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Current drug targets

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## The Impact of Statin Therapy on the Survival of Patients with Gastrointestinal Cancer (Article)

Gachpazan, M.<sup>a,b</sup>, Kashani, H.<sup>b</sup>, Khazaei, M.<sup>a,c</sup>, Hassanian, S.M.<sup>a,d</sup>, Rezayi, M.<sup>a,b</sup>, Asgharzadeh, F.<sup>c</sup>, Ghayour-Mobarhan, M.<sup>a</sup>, Ferns, G.A.<sup>e</sup>, Avan, A.<sup>a,b,f</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Metabolic syndrome Research center, Mashhad University of Medical Sciences, Mashhad, Iran

<sup>b</sup>Department of Modern Sciences and Technologies; Faculty of Medicine, Mashhad University of Medical Sciences, Mashhad, Iran

<sup>c</sup>Student Research Committee, Faculty of Medicine, Mashhad University of Medical Sciences, Mashhad, Iran

[View additional affiliations](#) 

### Abstract

Statins are 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl coenzyme A (HMG-CoA) reductase inhibitors that may play an important role in the evolution of cancers, due to their effects on cancer cell metabolism. Statins affect several potential pathways, including cell proliferation, angiogenesis, apoptosis and metastasis. The number of trials assessing the putative clinical benefits of statins in cancer is increasing. Currently, there are several trials listed on the global trial identifier website [clinicaltrials.gov](http://clinicaltrials.gov). Given the compelling evidence from these trials in a variety of clinical settings, there have been calls for a clinical trial of statins in the adjuvant gastrointestinal cancer setting. However, randomized controlled trials on specific cancer types in relation to statin use, as well as studies on populations without a clinical indication for using statins, have elucidated some potential underlying biological mechanisms, and the investigation of different statins is probably warranted. It would be useful for these trials to incorporate the assessment of tumour biomarkers predictive of statin response in their design. This review summarizes the recent preclinical and clinical studies that assess the application of statins in the treatment of gastrointestinal cancers with particular emphasize on their association with cancer risk. Copyright© Bentham Science Publishers; For any queries, please email at [epub@benthamscience.net](mailto:epub@benthamscience.net).

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