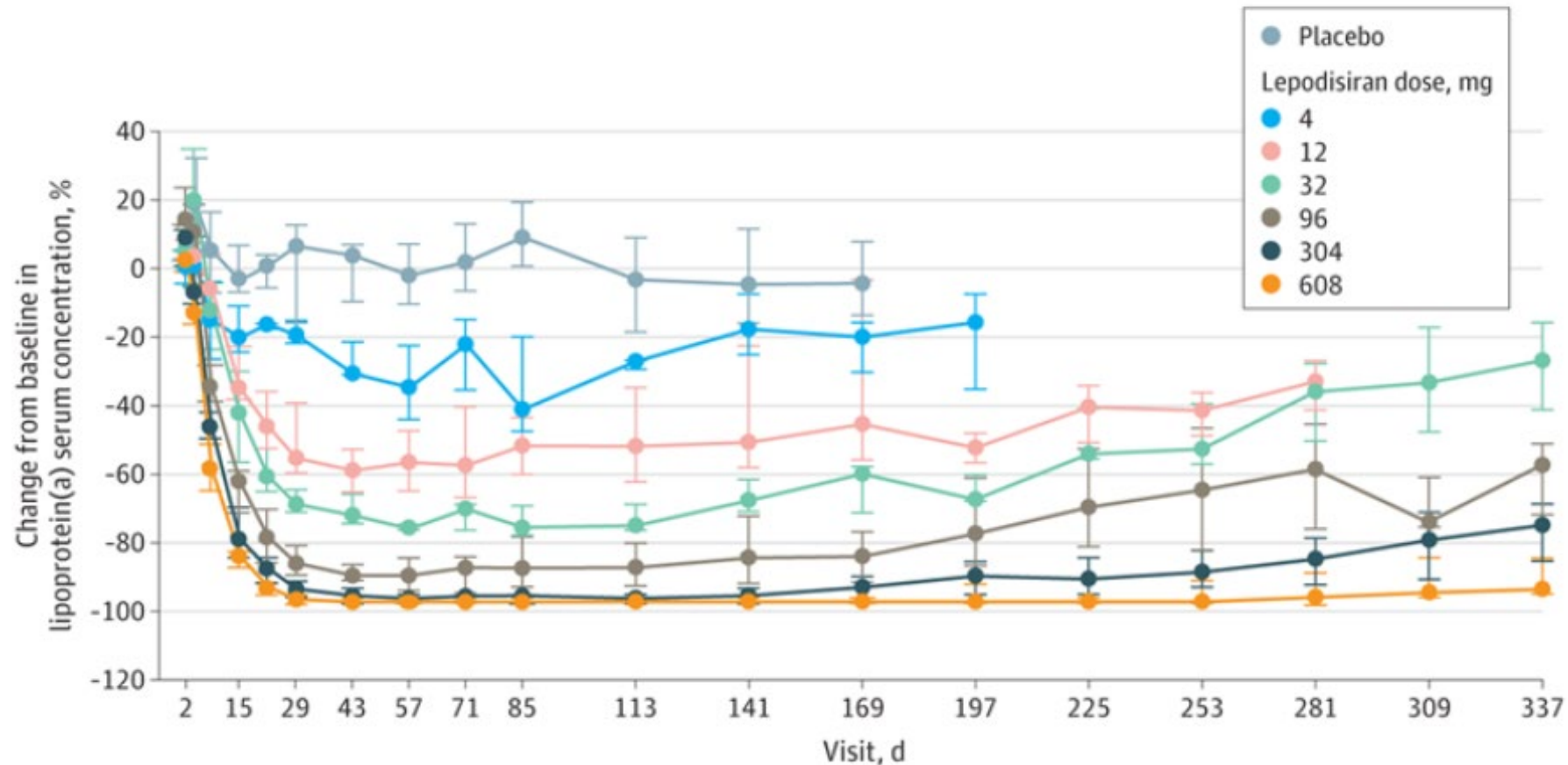
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Lepodisiran – siRNA dose-ranging trial

Figure 3. Percentage Change in Levels of Lipoprotein(a) From Baseline to 336 Days (48 Weeks) After Administration

