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**The JUPITER Clinical Trial**

**Effects of Rosuvastatin 20mg on PCSK9 Plasma Levels**

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**Cholesterol Metabolism**

The diagram illustrates the regulation of LDL-C levels. It shows a Trans Golgi Network (TGN) where LDL receptors (LDLR) are synthesized. PCSK9 is also synthesized and then binds to LDLR, leading to its degradation in endosomes. This process reduces the number of LDLR available on the cell surface to bind and internalize LDL-C particles.

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**Cholesterol Metabolism**

This diagram provides a more detailed view of the LDLR pathway. It shows LDLR being synthesized in the TGN and moving to the cell surface. PCSK9 binds to LDLR, and the complex is internalized via endocytosis. In the endosomes, PCSK9 cleaves and degrades LDLR. Some LDLR is recycled back to the surface, while some is degraded in lysosomes. LDL-C particles are internalized by LDLR and degraded in lysosomes to release cholesterol.

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**Research Questions**

- The effect of Rosuvastatin on plasma PCSK9 levels.
- Relationship between PCSK9 levels and the magnitude of LDL-C reduction.
- Secondary aims:
  - Effect of gender.
  - Effect of the R46L SNP on PCSK9 and LDL-C change.

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**The JUPITER Clinical Trial**

**A Randomized Trial of Rosuvastatin in the Prevention of Cardiovascular Events Among 17,802 Apparently Healthy Men and Women With Elevated Levels of C-Reactive Protein (hsCRP): The JUPITER Trial**

Paul Ridker\*, Eleanor Danielson, Francisco Fonseca\*, Jacques Genest\*, Antonio Gotto\*, John Kastlein\*, Wolfgang Koenig\*, Peter Libby\*, Alberto Lorenzatti\*, Jean MacFadyen, Borge Nordestgaard\*, James Shepherd\*, James Willerson, and Robert Glynn\* on behalf of the JUPITER Trial Study Group

An Investigator Initiated Trial Funded by AstraZeneca, USA

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**The JUPITER Clinical Trial**

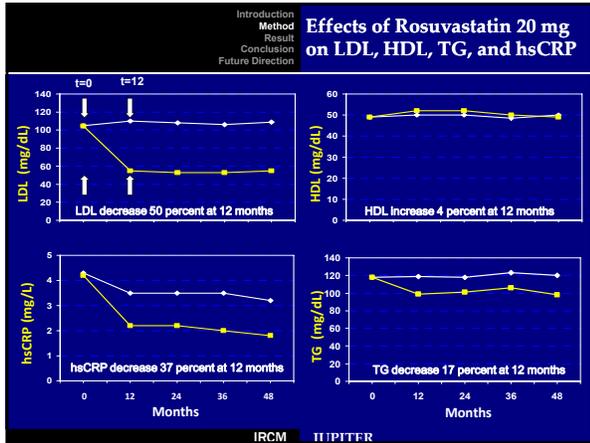
*Multi-National Randomized Double Blind Placebo Controlled Trial of Rosuvastatin in the Prevention of Cardiovascular Events Among Individuals With Low LDL and Elevated hsCRP*

The flowchart shows the trial design: 17,802 individuals with no prior CVD or DM, men ≥50 and women ≥60, LDL <130 mg/dL, and hsCRP ≥2 mg/L were randomized to either Rosuvastatin 20mg (N=8901) or Placebo (N=8901). The primary endpoints were MI, Stroke, Unstable Angina, CVD Death, and CABG/PTCA.

Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Germany, Israel, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Uruguay, United States, Venezuela

Ridker et al, Circulation 2003;108:2292-2297

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### Study Design

- Random selection of men and women in the JUPITER study
- Placebo and Rosuvastatin 20mg study arms
- Blood samples at times 0 (baseline) and 1 year (12 month)
- PCSK9 determined by ELISA (Dubuc G. *et al* J Lipid Res 2010;51:140)
- Examine the PCSK9 R46L SNP on the response to Rosuvastatin

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### Statistical Calculation

- We assumed a mean PCSK9 value of **89** ng/ml at baseline, a SD of **32** and an expected effect of **12.5%**, ( $\alpha$  value of **0.001** with **90%** power).
- A minimum of **200** participants per group would be required.
- We therefore examined **250 subjects/group**:
  - Men, Placebo (250) and Rosuva (250) at baseline.
  - Women, Placebo (250) and Rosuva (250) at baseline.
  - Men, Placebo (250) and Rosuva (250) at 1 year.
  - Women, Placebo (250) and Rosuva (250) at 1 year.

