

Presentation Category: Original - Research in Progress

Abstract Title

Lipoprotein(a) testing: prevalence, patient characteristics, and impact on lipid-lowering therapy prescribing

Learning Objective

Describe Lp(a) testing patterns at a large academic medical center and subsequent changes in lipid-lowering therapy prescriptions in patients who had a Lp(a) checked compared to patients who only had a standard lipid panel checked.

Abstract

Purpose

1. Purpose

Lipoprotein(a), or Lp(a), is a low-density lipoprotein (LDL)-like particle that is independently linked to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease. Current Lp(a) testing practices in real world practice is unclear. While a previous study demonstrated increased lipid-lowering therapy prescribing following Lp(a) testing, these increases were primarily in statin and niacin prescriptions with minimal PCSK9 inhibitor prescribing. The purpose of this study is to describe Lp(a) testing patterns at a large academic medical center and subsequent changes in lipid-lowering therapy prescriptions in patients who had a Lp(a) checked compared to patients who only had a standard lipid panel checked.

Methods

This is a single-center retrospective study of patients at University of Chicago Medicine who received a Lp(a) or lipid panel test between January 1, 2020 to December 30, 2022. Patients were included if they were 18 years or older, had a valid Lp(a) or lipid panel test result, and had at least one encounter within our health system within a year before either test. The primary outcome is new lipid-lowering therapy prescriptions within 6 months of the Lp(a) test in patients who had this lab tested compared to a date-matched group who had a standard lipid panel tested only. Medications evaluated include statins, PCSK9 inhibitors, and ezetimibe, among others.

Results

957 Lp(a) tests were ordered during our study period. The results of this study remain in progress.

Conclusions

The results of this study will determine the characteristics of patients who receive Lp(a) testing and whether Lp(a) testing is associated with downstream changes in lipid-lowering therapies compared to a standard lipid panel.

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