

Abstract

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Lipoprotein(a) reduction by N-acetylcysteine.

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BACKGROUND: Lipoprotein(a), a complex of low-density lipoprotein linked by disulphide bridges with apo(a), is associated with atherosclerotic disease when present at very high plasma concentrations. **In vitro, N-acetylcysteine (NAC) dissociates this complex.**

RESULTS AND CONCLUSION: In two patients with high Lp(a) levels NAC lowered plasma Lp(a) from 58 to 20 mg/dl and from 59 to 18 mg/dl: reductions of this order have not hitherto been achieved either by drugs or by diet.

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