

SPEAKER: It is so true that once you start PCSK9 therapy, you will be on it for decades. And it is a lifetime of commitment, including multiple injections. And also, if side effects-- serious adverse events are going to occur, they may occur after a decade or two of treatment.

We always worry about muscle aches, muscle problems, and memory issues in any lipid-lowering therapy. I think the angst about that is out of proportion to what the real-world data show, but we worry about that. So I do keep track of my patients' muscle symptoms. I check on them with regard to the development of diabetes, memory issues, and also LFT abnormalities. So far, I've not seen any signal that makes me worry about someone being on it for a lifetime.

But I think, to be frank and to be transparent, we don't know. We need real-world evidence with a decade or two of therapy. So we should always caution our patients that we think the drugs are safe, all the evidence to date shows they're safe, but we will continue to be vigilant for them and watch.