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Atorvastatin Calcium Tablets USP
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HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM TABLETS safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM TABLETS.

ATORVASTATIN CALCIUM TABLETS, for oral use
Initial U.S. Approval: 1996

----------INDICATIONS AND USAGE----------

Atorvastatin calcium tablets are an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor (statin) indicated (1):

- To reduce the risk of:
  - o Myocardial infarction (MI), stroke, revascularization procedures, and angina in adults with multiple risk factors for coronary heart disease (CHD) but without clinically evident CHD.
  - o MI and stroke in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus with multiple risk factors for CHD but without clinically evident CHD.
  - o Non-fatal MI, fatal and non-fatal stroke, revascularization procedures, hospitalization for congestive heart failure, and angina in adults with clinically evident CHD
- As an adjunct to diet to reduce low-density lipoprotein (LDL-C) in:
  - o Adults with primary hyperlipidemia.
  - o Adults and pediatric patients aged 10 years and older with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HeFH).
- As an adjunct to other LDL-C-lowering therapies, or alone if such treatments are unavailable, to reduce LDL-C in adults and pediatric patients aged 10 years and older with homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH).
- As an adjunct to diet for the treatment of adults with:
  - o Primary dysbetalipoproteinemia
  - o Hypertriglyceridemia.

----------DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION----------

- Take orally once daily with or without food (2.1).
- Assess LDL-C when clinically appropriate, as early as 4 weeks after initiating atorvastatin calcium tablets, and adjust dosage if necessary (2.1).
- *Adults* (2.2):
  - o Recommended starting dosage is 10 or 20 mg once daily; dosage range is 10 mg to 80 mg once daily.
  - o Patients requiring LDL-C reduction >45% may start at 40 mg once daily.
- *Pediatric Patients Aged 10 Years of Age and Older with HeFH*: Recommended starting dosage is 10 mg once daily; dosage range is 10 to 20 mg once daily (2.3).
- *Pediatric Patients Aged 10 Years of Age and Older with HoFH*: Recommended starting dosage is 10 to 20 mg once daily; dosage range is 10 to 80 mg once daily (2.4).
- See full prescribing information for atorvastatin calcium tablets dosage modifications due to drug interactions (2.5).

----------DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS----------

Tablets: 10 mg, 20 mg, 40 mg, 80 mg of atorvastatin (3).

----------CONTRAINDICATIONS----------

- Acute liver failure or decompensated cirrhosis (4).
- Hypersensitivity to atorvastatin or any excipient in atorvastatin calcium tablets (4).

----------WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS----------

- *Myopathy and Rhabdomyolysis*: Risk factors include age 65 years or greater, uncontrolled hypothyroidism, renal impairment, concomitant use with certain other drugs, and higher atorvastatin calcium tablets dosage. Discontinue atorvastatin calcium tablets if markedly elevated CK levels occur or myopathy is diagnosed or suspected. Temporarily discontinue atorvastatin calcium tablets in patients experiencing an acute or serious condition at high risk of developing renal failure secondary to rhabdomyolysis. Inform patients of the risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis when starting or increasing atorvastatin calcium tablets dosage. Instruct patients to promptly report unexplained muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness, particularly if accompanied by malaise or fever (2.5, 5.1, 7.1, 8.5, 8.6).
- *Immune-Mediated Necrotizing Myopathy (IMNM)*: Rare reports of IMNM, an autoimmune myopathy, have been reported with statin use. Discontinue atorvastatin calcium tablets if IMNM is suspected (5.2).
- *Hepatic Dysfunction*: Increases in serum transaminases have occurred, some persistent. Rare reports of fatal and non-fatal hepatic failure have occurred. Consider testing liver enzymes before initiating therapy and as clinically indicated thereafter. If serious hepatic injury with clinical symptoms and/or hyperbilirubinemia or jaundice occurs, promptly discontinue atorvastatin calcium tablets (5.3).

----------ADVERSE REACTIONS----------

Most common adverse reactions (incidence ≥5%) are nasopharyngitis, arthralgia, diarrhea, pain in extremity, and urinary tract infection (6.1).

