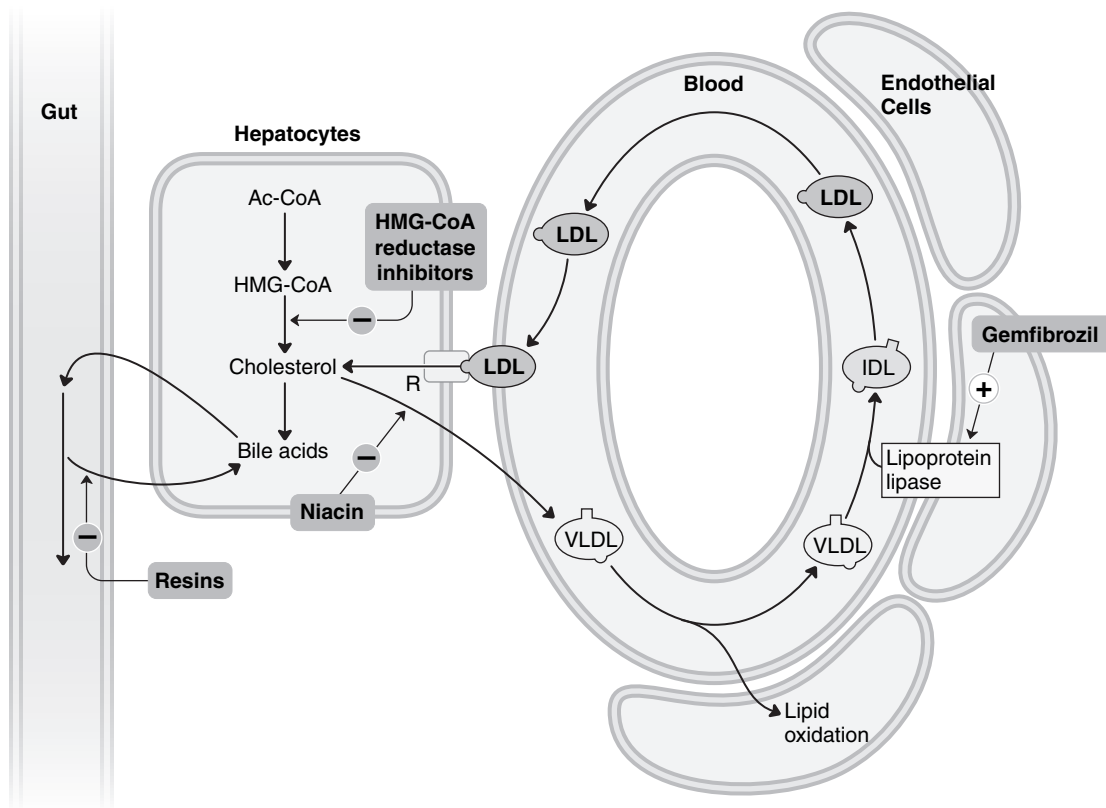


## Lipid-lowering agents

Drug	Effect on LDL “bad cholesterol”	Effect on HDL “good cholesterol”	Effect on triglycerides	Side effects/problems
HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors (lovastatin, pravastatin, simvastatin, atorvastatin)	↓↓↓	↑	↓	Expensive, reversible ↑ LFTs, myositis
Niacin	↓↓	↑↑	↓	Red, flushed face, which is ↓ by aspirin or long-term use
Bile acid resins (cholestyramine, colestipol)	↓↓	—	Slightly ↑	Patients hate it—tastes bad and causes GI discomfort
Cholesterol absorption blocker (ezetimibe)	↓↓	—	—	Rare ↑ LFTs
“Fibrates” (gemfibrozil, clofibrate, bezafibrate, fenofibrate)	↓	↑	↓↓↓	Myositis, ↑ LFTs



(Adapted, with permission, from Katzung BG, Trevor AJ. *USMLE Road Map: Pharmacology*, 1st ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2003:56.)