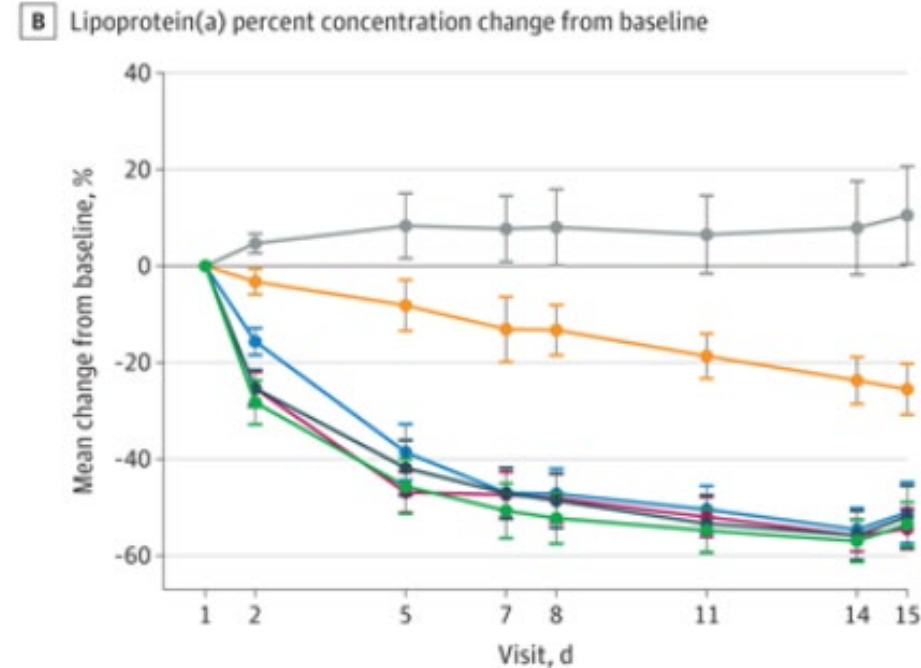


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Muvalaplin – oral agent

- Blocks covalent binding of apo(a) with apoB-100



Take Home Points

- Lp(a) enhances risk for ASCVD, and context of Lp(a) matters
- Managing traditional risk factors with lifestyle and medication remains paramount
- Statins, ezetimibe, and PCSK9mAb can reduce risk with variable effects on Lp(a) itself
- The future of direct Lp(a) therapy looks bright
 - We will answer the “causal question”
 - Direct Lp(a) inhibition may become an important adjunct to LDL-C lowering therapy, if compounds prove safe and efficacious in larger trials (ongoing)

Questions and Discussion



Lp(a) Resources



Clinicians' Guide

Frequently Asked Questions About Lipoprotein(a) Testing

Elevated levels of Lp(a) have been associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular disease including coronary artery disease, stroke, and aortic stenosis.

[Clinicians' Guide \(PDF\)](#)

Clinicians' Guide to Frequently Asked Questions About Lipoprotein(a) Test

Lp(a) Discovery Podcast Episodes



American Heart Association
Lp(a) Discovery Perspectives from Neurology and Cardiology Part 1

Privacy policy

American Heart Association - Lp(a) Discovery Perspectives from Neurology and Cardiology Part 1



American Heart Association
Lp(a) Discovery Perspectives from Neurology and Cardiology Part 2

Privacy policy

American Heart Association - Lp(a) Discovery Perspectives from Neurology and Cardiology Part 2

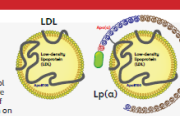


American Heart Association
Lp(a) Discovery Women's Health and Cardiovascular Disease E3

Privacy policy

American Heart Association - Lp(a) Discovery Women's Health and Cardiovascular Disease E3

Lipoprotein (a): Myths Vs. Facts



Myth 1: If I know my LDL "bad" cholesterol number, I don't need to have my Lp(a) tested

Fact: Lipoprotein (a), commonly abbreviated as Lp(a), and LDL cholesterol are not the same. While both contain harmful or "bad" cholesterol, they are different in their composition and potential impact on increasing the risk of heart disease. LDL primarily consists of cholesterol esters and apolipoprotein B on its surface. Lp(a) shares a similar composition with LDL but contains an additional protein called apolipoprotein(a) [apo(a)] attached to apolipoprotein B. This difference in their structures introduces unique properties to Lp(a), potentially leading to increased plaque building, inflammation and blood clotting in the arteries due to the similarity of apo(a) to plasminogen, a protein involved in blood clotting regulation.

You could have a normal LDL number and a high Lp(a) level. Since the regular cholesterol test doesn't include Lp(a), ask your doctor about getting an Lp(a) test.