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Umedica Laboratories USA Inc. at 1-855-288-5777 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

----------DRUG INTERACTIONS----------

- See full prescribing information for details regarding concomitant use of atorvastatin calcium tablets with other drugs or grapefruit juice that increase the risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis (2.5, 7.1).
- *Rifampin*: May reduce atorvastatin plasma concentrations. Administer simultaneously with atorvastatin calcium tablets (7.2).
- *Oral Contraceptives*: May increase plasma levels of norethindrone and ethinyl estradiol; consider this effect when selecting an oral contraceptive (7.3).
- *Digoxin*: May increase digoxin plasma levels; monitor patients appropriately (7.3).

----------USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS----------

- *Pregnancy*: May cause fetal harm. (8.1).
- *Lactation*: Breastfeeding not recommended during treatment with atorvastatin calcium tablets (8.2).

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved patient labeling.

Revised: 01/2026

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: CONTENTS*

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE
2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
2.1 Important Dosage Information
2.2 Recommended Dosage in Adult Patients
2.3 Recommended Dosage in Pediatric Patients 10 Years of Age and Older with HeFH
2.4 Recommended Dosage in Pediatric Patients 10 Years of Age and Older with HoFH
2.5 Dosage Modifications Due to Drug Interactions
3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS
4 CONTRAINDICATIONS
5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS
5.1 Myopathy and Rhabdomyolysis
5.2 Immune-Mediated Necrotizing Myopathy
5.3 Hepatic Dysfunction
5.4 Increases in HbA1c and Fasting Serum Glucose Levels
5.5 Increased Risk of Hemorrhagic Stroke in Patients on Atorvastatin calcium tablets 80 mg with Recent Hemorrhagic Stroke
6 ADVERSE REACTIONS
6.1 Clinical Trials Experience
6.2 Postmarketing Experience
7 DRUG INTERACTIONS
7.1 Drug Interactions that may Increase the Risk of Myopathy and Rhabdomyolysis with atorvastatin calcium tablets
7.2 Drug Interactions that may Decrease Exposure to atorvastatin calcium tablets
7.3 Atorvastatin calcium tablets Effects on Other Drugs
8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS
8.1 Pregnancy
8.2 Lactation
8.4 Pediatric Use
8.5 Geriatric Use
8.6 Renal Impairment
8.7 Hepatic Impairment
10 OVERDOSAGE
11 DESCRIPTION
12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY
12.1 Mechanism of Action
12.2 Pharmacodynamics
12.3 Pharmacokinetics
13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY
13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility
14 CLINICAL STUDIES
16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING
17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

*Sections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.

FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Atorvastatin calcium tablets are indicated:

- To reduce the risk of:
  - o Myocardial infarction (MI), stroke, revascularization procedures, and angina in adults with multiple risk factors for coronary heart disease (CHD) but without clinically evident CHD.
  - o MI and stroke in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus with multiple risk factors for CHD but without clinically evident CHD.
  - o Non-fatal MI, fatal and non-fatal stroke, revascularization procedures, hospitalization for congestive heart failure, and angina in adults with clinically evident CHD
- As an adjunct to diet to reduce low-density lipoprotein (LDL-C) in:
  - o Adults with primary hyperlipidemia.
  - o Adults and pediatric patients aged 10 years and older with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HeFH).
- As an adjunct to other LDL-C-lowering therapies, or alone if such treatments are unavailable, to reduce LDL-C in adults and pediatric patients aged 10 years and older with homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH).
- As an adjunct to diet for the treatment of adults with:
  - o Primary dysbetalipoproteinemia
  - o Hypertriglyceridemia.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Important Dosage Information

- Take Atorvastatin calcium tablets orally once daily at any time of the day, with or without food.
- Assess LDL-C when clinically appropriate, as early as 4 weeks after initiating Atorvastatin calcium tablets, and adjust the dosage if necessary.
- If a dose is missed, advise patients not to take the missed dose and resume with the next scheduled dose.

2.2 Recommended Dosage in Adult Patients

The recommended starting dosage of Atorvastatin calcium tablets are 10 mg to 20 mg once daily. The dosage range is once daily. Patients who require reduction in LDL-C greater than 45% may be started at 40 mg once daily.

2.3 Recommended Dosage in Pediatric Patients 10 Years of Age and Older with HeFH

The recommended starting dosage of Atorvastatin calcium tablets are 10 mg once daily. The daily dosage range is 10 mg to 80 mg once daily. The dosage range is 10 mg to 20 mg once daily.

2.4 Recommended Dosage in Pediatric Patients 10 Years of Age and Older with HoFH

The recommended starting dosage of Atorvastatin calcium tablets are 10 mg to 20 mg once daily. The dosage range is 10 mg to 80 mg once daily.

