

## Electronic Supplementary Material

*American Journal of Cardiovascular Drugs*

# Lipid-Lowering Efficacy of Ezetimibe in Patients with Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analyses

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## **Systematic literature review**

### ***Specific congress proceedings searched***

- AACE – American Association of Clinical Endocrinology
- AANP – American Association of Nurse Practitioners
- AAPA – American Association of Physician Assistants
- ACC – American College of Cardiology
- ADA – American Diabetes Association
- AHA – American Heart Association
- AMCP/AMCP Nexus – Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy
- DGK – German Society of Cardiology (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Kardiologie)
- EAS – European Atherosclerosis Society
- EASD – European Association for the Study of Diabetes
- ESC – European Society of Cardiology
- EuroPCR – Annual Meeting of the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (EAPCI)
- ICAAC – Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy
- IDF – International Diabetes Federation
- ISA – International Atherosclerosis Society
- ISPOR – International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research
- ISPOR-EU – International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research – EU
- NLA – National Lipid Association
- QCOR – Council on Quality Care and Outcomes Research
- TCT – Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics

**Supplemental Table S1** Search strategy for MEDLINE® via PubMed (date of search: August 27, 2018)

| #  | Search string   | Results |
|----|---|---------|
| 1  | "Ezetimibe"[Mesh] OR Ezetimibe[tiab] OR Absorcol[tiab] OR ezetib[tiab] OR ezetimibe[tiab] OR ezetrol[tiab] OR sch 58235[tiab] OR sch58235[tiab] OR viemm[tiab] OR zetia[tiab] OR zient[tiab]  | 2989    |
| 2  | "Ezetimibe, Simvastatin Drug Combination"[Mesh] OR Inegy[tiab] OR Vytorin[tiab] OR Zetsim[tiab] OR Zintrepid[tiab]  | 176     |
| 3  | "liptruzet" [Supplementary Concept] OR liptruzet[tiab]  | 3       |
| 4  | "Hydroxymethylglutaryl-CoA Reductase Inhibitors"[Mesh]  | 26885   |
| 5  | "Hydroxymethylglutaryl-CoA Reductase Inhibitors" [Pharmacological Action]   | 37424   |
| 6  | Hydroxymethylglutaryl-CoA Reductase Inhibit* [tiab] OR Statin[tiab] OR Statins[tiab] OR HMG-CoA [tiab]  | 39749   |
| 7  | "lovastatin-niacin combination" [Supplementary Concept] OR Advicor[tiab] OR ("Niacin"[Mesh] OR niacin[tiab]) AND ("Lovastatin"[Mesh] OR Mevacor[tiab] OR Lovastatin[tiab] OR Mevinolin[tiab] OR Monacolin K[tiab] OR 6-Methylcompactin[tiab] OR MK-803[tiab] OR MK803[tiab])  | 278     |
| 8  | Altoprev[tiab]  | 4       |
| 9  | ("Amlodipine"[Mesh] OR Amlodipine[tiab] OR Amlodis[tiab] OR Astudal[tiab] OR Norvasc[tiab] OR Istin[tiab] OR Amlor[tiab]) AND ("Atorvastatin Calcium"[Mesh] OR Atorvastatin[tiab] OR Cardyl[tiab] OR CI 981[tiab] OR CI981[tiab] OR lipibec[tiab] OR Lipitor[tiab] OR liprimar[tiab] OR liptonorm[tiab] OR lowlipen[tiab] OR sortis[tiab] OR storvas[tiab] OR tahor[tiab] OR torvast[tiab] OR totalip[tiab] OR xarator[tiab] OR ym 548[tiab] OR ym548 [tiab] OR zarator[tiab]) OR amlodipine, atorvastatin drug combination [Supplementary Concept] OR Caduet[tiab] | 213     |
| 10 | Rosuvastatin[tiab] OR Crestor[tiab] OR ZD4522[tiab] OR ZD 4522[tiab]  | 3038    |
| 11 | Juvisync[tiab] OR ("Sitagliptin Phosphate"[Mesh] OR Sitagliptin[tiab] OR MK0431 MK-0431 OR Januvia[tiab]) AND ("Simvastatin"[Mesh] OR Simvastatin[tiab] OR denan[tiab] OR Epistatin[tiab] OR Synvinolin[tiab] OR I 644128[tiab])  | 22      |

|    |  |       |
|----|--|-------|
|    | OR I644128[tiab] OR Lipex[tiab] OR Lipovas[tiab] OR Lodaes[tiab] OR Medipo[tiab] OR MK-733[tiab] OR MK733[tiab] OR Sinvacor[tiab] OR Vasilip[tiab] OR Zocor[tiab] OR Zocord[tiab])   |       |
| 12 | "fluvastatin" [Supplementary Concept] OR Lescol[tiab] OR Fluvastatin[tiab] OR Fluindostatin[tiab] OR XU 62-320[tiab] OR XU-62320[tiab] OR XU 62320[tiab]   | 1968  |
| 13 | Atorvastatin Calcium[Mesh] OR Atorvastatin[tiab] OR Cardyl[tiab] OR CI 981[tiab] OR CI981[tiab] OR lipibec[tiab] OR Lipitor[tiab] OR lipimar[tiab] OR liptonorm[tiab] OR lowlipen[tiab] OR sortis[tiab] OR storvas[tiab] OR tahor[tiab] OR torvast[tiab] OR totalip[tiab] OR xarator[tiab] OR ym 548[tiab] OR ym548 [tiab] OR zarator[tiab]  | 8707  |
| 14 | "pitavastatin" [Supplementary Concept] OR Livalo[tiab] OR Pitavastatin[tiab] OR itavastatin[tiab] OR nisvastatin[tiab] OR NK-104[tiab] OR P-872441[tiab]   | 841   |
| 15 | "Lovastatin"[Mesh] OR Mevacor[tiab] OR Lovastatin[tiab] OR Mevinolin[tiab] OR Monacolin K[tiab] OR 6-Methylcompactin[tiab] OR MK-803[tiab] OR MK803[tiab]  | 11816 |
| 16 | Pravachol[tiab] OR Pravastatin[tiab] OR Eptastatin[tiab] OR Vasten[tiab] OR CS-514[tiab] OR CS514[tiab] OR Lipemol[tiab] OR Liplat[tiab] OR Prareduct[tiab] OR Mevalotin[tiab] OR Pravachol[tiab] OR Elisor[tiab] OR Selektine[tiab] OR Lipostat[tiab] OR Pravasin[tiab] OR RMS-431[tiab] OR RMS431[tiab] OR SQ-31000[tiab] OR SQ31000[tiab] OR SQ-31,000[tiab] OR SQ31,000[tiab] OR Bristacol[tiab] | 3935  |
| 17 | ((("Niacin"[Mesh] OR niacin[tiab]) AND ("Simvastatin"[Mesh] OR Simvastatin[tiab] OR denan[tiab] OR Epistatin[tiab] OR Synvinolin[tiab] OR I 644128[tiab] OR I644128[tiab] OR Lipex[tiab] OR Lipovas[tiab] OR Lodaes[tiab] OR Medipo[tiab] OR MK-733[tiab] OR MK733[tiab] OR Sinvacor[tiab] OR Vasilip[tiab] OR Zocor[tiab] OR Zocord[tiab]))) OR ("Simcor" [Supplementary Concept] OR Simcor[tiab])  | 217   |
| 18 | Simvastatin[Mesh] OR Simvastatin[tiab] OR denan[tiab] OR Epistatin[tiab] OR Synvinolin[tiab] OR I 644128[tiab] OR I644128[tiab] OR Lipex[tiab] OR Lipovas[tiab] OR Lodaes[tiab] OR Medipo[tiab] OR MK-733[tiab] OR MK733[tiab] OR Sinvacor[tiab] OR Vasilip[tiab] OR Zocor[tiab] OR Zocord[tiab])  | 10045 |
| 19 | OR/4-18  | 57412 |
| 20 | 1 AND 19   | 2279  |
| 21 | 2 OR 3   | 179   |

