





Effective Management of Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia: Therapeutic Strategies for a Complex Dyslipidemia

EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF
**HOMOZYGOUS FAMILIAL
HYPERCHOLESTEROLEMIA**
Therapeutic Strategies for a Complex Dyslipidemia

Thursday, June 11, 2015

Activity Chair
James A. Underberg, MD, MS

This activity is jointly provided by the     Educational Partner

This activity is supported by an educational grant from Aegerion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

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**Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia:
Current State of an Underdiagnosed and
Undertreated Disease**

Panel Discussion

Moderator:

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Topics for Discussion

- Diagnosis of homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH)
- Currently approved therapies for the treatment of HoFH
- Emerging therapies for the treatment of HoFH

Diagnosis of HoFH

- Multiple definitions
- Genetic basis of initial description no longer fits current paradigm of phenotypic presentation
- Varying standards in different countries based on technology and insurance/cost

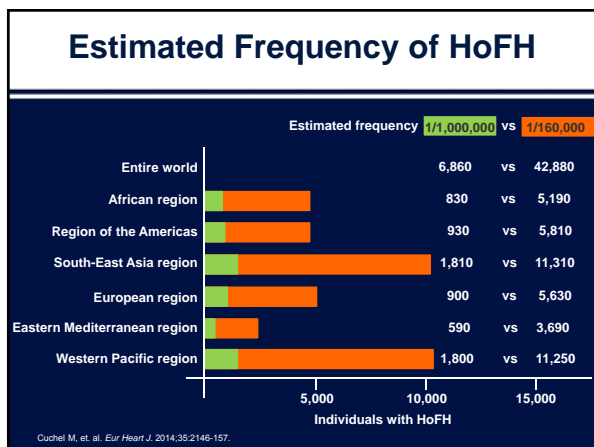
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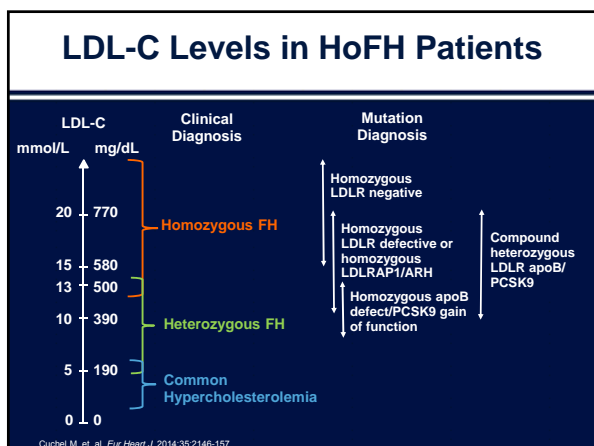
? Accepted Diagnosis

- Untreated LDL-C >500 mg/dL (13 mmol/L) or treated LDL-C ≥300 mg/dL (7.76 mmol/L) or treated non-HDL-C ≥330 mg/dL (8.5 mmol/L) + either
 - Cutaneous or tendinous xanthoma before age 10 years
 or
 - Elevated LDL-C levels before lipid-lowering therapy consistent with HeFH in both parents (except in the case of ARH)
 OR
- Genetic confirmation of 2 mutant alleles at the LDLR, apoB, PCSK9, or ARH adaptor protein gene locus

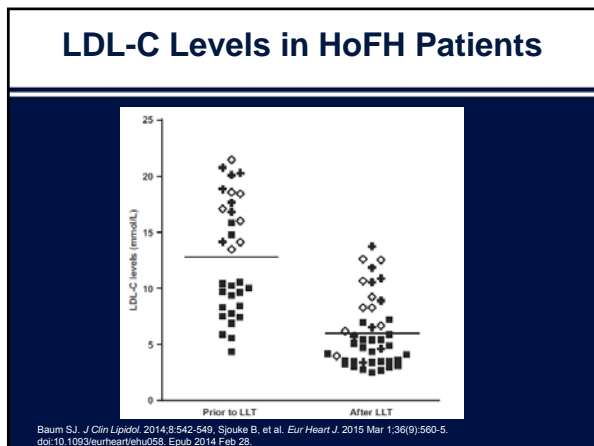
- Genetic mutation alleles in same gene – true homozygotes
 - Same mutation in same gene – simple homozygotes
 - Different mutations in same gene – compound heterozygotes (cis or trans)
- Mutations in 2 different genes (1 usually LDLR) – double heterozygotes (cis or trans)