2.5 Dosage Modifications Due to Drug Interactions

Concomitant use of Atorvastatin calcium tablets with the following drugs requires dosage modification of Atorvastatin calcium tablets *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1) and Drug Interactions (7.1)]*:

Anti-Viral Medications

- In patients taking saquinavir plus ritonavir, darunavir plus ritonavir, fosamprenavir, fosamprenavir plus ritonavir, etravirine plus lopinavir or ritonavir, do not exceed atorvastatin calcium tablets 20 mg once daily.
- In patients taking nelfinavir, do not exceed atorvastatin calcium tablets 40 mg once daily.

Select Azole Antifungals or Macrolide Antibiotics

- In patients taking clarithromycin or itraconazole, do not exceed atorvastatin calcium tablets 20 mg once daily.

For additional recommendations regarding concomitant use of Atorvastatin calcium tablets with other anti-viral medications, azole antifungals or macrolide antibiotics, *see Drug Interactions (7.1)*.

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Atorvastatin calcium tablets:

- 10 mg of atorvastatin: White to off-white, film-coated, oval shaped tablets 'ATO' debossed on one side and "10" on other side.
- 20 mg of atorvastatin: White to off-white, film-coated, oval shaped tablets 'ATO' debossed on one side and "20" on other side.
- 40 mg of atorvastatin: White to off-white, film-coated, oval shaped tablets 'ATO' debossed on one side and "40" on other side.
- 80 mg of atorvastatin: White to off-white, film-coated, oval shaped tablets 'ATO' debossed on one side and "80" on other side.

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Acute liver failure or decompensated cirrhosis *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)]*.
- Hypersensitivity to atorvastatin or any excipients in atorvastatin calcium tablets. Hypersensitivity reactions, including anaphylaxis, angioneurotic edema, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, and toxic epidermal necrolysis, have been reported *[see Adverse Reactions (6.2)]*.

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Myopathy and Rhabdomyolysis

Atorvastatin calcium tablets may cause myopathy (muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness associated with elevated creatine kinase [CK] levels) and rhabdomyolysis. Acute kidney injury secondary to myoglobinuria and rare fatalities have occurred as a result of rhabdomyolysis in patients treated with statins, including atorvastatin calcium tablets.

Risk Factors for Myopathy

Risk factors for myopathy include age 65 years or greater, uncontrolled hypothyroidism, renal impairment, concomitant use with certain other drugs (including other lipid-lowering therapies), and higher atorvastatin calcium tablets dosage *[see Drug Interactions (7.1 and Use in Specific Populations (8.5, 8.6)]*.

Steps to Prevent or Reduce the Risk of Myopathy and Rhabdomyolysis

Atorvastatin calcium tablets exposure may be increased by drug interactions due to inhibition of cytochrome P450 enzyme 3A4 (CYP3A4) and/or transporters (e.g., breast cancer resistant protein [BCRP], organic anion-transporting polypeptide 1[OATP1B1/OATP1B3] and P-glycoprotein [P-gp]), resulting in an increased risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis. Concomitant use of cyclosporine, gemfibrozil, tipranavir plus ritonavir, or glecaprevir plus pibrentasvir with atorvastatin calcium tablets are not recommended. Atorvastatin calcium tablets dosage modifications are recommended for patients taking certain anti-viral, azole antifungals, or macrolide antibiotic medications *[see Dosage and Administration (2.5)]*. Cases of myopathy/rhabdomyolysis have been reported with atorvastatin coadministered with fusidic acid. Temporarily withhold dosing doses (>1 gram/day) of oral fusidic acid or within 7 days of administration of oral fusidic acid *[see Adverse Reactions (6.1)]*. Consider if the benefit of use of these products outweighs the increased risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis *[see Drug Interactions (7.1)]*.

Concomitant intake of large quantities, more than 1.2 liters daily, of grapefruit juice is not recommended in patients taking atorvastatin calcium tablets *[see Drug Interactions (7.1)]*.

Discontinue atorvastatin calcium tablets if markedly elevated CK levels occur or if myopathy is either diagnosed or suspected. Muscle symptoms and CK elevations may resolve if atorvastatin calcium tablets are discontinued. Temporarily discontinue atorvastatin calcium tablets in patients experiencing an acute or serious condition at high risk of developing renal failure secondary to rhabdomyolysis (e.g., sepsis; shock; severe hypovolemia; major surgery; trauma; severe metabolic, endocrine, or electrolyte disorders; or uncontrolled epilepsy).

