

# Statins and the risk of adrenal insufficiency: a nested case-control study (R.USTESE)

**First published:** 19/07/2022

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Study

Ongoing

## Administrative details

### EU PAS number

EUPAS48277

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### Study ID

48278

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### DARWIN EU® study

No

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### Study countries

 France

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### Study description

By inhibiting cholesterol synthesis, statins could reduce the synthesis of steroid hormones, thus causing adrenal insufficiency. We conducted a nested case-control study using the Système National des Données de Santé. The source

population was patients  $\geq 18$  years of age, affiliated to the General Health Insurance Scheme in 2010 with no history of adrenal insufficiency. Cases were patients presenting with a first adrenal insufficiency event between 01/01/2015 and 31/12/2017. Adrenal insufficiency was defined as the presence of both a hospital stay with a diagnosis of adrenal insufficiency (ICD-10 codes E271 to E274), and a first delivery of hydrocortisone  $\pm 30$  days before/after hospital admission. Each case was matched to up to 10 controls on age ( $\pm 2$  years), sex and corticosteroid exposure in the 3 years prior to the index date. Statin exposure was measured in the 5 years prior to the index date using different definitions: history of use, cumulative use and intensity of last statin used. A 6-month censoring period for exposure was applied before the index date to avoid potential detection bias. The association was estimated using conditional logistic regression adjusted for confounders included in a disease risk score. Analyses were stratified on age, sex and history of corticosteroid use.

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## Study status

Ongoing

## Research institutions and networks

### Institutions

[Academic Center for Pharmacoepidemiology \(DRUGS-SAFER\)](#)

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**Institution**

## Contact details

### Study institution contact

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Study contact

[julien.bezin@u-bordeaux.fr](mailto:julien.bezin@u-bordeaux.fr)

### Primary lead investigator

Julien Bezin

Primary lead investigator

## Study timelines

### Date when funding contract was signed

Actual: 07/11/2019

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### Study start date

Actual: 20/12/2019

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### Date of final study report

Planned: 30/06/2022

## Sources of funding

- Other

## More details on funding

ANSM

## Regulatory

## Was the study required by a regulatory body?

No

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## Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?

Not applicable

## Methodological aspects

### Study type

### Study type list

#### **Study type:**

Non-interventional study

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#### **Scope of the study:**

Assessment of risk minimisation measure implementation or effectiveness

#### **Main study objective:**

to assess the association between statin exposure and the development of adrenal insufficiency.

## Study Design

### **Non-interventional study design**

Case-control

## Study drug and medical condition

## **Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) code**

(C10AA) HMG CoA reductase inhibitors

HMG CoA reductase inhibitors

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## **Medical condition to be studied**

Adrenal insufficiency

## Population studied

### **Age groups**

- Adults (18 to < 46 years)
  - Adults (46 to < 65 years)
  - Adults (65 to < 75 years)
  - Adults (75 to < 85 years)
  - Adults (85 years and over)
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### **Estimated number of subjects**

50000

## Study design details

### **Outcomes**

Adrenal insufficiency

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### **Data analysis plan**

The association will be estimated using conditional logistic regression adjusted for confounders included in a disease risk score. Analyses will be stratified on age, sex and history of corticosteroid use.

## Data management

## ENCePP Seal

The use of the ENCePP Seal has been discontinued since February 2025. The ENCePP Seal fields are retained in the display mode for transparency but are no longer maintained.

## Data sources

### Data source(s), other

SNDS France

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### Data sources (types)

[Administrative healthcare records \(e.g., claims\)](#)

## Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

### CDM mapping

No

## Data quality specifications

### Check conformance

Unknown

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### Check completeness

Unknown

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### Check stability

Unknown

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## **Check logical consistency**

Unknown

## Data characterisation

### **Data characterisation conducted**

No