|    |  |      |
|----|--|------|
| 22 | 20 OR 21   | 2285 |
| 23 | ("Animals"[Mesh]) NOT (("Animals"[Mesh]) AND "Humans"[Mesh])   |      |
| 24 | 22 NOT 23  |      |
| 25 | English[Language]  |      |
| 26 | 24 AND 25  |      |
| 27 | (((((("Clinical Study" [Publication Type] OR "Cohort Studies"[Mesh] OR "Multicenter Study" [Publication Type] OR "Clinical Trials as Topic"[Mesh] OR "Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic"[Mesh] OR "Random Allocation"[Mesh] OR "Double-Blind Method"[Mesh] OR "Single-Blind Method"[Mesh] OR "Placebos"[Mesh])) OR (placebo*[tiab] OR dumm*[tiab] OR mock[tiab] OR sham[tiab])) OR ((singl*[tiab] OR doubl*[tiab] OR treb*[tiab] OR tripl*[tiab]) AND (blind*[tiab] OR mask*[tiab]))) OR (clinical[tiab] AND trial*[tiab])) OR ((random*[tiab] OR RCT[tiab] OR RCTs[tiab]))) OR (prospective*[tiab] OR retrospective*[tiab]) |      |
| 28 | 26 AND 27  | 1254 |

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**Supplemental Table S2** Search strategy for EMBASE via OvidSP (date of search: August 30, 2018; EMBASE segment used: 1974 to August 28, 2018)

| #  | Search string  | Results |
|----|--|---------|
| 1  | exp Ezetimibe/ or (Ezetimibe or ezetib or ezetimibe or ezetrol or sch 58235 or sch58235 or viemm or zetia or zient).ti,ab,kw.  | 9307    |
| 2  | exp ezetimibe plus simvastatin/ or (Inegy or Vytorin or Zetsim or Zintrepid).ti,ab,kw.   | 1311    |
| 3  | exp atorvastatin plus ezetimibe/ or liptruzet.ti,ab,kw.  | 71      |
| 4  | exp ezetimibe plus rosuvastatin/   | 37      |
| 5  | exp hydroxymethylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase inhibitor/ or (Hydroxymethylglutaryl-CoA Reductase Inhibit\$ or Statin or Statins or HMG-CoA).ti,ab.  | 142372  |
| 6  | exp rosuvastatin/ or (Rosuvastatin or Crestor or ZD4522 or ZD 4522).ti,ab,kw.  | 13372   |
| 7  | exp lovastatin plus nicotinic acid/ or Advicor.ti,ab,kw.   | 151     |
| 8  | ((niacin or nicotinic acid) and (lovastatin or Mevacor or Mevinolin or Monacolin K or 6-Methylcompactin or MK-803 or MK803)).ti,ab,kw.   | 207     |
| 9  | exp amlodipine plus atorvastatin/ or Caduet.ti,ab,kw.  | 255     |
| 10 | ((Amlodipine or Amlodis or Astudal or Norvasc or Istin or Amlor) and (Atorvastatin or Cardyl or CI 981 or CI981 or lipibec or Lipitor or lipimar or liptonorm or lowlipen or sortis or storvas or tahor or torvast or totalip or xarator or ym 548 or ym548 or zarator)).ti,ab,kw. | 382     |
| 11 | exp simvastatin plus sitagliptin/ or Juvisync.ti,ab,kw.  | 26      |

|    |   |        |
|----|---|--------|
| 12 | ((Sitagliptin or MK0431 MK-0431 or Januvia) and (Simvastatin or denan or Epistatin or Synvinolin or I 644128 or I644128 or Lipex or Lipovas or Lodaless or Medipo or MK-733 or MK733 or Sinvacor or Vasilip or Zocor or Zocord)).ti,ab,kw.                              | 50     |
| 13 | exp nicotinic acid plus simvastatin/ or Simcor.ti,ab,kw.  | 112    |
| 14 | ((niacin or nicotinic acid) and (Simvastatin or denan or Epistatin or Synvinolin or I 644128 or I644128 or Lipex or Lipovas or Lodaless or Medipo or MK-733 or MK733 or Sinvacor or Vasilip or Zocor or Zocord)).ti,ab,kw.  | 352    |
| 15 | exp mevinolin/ or (Altoprev or Mevacor or Lovastatin or Mevinolin or Monacolin K or 6-Methylcompactin or MK-803 or MK803).ti,ab,kw.   | 15621  |
| 16 | exp rosuvastatin/ or (Rosuvastatin or Crestor or ZD4522 or ZD 4522).ti,ab,kw.   | 13372  |
| 17 | exp fluindostatin/ or (Lescol or Fluvastatin or Fluindostatin or XU 62-320 or XU-62320 or XU 62320).ti,ab,kw.   | 8973   |
| 18 | exp atorvastatin/ or (Atorvastatin or Cardyl or CI 981 or C1981 or lipibec or Lipitor or liprimar or liptonorm or lowlipen or sortis or storvas or tahor or torvast or totalip or xarator or ym 548 or ym548 or zarator).ti,ab,kw.                                      | 34087  |
| 19 | exp pitavastatin/ or (Livalo or Pitavastatin or itavastatin or nisvastatin or NK-104 or P-872441).ti,ab,kw.   | 2782   |
| 20 | exp pravastatin/ or (Pravachol or Pravastatin or Eptastatin or Vasten or CS-514 or CS514 or Lipemol or Liplat or Prareduct or Mevalotin or Pravachol or Elisor or Selektine or Lipostat or Pravasin or RMS-431 or RMS431 or SQ-31000 or SQ31000 or Bristacol).ti,ab,kw. | 19272  |
| 21 | exp simvastatin/ or (Simvastatin or denan or Epistatin or Synvinolin or I 644128 or I644128 or Lipex or Lipovas or Lodaless or Medipo or MK-733 or MK733 or Sinvacor or Vasilip or Zocor or Zocord).ti,ab,kw.   | 35662  |
| 22 | or/5-21   | 143668 |
| 23 | 1 and 22  | 7888   |
| 24 | or/2-4  | 1390   |
| 25 | 23 or 24  | 8365   |