Inform patients of the risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis when starting or increasing the atorvastatin calcium tablets dosage. Instruct patients to promptly report any unexplained muscle pain, tenderness or weakness, particularly if accompanied by malaise or fever.

5.2 Immune-Mediated Necrotizing Myopathy

There have been rare reports of immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy (IMNM), an autoimmune myopathy, associated with statin use, including atorvastatin calcium tablets. Clinical features of immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy (IMNM) is characterized by proximal muscle weakness and elevated serum creatine kinase that persists despite discontinuation of statin treatment; positive anti-HMG CoA reductase antibody; muscle biopsy showing necrotizing myopathy; and improvement with immunosuppressive agents. Additional neuromuscular and serologic testing may be necessary. Treatment with immunosuppressive agents may be required. Discontinue atorvastatin calcium tablets if IMNM is suspected.

5.3 Hepatic Dysfunction

Increases in serum transaminases have been reported with use of atorvastatin calcium tablets *[see Adverse Reactions (6.1)]*. In most cases, these changes appeared soon after initiation, were transient, were not accompanied by symptoms, and resolved or improved on continued therapy or after a brief interruption in therapy. Persistent increases to more than three times the ULN in serum transaminases have occurred in approximately 0.7% of patients receiving atorvastatin calcium tablets in clinical trials. There have been rare postmarketing reports of fatal and non-fatal hepatic failure in patients taking statins, including atorvastatin calcium tablets.

Patients who consume substantial quantities of alcohol and/or have a history of liver disease may be at increased risk for hepatic injury *[see Use in Specific Populations (8.7)]*.

Consider liver enzyme testing before atorvastatin calcium tablets initiation and when clinically indicated thereafter. Atorvastatin calcium tablets are contraindicated in patients with acute liver failure or decompensated cirrhosis *[see Contraindications (4)]*. If serious hepatic injury with clinical symptoms and/or hyperbilirubinemia or jaundice occurs, promptly discontinue atorvastatin calcium tablets.

5.4 Increases in HbA1c and Fasting Serum Glucose Levels

Increases in HbA1c and fasting serum glucose levels have been reported with statins, including atorvastatin calcium tablets. Optimize lifestyle measures, including regular exercise, maintaining a healthy body weight, and making healthy food choices.

5.5 Increased Risk of Hemorrhagic Stroke in Patients on atorvastatin calcium tablets 80 mg with Recent Hemorrhagic Stroke

In a post-hoc analysis of the Stroke Prevention by Aggressive Reduction in Cholesterol Levels (SPARCL) trial where 2,365 adult patients, without CHD who had a stroke or TIA within the preceding 6 months, were treated with atorvastatin calcium tablets 80 mg or placebo, a higher incidence of hemorrhagic stroke was seen in the atorvastatin calcium tablets 80 mg group compared to placebo (55, 2.3% atorvastatin calcium tablets vs. 33, 1.4% placebo; HR: 1.68, 95% CI: 1.08, 2.58; p=0.0168). The incidence of fatal hemorrhagic stroke was similar across treatment groups (17 vs. 18 for the atorvastatin and placebo groups, respectively). The incidence of non-fatal hemorrhagic stroke was significantly higher in the atorvastatin calcium tablets group (38, 1.6%) as compared to the placebo group (16, 0.7%). Some baseline characteristics, including hemorrhagic and lacunar stroke on study entry, were associated with a predisposition to a hemorrhagic stroke. Patients with prior hemorrhagic stroke in the atorvastatin calcium tablets group *[see Adverse Reactions (6.1)]*. Consider the risk/benefit of use of atorvastatin calcium tablets 80 mg in patients with recent hemorrhagic stroke.

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following important adverse reactions are described below and elsewhere in the labeling:

- Myopathy and Rhabdomyolysis *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)]*
- Immune-Mediated Necrotizing Myopathy *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)]*
- Hepatic Dysfunction *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.3)]*
- Increases in HbA1c and Fasting Serum Glucose Levels *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.4)]*

6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, the adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

In the atorvastatin calcium tablets placebo-controlled clinical trial database of 16,066 patients (8755 atorvastatin calcium tablets vs. 7,311 placebo; age range 10–93 years; 39% female; 91% White, 3% Black or African American, 2% Asian, 4% other) with a median treatment duration of 53 weeks, the most common adverse reactions (incidence ≥5% and greater than reported with placebo) that led to treatment discontinuation and occurred at a rate greater than placebo in atorvastatin calcium tablets clinical trials were myalgia (0.7%), diarrhea (0.5%), nausea (0.4%), alanine aminotransferase increase (0.4%), and hepatic enzyme increase (0.4%).

