No Impact of KIF6 Genotype on Vascular Risk and Statin Response Among 18,348 Randomized Patients in the Heart Protection Study

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Objective The aim of this study was to test the effects of the KIF6 Trp719Arg polymorphism (rs20455) on vascular risk and response to statin therapy in 18,348 participants from the Heart Protection Study.

Background There have been claims that noncarriers of the KIF6 719Arg variant receive little benefit from statin therapy. Screening for this genetic variant is now being used to influence statin use.

Methods Participants received 40 mg simvastatin daily for 4 to 6 weeks before being randomly allocated 40 mg simvastatin daily or placebo for 5 years. Major coronary event was pre-defined as coronary death or nonfatal myocardial infarction, and major vascular event was pre-defined as major coronary event plus revascularization or stroke.

Results The KIF6 genotype was not significantly associated, among placebo-allocated participants, with the risks of incident major vascular events, major coronary events, revascularizations, or strokes. Overall, 40 mg simvastatin daily produced a 42% reduction in low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, which did not differ significantly by genotype.

Conclusions Statin therapy significantly reduces the incidence of coronary and other major vascular events to a similar extent, irrespective of KIF6 genotype. Consequently, the use of KIF6 genotyping to guide statin therapy is not warranted. (Heart Protection Study; ISRCTN48489393) (J Am Coll Cardiol 2011;57:000–00) © 2011 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation

Statins are a widely prescribed, well-tolerated, and effective approach to lowering blood concentrations of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) and the risk of vascular events. Standard statin regimens typically reduce LDL-C concentrations by approximately 60 mg/dl (1.5 mmol/l) and the risks of myocardial infarction (MI), revascularization, and stroke by approximately one-third (1–3). Moreover, large-scale randomized trials have demonstrated similar proportional reductions in the risks of vascular events across a wide variety of patients (1–3). Interest in personalized medicine has resulted in efforts to identify genetic variants that influence response to medications (4,5), including statins (6–10). The effects of a few treatments have been shown to vary by genotype (11), but it is important that any claims of differential response are reliably tested to avoid patients being wrongly denied effective therapy.

Some studies have suggested that carriers of the 719Arg variant in KIF6 (which encodes kinesin-like protein 6) might have as much as a 50% higher risk of vascular events than noncarriers (12–17). In addition, 4 randomized trials

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Manuscript received December 4, 2010; revised manuscript received February 10, 2011, accepted February 23, 2011.
involving a total of 1,521 incident vascular events have generated the hypothesis that \( \text{KIF6} \) genotype influences vascular risk response to statin therapy (13,18,19). In those trials, non-carriers of the \( \text{KIF6} \) 719Arg variant seemed not to benefit significantly from statin therapy, whereas risk was reduced by between one-third and one-half among carriers. A significant interaction between \( \text{KIF6} \) genotype and the effect of statin therapy on vascular events was reported in the PROVE-IT (Pravastatin or Atorvastatin Evaluation and Infection Therapy) (adjusted \( p = 0.02 \)) and WOSCOPS (West of Scotland Coronary Prevention Study) studies (adjusted \( p = 0.01 \)) but not in the CARE (Cholesterol And Recurrent Events) (adjusted \( p = 0.39 \)) or PROSPER (Prospective Study of Pravastatin in the Elderly at Risk) studies (adjusted \( p = 0.09 \)). A recent update from the CARE study, including non-whites and all coronary deaths in the outcome, still showed a nonsignificant (adjusted \( p = 0.14 \)) interaction (20).

The \( \text{KIF6} \) gene is a member of the superfamily of motor protein kinesins that are involved in intracellular transport (21,22), but the biological plausibility for vascular risk or statin response is uncertain (23). The LDL-C reduction is considered to be the main mechanism by which statins reduce vascular risk (2,3), but \( \text{KIF6} \) genotype does not seem to influence the LDL-C reduction produced by statin therapy (18,19). Hence, it has been suggested that any differential effect of statins on vascular risk produced by \( \text{KIF6} \) genotype might be acting through other mechanisms (19). These claims of a differential response to statin therapy have prompted the marketing of \( \text{KIF6} \) screening to assess the suitability of statins for individual patients (24). For example, it is asserted that only 10 carriers with acute coronary syndrome would require treatment with statin therapy to avoid a single coronary event, compared with 125 noncarriers (19,25). Similarly, for patients with stable coronary disease, it is claimed that the number needed to treat to prevent 1 coronary event is only 16 for carriers compared with 83 for noncarriers (26).