|    |  |          |
|----|--|----------|
| 26 | (exp animal/ or nonhuman/) not exp human/  | 5873750  |
| 27 | 25 not 26  | 8246     |
| 28 | english.lg.  | 26219773 |
| 29 | 27 and 28  | 7655     |
| 30 | (book or chapter or "conference review" or editorial or note or press or "review" or short or short survey or survey).pt.  | 4225835  |
| 31 | 29 not 30  | 4604     |
| 32 | exp case report/ or exp *practice guideline/ or (review or meta-analysis or meta-analyses or metaanalysis or metaanalyses or case report or systematic review).ti. | 2769453  |
| 33 | 31 not 32  | 4028     |
| 34 | (article or article in press or conference paper).pt.  | 20646523 |
| 35 | 33 and 34  | 2842     |
| 36 | exp Comparative study/ or exp Controlled study/ or exp Clinical study/ or "clinical trial (topic)"/ or "multicenter study (topic)"/                                | 12800633 |
| 37 | exp randomization/ or exp double blind procedure/  | 227262   |
| 38 | exp placebo/ or (placebo\$ or dumm\$ or mock or sham).ti,ab.   | 533433   |
| 39 | ((singl\$ or doubl\$ or treb\$ or tripl\$) and (blind\$ or mask\$)).ti,ab.   | 241545   |
| 40 | (clinical and trial\$).ti,ab.  | 652072   |
| 41 | (random\$ or RCT or RCTs).ti,ab.   | 1330744  |



|    |   |          |
|----|---|----------|
| 42 | (prospective\$ or retrospective\$).ti,ab.   | 1814539  |
| 43 | or/36-42  | 13833697 |
| 44 | 35 and 43   | 2344     |
| 45 | (aace or american college of cardiology or american diabetes or american heart or amcp or aha or Deutsche Gesellschaft or European Atherosclerosis Society or eas or easd or European Association for the Study of Diabetes or European Society of Cardiology or EuroPCR or International Diabetes Federation or idf or ispor or nla or national lipid or tct or Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics).cf. | 194460   |
| 46 | 33 and 45   | 560      |
| 47 | limit 46 to yr="2015 -Current"  | 239      |
| 48 | 44 or 47  | 2583     |
| 49 | remove duplicates from 48   | 2548     |

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*RCT* randomized controlled trial

**Supplemental Table S3** Search strategy for The Cochrane Library (date of search: August 30, 2018)

| #  | Search string  | Results |
|----|--|---------|
| 1  | MeSH descriptor: [Ezetimibe] explode all trees   | 603     |
| 2  | (Ezetimibe or ezetib or ezetimibe or ezetrol or sch 58235 or sch58235 or viemm or zetia or zient):ti,ab,kw   | 1261    |
| 3  | #1 OR #2   | 1261    |
| 4  | MeSH descriptor: [Ezetimibe, Simvastatin Drug Combination] explode all trees   | 74      |
| 5  | (Inegy or Vytorin or Zetsim or Zintrepid OR liptruzet):ti,ab,kw  | 67      |
| 6  | #4 OR #5   | 118     |
| 7  | MeSH descriptor: [Hydroxymethylglutaryl-CoA Reductase Inhibitors] explode all trees  | 3179    |
| 8  | (Hydroxymethylglutaryl-CoA Reductase Inhibit\$ or Statin or Statins or HMG-CoA):ti,ab,kw   | 6744    |
| 9  | (Rosuvastatin or Crestor or ZD4522 or ZD 4522):ti,ab,kw  | 1902    |
| 10 | (Atoprev or Mevacor or Lovastatin or Mevinolin or MK-803 or MK803):ti,ab,kw  | 920     |
| 11 | (Lescol or Fluvastatin or Fluindostatin):ti,ab,kw  | 670     |
| 12 | (Atorvastatin or Cardyl or lipibec or Lipitor or lipimar or liptonorm or lowlipen or sortis or storvas or tahor or torvast or totalip or xarator or zarator):ti,ab,kw                                  | 4314    |
| 13 | (Livalo or Pitavastatin or itavastatin or nisvastatin):ti,ab,kw  | 339     |
| 14 | (Pravachol or Pravastatin or Eptastatin or Vasten or CS-514 or CS514 or Lipemol or Liplat or Prareduct or Mevalotin or Pravachol or Elisor or Selektine or Lipostat or Pravasin or Bristacol):ti,ab,kw | 1723    |

|    |  |       |
|----|--|-------|
| 15 | (Simvastatin or denan or Epistatin or Synvinolin or I644128 or Lipex or Lipovas or Lodaes or Medipo or MK-733 or MK733 or Sinvacor or Vasilip or Zocor or Zocord):ti,ab,kw | 3190  |
| 16 | MeSH descriptor: [Lovastatin] explode all trees  | 1948  |
| 17 | MeSH descriptor: [Rosuvastatin Calcium] explode all trees  | 885   |
| 18 | MeSH descriptor: [Atorvastatin Calcium] explode all trees  | 2028  |
| 19 | MeSH descriptor: [Pravastatin] explode all trees   | 957   |
| 20 | MeSH descriptor: [Simvastatin] explode all trees   | 1604  |
| 21 | (Advicor or Caduet or Juvisync or Simcor):ti,ab,kw   | 24    |
| 22 | [1-#21]  | 12948 |
| 23 | #3 AND #22   | 1100  |
| 24 | #6 OR #23  | 1104  |
| 25 | #24 in Trials (Word variations have been searched)   | 1102  |
| 26 | #25 NOT (embase or medline or pubmed or clinicaltrials.gov)  | 67    |

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*MeSH* Medical Subject Heading