Table 1 summarizes adverse reactions, reported in ≥ 2% and at a rate greater than placebo in patients treated with atorvastatin calcium tablets in clinical trials (10–20 mg), from seven placebo-controlled trials.

Table 1. Adverse Reactions Occurring in ≥ 2% in Patients atorvastatin calcium tablets Treated with any Dose or and Greater than Placebo

Adverse Reaction	% Placebo N=7,311	% 10 mg N=3,908	% 20 mg N=188	% 40 mg N=604	% 80 mg N=4,055	% Any dose N=8,755
Nasopharyngitis	8.2	12.9	5.3	7.0	4.2	8.3
Arthralgia	6.5	8.9	11.7	10.6	4.3	6.9
Diarrhea	6.3	7.3	6.4	14.1	5.2	6.8
Pain in extremity	5.9	8.5	3.7	9.3	3.1	6.0
Urinary tract infection	5.6	6.9	6.4	8.0	4.1	5.7
Dyspepsia	4.3	5.9	3.2	6.0	3.3	4.7
Nausea	3.5	3.7	3.7	7.1	3.8	4.0
Musculoskeletal pain	3.6	5.2	3.2	5.1	2.3	3.8
Muscle spasms	3.0	4.6	4.8	5.1	2.4	3.6
Myalgia	3.1	3.6	5.9	8.4	2.7	3.5
Insomnia	2.9	2.8	1.1	5.3	2.8	3.0
Pharyngolaryngeal pain	2.1	3.9	1.6	2.8	0.7	2.3

Other adverse reactions reported in placebo-controlled trials include:

Body as a Whole: malaise, pyrexia

Digestive System: abdominal pain, constipation, eructation, flatulence, hepatitis, cholestasis

Musculoskeletal System: musculoskeletal pain, muscle fatigue, neck pain, joint swelling

Metabolic and Nutritional System: hyperglycemia, increase, liver function test abnormal, blood alkaline phosphatase increase, creatine phosphokinase increase, hyperglycemia

Nervous System: vertigo, paresis

Respiratory System: epistaxis

Skin and Appendages: urticaria

Special Senses: Hearing loss, tinnitus

Urogenital System: white blood cells urine positive

Elevations in Liver Enzyme Tests

Persistent elevations in serum transaminases, defined as more than 3 times the ULN and occurring on 2 or more occasions, occurred in 0.7% of patients who received atorvastatin calcium tablets in clinical trials. The incidence of these abnormalities was 0.2% for 10 mg, 0.8% for 20 mg, and 2.3% for 80 mg.

One patient in clinical trials developed jaundice. Increases in liver enzyme tests in other patients were not associated with jaundice or other clinical signs or symptoms. Upon dose reduction, drug interruption, or discontinuation, transaminase levels returned to or near pretreatment levels without sequelae. Eighteen of 30 patients with persistent liver enzyme elevations continued treatment with a reduced dose of atorvastatin calcium tablets.

Treating to New Targets Study (TNT)

In TNT, *[see Clinical Studies (14.1)]* 10,001 patients (age range 28–78 years, 19% female; 94% - White, 3% Black or African American, 3% other) without clinically evident CHD were treated with atorvastatin calcium tablets 10 mg daily (n=5006) or atorvastatin calcium tablets 80 mg daily (n=4995). In the high-dose atorvastatin calcium tablets group, there were more patients with serious adverse reactions (1.8%) and discontinuations due to adverse reactions (9.9%) as compared to the low-dose group (1.4%, 8.1%, respectively) during a median follow-up of 4.9 years. Persistent transaminase elevations (≥ 3 x ULN twice within 4–10 days) occurred in 1.2% of individuals with atorvastatin 80 mg and in 0.2%of individuals with atorvastatin 10 mg. Elevations of CK (> 10 x ULN) were higher in the high-dose atorvastatin group (0.6%) as compared to the low-dose atorvastatin group (0.1%).