The HPS (Heart Protection Study) of 40 mg simvastatin daily versus placebo in over 20,000 randomized patients involved considerably more incident vascular events (\( n = 4,185 \)) than the combination of all of the trials that suggested that \( \text{KIF6} \) genotype might influence the effects of statin therapy (1). Hence, it provides an opportunity to test this hypothesis reliably.

**Methods**

**Study recruitment and follow-up.** Details of the HPS study have been reported previously (1,27). Between 1994 and 1997, 20,536 men and women 40 to 80 years of age were recruited in the United Kingdom with ethics committee approval. Individuals were eligible provided they had blood total cholesterol concentrations of at least 135 mg/dl (3.5 mmol/l) and a previous diagnosis of coronary, cerebrovascular, or other occlusive disease of noncoronary arteries, or diabetes mellitus, or (if men at least 65 years of age) treated hypertension. At the initial screening visit, all participants provided written consent and began a “run-in” phase involving 4 weeks of placebo followed by 4 to 6 weeks of 40 mg simvastatin daily, after which compliant and eligible individuals were randomly allocated 40 mg simvastatin daily or placebo for a mean of approximately 5 years. A nonfasting blood sample was taken at screening (before starting statin therapy) and at the end of run-in (while receiving 40 mg simvastatin daily).

The pre-specified outcomes of interest for assessing the effect of statin therapy in different subgroups were the first occurrence after randomization of incident major coronary events (defined as coronary death or nonfatal MI) and of incident major vascular events (defined as major coronary events, coronary or noncoronary revascularizations, or strokes) (1). Further details of outcome ascertainment and adjudication are reported elsewhere (1,27).

**Genotyping assays.** Extraction of deoxyribonucleic acid from stored white cells and genotyping was carried out at the Centre National de Genotypage in Evry, France. Genotypes of the \( \text{KIF6} \) Trp719Arg polymorphism (rs20455) were available from the Illumina 610K-Quad panel for 3,894 of 3,895 randomly selected white participants after quality control exclusions based on discrepant sex, repeat samples, poor success rate (<95%), and nonwhite ethnic origin. A further 14,454 participants of self-reported white ethnicity were successfully genotyped for this variant with a custom IPLEX panel run on samples from 14,481 individuals. Combined, \( \text{KIF6} \) genotypes were available for 18,348 white participants and were consistent with Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (\( p = 0.09 \)).

**Statistical methods.** Differences between baseline characteristics were assessed by analysis of variance for continuous variables and by chi-square statistics for categorical variables and reported as 2-sided \( p \) values. Linear regression was used to estimate the effects of \( \text{KIF6} \) on LDL-C response to statin by considering the difference in \( \log_{10} \) LDL-C levels at the screening visit before starting statin and at the randomization visit after 4 to 6 weeks on simvastatin in compliant individuals who were then randomized. Cox proportional hazard models were used to assess the association of \( \text{KIF6} \) with the risk of incident disease and the effects of \( \text{KIF6} \) on the risk response to statin. The impact of \( \text{KIF6} \) on outcomes was tested primarily in a dominant genetic model (\( p_{\text{dom}} \)) comparing Arg/Arg plus Trp/Arg (719Arg “carriers”) versus Trp/Trp (“noncarriers”), as emphasized in the “hypothesis-generating” studies (13,18,19). The \( p \) values were also obtained for: the additive effect (\( p_{\text{add}} \)) per 719Arg allele; and genotypic effect (\( p_{\text{geno}} \)) comparing Arg/Arg versus Trp/Arg versus Trp/Trp. Analyses were performed with SAS software (version 9.1, SAS Institute, Cary, North Carolina).
and figures were generated with R software (version 2.10.1; The R foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria).

