

SPEAKER: There is definitely a significant subgroup of patients with diabetes in whom the availability of PCSK9 inhibitors is a game changer. Multiple surveys have shown that about 50% of our patients with diabetes have an LDL above target. Of course, some of those patients will be able to get their LDL down lower with optimization of the statin dose, the addition of other drugs such as ezetimibe, et cetera.

Nonetheless, there are probably about 5% to 10% of our patients with diabetes whom we can not get their LDL down to target, because either their LDL remains elevated, despite maximal dose of statin, or they're unable to tolerate the statin, either total intolerance, or they can only take a small dose of statin, or do they have a contraindication to statin therapy.

So in these patients, the fact that we have drugs that can lower LDL by 50% to 60%, with a wonderful safety profile to date, PCSK9 inhibitors, there have been no safety surprises. We just have a small percent of patients who may have local injection site reactions, but apart from that, there have been no safety issues identified to date. So this really is a godsend to our patients with diabetes in whom we've been previously unable to get their LDLs down to target.