Myth 2: I don't need to know my Lp(a) level because it doesn't affect my health

Fact: Too much Lp(a) in your arteries can cause the accumulation of fatty deposits, known as plaques, which narrow arteries and reduce blood flow. If a piece of the plaque breaks free, it can block blood flow to vital organs such as the heart, brain, kidneys, lungs, and other parts of the body. This can lead to serious conditions including heart attack, coronary artery disease, aortic stenosis, peripheral artery disease (PAD), and stroke. Therefore, having high Lp(a) levels can significantly impact your health.

Myth 3: I don't have any symptoms, so I don't need to get my Lp(a) tested

Fact: Many people don't have symptoms until they experience a serious event such as a heart attack or stroke. Since Lp(a) levels are mainly determined by genetics, you could have high Lp(a) even if you maintain a healthy lifestyle and control all other heart disease risk factors. Talk to your doctor if you have:

- Known family history of high Lp(a)
- Family or personal history of heart disease or premature cardiovascular disease
- Diagnosis of familial hypercholesterolemia (FH) - an inherited condition where the body poorly recycles LDL or bad cholesterol

Myth 4: Just because a close relative has high Lp(a), it doesn't mean my Lp(a) level will be high too

Fact: Lp(a) is a genetically inherited lipoprotein and a common independent risk factor for heart disease. If anyone in your family has high Lp(a), it's important to get tested, and encourage other family members to get tested as well. Early intervention is crucial in reducing the risk of heart disease. Ask your doctor about cascade screening and other specific needs.

Myth 5: Children can't get their Lp(a) tested; only adults can

Children can't get their Lp(a) tested; only adults can

Thoughtful Talks with My Health Care Professional: Understanding My Lp(a) Risk

Bring this sheet to your appointment and discuss the following questions.

REVIEW MY PERSONAL & FAMILY HISTORY	UNDERSTANDING MY NUMBER	ASSESS MY HEART DISEASE RISK
Lp(a) stands for lipoprotein (a) and is a genetically inherited independent risk factor for heart disease. Discuss with your health care professional if you have any of the following: ☐ Known family history of high Lp(a) ☐ Family or personal history of heart disease or premature coronary artery disease (defined as younger than 45 for men and 55 for women) ☐ Diagnosis of familial hypercholesterolemia (inherited condition that causes the body to poorly recycle LDL or bad cholesterol) Notes: _____ _____ _____ ☒ If so, ask if you should be screened for Lp(a).	Once you've been screened, ask your health care professional: My Lp(a) number: _____ What does my Lp(a) number mean? _____ What level is considered to be high? _____ Does anything contribute to a high Lp(a) number? _____ Should I encourage my family members to get screened? _____	Do you think I'm at risk for a heart attack or stroke? What else contributes to my risk? _____ EXPLORE TREATMENTS Although Lp(a) is not affected by lifestyle changes, it is still important to lower your overall risk of heart attack, stroke, and peripheral arterial disease. What lifestyle changes can I make to lower my risk for heart disease? _____ What resources can help me learn more about Lp(a) and heart disease? _____

Remember if you have a high Lp(a), you didn't do anything to cause it, and now that you know, take control and reduce your overall heart disease risk! Learn more at heart.org/lpa

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Understanding the Lp(a) Test

- What should prompt a talk with my health care professional about a screening?**

 - Known family history of high Lp(a)
 - Family or personal history of heart disease or premature cardiovascular disease
 - Diagnosis of familial hypercholesterolemia (FH) - inherited condition that causes the body to poorly recycle LDL or bad cholesterol
- How do I get screened?**

 - The standard cholesterol test, also known as a lipid panel, does not include Lp(a). Talk to your health care professional about screening for Lp(a).
 - Next, get a simple blood test that can be done at your doctor's office or diagnostic lab center.
- What do the results mean?**

 - Levels higher than 50 mg/dL (125 nmol/L) are considered to be high.
 - A high Lp(a) level increases the risk of heart attack, stroke, peripheral artery disease (PAD), and aortic stenosis.
 - Lp(a) is a genetic risk factor. If you have high Lp(a), encourage your family members to get tested. Ask your doctor about cascade screening and other genetic testing options for your specific needs.
- How can I lower my Lp(a)?**

 - Lp(a) is not affected by lifestyle changes. However, it is still important to take steps to control other heart disease risk factors.
- Would my health insurance cover the Lp(a) test?**

 - Health insurance plans often cover Lp(a) testing, but if you're unsure about your plan's coverage, contacting your insurance and providing them with the CPT code 83885 for the test can help clarify.
 - If your health insurance doesn't cover the Lp(a) test, your health care professional may be able to assist you in finding affordable options.