**Results**

**Characteristics.** The frequency of the KIF6 719Arg allele in the HPS study was 35% and 58% of the 18,348 genotyped participants had 719Arg “carrier” genotypes (Trp/Arg or Arg/Arg), consistent with previous studies (13,18,19). Selected characteristics at baseline did not differ materially by KIF6 genotype (Table 1). Among simvastatin-allocated participants, compliance with study tablets (≥80% taken) ranged from 89% at the end of the first year of follow-up to 80% at the end of the fifth year, yielding an average during the study of 84% that did not differ by KIF6 genotype (p = 0.99). Among those allocated placebo, 4% at the end of the first year of follow-up but 33% at the end of the fifth year were taking nonstudy statin therapy, yielding an average of 17% that also did not differ by KIF6 genotype (p = 0.89). The average difference between these groups in the use of a statin was approximately 67% (84% minus 17%), and hence the “intention-to-treat” randomized comparisons assess the effects of approximately two-thirds of simvastatin-allocated participants actually taking 40 mg simvastatin daily.

**Vascular event risk by KIF6 genotype.** The association of KIF6 with the risk of incident vascular events in the HPS study was assessed in 9,181 placebo-allocated participants to minimize any potential influence of statin therapy. During mean follow-up of 5 years, 1,086 individuals had a major vascular event, 1,069 had a revascularization procedure, and 1,069 had a stroke, yielding first major vascular events among coronary event, 1,069 had a revascularization procedure, and 1,069 had a stroke, yielding first major vascular events among coronary event 5 years, 1,086 individuals had a major vascular event, 1,069 had a revascularization procedure, and 1,086 individuals had a major vascular event. Mean follow-up of 5 years, 1,086 individuals had a major vascular event, 1,069 had a revascularization procedure, and 1,086 individuals had a major vascular event. During mean follow-up of 5 years, 1,086 individuals had a major vascular event, 1,069 had a revascularization procedure, and 1,086 individuals had a major vascular event.

**Table 1 Characteristics of Participants in the Heart Protection Study by KIF6 Trp719Arg (rs20455) Genotype**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>KIF6 719 Genotype</th>
<th>p Value</th>
<th>Genotypic p Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arg/Arg</td>
<td>Trp/Arg</td>
<td>Trp/Trp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients</td>
<td>2,359</td>
<td>8,291</td>
<td>7,698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>1,776 (75.3)</td>
<td>6,227 (75.1)</td>
<td>5,775 (75.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age, yrs</td>
<td>63.9 (8.4)</td>
<td>64.0 (8.4)</td>
<td>64.3 (8.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never smoked</td>
<td>568 (24.1)</td>
<td>2,062 (24.9)</td>
<td>1,842 (23.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ex-smoker</td>
<td>1,466 (62.1)</td>
<td>5,053 (61.0)</td>
<td>4,748 (61.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker</td>
<td>325 (13.8)</td>
<td>1,176 (14.2)</td>
<td>1,108 (14.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>662 (28.1)</td>
<td>2,329 (28.1)</td>
<td>2,166 (28.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>957 (40.6)</td>
<td>3,408 (41.1)</td>
<td>3,194 (41.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body mass index, kg/m²</td>
<td>27.7 (4.4)</td>
<td>27.5 (4.3)</td>
<td>27.7 (4.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior disease</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior myocardial infarction</td>
<td>945 (40.1)</td>
<td>3,505 (42.3)</td>
<td>3,203 (41.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other coronary heart disease</td>
<td>606 (25.7)</td>
<td>1,974 (23.8)</td>
<td>1,812 (23.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No coronary heart disease</td>
<td>808 (34.3)</td>
<td>2,812 (33.9)</td>
<td>2,683 (34.9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are mean (SD) for continuous variables and n (%) for categorical variables. Dominant p value is test of difference between 719Arg carriers (Arg/Arg + Arg/Trp) and noncarriers (Trp/Trp). Genotypic p value is test of difference among Arg/Arg and Trp/Arg and Trp/Trp.
CI: 16% to 34%) in 719Arg carriers versus 28% (95% CI: 18% to 38%) in noncarriers. Likewise, there was no evidence of any differential effect of simvastatin by KIF6 genotype on the need for revascularization or risk of stroke considered separately (after allowance for the number of comparisons). Adjustment for additional covariates did not alter the results materially (data not shown).

