Raising Awareness. Saving Lives.

FH FACTS

- Familial Hypercholesterolemia (FH) is a life-threatening genetic disorder that causes **high cholesterol starting at birth**. [1]
- FH is an autosomal-dominant disorder. Each child of a person with heterozygous FH has a 50 percent chance of inheriting the disorder. [2]
- FH is a common disorder. Approximately **1 in 250** people worldwide have FH. [1]
- **More than 90%** of people with FH have not been properly diagnosed in the U.S. [1]
- FH can be **diagnosed** based on a simple **blood test and a family history**.
- **FH is treatable**. Early and appropriate treatment can significantly lower the risk of cardiovascular disease for people with FH. [1]
- FH patients have a **2.5 – 10 fold increased risk of heart disease**, but when FH is diagnosed and treated early in life, the risk is reduced by ~80%. [3]
- Untreated men are at a **50% risk** for a fatal or non-fatal coronary event by age 50 years; untreated women are at a **30% risk** by age 60 years. [4]

Early diagnosis and treatment are crucial for a healthier, longer life.

1. Wiegman et al. Eur Heart J 2015;10:157
2. Slack J. Risks of ischaemic heart disease in familial hyperlipoproteinaemic states. Lancet 1969;2(7635):1380-2.
3. Efficiancy of statins in familial hypercholesterolaemia: a long term cohort study. Bmj 2008; 337, Versmissen, et al
4. Goldstein JL et al. Familial hypercholesterolemia. In: Scriver C et al. Editors. The Metabolic and Molecular Bases of Inherited Disease. 8th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2001:2863–2913