Stroke Prevention by Aggressive Reduction in Cholesterol Levels (SPARCL)

In SPARCL, 4,731 patients (age range 21–92 years, 45% female; 93% White, 3% Black or African American, 1% Asian, 3% other) without clinically evident CHD but with a stroke or transient ischemic attack (TIA) within the previous 6 months were treated with atorvastatin calcium tablets 80 mg (n=2365) or placebo (n=2366) for a median follow-up of 4.9 years. There was a higher incidence of persistent hepatic transaminase elevations (≥ 3 x ULN twice within 4–10 days) in the atorvastatin group (0.9%) compared to placebo (0.1%). Elevations of CK (> 10 x ULN) were rare, but were higher in the atorvastatin group (0.1%) compared to placebo (0.0%). Diabetes was reported as an adverse reaction in 144 (6.1%) of subjects in the atorvastatin group and 91 (3.8%) of subjects in the placebo group.

In a post-hoc analysis, atorvastatin calcium tablets 80 mg reduced the incidence of ischemic stroke (9.2% vs. 11.6%) and increased the incidence of hemorrhagic stroke (2.3% vs. 1.4%) compared to placebo. The incidence of fatal hemorrhagic stroke was similar between groups (17 atorvastatin calcium tablets vs. 18 placebo). The incidence of non-fatal hemorrhagic strokes was significantly greater in the atorvastatin groups (38 non-fatal hemorrhagic strokes) as compared to the placebo group (16 non-fatal hemorrhagic strokes). Patients who entered the trial with a hemorrhagic stroke appeared to be at increased risk for hemorrhagic stroke (16% atorvastatin calcium tablets vs. (4% placebo).

Adverse Reactions from Clinical Studies of atorvastatin calcium tablets in Pediatric Patients with HeFH

In a 26-week controlled study in pediatric patients with HeFH (ages 10 years to 17 years) (n=140; 31% female; 92% White, 1.6% Black or African American, 1.6% Asians, 4.8% other), the safety and tolerability profile of atorvastatin calcium tablets 10 to 20 mg daily, as an adjunct to diet to reduce total cholesterol, LDL-C, and apo B levels, was generally similar to that of placebo *[see Use in Specific Populations (8.4) and Clinical Studies (14.6)]*.

6.2 Postmarketing Experience

The following adverse reactions have been identified during post-approval use of atorvastatin calcium tablets. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Gastrointestinal Disorders: pancreatitis

General Disorders: fatigue

Hepatobiliary Disorders: fatal and non-fatal hepatic failure

Immune System Disorders: anaphylaxis

Injury: tendon rupture

Musculoskeletal and Connective Tissue Disorders: rhabdomyolysis, myositis.

There have been rare reports of immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy associated with statin use.

Nervous System Disorders: dizziness, peripheral neuropathy.

There have been rare reports of cognitive impairment (e.g., memory loss, forgetfulness, amnesia, memory impairment, confusion) associated with statin use. The reports are generally nonserious, and reversible upon statin discontinuation, with variable times to symptom onset (1 day to years) and symptom resolution (median of 3 weeks). These reports have not established a causal relationship with myopathy/rhabdomyolysis, including acute myasthenia, and reports of recurrence when the same or a different statin was administered.

Psychiatric Disorders: depression

Respiratory Disorders: interstitial lung disease

Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue Disorders: angioneurotic edema, bullous rashes (including erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, and toxic epidermal necrolysis)

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

7.1 Drug Interactions that may Increase the Risk of Myopathy and Rhabdomyolysis with atorvastatin calcium tablets

Atorvastatin calcium tablets are a substrate of CYP3A4 and transporters (e.g., OATP1B1/B3, P-gp, or BCRP). Atorvastatin calcium tablets plasma levels can be significantly increased with concomitant administration of inhibitors of CYP3A4 and transporters. Table 2 includes a list of drugs that may increase exposure. Monitor patients who take and may increase the risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis when used concomitantly and instructions for preventing or managing them *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1) and Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]*.

