

What is most important to remember?

- Use this medicine as directed by your doctor
- It is important to continue taking this medicine even if you feel normal. Most people with high cholesterol or triglycerides do not feel sick
- Do not start any new medicines, over-the-counter drugs or herbal remedies without talking to your doctor
- Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists that you are using atorvastatin (Lipitor®)
- Contact your prescriber right away if you have severe muscle pain or weakness
- Follow the diet and lifestyle changes that you talked about with your doctor in addition to taking your prescribed medicine to get the greatest health benefits

If you have questions:

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for more information about atorvastatin (Lipitor®)

Strong Internal Medicine

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MEDICINE of the HIGHEST ORDER

Strong Internal Medicine



Atorvastatin (Lipitor®): Important Patient Information



MEDICINE of the HIGHEST ORDER



What does atorvastatin (Lipitor®) do?

- It is used to lower the level of bad cholesterol (LDL), raise the level of good cholesterol (HDL), and lower triglycerides (TG) in the body
- It is used to prevent heart attacks, strokes, chest pain, and slow the progression of heart disease

How should atorvastatin (Lipitor®) be used?

- Use this medicine as directed by your doctor
- This medicine is taken one (1) time a day, at the same time each day
- Take with or without food. Take with food if it causes an upset stomach

What should I do if I forget to take atorvastatin (Lipitor®)?

- If it has been less than 12 hours since your normal dose, take the missed dose as soon as you think about it
- If it has been 12 hours or more since the missed dose, skip the missed dose
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses

Who should know I am taking atorvastatin (Lipitor®)?

- Keep a list of all your medicines (prescription, natural products, supplements, vitamins, over-the-counter) and give it to your healthcare provider (doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner, pharmacist, or physician assistant)


Are there any interactions with other drugs that I need to worry about?

- There are many drug interactions that may increase your risk of side effects
- Do not start new prescription, over-the-counter medicines, or herbal and dietary supplements without telling your doctor

What side effects could occur with atorvastatin (Lipitor®)?

- Upset stomach, loose stools (diarrhea)
- Joint pain
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose

What are some things that I need to be aware of when taking atorvastatin (Lipitor®)?

- Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have a "statin" allergy, are allergic to atorvastatin, or if you are allergic to any other medicines, foods, or substances
 - Before using this medicine, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history, especially if you have active liver disease or a rise in liver enzymes
 - Call your doctor right away if you have very bad muscle pain or weakness, or if your urine turns a muddy brown color
 - If you drink grapefruit juice or eat grapefruit often, talk with your doctor before taking this medicine
 - Avoid or limit alcohol intake (includes wine, beer, and liquor) to less than 3 drinks per day
 - Tell your healthcare provider if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding. You should not take this medicine while pregnant or breastfeeding
 - Use a proper birth control method to prevent pregnancy while taking this medicine, since it is harmful in pregnancy
 - It is important to continue taking this medicine even if you feel normal. Most people with high cholesterol or triglycerides do not feel sick
 - Store in a cool, dry place. Protect from light and do not store in the bathroom
 - Keep out of the reach of children and pets
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If you have any of the following side effects, call your doctor or visit the emergency room immediately:

- Signs of liver problems: dark urine, feeling tired; not hungry; upset stomach, light-colored stool, yellowing of skin or eyes; throwing up
- Muscle pain or weakness
- Memory problems or loss
- A burning, numbness, or tingling feeling
- Very bad joint pain or swelling
- Any sign of a severe allergic reaction including: rash; hives; red, swollen, blistered or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness of chest or throat; trouble breathing or talking; swelling of face, lips, tongue or throat