Familial Hypercholesterolemia

Inherited, and impacts the family

Excessive, above normal, very high

An important fat in the blood, made by liver and found in some foods

Present in the blood

Familial Hypercholesterolemia

The most common, life-threatening, genetic condition in the world that causes high cholesterol.

People with FH have a high amount of low density lipoprotein (LDL) or “bad cholesterol” due to a mutation in one of the genes that controls the way cholesterol is cleared by the body. As a result, cholesterol accumulates in the bloodstream and can ultimately build up in the walls of the arteries. Cholesterol build up in the artery wall is called hardening of the arteries, or atherosclerosis, and can lead to problems such as **heart attacks** and **strokes** in **young adults and even children.**

FH is **inherited** and passed down through families. If you have FH, each of your first-degree relatives (parents, siblings, children) has a 50% chance of inheriting it. That is why - when one individual with FH is diagnosed, it is important that all family members are screened for FH.

In many cases, people with FH get misdiagnosed and do not receive the care they need. If you suspect you have FH, please consult your healthcare provider or find a lipid specialist

Treatment should begin early. Although lifestyle and diet are important factors to staying heart healthy, for individuals with FH, that is not enough.

Prevalence: 1 in 250-300persons

Est. number: 34 million globally

Diagnosed: Only 10%

Treatment: Exists, although access differs

Key Barrier: Awareness and Diagnosis

Untreated: Leads to atherosclerosis, early heart attacks and heart disease (CVD – cardio vascular disease) or stroke, even premature death