Comparisons with previous trials of statin response by KIF6 genotype. Figure 3 compares the observed effects of statin therapy on vascular events by KIF6 genotype in the “hypothesis-generating” trials and in the present analysis of “hypothesis-testing” HPS (which involved approximately 3 times as many vascular events as in all of the previous trials combined). In the “hypothesis-
generating” trials, the statin benefits seemed to be greater in KIF6 carriers (weighted carrier to noncarrier ratio of risk ratios: 0.64; 95% CI: 0.51 to 0.79), but this trend chiefly reflects differences between the carrier versus noncarrier vascular event rates in the control arm rather than differences among participants allocated statin. By contrast, in the HPS study, vascular event rates were very similar in carriers and noncarriers, both among those allocated placebo (25.3% and 25.7%, respectively) and among those allocated simvastatin (20.2% and 20.1%, respectively). Consequently, the relative reduction in risk with allocation to simvastatin in the HPS study was similar, irrespective of genotype (carrier to noncarrier ratio of risk ratios: 1.02) and, given the large numbers of events on which this test of the hypothesis is based, was not consistent with there being much difference in the size of the risk reduction (95% CI: 0.91 to 1.16).

**Discussion**

The present large-scale test using the HPS randomized trial does not confirm the hypothesis that KIF6 genotype is importantly relevant either to the overall risk of vascular events or to the effects of statin therapy on vascular risk.

The most extreme associations of KIF6 carrier status with risk of incident vascular events were reported in the placebo groups of the CARE (RR: 1.57; 95% CI: 1.10 to 2.25) and WOSCOPS (RR: 1.59; 95% CI: 1.18 to 2.14) studies based on 142 and 276 coronary disease cases, respectively (13). These initial “hypothesis-generating” analyses involved testing 35 genetic polymorphisms for risk associations and placing data-dependent emphasis on the most extreme risk association in further analyses, which was for KIF6. By contrast, no significant associations were observed in the placebo group of the PROSPER study (adjusted RR: 1.06; 95% CI: 0.86 to 1.30) (18) based on 379 coronary disease cases or in the HPS study (RR: 0.97; 95% CI: 0.90 to 1.06) based on 2,335 coronary or other vascular disease cases. Studies among people with pre-existing vascular disease (such as in these trials) might not be optimal for detecting genetic associations with vascular risk, because the underlying effect might be attenuated. Moderate associations of KIF6 genotype with the risk of vascular events in people of

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**Figure 2**  
**Effects of Simvastatin on Major Vascular Events by KIF6 Genotype**

Conventions as for Figure 1. Hazard ratios and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) for all participants combined are indicated by diamonds.
white ethnic origin have been reported by some population-based observational studies (12,16,17). However, the Ottawa Heart Study and a recent meta-analysis of 19 case-control studies involving 17,000 coronary disease cases found no association between \textit{KIF6} carrier status and the risk of coronary disease (28,29). Furthermore, large scale genome-wide association studies involving several thousand disease cases have also failed to report an association of \textit{KIF6} with major coronary events (30–34). Nor have associations of \textit{KIF6} with stroke been reliably demonstrated (15,35,36).