**Supplemental Table S4** Two-arm studies identified from the literature review and justification recorded for inclusion/exclusion in analyses

| Study reference (trial name)   | Ezetimibe group                 | Comparator       | Analysis intervention | Analysis comparator | Included in analyses?  |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--|
| Cannon CP et al. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2015;372:2387–2397. (IMPROVE-IT) | EZE 10 mg QD + SIM 40–80 mg QD  | SIM 40–80 mg QD  | EZE + SIM             | SIM                 | Yes  |
| Farnier M et al. <i>Int J Cardiol.</i> 2005;102:327-332.               | EZE 10 mg QD + SIM 2 mg QD      | SIM 2 mg QD      | EZE + SIM             | SIM                 | No: % change in LDL-C reported; not compatible with mean change in LDL-C |
| Hibi K et al. <i>Circ J.</i> 2018;82:757–766.                          | EZE 10 mg QD + PITA 2 mg QD     | PITA 2 mg QD     | EZE + PITA            | PITA                | Yes  |
| Joshi S et al. <i>J Clin Diagn Res.</i> 2017;11:OC28–OC31.             | EZE 10 mg QD + ROSU 10 mg QD    | ROSU 10 mg QD    | EZE + ROSU            | ROSU                | Yes  |
| Masuda J et al 2015. <i>Int Heart J.</i> 2015;56:278–285.              | EZE 10 mg QD + ROSU 5 mg QD     | ROSU 5 mg QD     | EZE + ROSU            | ROSU                | Yes  |
| Ren Y et al. <i>Exp Ther Med.</i> 2017;14:4942–4950.                   | EZE 10 mg QD + ROSU 10 mg QD    | ROSU 10 mg QD    | EZE + ROSU            | ROSU                | Yes  |
| Ueda Y et al. <i>Circ J.</i> 2017;81:1611–1619. (ZIPANGU)              | EZE 10 mg QD + ATOR 10–20 mg QD | ATOR 10–20 mg QD | EZE + ATOR            | ATOR                | Yes  |
| Wang J et al. <i>Int Angiol.</i> 2017;36:467–473.                      | EZE 10 mg QD + ATOR 20 mg QD    | ATOR 20 mg QD    | EZE + ATOR            | ATOR                | Yes  |

|  |                                 |               |            |      |     |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------|------------|------|-----|
| Wang X et al. <i>Heart Lung Circ.</i> 2016;25:459–465. | EZE 10 mg QD +<br>ROSU 10 mg QD | ROSU 10 mg QD | EZE + ROSU | ROSU | Yes |
| Zou YC et al. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2016;64:S328.   | EZE 10 mg QD +<br>ATOR 10 mg QD | ATOR 10 mg QD | EZE + ATOR | ATOR | Yes |

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*ALI* alirocumab, *ATOR* atorvastatin, *EZE* ezetimibe, *MTD* maximum tolerated dose, *NA* not applicable, *PBO* placebo, *PITA* pitavastatin, *PRA* pravastatin, *QD* daily, *ROSU* rosuvastatin, *SIM* simvastatin

**Supplemental Table S5** Multi-arm studies identified from the literature review and justification recorded for inclusion/exclusion in analyses

| Study reference (study name)                                       | Group name                     | Analysis name | Included in analyses?  |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Brohet C et al. <i>Curr Med Res Opin.</i> 2005;21:571–578.         | EZE 10 mg QD + SIM 10/20 mg QD | EZE + SIM     | Yes  |
|  | SIM 10/20 mg QD                | SIM           |  |
|  | EZE 10 mg QD + SIM 10 mg QD    | EZE + SIM     | No: outcome not reported   |
|  | SIM 10 mg QD                   | SIM           |  |
|  | EZE 10 mg QD + SIM 20 mg QD    | EZE + SIM     |  |
|  | SIM 20 mg QD                   | SIM           |  |
| Cruz-Fernández JM et al. <i>Int J Clin Pract.</i> 2005;59:619–627. | EZE 10 mg QD + ATOR 10 mg QD   | EZE + ATOR    | No: % change in LDL-C reported; not compatible with mean change in LDL-C |
|  | ATOR 10 mg QD                  | ATOR          |  |
|  | EZE 10 mg QD + ATOR 20 mg QD   | EZE + ATOR    |  |
|  | ATOR 20 mg QD                  | ATOR          |  |
| Ran D et al. <i>Int J Cardiol.</i> 2017;235:49–55.                 | EZE 10 mg QD + ROSU 10 mg QD   | EZE + ROSU    | Yes  |
|  | ROSU 10 mg QD                  | ROSU          | No: incomparable intervention  |
|  | ROSU 20 mg QD                  | ROSU          |  |

|  |                             |           |                               |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| West AM et al. <i>Atherosclerosis</i> .<br>2011;218;156–162. | EZE 10 mg QD + SIM 40 mg QD | EZE + SIM | Yes                           |
|  | SIM 40 mg QD                | SIM       |                               |
|  | EZE 10 mg QD                | EZE       | No: incomparable intervention |

*ATOR* atorvastatin, *EZE* ezetimibe, *NA* not applicable, *QD* daily, *PS* plant sterols, *ROSU* rosuvastatin.

**Supplemental Table S6** Cardiovascular history as defined within each included study

| <b>Study reference</b>                                     | <b>Cardiovascular inclusion criterion</b> | <b>Study definition</b>   |
|--|---|---|
| Brohet C et al. <i>Curr Med Res Opin.</i> 2005;21:571–578. | CHD                                       | NR  |
| Cannon CP et al. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2015;372:2387–2397.  | ACS                                       | ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction; non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction, unstable angina   |
| Hibi K et al. <i>Circ J.</i> 2018;82:757–766.              | ACS                                       | Unstable angina pectoris, non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction, ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction  |
| Joshi S et al. <i>J Clin Diagn Res.</i> 2017;11:OC28–OC31. | CAD                                       | CAD was diagnosed on the basis of clinical history and electrocardiography (ECG) changes (ST depression/elevation, T wave inversion)  |
| Masuda J et al 2015. <i>Int Heart J.</i> 2015;56:278–285.  | CAD                                       | Clinically stable angina pectoris undergoing elective PCI   |
| Ran D et al. <i>Int J Cardiol.</i> 2017;235:49–55.         | ACS                                       | Non-ST-segment elevation ACS (including unstable angina and non-ST-elevation myocardial infarction) undergoing PCI  |
| Ren Y et al. <i>Exp Ther Med.</i> 2017;14:4942–4950.       | AMI                                       | Hospitalized within preceding 24 hours for AMI, including ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) with or without non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI). STEMI was defined as an AMI with dynamic changes in the electrocardiogram and at least one instance of elevated levels of cardiac enzymes or myocardial necrosis biomarkers, defined as total creatine phosphokinase or creatine kinase major basic fraction >2-fold the upper limit of the normal range and/or positive troponin I or troponin T |
| Ueda Y et al. <i>Circ J.</i> 2017;81:1611–1619.            | CAD                                       | Patients with stable CAD who underwent elective PCI and had yellow plaques ( $\geq 1$ yellow plaque of grade $\geq 2$ )   |



|  |             |   |
|--|-------------|---|
| Wang J et al. <i>Int Angiol.</i> 2017;36:467–473.        | CAS, CHD    | Patients with CAS confirmed by ultrasound and with type 2 diabetes mellitus and CHD. CHD defined as at least one major coronary artery stenosis rate heavier than 50% in coronary angiography |
| Wang X et al. <i>Heart Lung Circ.</i> 2016;25:459–465.   | CHD         | Atherosclerotic lesions identified by coronary angiography near the middle of the coronary arteries (borderline lesions, 40–70% stenosis; severe lesions, >75% stenosis)                      |
| West AM et al. <i>Atherosclerosis.</i> 2011;218;156–162. | PAD         | NR  |
| Zou YC et al. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2016;64:S328.     | CAS and CHD | NR  |

