



# Scientific Session News

American College of Cardiology



**Monday** March 30, 2009

5 8 T H A N N U A L S C I E N T I F I C S E S S I O N • O R L A N D O • M A R C H 2 8 - 3 1

## Eprotirome study

Researchers at the Karolinska University Hospital and Institute in Stockholm evaluated the safety and lipid-lowering effect of eprotirome, an investigational liver-selective thyroid-receptor agonist used as an add-on drug to ongoing statin therapy. They found that the drug significantly reduced low-density lipoprotein (LDL) levels, triglycerides and other lipid markers of cardiovascular disease risk.

In the randomized study of 189 patients with hypercholesterolemia despite already taking statins, the Karolinska researchers found that eprotirome safely lowered LDL cholesterol by 25 percent as an additive effect to statin therapy and reduced triglycerides and lipoprotein(a) by 30 percent to 40 percent. Non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol and apolipoprotein B were also reduced by 25 percent.

“These findings suggest eprotirome may be an interesting treatment for patients who need further LDL-lowering, and as an alternative to the treatment of mixed dyslipidemia. Most important, the safety data support that the function of the drug is restricted to the liver,” said Bo Angelin, M.D., professor of clinical metabolism at Karolinska Institute and head of endocrinology, metabolism and diabetes at Karolinska University Hospital.

The liver is the target organ for thyroidhormone regulation of lipid metabolism. A liver-selective thyroid-receptor agonist represents a novel physiologic approach to the treatment of dyslipidemia.