The lipid-lowering effects of statin therapy do not seem to be materially influenced by \textit{KIF6} genotype. For example, it was not previously found to be associated with pre-treatment cholesterol concentrations or with lipid response to statin therapy among approximately 20,000 and 6,000 individuals, respectively, in genome-wide scans followed by replication studies (37,38). The effects of \textit{KIF6} genotype on cholesterol concentrations have not been reported for the CARE and WOSCOPS placebo-controlled trials of 40 mg pravastatin daily (13,20). Among 5,752 patients in the PROSPER study, however, no significant differences were observed between \textit{KIF6} carriers and noncarriers in baseline cholesterol concentrations or in the LDL-C reductions produced by 40 mg pravastatin daily (18). Similarly, among 1,778 patients in the PROVE-IT study, \textit{KIF6} genotype did not seem to have any material effect on cholesterol concentrations (19). These findings are consistent with the results among 18,343 genotyped participants in the HPS study, where actual use of 40 mg simvastatin daily for 4 to 6 weeks produced a 42% LDL-C reduction, while two-thirds compliance to the random allocation of 40 mg simvastatin daily versus placebo for 5 years produced an average 30% LDL-C reduction, irrespective of \textit{KIF6} genotype. It has been suggested that the apparent lack of effect of statin therapy on vascular events in some trials among \textit{KIF6} noncarriers, despite LDL-C being lowered to a similar extent as among carriers, provides evidence that the benefits of statin therapy are independent of LDL-C lowering effects (i.e., pleiotropic mechanisms) (19). Consequently, if a lack of effect of statin therapy on vascular events among \textit{KIF6} 719Arg noncarriers had been reliably demonstrated, it would have had important biological as well as therapeutic implications.

Large-scale meta-analyses of randomized trials have shown that statin therapy reduces not only the risk of coronary death and nonfatal MI but also the need for revascularization procedures and the risk of ischemic stroke (2,3). Previously reported trials of the effects of \textit{KIF6} genotype on statin response have assessed different vascular outcomes: the CARE study used the composite of fatal or nonfatal MI (13) (expanded subsequently to include all coronary deaths [20]); the WOSCOPS and PROSPER studies used the composite of any coronary death, nonfatal MI, coronary or noncoronary revascularization, or stroke in the PROVE-IT trial; and coronary death, nonfatal MI, coronary or noncoronary revascularization, or stroke in the HPS study. Data for PROSPER are for patients with prior vascular disease.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Events/participants</th>
<th>Event rate (%) by 719Arg carrier status and trial statin arm</th>
<th>Risk ratio more vs less/no statin</th>
<th>Carrier:non-carrier ratio (95% CI) of more vs less/no statin risk ratios</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carrier More statin Less/no statin</td>
<td>Non-carrier More statin Less/no statin</td>
<td>Carrier Non-carrier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hypothesis-generating trials</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROVE-IT</td>
<td>408/ 1778</td>
<td>16.8 28.6 23.4 24.2</td>
<td>0.59 0.98</td>
<td>0.60 (0.40-0.91)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARE</td>
<td>245/ 2697</td>
<td>7.9 12.4 7.0 8.1</td>
<td>0.83 0.86</td>
<td>0.73 (0.43-1.24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOSCOPS</td>
<td>465/ 1527</td>
<td>24.7 39.5 27.6 28.9</td>
<td>0.50 0.94</td>
<td>0.53 (0.34-0.83)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROSPER</td>
<td>410/ 2542</td>
<td>13.6 19.7 14.9 16.1</td>
<td>0.67 0.93</td>
<td>0.72 (0.49-1.07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hypothesis-testing trial</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPS</td>
<td>4185/18348</td>
<td>20.2 25.3 20.1 25.7</td>
<td>0.77 0.76</td>
<td>1.02 (0.91-1.16)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 3 Effects of Statin Therapy on Vascular Events by \textit{KIF6} Genotype in the “Hypothesis-Generating” and “Hypothesis-Testing” Trials

Carrier versus noncarrier ratios of risk ratios for the effects of statin therapy in each trial are indicated by squares (size inversely proportional to variance) with horizontal lines indicating 95% confidence intervals (CIs). For comparability, all risk ratios are based on unadjusted analyses (estimated, if not cited in the related publications, from the available data). Treatment comparisons: 40 mg pravastatin daily versus placebo in the CARE (Cholesterol and Recurrent Events); WOSCOPS (West of Scotland Coronary Prevention Study), and PROSPER (Prospective Study of Pravastatin in the Elderly at Risk) studies; 80 mg atorvastatin daily versus 40 mg pravastatin daily in the PROVE-IT (Pravastatin or Atorvastatin Evaluation and Infection Therapy) study; and 40 mg simvastatin daily versus placebo in the HPS study (Heart Protection Study).