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ACS acute coronary syndrome, AMI acute myocardial infarction, CAS carotid atherosclerosis, CAD coronary artery disease, CHD coronary heart disease, NR not reported, PAD peripheral arterial disease, PCI percutaneous coronary intervention

**Supplemental Table S7** LDL-C outcomes reported in included studies

| Study reference trial name (trial number)   | Treatment arms                 | Number of patients | Timepoint             | LDL-C outcome                  | LDL-C value        |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Brohet C et al. <i>Curr Med Res Opin.</i> 2005;21:571–578.                            | EZE 10 mg QD + SIM 10/20 mg QD | 204                | Baseline to 6 weeks   | % change from baseline         | -27.1              |
|   |                                |                    | 6 weeks               | Mean (SD)                      | 88.6 (19.7) mg/dL  |
|   | SIM 10/20 mg QD                | 207                | Baseline to 6 weeks   | % change from baseline         | -4.1               |
|   |                                |                    | 6 weeks               | Mean (SD)                      | 117.2 (17.8) mg/dL |
| Cannon CP et al. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2015;372:2387–2397.<br>IMPROVE-IT (NCT00202878) | EZE 10 mg QD + SIM 40–80 mg QD | 9067               | 1 year                | Mean                           | 53.2 mg/dL         |
|   | SIM 40–80 mg QD                | 9077               | 1 year                | Mean                           | 69.9 mg/dL         |
| Hibi K et al. <i>Circ J.</i> 2018;82:757–766. (NCT00549926)                           | EZE 10 mg QD + PITA 2 mg QD    | 50                 | Baseline to 10 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -58 (27) mg/dL     |
|   |                                |                    | 10 months             | % change from baseline         | -45.7              |
|   | PITA 2 mg QD                   | 53                 | Baseline to 10 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -40 (31) mg/dL     |
|   |                                |                    | 10 months             | % change from baseline         | -28.8              |

|   |                              |    |                      |  |                    |
|---|------------------------------|----|----------------------|--|--------------------|
|   |                              |    | 10 months            | Mean (SD)                              | 87 (21) mg/dL      |
| Joshi S et al. <i>J Clin Diagn Res.</i> 2017;11:OC28–OC31.                | EZE 10 mg QD + ROSU 10 mg QD | 40 | Baseline to 12 weeks | % change from baseline                 | -53.7              |
|   |                              |    | 12 weeks             | Mean (SD)                              | 76.8 (10.1) mg/dL  |
|   |                              |    | Baseline to 24 weeks | % change from baseline                 | -57.4              |
|   |                              |    | 24 weeks             | Mean (SD)                              | 70.6 (9.0) mg/dL   |
|   | ROSU 10 mg QD                | 40 | Baseline to 12 weeks | % change from baseline                 | -41.1              |
|   |                              |    | 12 weeks             | Mean (SD)                              | 90.4 (17.9) mg/dL  |
|   |                              |    | Baseline to 24 weeks | % change from baseline                 | -45.5              |
|   |                              |    | 24 weeks             | Mean (SD)                              | 83.2 (14.0) mg/dL  |
| Masuda J et al 2015. <i>Int Heart J.</i> 2015;56:278–285. (UMIN000010323) | EZE 10 mg QD + ROSU 5 mg QD  | 21 | Baseline to 6 months | % (SD) change from baseline            | -55.8 (18.9)       |
|   |                              |    | Baseline to 6 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | -74.5 (23.4) mg/dL |
|   |                              |    | 6 months             | Mean (SD)                              | 57.3 (20.2) mg/dL  |
|   | ROSU 5 mg QD                 | 19 | Baseline to 6 months | % (SD) change from baseline            | -36.8 (18.9)       |
|   |                              |    | Baseline to 6 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | -47.9 (24.7) mg/dL |
|   |                              |    | 6 months             | Mean (SD)                              | 75.1 (21.4) mg/dL  |
| Ran D et al. <i>Int J Cardiol.</i>  | EZE 10 mg QD + ROSU 10 mg QD | 42 | Baseline to 4 weeks  | % change from baseline (adjusted mean) | -50.3              |

2017;235:49–55.

|               |    |                      |  |                  |
|---------------|----|----------------------|--|------------------|
|               |    | Baseline to 4 weeks  | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | –72 (23.5) mg/dL |
|               |    | 4 weeks              | Mean (SD)                              | 69 (16) mg/dL    |
|               |    | Baseline to 12 weeks | % change from baseline (adjusted mean) | –67.3            |
|               |    | Baseline to 12 weeks | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | –95 (23.5) mg/dL |
|               |    | 12 weeks             | Mean (SD)                              | 46 (17) mg/dL    |
| ROSU 10 mg QD | 42 | Baseline to 4 weeks  | % change from baseline (adjusted mean) | –29.0            |
|               |    | Baseline to 4 weeks  | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | –43 (28.9) mg/dL |
|               |    | 4 weeks              | Mean (SD)                              | 98 (21) mg/dL    |
|               |    | Baseline to 12 weeks | % change from baseline (adjusted mean) | –43.9            |
|               |    | Baseline to 12 weeks | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | –64 (28.6) mg/dL |
|               |    | 12 weeks             | Mean (SD)                              | 77 (17) mg/dL    |
| ROSU 20 mg QD | 41 | Baseline to 4 weeks  | % change from baseline (adjusted mean) | –37.9            |
|               |    | Baseline to 4 weeks  | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | –56 mg/dL        |

