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Sommario/riassunto	Over the past 20 years, effective treatments for lipid disorders have become available. With the high incidence of coronary artery disease in the developed world, interest in this area has greatly increased, and 10% of the UK population now qualify for lipid lowering treatment. It is therefore important that the rational use of lipid-lowering treatment is based on an understanding of the underlying metabolic problem. This comprehensive but concise guide makes basic lipid metabolism understandable to the reader without over-simplification. The often confusing classification of lipid disorders is