Vascular event outcomes: fatal or nonfatal myocardial infarction (MI) in the CARE study; any coronary death, nonfatal MI, or coronary revascularization in the WOSCOPS and PROSPER studies; death from any cause, nonfatal MI, unstable angina, coronary revascularization, or stroke in the PROVE-IT trial; and coronary death, nonfatal MI, coronary or noncoronary revascularization, or stroke in the HPS study. Data for PROSPER are for patients with prior vascular disease.
unstable angina, coronary revascularization, and stroke) (19). The extreme statistical significance of the reduction in any major vascular event (p = 2.3 × 10^{-17}) in the HPS study and the large number of events (n = 4,185) on which it was based (1) allowed particularly reliable assessment of the effects of statin treatment in different circumstances. Consequently, this “hypothesis-testing” analysis in the HPS study has been able to demonstrate not only that statin therapy produces similar proportional reductions in the risk of major vascular events among KIF6 carriers and noncarriers (23% and 24%, respectively) but also that these benefits are highly significant both among carriers (95% CI: 16% to 29%; p = 5.3 × 10^{-10}) and, by contrast with the “hypothesis-generating” trials, among noncarriers (95% CI: 17% to 31%; p = 4.6 × 10^{-9}) (Fig. 2). Moreover, the findings were similar in the HPS study when such analyses were conducted separately for major coronary events or for other major vascular events. The CARE, WOSCOPS, and PROSPER studies tested pravastatin (which is not now widely used), and the PROVE-IT study compared atorvastatin versus pravastatin, whereas the HPS study tested simvastatin. One cannot exclude the possibility, although unlikely, that the type of statin might be important for KIF6 interaction. But, in the large-scale meta-analyses of randomized trials of statin therapy, the relative reductions in major vascular events were proportional to the absolute reductions in LDL-C (irrespective of the statin used) and were similar in all of the subgroups considered (2,3). Therefore, it seems most probable that the apparent KIF6 interaction in the “hypothesis-generating” trials is due chiefly (if not entirely) to selective emphasis on data-derived findings based on relatively small numbers of events.

During the HPS study, an average of approximately one-sixth of participants allocated 40 mg simvastatin daily stopped taking statin therapy, and approximately one-sixth of placebo-allocated participants started taking a statin. Therefore, the observed average difference in LDL-C of approximately 40 mg/dl (1 mmol/l) between simvastatin–allocated and placebo-allocated participants represents only approximately two-thirds of the LDL-C difference produced by actual use of 40 mg simvastatin daily. Similarly, the reduction of approximately one-quarter in major vascular events in the intention-to-treat comparison is likely to represent only approximately two-thirds of the risk reduction produced by full compliance with this statin regimen. Hence, actual use of 40 mg simvastatin daily would be expected to lower LDL-C by approximately 60 mg/dl (1.5 mmol/l) in this population and reduce the rates of major vascular events by approximately one-third, irrespective of KIF6 genotype. Such noncompliance could not, however, plausibly result in a positive bias whereby benefit would be falsely observed among noncarriers despite a real lack of benefit.

### Conclusions

The KIF6 719Arg noncarrier genotype is relatively common (approximately 40% of all whites are noncarriers), and hence, concluding falsely that noncarriers will not benefit from statin therapy might lead to a very large number of unnecessary vascular events and deaths. The results of the HPS study demonstrate unequivocally that statin therapy produces substantial beneficial effects on coronary and other major vascular events, irrespective of whether an individual is a KIF6 719Arg carrier or noncarrier. Consequently, testing for KIF6 genetic variants is not warranted for guiding the use of statin therapy (or other interventions aimed at lowering cardiovascular risk).

### Acknowledgments

The most important acknowledgements are to the participants in the study, to the Steering Committee, and to the collaborators listed in Reference 1.

### REFERENCES

No Impact of KIF6 on Statin Response


Key Words: KIF6 • pharmacogenetics • statin response • vascular risk.