|  |                              |          |                      |  |                    |
|--|------------------------------|----------|----------------------|--|--------------------|
|  |                              |          | 4 weeks              | Mean (SD)                              | 85 (21) mg/dL      |
|  |                              |          | Baseline to 12 weeks | % change from baseline (adjusted mean) | -52.8              |
|  |                              |          | Baseline to 12 weeks | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | -77 mg/dL          |
|  |                              |          | 12 weeks             | Mean (SD)                              | 64 (15) mg/dL      |
| Ren Y et al. <i>Exp Ther Med.</i> 2017;14:4942-4950. | EZE 10 mg QD + ROSU 10 mg QD | 54       | Baseline to 1 month  | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | -59.2 (38.3) mg/dL |
|  |                              | 53       | Baseline to 3 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | -63.8 (33.6) mg/dL |
|  |                              | 51       | Baseline to 6 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | -68.1 (34.4) mg/dL |
|  |                              | 50       | Baseline to 1 year   | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | -70.0 (34.0) mg/dL |
|  | 54                           | 1 month  | Mean (SD)            | 57.1 (27.0) mg/dL                      |                    |
|  | 53                           | 3 months | Mean (SD)            | 52.2 (23.6) mg/dL                      |                    |
|  | 51                           | 6 months | Mean (SD)            | 48.0 (18.6) mg/dL                      |                    |
|  | 50                           | 1 year   | Mean (SD)            | 46.0 (16.6) mg/dL                      |                    |
|  | ROSU 10 mg QD                | 57       | Baseline to 1 month  | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | -45.6 (25.9) mg/dL |
|  |                              | 55       | Baseline to 3 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline         | -51.8 (31.3) mg/dL |

|   |                                 |    |                       |                                |                    |
|---|---------------------------------|----|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
|   |                                 | 54 | Baseline to 6 months  | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -54.5 (32.1) mg/dL |
|   |                                 | 53 | Baseline to 1 year    | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -55.7 (37.9) mg/dL |
|   |                                 | 57 | 1 month               | Mean (SD)                      | 68.1 (30.2) mg/dL  |
|   |                                 | 55 | 3 months              | Mean (SD)                      | 61.9 (19.7) mg/dL  |
|   |                                 | 54 | 6 months              | Mean (SD)                      | 58.8 (16.2) mg/dL  |
|   |                                 | 53 | 1 year                | Mean (SD)                      | 57.6 (19.7) mg/dL  |
| Ueda Y et al. <i>Circ J.</i> 2017;81:1611–1619. ZIPANGU (UMIN000006971) | EZE 10 mg QD + ATOR 10–20 mg QD | 54 | 1 month               | Mean (SD)                      | 61 (16) mg/dL      |
|   |                                 |    | 3 months              | Mean (SD)                      | 63 (14) mg/dL      |
|   |                                 |    | 9 months              | Mean (SD)                      | 61 (17) mg/dL      |
|   | ATOR 10–20 mg QD                | 54 | 1 month               | Mean (SD)                      | 81 (19) mg/dL      |
|   |                                 |    | 3 months              | Mean (SD)                      | 77 (19) mg/dL      |
|   |                                 |    | 9 months              | Mean (SD)                      | 75 (16) mg/dL      |
| Wang J et al. <i>Int Angiol.</i> 2017;36:467–473.                       | EZE 10 mg QD + ATOR 20 mg QD    | 51 | Baseline to 12 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -71.9 (29.0) mg/dL |
|   |                                 |    | 12 months             | Mean (SD)                      | 64.6 (16.6) mg/dL  |
|   | ATOR 20 mg QD                   | 49 | Baseline to 12 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -54.5 (25.9) mg/dL |
|   |                                 |    | 12 months             | Mean (SD)                      | 78.9 (20.9) mg/dL  |

|  |                                 |    |                       |                                |                    |
|--|---------------------------------|----|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Wang X et al. <i>Heart Lung Circ.</i> 2016;25:459–465.                 | EZE 10 mg QD +<br>ROSU 10 mg QD | 50 | Baseline to 1 month   | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -22.0 (40.2) mg/dL |
|  |                                 |    | Baseline to 6 months  | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -64.6 (39.4) mg/dL |
|  |                                 |    | Baseline to 12 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -87.0 (40.6) mg/dL |
|  |                                 |    | 1 month               | Mean (SD)                      | 117.9 (30.5) mg/dL |
|  |                                 |    | 6 months              | Mean (SD)                      | 75.4 (23.6) mg/dL  |
|  |                                 |    | 12 months             | Mean (SD)                      | 53.0 (32.1) mg/dL  |
|  | ROSU 10 mg QD                   | 48 | Baseline to 1 month   | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -14.3 (43.3) mg/dL |
|  |                                 |    | Baseline to 6 months  | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -42.5 (43.7) mg/dL |
|  |                                 |    | Baseline to 12 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -63.0 (42.5) mg/dL |
|  |                                 |    | 1 month               | Mean (SD)                      | 120.3 (33.3) mg/dL |
|  |                                 |    | 6 months              | Mean (SD)                      | 92.0 (35.2) mg/dL  |
|  |                                 |    | 12 months             | Mean (SD)                      | 71.5 (30.5) mg/dL  |
| West AM et al. <i>Atherosclerosis.</i> 2011;218:156–162. (NCT00587678) | EZE 10 mg QD                    | 33 | 1 year                | Mean (SD)                      | 79 (33) mg/dL      |
|  |                                 |    | 2 years               | Mean (SD)                      | 78 (27) mg/dL      |
|  | EZE 10 mg QD +                  | 18 | 1 year                | Mean (SD)                      | 67 (31) mg/dL      |

|  |                              |    |                       |                                |                     |
|--|------------------------------|----|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
|  | SIM 40 mg QD                 |    | 2 years               | Mean (SD)                      | 68 (49) mg/dL       |
|  | SIM 40 mg QD                 | 16 | 1 year                | Mean (SD)                      | 91 (32) mg/dL       |
|  |                              |    | 2 years               | Mean (SD)                      | 85 (29) mg/dL       |
| Zou YC et al. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2016;64:S328. | EZE 10 mg QD + ATOR 10 mg QD | 40 | Baseline to 12 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -114.0 (21.6) mg/dL |
|  | ATOR 10 mg QD                | 40 | Baseline to 12 months | Mean (SD) change from baseline | -78.5 (21.6) mg/dL  |

*ATOR* atorvastatin, *EZE* ezetimibe, *LDL-C* low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, *NR* not reported, *QD* daily, *PITA* pitavastatin, *ROSU* rosuvastatin, *SD* standard deviation, *SIM* simvastatin