Table 2: Drug Interactions that may Increase the Risk of Myopathy and Rhabdomyolysis with atorvastatin calcium tablets

Cyclosporine or Gemfibrozil	
Clinical Impact:	Atorvastatin plasma levels were significantly increased with concomitant administration of atorvastatin calcium tablets and cyclosporine, an inhibitor of CYP3A4 and OATP1B1 *[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]*, which increases the risk of myopathy when given alone.The risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis is increased when atorvastatin calcium tablets are administered with atorvastatin calcium tablets.
Intervention:	Concomitant use of cyclosporine or gemfibrozil with atorvastatin calcium tablets are not recommended.
Anti-Viral Medications	
Clinical Impact:	Atorvastatin plasma levels were significantly increased with concomitant administration of atorvastatin calcium tablets with many anti-viral medications, which are inhibitors of CYP3A4 and/or transporters (e.g., BCRP, OATP1B1/1B3, P-gp, MRP2, and/or OATP2B1) *[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]*. Cases of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis have been reported with concomitant use of ledipasvir plus sofosbuvir with atorvastatin calcium tablets.
Intervention:	• Concomitant use of tipranavir plus ritonavir or glecaprevir plus pibrentasvir with atorvastatin calcium tablets are not recommended. • In patients taking lopinavir plus ritonavir, or simeprevir, consider the risk/benefit of concomitant use with atorvastatin. • In patients taking saquinavir plus ritonavir, darunavir plus ritonavir, fosamprenavir, fosamprenavir plus ritonavir, etravirine plus grazoprevir or letermovir, do not exceed atorvastatin calcium tablets 20 mg daily. • In patients taking nelfinavir, do not exceed atorvastatin calcium tablets 40 mg *[see Dosage and Administration (2.5)]*. • Consider the risk/benefit of concomitant use of ledipasvir plus sofosbuvir with atorvastatin calcium tablets. • Monitor all patients for signs and symptoms of myopathy particularly during initiation of therapy and during upward dose titration of either drug.
Examples:	Tipranavir plus ritonavir, glecaprevir plus pibrentasvir, lopinavir plus ritonavir, simeprevir, saquinavir plus ritonavir, darunavir plus ritonavir, fosamprenavir, fosamprenavir plus ritonavir, etravirine plus grazoprevir, letermovir, nelfinavir, and ledipasvir plus sofosbuvir.
Select Azole Antifungals or Macrolide Antibiotics	
Clinical Impact:	Atorvastatin plasma levels were significantly increased with concomitant administration of atorvastatin calcium tablets with select azole antifungals or macrolide antibiotics, due to inhibition of CYP3A4 and/or transporters *[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]*.
Intervention:	In patients taking clarithromycin or itraconazole, do not exceed atorvastatin calcium tablets 20 mg *[see Dosage and Administration (2.5)]*. Monitor all patients for signs and symptoms of myopathy particularly during initiation of therapy and during upward dose titration of either drug.
Examples:	Itraconazole, clarithromycin, itraconazole, ketoconazole, posaconazole, and voriconazole.
Niacin	
Clinical Impact:	Cases of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis have been observed with concomitant use of lipid modifying dosages of niacin (≥1 gram/day niacin) with atorvastatin calcium tablets.
Intervention:	Consider if the benefit of using lipid modifying dosages of niacin concomitantly with atorvastatin calcium tablets outweighs the increased risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis. If concomitant use is decided, monitor patients for signs and symptoms of myopathy particularly during initiation of therapy and during upward dose titration of either drug.
Fibrates (other than Gemfibrozil)	
Clinical Impact:	Fibrates may cause myopathy when given alone. The risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis is increased with concomitant use of fibrates with atorvastatin calcium tablets.
Intervention:	Consider if the benefit of using fibrates concomitantly with atorvastatin calcium tablets outweighs the increased risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis. If concomitant use is decided, monitor patients for signs and symptoms of myopathy particularly during initiation of therapy and during upward dose titration of either drug.
Colchicine	
Clinical Impact:	Cases of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis have been reported with concomitant use of colchicine with atorvastatin calcium tablets.
Intervention:	Consider the risk/benefit of concomitant use of colchicine with atorvastatin calcium tablets. If concomitant use is decided, monitor patients for signs and symptoms of myopathy particularly during initiation of therapy and during upward dose titration of either drug.
Grapefruit Juice	
Clinical Impact:	Grapefruit juice consumption, especially excessive consumption, more than 1.2 liters/day, can raise the plasma levels of atorvastatin and may increase the risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis.
Intervention:	Avoid intake of large quantities of grapefruit juice, more than 1.2 liters daily, when taking atorvastatin calcium tablets.

7.2 Drug Interactions that may Decrease Exposure to atorvastatin calcium tablets

Table 3 presents drug interactions that may decrease exposure to atorvastatin calcium tablets and instructions for preventing or managing them.

