

Atorvastatin/Ezetimibe beats atorvastatin after PCI

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(HealthDay)—For Japanese patients who have undergone percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), atorvastatin plus ezetimibe is associated with improved outcomes versus atorvastatin alone, according to a study published in the Aug. 4 issue of the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*.

Kenichi Tsujita, Ph.D., from Kumamoto University in Japan, and colleagues examined the effects of ezetimibe plus atorvastatin versus atorvastatin monotherapy on [lipid profiles](#) and [coronary atherosclerosis](#) in a randomized trial involving Japanese patients who underwent PCI.

The researchers found that, compared with atorvastatin monotherapy, the combination of atorvastatin/ezetimibe resulted in lower levels of [low-density lipoprotein cholesterol](#) (63.2 ± 16.3 mg/dL versus 73.3 ± 20.3 mg/dL; P

"Compared with standard statin monotherapy, the combination of statin plus ezetimibe showed greater coronary plaque regression, which might be attributed to cholesterol absorption inhibition-induced aggressive lipid lowering," the authors write.

Two authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

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