

Statins

What are Statins?

Statins are a type of medicine that lowers the cholesterol in your blood.

High cholesterol may cause plaque (fatty deposits) to build up in your blood vessel walls. This can cause a heart attack or stroke.

Types of statins are:

- Lipitor® (atorvastatin)
- Lescol® (fluvastatin)
- Mevacor® (lovastatin)
- Pravachol® (pravastatin)
- Crestor® (rosuvastatin)
- Zocor® (simvastatin).

How Is It Given?

A statin is a tablet you swallow with water.

Follow your doctor's directions for how and when to take it. It is important you take it at the same time each day.

Are There Precautions?

- You will need blood tests to check your cholesterol levels and how well your liver is working.
- Do not drink large amounts of grapefruit juice. Large amounts (more than a few glasses) may increase your risk of serious side effects.
- Tell your doctor and pharmacist what prescription, over-the-counter, minerals, vitamins, herbal and natural products you are taking or plan to take.

What Side Effects May Occur?

Your statin may cause mild muscle aches and pains.

When To Call Your Doctor?

Call your doctor if you have:

- severe muscle pain
- muscle pain you can't explain
- weakness.

For more information or for questions about this medicine, please ask your doctor or pharmacist.