SEVERE RHABDOMYOLYSIS AFTER CONCURRENT ADMINISTRATION OF ENTRESTO (SACUBUTRIL/VALSARTAN) AND HIGH DOSE ATORVASTATIN
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BACKGROUND: Patients presenting with myocardial infarction (MI) are recommended by major cardiology guideline to receive a high intensity statin as part of their secondary prevention therapy. The European Society of Cardiology and American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association guidelines advocate a high intensity statin but do not specify the dose. In the UK National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines, atorvastatin at an 80 mg dose is the recommendation. Entresto (sacubutril/valsartan) is an angiotensin receptor neprilysin inhibitor, which has been recently introduced for the treatment of symptomatic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction. Side effects of statins include myalgia, transaminitis and rarely rhabdomyolysis, and these effects are more common with higher doses of high intensity statins with concurrent administration of drugs that increase serum statin levels. We report a case of severe life threatening rhabdomyolysis associated with concurrent administration of Atorvastatin and Entresto.

CASE REPORT: We report a case of a 58-year-old male with ischaemic heart disease, hypertension and chronic kidney disease who presented with severe myalgia and oliguria a month after discharge from hospital. During the previous admission due to heart failure, he was discharged on Entresto 50 mg twice daily and atorvastatin 80 mg daily due to persistently high LDL and a background of MI. During this admission, his serum creatinine kinase was noted to be 94,850 U/L (normal range 32-294 U/L) and he had developed anuric stage 3 acute kidney injury (serum creatinine 845 µmol/L vs 155 µmol/L previously) requiring urgent renal replacement therapy. He made a full recovery with supportive therapy and removal of likely culprit drugs of atorvastatin, Entresto and other nephrotoxic drugs.

CONCLUSION: Rhabdomyolisis is a serious side effect of statin therapy and is more likely in higher doses and intensity of statin and concurrent administration of drugs that increase serum statin level. Entresto is a new medication for heart failure, which may be associated with increased incidences of statin side effects, thus patients also on a statin should be monitored closely.