Table 3: Drug Interactions that may Decrease Exposure to atorvastatin calcium tablets

Rifampin	
Clinical Impact:	Concomitant administration of atorvastatin calcium tablets with rifampin, an inducer of cytochrome P450 3A4 and inhibitor of OATP1B1, can lead to variable reductions in plasma concentrations of atorvastatin. Due to the dual interaction mechanism of rifampin, delayed administration of atorvastatin calcium tablets after administration of rifampin has been associated with a significant reduction in atorvastatin plasma concentrations.
Intervention:	Administer atorvastatin calcium tablets and rifampin simultaneously.

7.3 Atorvastatin calcium tablets Effects on Other Drugs

Table 4 presents atorvastatin calcium tablets effect on other drugs and instructions for preventing or managing them.

Table 4: Atorvastatin calcium tablets Effects on Other Drugs

Oral Contraceptives	
Clinical Impact:	Co-administration of atorvastatin calcium tablets and an oral contraceptive increased plasma concentrations of norethindrone and ethinyl estradiol *[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]*.
Intervention:	Consider this when selecting an oral contraceptive for patients taking atorvastatin calcium tablets.
Digoxin	
Clinical Impact:	When multiple doses of atorvastatin calcium tablets and digoxin were co-administered, steady state plasma digoxin concentrations increased *[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]*.
Intervention:	Monitor patients taking digoxin appropriately.

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Risk Summary

Discontinue atorvastatin calcium tablets when pregnancy is recognized. Alternatively, consider the ongoing therapeutic needs of the individual patient. Atorvastatin calcium tablets decreases synthesis of cholesterol and may cause fetal harm when administered to pregnant patients based on the mechanism of action *[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.1)]*. In addition, treatment of hypercholesterolemia is not generally necessary during pregnancy. Atherosclerosis is a chronic process and the discontinuation of lipid-lowering drugs during pregnancy should have little impact on the outcome of long-term therapy of primary hypercholesterolemia.

Available data from case series and prospective and retrospective observational cohort studies over decades of use in pregnant women with atorvastatin calcium have not identified a drug-associated risk of major congenital malformations. Published data from prospective and retrospective observational cohort studies with atorvastatin calcium tablets use in pregnant women are insufficient to determine if there is a drug-associated risk of miscarriage *(see Data)*. In animal reproduction studies, no adverse developmental effects were observed in pregnant rats or rabbits orally administered atorvastatin during organogenesis (0.25 and 20 times the MRHD, respectively, based on body surface area) or throughout pregnancy and lactation (MRHD) at 6 mg/kg/day in rats (mg/m²). In rats exposed to atorvastatin calcium tablets during gestation and lactation, decreased postnatal growth and development delay were observed at doses ≥ 6 times the MRHD *(see Data)*.

The estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage for the indicated population is unknown. In the U.S. general population, the estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage in clinically recognized pregnancies is 2–4% and 15–20%, respectively.

Data

Human Data

A Medicaid cohort linkage study of 1,152 statin-exposed pregnant women compared to 886,996 controls did not find a significant teratogenic effect from maternal use of statins in its first trimester of pregnancy, after adjusting for potential confounders – including maternal age, diabetes mellitus, hypertension, obesity, and alcohol and tobacco use – using propensity score adjusted methods. The relative risk of congenital malformations between the group with statin use and the group with no statin use in the first trimester was 1.07 (95% confidence interval 0.85 to 1.37) after controlling for confounders, particularly pre-existing diabetes mellitus. There were also no statistically significant increases in any of the organ-specific malformations assessed after accounting for confounders. In the majority of cases, exposure to statins was initiated before pregnancy and discontinued prior to the third trimester, in which pregnancy was identified. Study limitations include reliance on physician coding to define the presence of a malformation, lack of control for certain confounders such as body mass index, use of prescription dispensing as a surrogate for the use of a statin, and lack of information on non-live births.

Animal Data

Atorvastatin was administered to pregnant rats and rabbits during organogenesis at oral doses up to 300 mg/kg/day and 100 mg/kg/day, respectively. No maternal toxicity, fetotoxicity, or fetal malformations were observed in rats or rabbits at doses up to 100 mg/kg/day. These doses resulted in multiples of about 30 times (rat) or 20 times (rabbit) the human exposure at the MRHD based on surface area (mg/m²). In rats, the maternally toxic dose of 300 mg/kg resulted in increased post-implantation loss and decreased fetal body weight. At the matern