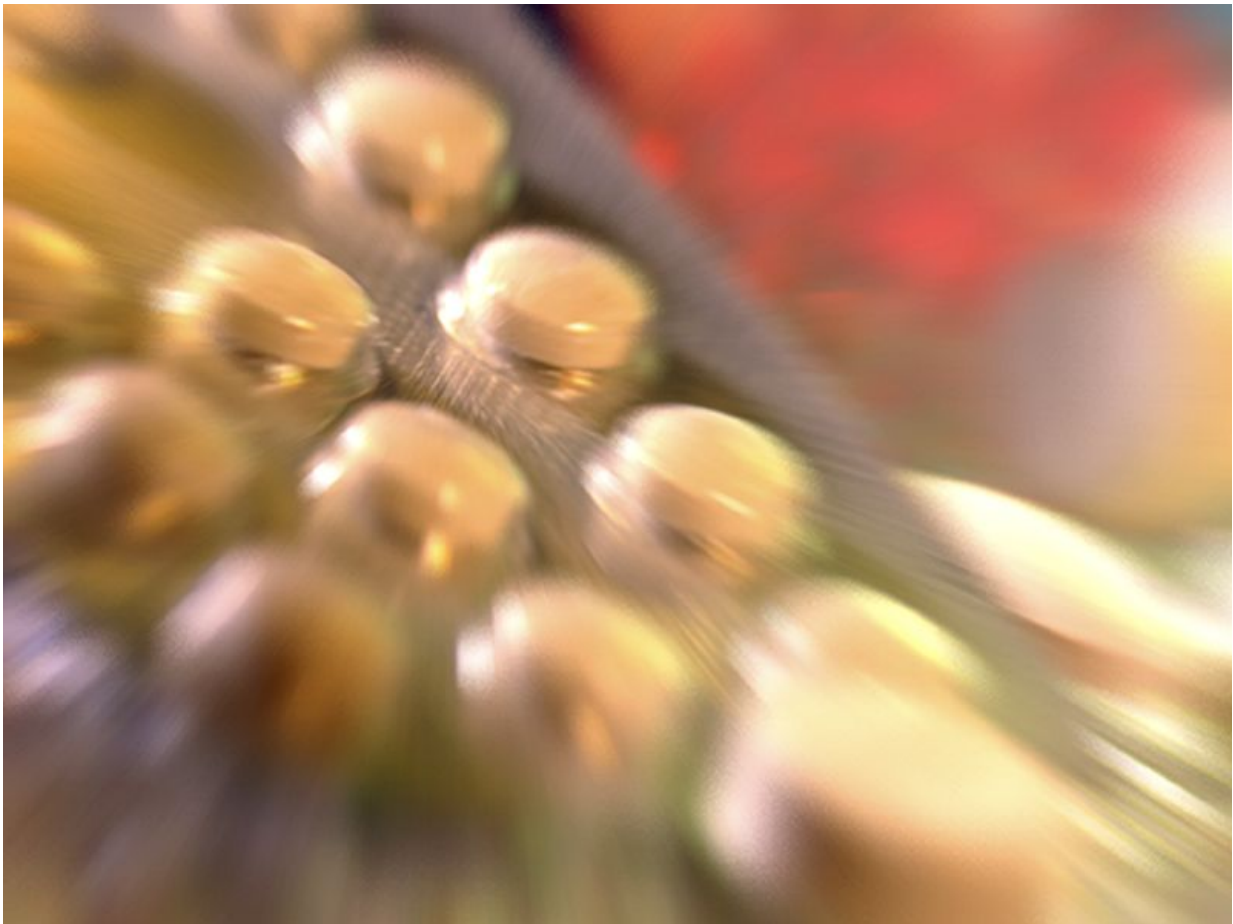


Lower mortality risk seen with statin use in older men

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(HealthDay)—Statin use is associated with a significantly lower risk of

mortality in older male physicians, and a non-significant lower risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD) events, according to a study published online Sept. 11 in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*.

Ariela R. Orkaby, M.D., from the Massachusetts Veterans Epidemiology and Research Information Center in Boston, and colleagues analyzed data from a prospective cohort of participants in the Physicians' Health Study (7,213 male physicians ≥ 70 years without a history of CVD) over a median of seven years of follow-up. Non-statin users were propensity matched to 1,130 statin users.

The researchers found that over the study period statin use was associated with an 18 percent lower risk of all-cause mortality (hazard ratio [HR], 0.82; 95 percent confidence interval [CI], 0.69 to 0.98) and non-significantly lower risk of CVD events (HR, 0.86; 95 percent CI, 0.70 to 1.06) and stroke (HR, 0.70; 95 percent CI, 0.45 to 1.09). Results did not change according to age group at baseline (70 to 76 years or >76 years) or functional status. For those with elevated cholesterol, [statin](#) users had fewer major CVD events than non-users (HRs, 0.68 [95 percent CI, 0.50 to 0.94] and 1.43 [95 percent CI, 0.99 to 2.07], respectively).

"Further work is needed to determine which older individuals will benefit from statins as primary prevention," the authors write.

Several authors report financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

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