



## Correction

# Correction: Sequential Cohort Design Applying Propensity Score Matching to Analyze the Comparative Effectiveness of Atorvastatin and Simvastatin in Preventing Cardiovascular Events

The *PLOS ONE* Staff

There is an error in Table 1. There are several lines out of place in the original table. Please find a corrected version below.

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**Table 1.** Characteristics of the initiators of simvastatin and atorvastatin therapy between January 1998 and June 2006 in Finland. The study population restricted by the strength of the initiating drug and by the start of the follow-up at 270 days since the initiation is presented without and with the sequential matching by propensity score.

	Initiators without matching						Sequentially PS matched					
	Simvastatin 20 mg (n=73 868)			Atorvastatin 10 mg (n=96 995)			Simvastatin 20 mg (n=54 220)			Atorvastatin 10 mg (n=54 220)		
	n	(%)	P value	n	(%)	P value	n	(%)	P value	n	(%)	P value
Female	36 612	-49.6		50 107	-51.7	<0.001	27 453	-50.6		27 449	-50.6	*
Age, mean (SD)	60.9	-8		60.4	-8	<0.001	60.7	-8		60.7	-8	*
<b>Age category</b>			<0.001			<0.001			<0.001			*
45–55 years	21 200	-28.7		30 431	-31.4		15 992	-29.5		15 868	-29.3	
56–65 years	29 252	-39.6		37 674	-38.8		21 400	-39.5		21 338	-39.4	
66–75 years	23 416	-31.7		28 890	-29.8		16 828	-31		17 014	-31.4	
<b>Number of hospital days during 365 days prior to the initiation</b>			<0.001			<0.001			<0.001			*
0	51 583	-69.8		73 396	-75.7		39 233	-72.4		39 265	-72.4	
1–7	14 202	-19.2		15 908	-16.4		9837	-18.1		9835	-18.1	
8–30	6790	-9.2		6281	-6.5		4262	-7.9		4204	-7.8	
31–365	1293	-1.8		1410	-1.5		888	-1.6		916	-1.7	
<b>Comorbidities</b>												
<i>CVD, PTCA or CAPG in relation to the initiation</i>			<0.001			<0.001			<0.001			*
None in preceding 7 years	63 469	-85.9		82 625	-91.4		48 130	-88.8		48 166	-88.8	
Only earlier than 30 days	3700	-5		4791	-4.9		2846	-5.3		2833	-5.2	
Only during the preceding 30 days	5743	-7.8		2916	-3		2705	-5		2680	-4.9	
Both prior to and during 30 days	956	-1.3		663	-0.7		539	-1		541	-1	
<i>Hospitalized during 7 years prior to the initiation</i>												
Diabetes	3589	-4.9		4144	-4.3		2471	-4.6		2493	-4.6	*
Hypertension	5269	-7.1		5933	-6.1		3593	-6.6		3620	-6.7	*
Stroke	3692	-5		5755	-5.9		2972	-5.5		2838	-5.2	0.071
Cardiac insufficiency	990	-1.3		814	-0.8		594	-1.1		567	-1.1	*
Atherosclerotic CVD	988	-1.3		1195	-1.2		710	-1.3		711	-1.3	*
Atherosclerosis in lower legs	416	-0.6		507	-0.5		295	-0.5		288	-0.5	*
<i>Hospitalized during 365 days prior to the initiation</i>												
Atrial fibrillation	957	-1.3		986	-1		655	-1.2		614	-1.1	*
Any cancer diagnosis	461	-0.6		578	-0.6		316	-0.6		315	-0.6	*
COPD/asthma	324	-0.4		291	-0.3		207	-0.4		207	-0.4	*
Renal insufficiency	22	0		50	-0.1		12	0		21	0	*
Dementia	36	-0.1		35	0		19	0		21	0	*
Psychotic disease	180	-0.2		206	-0.2		127	-0.2		123	-0.2	*

