



Cholesterol Lowering Agents

Medication Name	Brand Name
Atorvastatin	○ Lipitor ○ Lorstat
Fluvastatin	○ Lescol ○ Vastin
Pravastatin	○ Cholstat ○ Lipostat ○ Pravachol
Simvastatin	○ Lipex ○ Zocor
Rosuvastatin	○ Crestor

What is it used for?

This class of medications are used to lower blood cholesterol levels (treat hypercholesterolemia) in people who have cardiovascular disease or are at high risk of developing cardiovascular disease.

How to take this drug

This medication must be taken daily, unless specified by your doctor. If a dose is missed, only take the dose if you remember within three hours. If not, do not take the missed dose, and take the next dose when it is due normally. Do not take two doses at once.

Take this medication only as the directions say on the pharmacy label.

Before you take this medication it is important to tell your doctor if you:

- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
- Are breast feeding
- Drink large amounts of alcohol
- Have liver disease
- Have had side effects from other cholesterol lowering medications

Side Effects

Side effects occur in some people taking this medication. If they are troublesome to you, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

- Nausea
- Constipation, diarrhoea
- Headache
- Upset stomach
- Muscle pain, weakness or cramps

Other important facts

- Do not eat or drink grapefruit while taking this medicine
- Try to limit your alcohol intake, as the combination of alcohol with these medications can cause liver problems
- Never share your medication with anyone
- Keep the medicine out of reach of children

**If you have any queries about your medications, talk to your Doctor or pharmacist.
This information is only designed for use as an educational aid and is general in nature.**

This resource was produced using information from Hospital Pharmacy Services and assistance from Royal Darwin Hospital Pharmacy.

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