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### Demographic

	Men n=500		Women n=500	
	Placebo	Rosuvastatin	Placebo	Rosuvastatin
Age	65 ±7	64 ±8	72 ±5	71 ±5
Glucose	96 ±10	96 ±9	94 ±10	93 ±9
HbA1c	5.5 ±0.4	5.6 ±0.4	5.7 ±0.3	5.6 ±0.3
Weight	202 ±39	200 ±40	165 ±34	165 ±37
BMI	30 ±6	29 ±5	29 ±6	29 ±6
Waist	41 ±5	41 ±5	37 ±6	37 ±6
SBP	132 ±14	130 ±15	133 ±16	131 ±15
DBP	78 ±8	79 ±8	77 ±8	76 ±9
Met. Syn.	95 ±38	97 ±39	99 ±40	92 ±37
Smoking	41 ±16	38 ±15	13 ±5	18 ±7

No statistically significant differences between the two groups in both genders

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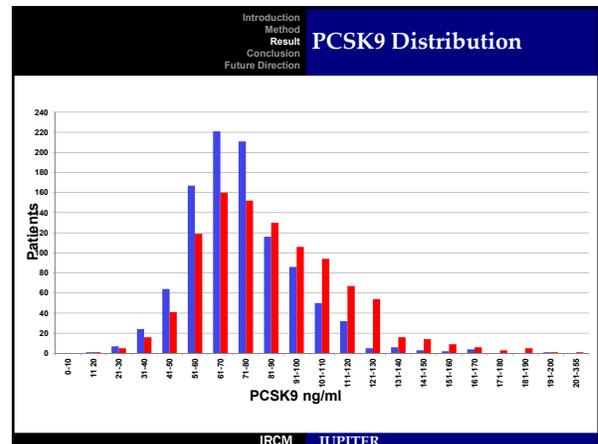
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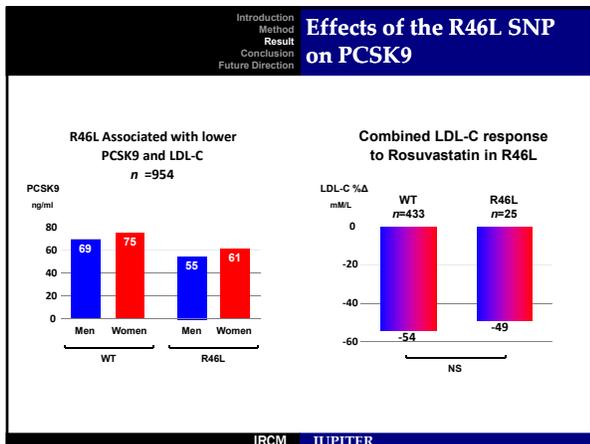
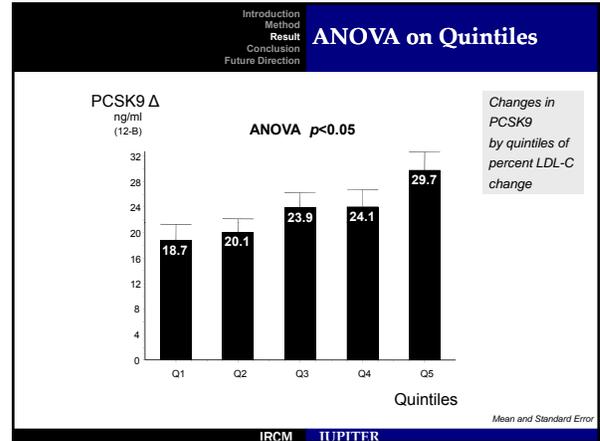
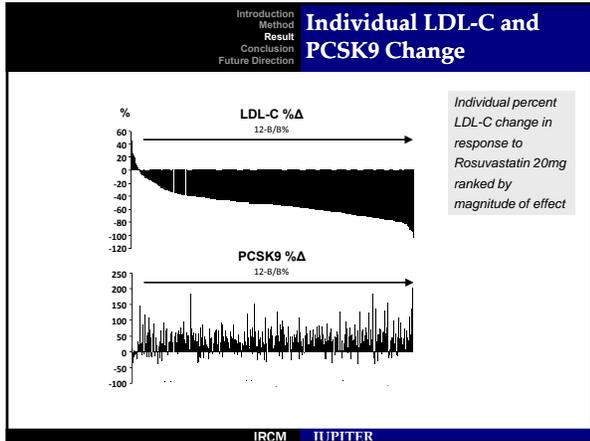
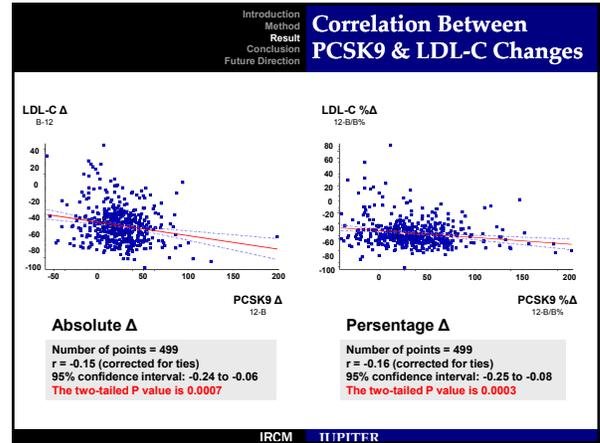
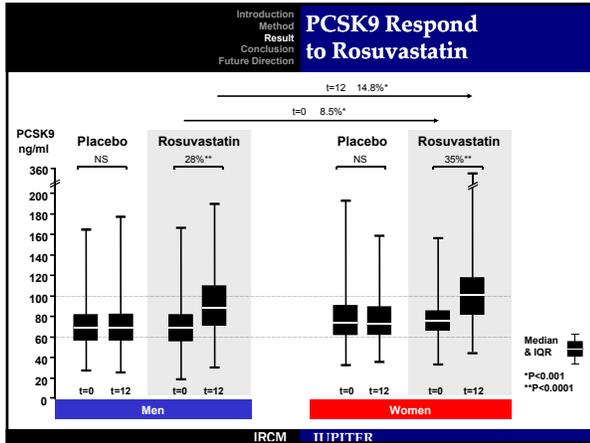
### Demographic

