

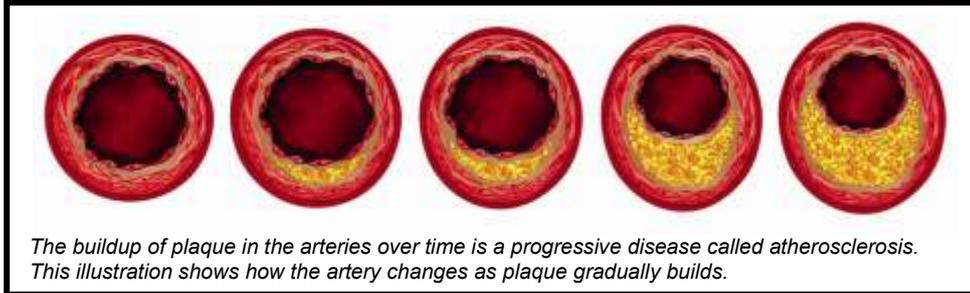


## ATHEROSCLEROSIS FACT SHEET

### Atherosclerosis

Atherosclerosis is the progressive buildup of plaque—made of fat, cholesterol, and other substances—in the inner walls of the arteries. CRESTOR (rosuvastatin calcium), along with diet, is FDA-approved to slow the progression of atherosclerosis in adult patients as part of a treatment strategy to lower cholesterol to goal.

- Elevated cholesterol and other risk factors can contribute to the disease, and for many it progresses silently, with no apparent signs or symptoms



### Atherosclerosis Risk Factors

Having high cholesterol—along with any of the following risk factors—may mean that you are at even greater risk for building dangerous plaque in your arteries than someone who has high cholesterol alone.

- Diabetes
- High blood pressure
- Family history of early heart disease
- Age
- Obesity
- Smoking

If that's the case, it's especially important for you to talk to your doctor and work to get your cholesterol levels to goal.

### Treatment Information

When diet and exercise alone aren't enough to lower your cholesterol, it's important to discuss your treatment options with your doctor and choose a medication that's right for you.

- CRESTOR lowers LDL (bad) cholesterol and is proven to slow the progression of atherosclerosis, the buildup of plaque in the arteries over time
  - CRESTOR is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to any component of this product, in patients with active liver disease, and in women who are pregnant, nursing, or could become pregnant
- In November 2007, the FDA approved CRESTOR, along with diet, to slow the progression of [atherosclerosis](#) in adult patients as part of a treatment plan to lower cholesterol to goal. This was based largely on the results of a pivotal study called METEOR (**M**asuring **E**ffects on intima media **T**hickness: an **E**valuation **O**f **R**osuvastatin)

- METEOR measured the effects of CRESTOR on plaque buildup in the carotid arteries using b-mode ultrasonography to measure carotid intima-media thickness (cIMT). Results demonstrated a slowing of progression of atherosclerosis in people taking CRESTOR 40 mg with elevated LDL-C, at low risk (Framingham risk <10% over ten years) for symptomatic coronary artery disease, and with subclinical atherosclerosis as evidenced by cIMT
  - CRESTOR 40 mg should only be used for those patients not achieving their LDL-C goal with 20 mg. Patients initiating CRESTOR therapy or switching from another statin should begin treatment with CRESTOR at the appropriate starting dose

**METEOR is part of the GALAXY Program** – An extensive, ongoing, long-term, AstraZeneca global research initiative addressing important unanswered questions in statin research.

Please see Important Safety Information for CRESTOR below. For more information about prescription-only CRESTOR, including the full [Prescribing Information](#), call 1-800 CRESTOR or visit [CRESTOR.com](#)

### **About CRESTOR<sup>®</sup> (rosuvastatin calcium) Tablets**

In adults, CRESTOR is prescribed along with diet to lower high cholesterol, and to slow the buildup of plaque in arteries as part of a treatment plan to lower cholesterol to goal.

#### **CRESTOR Facts**

- CRESTOR lowers bad cholesterol by up to 52% (at the 10-mg dose versus 7% with placebo) and CRESTOR slows plaque buildup in arteries
- CRESTOR has been researched extensively for over 13 years — including 120 ongoing or completed clinical studies
- Altogether, more than 67,000 patients from 55 countries have participated in CRESTOR clinical research
- CRESTOR has received regulatory approval in 109 countries
- More than 24 million patients have been prescribed CRESTOR
- Worldwide, doctors have written nearly 330 million prescriptions for CRESTOR

### **Important Safety Information about CRESTOR<sup>®</sup> (rosuvastatin calcium) Tablets**

CRESTOR is not right for everyone. Do not take CRESTOR if you are nursing, pregnant or may become pregnant; have liver problems; or have had an allergic reaction to CRESTOR. Your doctor should do blood tests to check your liver before starting treatment with CRESTOR and if you have symptoms of liver problems while taking CRESTOR. Call your doctor right away if you have unexplained muscle pain or weakness, especially with fever; have muscle problems that do not go away even after your doctor told you to stop taking CRESTOR; feel unusually tired; or have loss of appetite, upper belly pain, dark urine, or yellowing of skin or eyes. These could be signs of rare but serious side effects. Elevated blood sugar levels have been reported with statins, including CRESTOR. The most common side effects may include headache, muscle aches, abdominal pain, weakness, and nausea. Memory loss and confusion have also been reported with statins, including CRESTOR. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about other medicines you are taking.

Please read the full [Prescribing Information](#).

If you have any questions concerning CRESTOR, please visit [CRESTOR.com](#) or contact AstraZeneca at 1-800-CRESTOR.

## **About AstraZeneca**

AstraZeneca is a global, innovation-driven biopharmaceutical business with a primary focus on the discovery, development and commercialization of prescription medicines for gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, neuroscience, respiratory and inflammation, oncology and infectious disease. AstraZeneca operates in over 100 countries and its innovative medicines are used by millions of patients worldwide.

For more information about AstraZeneca in the U.S. or our AZ&Me™ Prescription Savings programs, please visit: [www.astrazeneca-us.com](http://www.astrazeneca-us.com) or call 1-800-AZandMe (292-6363).

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