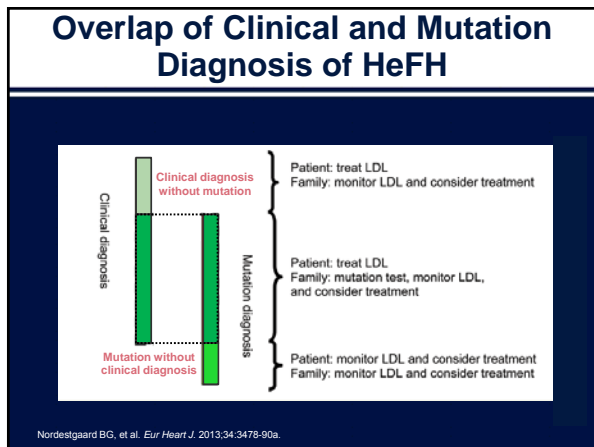
Raaij FJ, Santos RD. *Atherosclerosis*. 2012;223:262-268; Cuchel M, et al. *Eur Heart J*. 2014;35:2146-157.

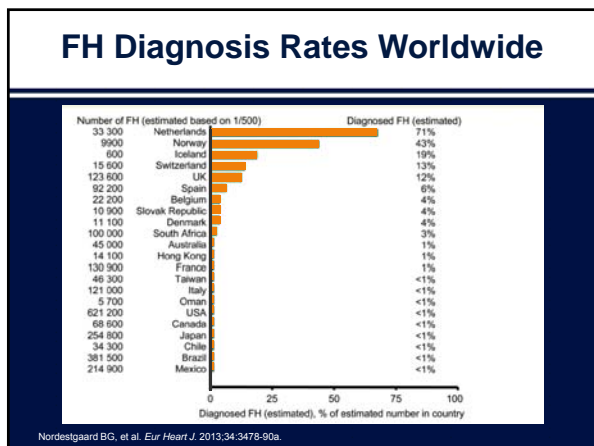




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Discussion

Currently Approved Therapies for HoFH and HeFH

Class	Major Effect	LDL-lowering Response	
		HoFH	HeFH
Low-cholesterol diet	↑ LDLR activity	<10%	10%-25%
Statins	↑ LDLR activity	<10%	>25%
Resins	↑ LDLR activity	<10%	10%-25%
Ezetimibe	↓ Cholesterol absorption + ↑ LDLR activity	<10%	10%-25%
Stanol esters	↓ Cholesterol absorption + ↑ LDLR activity	<10%	10%-25%
Nicotinic acid	↓ VLDL synthesis	<10%	>25%
LDL apheresis	Removes LDL	>25%	>25%

Rader DJ, et al. J Clin Invest. 2003;111:1795-1803.

Recently Approved Therapies for HoFH

Class	Approval Date	Major Effect	LDL-lowering Response
Lomitapide	Dec. 2012	MTP activity	40%-50%
Mipomersen	Jan. 2013	Antisense ApoB	25%

Lomitapide and mipomersen are not approved for HeFH

Cuchel M, et al. Curr Opin Lipidol. 2013; 24:246-250; Plakogiannis R, et al. Clin Invest. 2012;2:1033-1037.

