

Hyperlipidemia - Practice Questions

1. Physician wants to initiate a high intensity statin and asks for your recommendation. What do you recommend?

- A. Simvastatin 40 mg
- B - Atorvastatin 40 mg
- C - Lovastatin 40 mg
- D - Pravastatin 40 mg
- E - Fluvastatin 40 mg

2. Which of the following statins should be taken in the evening?

- A - Rosuvastatin
- B - Atorvastatin
- C - Pravastatin
- D - Pitavastatin
- E - Simvastatin

3. What is the brand name of lovastatin?

- A - Altoprev
- B - Livalo
- C - Caduet
- D - Vytorin
- E - Crestor

4. What is the brand name of pitavastatin?

- A - Altoprev
- B - Livalo
- C - Caduet
- D - Vytorin
- E - Crestor

5. What is the maximum simvastatin dose a physician can prescribe given that the patient is currently on diltiazem?

- A - 10 mg/day
- B - 20 mg/day
- C - 40 mg/day
- D - 80 mg/day
- E - None of the above

6. TJ is a 50 year old male who had to stop his statin therapy as he experienced significant myalgias. The physician wants to re-initiate statin therapy. What is the most appropriate course of action?

- A - Wait 2-4 days before re-challenging with a statin
- B - Initiate the same statin at the same or a lower dose
- C - Do not use the same statin, re-challenge with a different statin
- D - Statins should not be re-initiated due to risk of rhabdomyolysis, consider other options
- E - A and B

7. Which of the following statements regarding simvastatin is false?

- A - Do not initiate 80 mg dose
- B - It should be dosed at bedtime
- C - For patients taking amlodipine and simvastatin, the max dose of simvastatin should not exceed 10mg/day
- D - For patients taking amiodarone and simvastatin, the max dose of simvastatin should not exceed 20 mg/day
- E - It is contraindicated with strong CYP3A4 inhibitors

8. Simvastatin is contraindicated with strong CYP3A4 inhibitors. Which of the following medications does not have a significant drug interaction with simvastatin?

- A - Cyclosporine
- B - Itraconazole
- C - Clarithromycin
- D - Gemfibrozil
- E - Metoprolol

9. Jake is a 67 year old male with dyslipidemia and is currently taking simvastatin 40 mg. His physician would like to switch to rosuvastatin. What is the equivalent dose of rosuvastatin?

- A - 5 mg
- B - 10 mg
- C - 20 mg
- D - 40 mg
- E - 80 mg

10. Gabe is a 46 year old male with a past medical history of HTN, MI (2018), GERD and Hyperlipidemia. She is currently on HCTZ 25 mg/day, simvastatin 20 mg, famotidine 20mg BID, Metoprolol 100 mg daily

VS/labs: BP 131/78, TC 210, LDL 150, HDL 32, TG 140

What drug therapy recommendations would you make to help Gabe reach her LDL goal of <70 mg/dL?

A - Increase simvastatin to 80 mg po daily and start fenofibrate 147 mg po daily

B - Discontinue simvastatin and start atorvastatin 80 mg po daily

C - Discontinue simvastatin and start atorvastatin 20 mg PO daily

D - Continue simvastatin 20mg and add ezetimibe 10 mg daily

E - Discontinue simvastatin and start rosuvastatin 10 mg daily

ANSWER KEY

1. B. Atorvastatin 40mg, 80mg and rosuvastatin 20mg, 40mg are high intensity statins
2. E - simvastatin, fluvastatin IR, and lovastatin should be dosed at bedtime
3. A
4. B
5. A - Simvastatin max dose is 10mg/day when given with diltiazem, verapamil or dronedarone
6. B - Patients should be re-challenged with the same statin at the same or a lower dose after 2-4 weeks of discontinuation. If myalgias return, discontinue the statin, wait for the symptoms to resolve then try a different statin at a lower dose and gradually increase the dose
7. C - Max dose of simvastatin is 20mg when given with amiodarone, amlodipine, ranolazine
8. E
9. B
10. B - Patient needs a high intensity statin. A is incorrect because simvastatin and fenofibrate are contraindicated. C is incorrect because atorvastatin 20 mg is moderate intensity. D is incorrect because ezetimibe should be added after the patient is on maximally tolerated statin and still requires additional LDL lowering. E is incorrect because rosuvastatin 10 mg is moderate intensity and the patient requires high intensity statin.