

Can Cholesterol Lowering Drugs Help Slow Alzheimer's Disease?

Give us a hand in finding out.

Cholesterol lowering drugs (also called “statins”) are effective weapons in the fight against heart disease. Now, some evidence suggests that statins also may be able to slow the devastating effects of Alzheimer's disease (AD) on the brain.



The Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study, a group of research centers sponsored by the U.S. Government's National Institute on Aging, is launching the **CLASP-AD** (**C**holesterol **L**owering **A**gent to **S**low **P**rogression of **AD**) research study to find out more about the effect on AD of one statin, called simvastatin (Zocor).

The **CLASP-AD** study is looking for volunteers who:

- have mild to moderate AD
- are age 50 or older
- speak English or Spanish
- do not currently take or need cholesterol lowering drugs
- have a study partner – a friend or relative who can accompany the volunteer to all clinic visits and answer questions about him/her.

CLASP-AD is a randomized, placebo-controlled research study. Half of participants will be assigned at random to receive the experimental drug, the other half will receive placebo (inactive pill). Participants will be assessed regularly by physicians and qualified health care professionals during the 15-month study.

For more information, or to volunteer, contact:

Randall Sanabria, Amber Watts, Margaret Villa, R.N.

University of Southern California

Keck School of Medicine

(323) 442-3715 or e-mail randalls@usc.edu