**Table 1. Cont.**

	Initiators without matching						Sequentially PS matched					
	Simvastatin 20 mg (n=73 868)			Atorvastatin 10 mg (n=96 995)			Simvastatin 20 mg (n=54 220)			Atorvastatin 10 mg (n=54 220)		
	n	(%)	P value	n	(%)	P value	n	(%)	P value	n	(%)	P value
Depression	189	-0.3	0.041	202	-0.2	0.041	124	-0.2	0.041	126	-0.2	*
Organ transplantation	8	0	0.634	13	0	0.634	3	0	0.634	4	0	*
<i>Comorbidities based on the Special Reimbursement Register<sup>#</sup></i>												
Diabetes	8161	-11.1	<0.001	10 043	-10.4	<0.001	5703	-10.5	<0.001	5760	-10.6	*
Hypothyroidism	2494	-3.4	0.814	3295	-3.4	0.814	1866	-3.4	0.814	1857	-3.4	*
Psychotic disorders	2015	-2.7	<0.001	2319	-2.4	<0.001	1345	-2.5	<0.001	1350	-2.5	*
Severe psychotic disease	147	-0.2	<0.001	137	-0.1	<0.001	96	-0.2	<0.001	97	-0.2	*
Breast cancer	361	-1	0.15	427	-0.9	0.15	256	-1	0.15	257	-1	*
Prostate cancer	364	-0.9	<0.001	387	-0.9	<0.001	243	-0.9	<0.001	242	-0.9	*
Leukemia	227	-0.3	0.005	229	-0.2	0.005	145	-0.3	0.005	140	-0.3	*
Gynecologic cancers	42	-0.1	0.285	68	-0.1	0.285	34	-0.1	0.285	27	-0.1	*
Other cancers	85	-0.1	0.135	89	-0.1	0.135	45	-0.1	0.135	48	-0.1	*
Prior organ transplantation	69	-0.1	0.003	139	-0.1	0.003	56	-0.1	0.003	52	-0.1	*
Uremia with dialysis	40	-0.1	<0.001	104	-0.1	<0.001	28	0	<0.001	33	-0.1	*
Use of interferon alpha	13	0	0.766	19	0	0.766	8	0	0.766	9	0	*
Cardiac insufficiency	2001	-2.7	<0.001	2181	-2.3	<0.001	1341	-2.5	<0.001	1350	-2.5	*
Rheumatic disease	2117	-2.9	<0.001	2559	-2.6	<0.001	1492	-2.8	<0.001	1480	-2.7	*
Asthma	5194	-7	<0.001	5867	-6.1	<0.001	3576	-6.6	<0.001	3592	-6.6	*
Chronic hypertension	22 723	-30.8	0.085	30 214	-31.1	0.085	16 776	-30.9	0.085	16 819	-31	*
CAD	10 917	-14.9	<0.001	10 434	-10.8	<0.001	7049	-13	<0.001	7034	-13	*
Dysrhythmia	1707	-2.3	<0.001	2037	-2.1	<0.001	1231	-2.3	<0.001	1223	-2.3	*
Familial dyslipidemia	40	-0.1	0.098	36	0	0.098	26	-0.1	0.098	25	-0.1	*
Dyslipidemia with CAD	3692	-5	<0.001	2927	-3	<0.001	2256	-4.2	<0.001	2256	-4.2	*
Clopidogrel use with CAD	74	-0.1	<0.001	43	0	<0.001	36	-0.1	<0.001	36	-0.1	*
Clopidogrel use with other indications	235	-0.3	<0.001	220	-0.2	<0.001	146	-0.3	<0.001	149	-0.3	*
Use of anti-dementia drugs <sup>§</sup>	128	-0.2	0.07	206	-0.2	0.07	96	-0.2	0.07	91	-0.2	*
Parkinsonism	241	-0.3	0.102	274	-0.3	0.102	163	-0.3	0.102	145	-0.3	*
Epilepsy	847	-1.2	0.301	1165	-1.2	0.301	621	-1.2	0.301	614	-1.1	*
<b>Medication</b>												
Number of different preparations purchased during 4 months prior to the initiation												
1-5	9571	-13	<0.001	7626	-7.9	<0.001	5675	-10.5	<0.001	5749	-10.6	*

**Table 1. Cont.**

	Initiators without matching				Sequentially PS matched				
	Simvastatin 20 mg (n = 73 868)		Atorvastatin 10 mg (n = 96 995)		Simvastatin 20 mg (n = 54 220)		Atorvastatin 10 mg (n = 54 220)		
	n	(%)	n	%	n	(%)	n	%	
6–10	20 434	–27.7	21 861	–22.5	14 015	–25.9	14 034	–25.9	
11–15	17 596	–23.8	22 806	–23.5	13 108	–24.2	13 087	–24.1	
16–20	11 339	–15.4	17 041	–17.6	8828	–16.3	8884	–16.4	
>20	14 928	–20.2	27 661	–28.5	12 594	–23.2	12 466	–23	
<i>At least one purchase during 365 days prior to the initiation</i>									
Diabetes drugs	11 500	–15.6	14 284	–14.7	8026	–14.8	8027	–14.8	*
Antithrombotic agents	8608	–11.7	9850	–10.2	5887	–10.9	5814	–10.7	*
Organic nitrates and cardiac glycosides	15 772	–21.4	15 877	–16.4	10 385	–19.2	10 309	–19	*
Centrally acting hypertension drugs	644	–0.9	746	–0.8	437	–0.8	441	–0.8	*
Diuretics	11 203	–15.2	14 231	–14.7	8066	–14.9	8050	–14.9	*
Peripheral vasodilators	64	–0.1	124	–0.1	49	–0.1	52	–0.1	*
Beta-blocking agents	31 409	–42.5	36 108	–37.2	21 906	–40.4	21 915	–40.4	*
Selective calcium channels blockers	12 678	–17.2	16 133	–16.6	9203	–17	9270	–17.1	*
ACEI or ARB	26 292	–36	30 162	–31.1	18 166	–33.5	18 176	–33.5	*
Non-statin lipid-lowering drug	544	–0.7	1573	–1.6	439	–0.8	472	–0.9	*
Drugs for obstructive airway diseases	7680	–10.4	9293	–9.6	5361	–9.9	5387	–9.9	*
Anti-dementia drugs	79	–0.1	111	–0.1	59	–0.1	54	–0.1	*
Antidepressants	7086	–9.6	9424	–9.7	5232	–9.7	5172	–9.5	*
Antipsychotics	2088	–2.8	2555	–2.6	1430	–2.6	1437	–2.7	*
Antineoplastic agents	342	–0.5	521	–0.6	265	–0.5	256	–0.5	*

CVD, cardiovascular disease; PTCA, percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty; CAPG, coronary artery bypass graft surgery; COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; CAD, coronary artery disease; ACEI, angiotensin-converting-enzyme inhibitor; ARB, angiotensin receptor blocker.

#Eligibility to special reimbursement any time prior to the initiation.

‡Use of donepezil, galantamine, memantine, or rivastigmine.

P values are based on Chi<sup>2</sup> test for categorical variables and Student's t test for continuous variables.

\*>0.1.

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## Reference

1. Helin-Salmivaara A, Lavikainen P, Aarnio E, Huupponen R, Korhonen MJ (2014) Sequential Cohort Design Applying Propensity Score Matching to Analyze the Comparative Effectiveness of Atorvastatin and Simvastatin in Preventing Cardiovascular Events. *PLoS ONE* 9(3): e90325. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0090325.