Emerging Therapies for the Treatment of HoFH

- PCSK9 inhibition
 - Evolocumab
 - Alirocumab
- CETP inhibition
 - Anacetrapib
 - Evacetrapib
 - JTT-705
 - DEZ-001
- Gene therapy

Case Studies

Diagnosing Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia

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38-Year-Old Jewish Man with Premature Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease

- 38-year-old Jewish South African man with premature atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD)
- Family history
 - Father's family: hypercholesterolemia, died at young age from ASCVD
 - Mother's family: hypercholesterolemia, no ASCVD
 - 2 brothers: hypercholesterolemia; 1 of them experienced a MI at age 38
 - Teenage son: LDL-C >300 mg/dL

Cardiovascular History

- Age 17: chest tightness and shortness of breath while playing basketball; rested for 30 min until symptoms resolved – did not seek medical attention
- Age 23: IMI
- Since then has required multiple coronary stents and a 5-vessel CABG
- Highest untreated LDL-C >400 mg/dL
- Highest total cholesterol >600 mg/dL

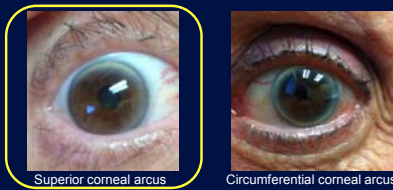
Lipid-Lowering Therapy

- Aggressively treated for hypercholesterolemia and ASCVD for the past 15 years
- Current lipid-lowering therapy
 - Rosuvastatin 20 mg QD
 - Ezetimibe 10 mg QD
 - Colesevelam 625 mg 6 tabs QD
 - Niacin-ER 500 mg QD
 - Lipoprotein apheresis

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Physical Examination

- Height: 5'8"; weight: 172 lbs; BMI: 26.15 kg/m² → Slightly overweight
- Bilateral Achilles tendon xanthomas
- Superior corneal arcus



Superior corneal arcus Circumferential corneal arcus

Lab Data on Multiple Lipid-Lowering Therapies, Including Lipoprotein Apheresis

- Total cholesterol: 215 mg/dL
- LDL-C: 174 mg/dL
- HDL-C: 36 mg/dL
- Triglycerides: 244 mg/dL
- Non-HDL-C: 179 mg/dL

In considering therapeutic options for this patient, a diagnosis must first be made.

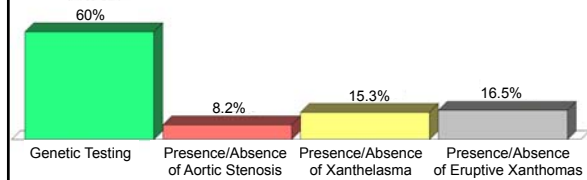
Does he have HoFH? What other data would help us make the diagnosis?

- 1) Genetic testing
- 2) Presence or absence of aortic stenosis
- 3) Presence or absence of xanthelasma
- 4) Presence or absence of eruptive xanthomas

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Does he have HoFH? What other data would help us make the diagnosis?

Audience Response

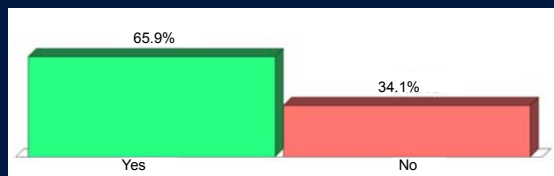


Are we certain of the diagnosis of HoFH?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No

Are we certain of the diagnosis of HoFH?

Audience Response




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Could genetic testing rule out the diagnosis of HoFH?

1) Yes
2) No

Could genetic testing rule out the diagnosis of HoFH?

Audience Response



Response	Percentage
Yes	29.6%
No	70.4%

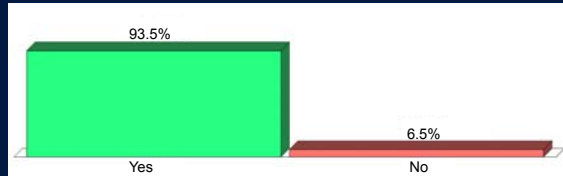
Could genetic testing rule in the diagnosis of HoFH?

1) Yes
2) No

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Could genetic testing rule in the diagnosis of HoFH?