**Supplemental Table S8.** Quality appraisal checklist<sup>a</sup>

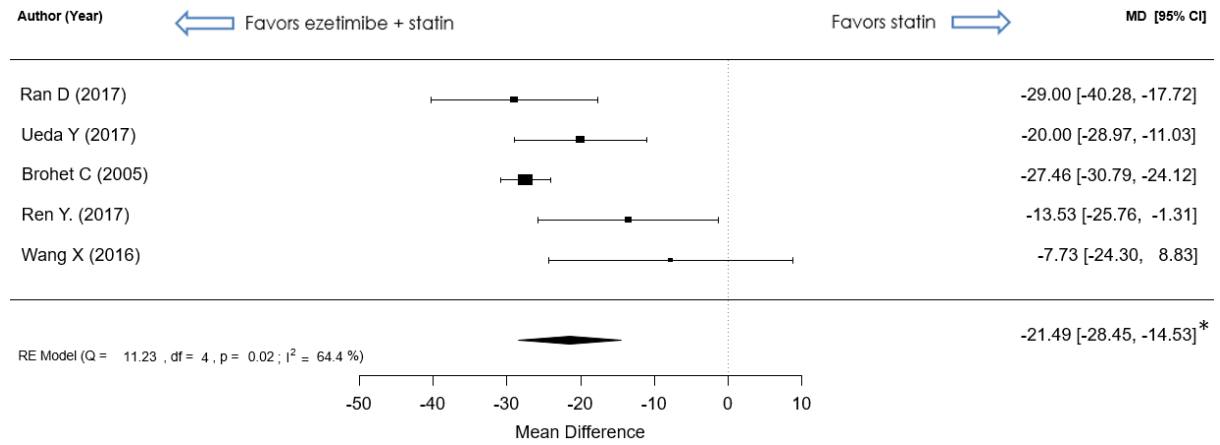
| Study reference<br>(trial name)  | Selection bias             |                        | Performance bias                       | Detection bias                 | Attrition bias          | Reporting bias      | Other bias            |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
|  | Random sequence generation | Allocation concealment | Blinding of participants and personnel | Blinding of outcome assessment | Incomplete outcome data | Selective reporting | Other sources of bias |
| Brohet C et al. <i>Curr Med Res Opin.</i> 2005;21:571–578.             | Low                        | Unclear                | Low                                    | Unclear                        | Unclear                 | Low                 | Unclear               |
| Cannon CP et al. <i>N Engl J Med.</i> 2015;372:2387–2397. (IMPROVE-IT) | Unclear                    | Unclear                | Unclear                                | Unclear                        | Low                     | Low                 | Low                   |
| Hibi K et al. <i>Circ J.</i> 2018;82:757–766. (NCT00549926)            | Low                        | Unclear                | High                                   | Low                            | High                    | Low                 | Unclear               |
| Joshi S et al. <i>J Clin Diagn Res.</i> 2017;11:OC28–OC31.             | Low                        | Unclear                | Unclear                                | Unclear                        | Unclear                 | High                | Unclear               |
| Masuda J et al 2015. <i>Int Heart J.</i> 2015;56:278–285. (NR)         | Low                        | Low                    | High                                   | High                           | Low                     | Low                 | Low                   |
| Ran D et al. <i>Int J Cardiol.</i> 2017;235:49–55.                     | Low                        | Unclear                | High                                   | Unclear                        | Unclear                 | Low                 | Unclear               |
| Ren Y et al. <i>Exp Ther Med.</i> 2017;14:4942–4950.                   | Low                        | Unclear                | Unclear                                | Unclear                        | Low                     | Low                 | Unclear               |

|   |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Ueda Y et al. <i>Circ J.</i> 2017;81:1611–1619. ZIPANGU (UMIN000006971) | Low     | Unclear | High    | Low     | Low     | High    | High    |
| Wang J et al. <i>Int Angiol.</i> 2017;36:467–473.                       | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear | Low     | Unclear | Unclear |
| Wang X et al. <i>Heart Lung Circ.</i> 2016;25:459–465.                  | Low     | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear | Low     | Unclear | Unclear |
| West AM et al. <i>Atherosclerosis.</i> 2011;218:156–162. (NCT00587678)  | Low     | Unclear | Low     | Low     | Low     | Low     | Unclear |
| Zou YC et al. <i>J Am Geriatr Soc.</i> 2016;64:S328.                    | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear |

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<sup>a</sup>The Cochrane Collaboration Risk of Bias Assessment Tool for systematic reviews [13] to evaluate seven domains of bias was used

**Supplemental Fig. S1** Treatment difference in LDL-C change (mg/dL) from baseline between combination ezetimibe plus statin therapy and statin monotherapy comparator at 1 month<sup>a</sup>

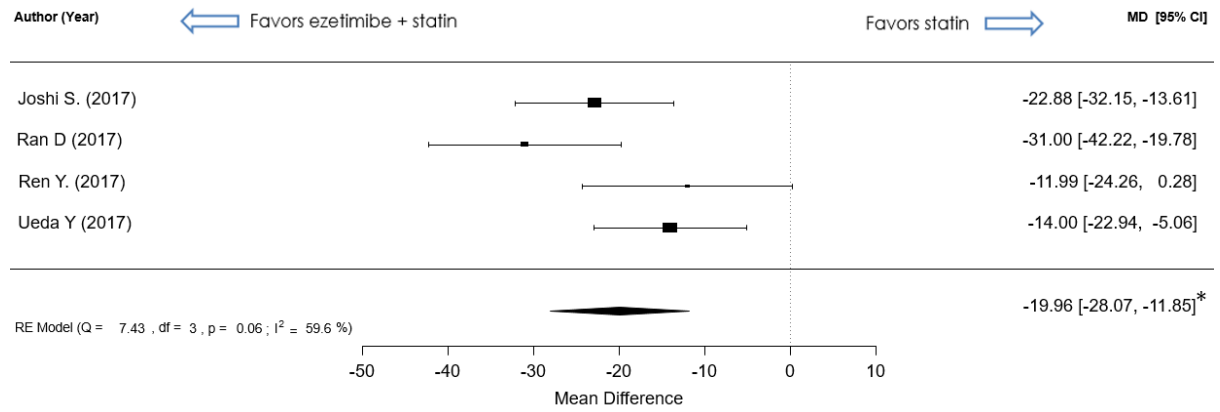


CI confidence interval, LDL-C low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, MD mean difference, RE random effects

<sup>a</sup>Meta-analysis included 812 participants from five studies, who received treatment (ezetimibe + statin vs statin) for a mean duration of 1.18 months

\* $p < 0.0001$

**Supplemental Fig. S2** Treatment difference in LDL-C change (mg/dL) from baseline between combination ezetimibe plus statin therapy and statin monotherapy comparator at 3 months<sup>a</sup>