	Baseline		12 month	
	Placebo	Rosuvastatin	Placebo	Rosuvastatin
<b>Men</b>				
Cholesterol	182 ±22	178 ±24	183 ±25	127 ±26 *
Triglyceride	144 ±77	151 ±89	147 ±93	117 ±61 *
LDL-C	105 ±16	101 ±21	107 ±20	53 ±20 *
HDL-C	48 ±13	47 ±13	48 ±12	51 ±14 *
hsCRP	5.9 ±6.2	6.4 ±9.7	6.0 ±11.7	4.7 ±9.9
PCSK9	71 ±19	71 ±22	72 ±22	91 ±29 *
				28% ↑
<b>Woman</b>				
Cholesterol	192 ±22	192 ±23	197 ±27 *	135 ±23 *
Triglyceride	132 ±64	129 ±55	132 ±60	103 ±41 *
LDL-C	107 ±18	106 ±17	111 ±23 *	51 ±17 *
HDL-C	59 ±15	60 ±16	60 ±15	63 ±15 *
hsCRP	6.1 ±5.8	6.8 ±6.7	5.5 ±5.2	3.5 ±4.2
PCSK9	77 ±20	77 ±19	78 ±22	103 ±31 *
				34% ↑

\*P value <0.005 baseline vs. 12 month

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- Rosuvastatin increase plasma levels of PCSK9.
  - Women have higher levels of PCSK9 than men and this is further exaggerated when Rosuvastatin 20mg is given.
  - Circulating PCSK9 as a marker is stable over time.
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## Summary

- PCSK9 increase modulate the statin-mediated LDL-C lowering within a quintile range.
- The magnitude of response to Rosuvastatin was not influenced by the presence of the R46L SNP.

## Discussion

- The observation that statin-mediated increase in PCSK9 is not associated with a blunting of the response to statins is counter-intuitive and warrants further explanations.

## Questions



Thank You