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The cholesterol wars [[electronic resource]]: the skeptics vs. the

preponderance of evidence / / Daniel Steinberg

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Front Cover; The Cholesterol Wars: The Skeptics vs. the Preponderance Nota di contenuto

of Evidence; Copyright Page; Contents; Foreword; Preface;

Acknowledgments; Chapter 1. Overview; On the nature of medical controversy: An overview of the cholesterol wars: Where we stand today; References; Chapter 2. Animal Models of Atherosclerosis; Nikolai N. Anitschkow and the cholesterol-fed rabbit; Why wasn't Anitschkow's lead followed up?; What led Anitschkow to feed rabbits cholesterol?;

Atherosclerosis in other species; Notes; References

Chapter 3. Hypercholesterolemia and Atherosclerosis in Humans: Causally Related? The clinical and genetic evidence; Do more modest degrees of hypercholesterolemia, such as are found in a general population, confer risk of premature coronary heart disease?; The epidemiologic evidence; Dietary fat, blood cholesterol, and coronary heart disease; Do diets rich in saturated fats really raise blood cholesterol?; Experimental findings; Observational studies; The contribution of dietary cholesterol intake; Early clinical trials of dietary

intervention; Additional pre-1970 studies

Overview of all of the pre-1970's diet intervention studies A brief

wrap-up of the case against cholesterol as of 1970; Note; References; Chapter 4. Building the Basic Science Foundation; The biosynthesis of cholesterol and its metabolic regulation; The rate-limiting step, HMGCo A reductase; The birth of the lipoproteins and the John W. Gofman story; Unraveling the complex metabolism and interactions of the plasma lipoproteins; Which lipoproteins are proatherogenic?; The National Heart Institute story; Bringing the lipoprotein package concept into clinical practice

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Discovery of the scavenger receptor on macrophages Oxidatively modified LDL and atherogenesis; Inflammation in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis; Weighing the relative importance of inflammation and hyperlipidemia; Regression of atherosclerosis; Status of the lipid hypothesis in the 1980's; Note; References; Chapter 6. The Search for Cholesterol-lowering Drugs; Hypocholesterolemic drugs as a target: cons and pros Nicotinic acid; Bile acid-binding resins; Clofibrate; Probucol; Another blow: the somewhat messy Coronary Drug Project; The cholesterol controversy at its height; References Chapter 7. The 1984 Coronary Primary Prevention Trial

## Sommario/riassunto

Today, in the era of the statins (cholesterol lowering drugs), there is no longer any doubt about the value of lowering blood cholesterol levels. This book chronicles the controversy that swirled around the 'lipid hypothesis' of atherosclerosis for so many years. In fact, 'the lower the better' is the position of many clinicians. However, getting to this point has been a long uphill battle marked by heated debate and sometimes violent disagreement. The history of this controversy is told here for its own sake and because remembering it may help us avoid similar mistakes in the future.