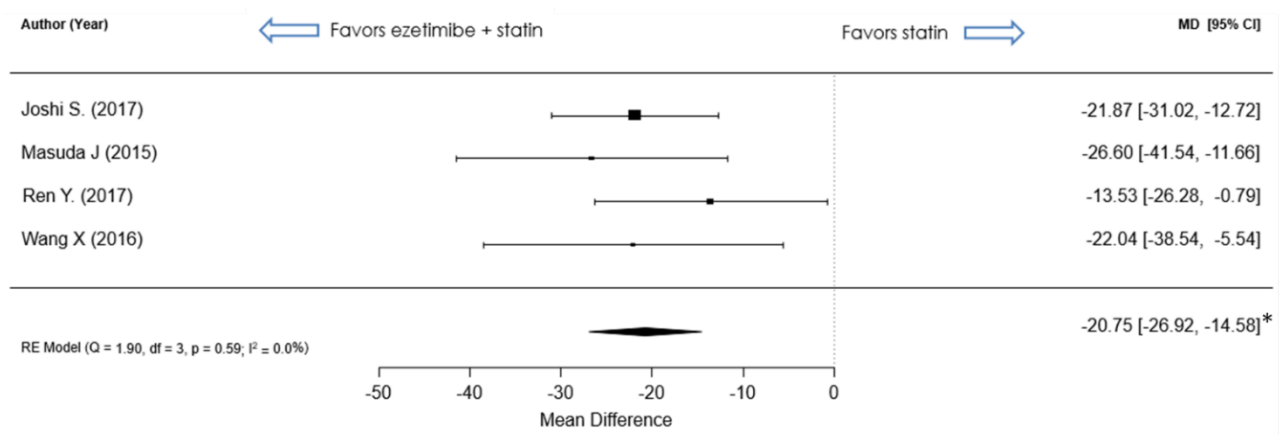


CI confidence interval, LDL-C low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, MD mean difference, RE random effects

<sup>a</sup>Meta-analysis included 380 participants from four studies, who received treatment (ezetimibe plus statin vs statin) for a mean duration of 2.90 months

\* $p < 0.0001$

**Supplemental Fig. S3** Treatment difference in LDL-C change (mg/dL) from baseline between combination ezetimibe plus statin therapy and statin monotherapy comparator at 6 months<sup>a</sup>

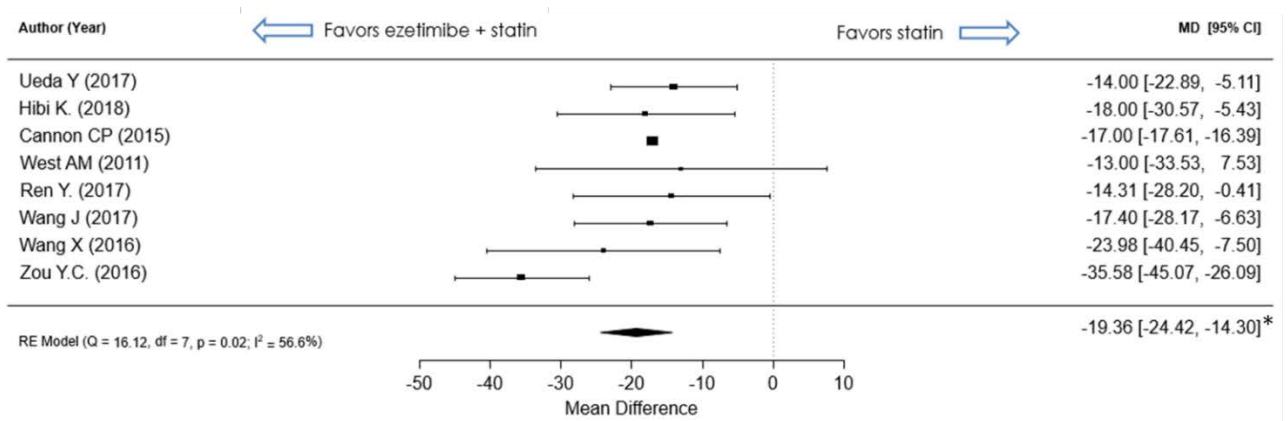


CI confidence interval, LDL-C low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, MD mean difference, RE random effects

<sup>a</sup>Meta-analysis included 323 participants from four studies, who received treatment (ezetimibe plus statin vs statin) for a mean duration of 5.88 months

\* $p < 0.0001$

**Supplemental Fig. S4** Treatment difference in LDL-C change (mg/dL) from baseline between combination ezetimibe plus statin therapy and statin monotherapy comparator at 9–12 months<sup>a</sup>

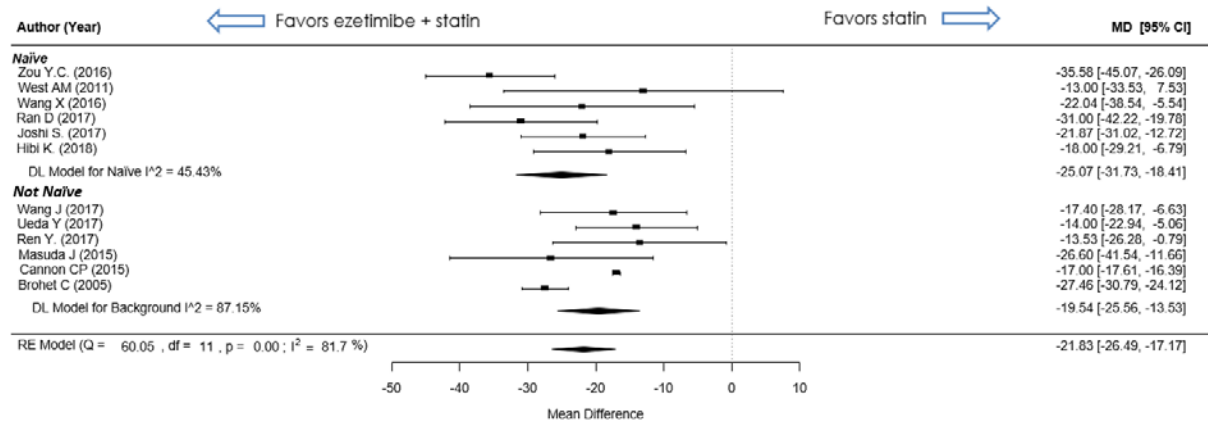


CI confidence interval, LDL-C low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, MD mean difference, RE random effects

<sup>a</sup>Meta-analysis included 18,787 participants from eight studies, who received treatment (ezetimibe plus statin vs statin) for a mean duration of 11.96 months

\* $p < 0.0001$

**Supplemental Fig. S5** Sub-analysis of LDL-C change (mg/dL) from baseline at 6 months, or at the reported time point closest to 6 months, in statin-naïve patients and in patients with prior statin therapy<sup>a</sup>



CI confidence interval, LDL-C low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, MD mean difference, RE random effects

<sup>a</sup>Statin-naïve meta-analysis included 496 participants from six studies, who received treatment (ezetimibe plus statin versus statin) for a mean duration of 7.79 months. In patients with a history of statin therapy, meta-analysis included 18,908 participants from six studies, who received treatment (ezetimibe plus statin versus statin) for a mean duration of 11.66 months. There is no statistically significant difference between the two groups ( $p = 0.2462$ )

1. Writing Committee, Lloyd-Jones DM, Morris PB, Ballantyne CM, Birtcher KK, Daly DD, Jr., et al. 2016 ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway on the role of non-statin therapies for LDL-cholesterol lowering in the management of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease risk: a report of the American College of Cardiology Task Force on Clinical Expert Consensus Documents. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2016;68(1):92-125.