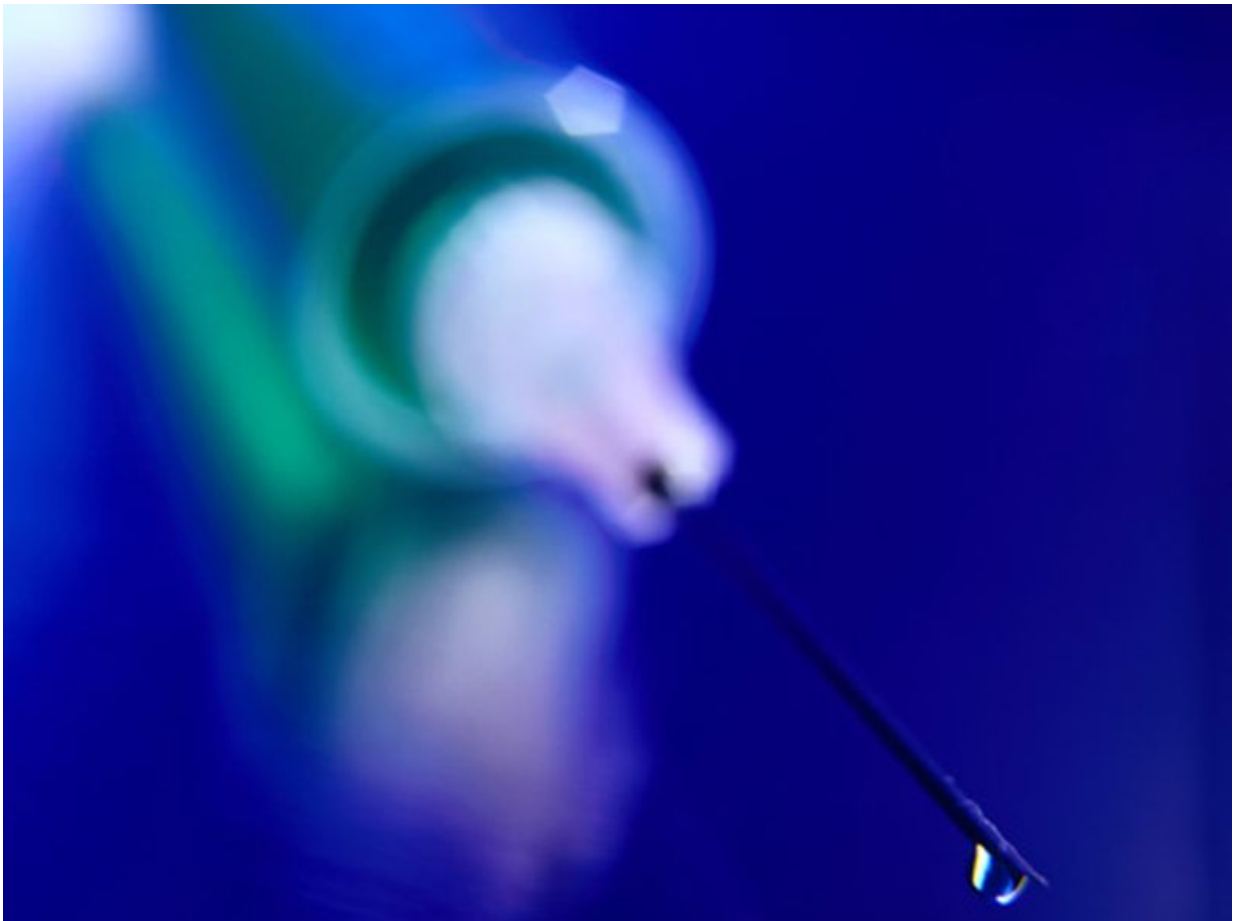


AHA: Inclisiran twice yearly may effectively control cholesterol

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(HealthDay)—A new injectable medication called inclisiran cuts low-

density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol by half or more, and the effect could last for four to six months, according to research presented at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association, held from Nov. 12 to 16 in New Orleans.

Inclisiran is a next-level PCSK9 inhibitor, which works on a genetic level to prevent cells from producing PCSK9, study presenter Kausik Ray, M.D., of Imperial College London, told *HealthDay*. The inclisiran clinical trial involved 501 patients who were assigned to either a control group or one of four groups that received different doses of the drug.

One dose of inclisiran at 300 mg or greater caused a 51 percent drop in LDL cholesterol that lasted at least 90 days, while two doses caused a 57 percent reduction that lasted up to six months, Ray reported. Based on these results, Ray and his colleagues estimate patients would only need an inclisiran injection two or three times a year to control their cholesterol.

Side effects from the medication were similar to those reported by patients taking either statins or placebos, the researchers reported. Muscle aches, headache, fatigue, back pain, [high blood pressure](#), diarrhea, and dizziness were the most common side effects.

The study was funded by The Medicines Company, the manufacturer of inclisiran.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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