Audience Response



Treatment Decisions in the Management of Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia

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Young Man with History of Severe Hypercholesterolemia

- 32-year-old Caucasian male, body builder
- Follows vegan meal plan
- Uses supplements, extracts, and anabolic agents
- History of severe hypercholesterolemia diagnosed at age 7
- No symptomatic CAD
- High CAC score
- No comorbidities or additional risk factors

Young Man with History of Severe Hypercholesterolemia

Family History

- Mother (55 years old): hypercholesterolemia; on statin therapy; no CAD
- Maternal uncle: hypercholesterolemia; CABG x3 at age 42; former smoker
- Maternal grandfather: hypercholesterolemia; died of cardiac causes at age 65; former smoker
- Older sister: milder hypercholesterolemia (untreated LDL-C: 180 mg/dL)
- Father's family history: unknown

Young Man with History of Severe Hypercholesterolemia

- Normal TG/HDL-C
- Untreated LDL-C: 275 mg/dL-310 mg/dL
- BMI: 27.8 kg/m²
- Recently, the patient was convinced by PCP to try atorvastatin 20 mg/day
 - LDL-C adjusted to 205 mg/dL
 - Discontinued after 3 months (fear of side effects)
 - Requested specialist referral – referred for genetic counselling

Young Man with History of Severe Hypercholesterolemia

Fasting lipids at time of visit

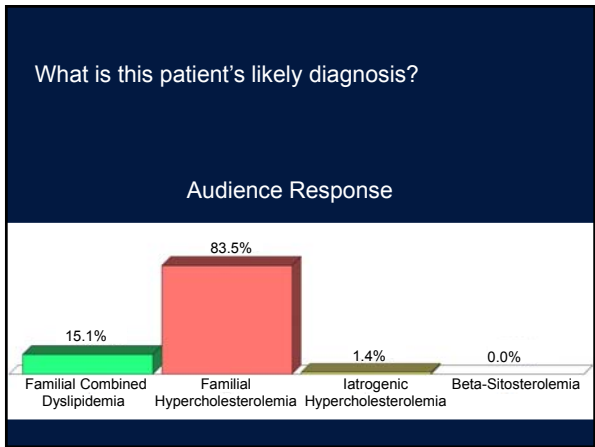
- Total cholesterol: 383 mg/dL
- LDL-C: 298 mg/dL
- HDL-C: 65 mg/dL
- Triglycerides: 100 mg/dL
- Lp(a): 49 mg/dL

- Glucose: 88 mg/dL
- CAC score: 325 (99th percentile), with deposits in LM, LAD and LCX

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What is this patient's likely diagnosis?

- 1) Familial combined dyslipidemia
- 2) Familial hypercholesterolemia
- 3) Iatrogenic hypercholesterolemia (caused by diet and supplements)
- 4) Beta-sitosterolemia



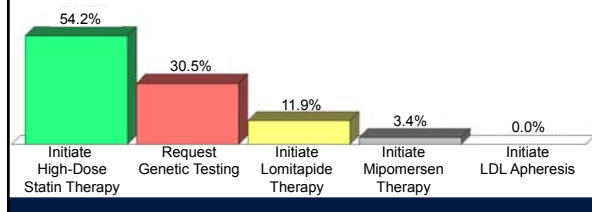
Considering the patient's history, current guideline recommendations, and available therapeutic options, you would recommend to:

- 1) Initiate high-dose statin therapy
- 2) Request genetic testing before determining therapeutic approach
- 3) Initiate lomitapide therapy
- 4) Initiate mipomersen therapy
- 5) Initiate LDL apheresis

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Considering the patient's history, current guideline recommendations, and available therapeutic options, you would recommend to:

Audience Response



Young Man with History of Severe Hypercholesterolemia

- Genetic testing performed
 - Compound heterozygote for mutations partially inactivating LDLR
- Patient agrees to start rosuvastatin 20 mg/day and ezetimibe 10 mg/day
 - LDL-C adjusted to the 190 mg/dL range
- LDL apheresis denied by insurance

Young Man with History of Severe Hypercholesterolemia

- Lomitapide and mipomersen entry criteria: clinical/biochemical presentation compatible with diagnosis of HoFH
 - Patient elects to add lomitapide to rosuvastatin and ezetimibe regimen




Discussion

Question & Answer

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