
Note

Please note that the agent “ezetimibe” (Ezetrol) has not been properly classified. This agent is a **CHOLESTEROL ABSORPTION INHIBITOR**, not a “Bile Acid Sequestrant” (ezetimibe does NOT bind to bile acid).

Taken from CPS 2004:

Pharmacology: EZETROL™ (ezetimibe) is in a new class of lipid-lowering compounds that selectively inhibit the intestinal absorption of cholesterol and related plant sterols. EZETROL™ is orally active, with a unique mechanism of action that differs from other classes of cholesterol-reducing compounds e.g., HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors (statins), bile acid sequestrants (resins), fibric acid derivatives, plant stanols.

Ezetimibe localizes at the brush border of the small intestine and inhibits the absorption of cholesterol, leading to a decrease in the delivery of intestinal cholesterol to the liver. This results in a reduction of hepatic cholesterol stores and an increase in clearance of cholesterol from the blood. Ezetimibe does not increase bile acid excretion in contrast to bile acid sequestrants and does not inhibit cholesterol synthesis in the liver as do statins. EZETROL™ and statins have distinct mechanisms of action that provide complementary cholesterol reduction.

Note: There will be no exam question on this complementary info.