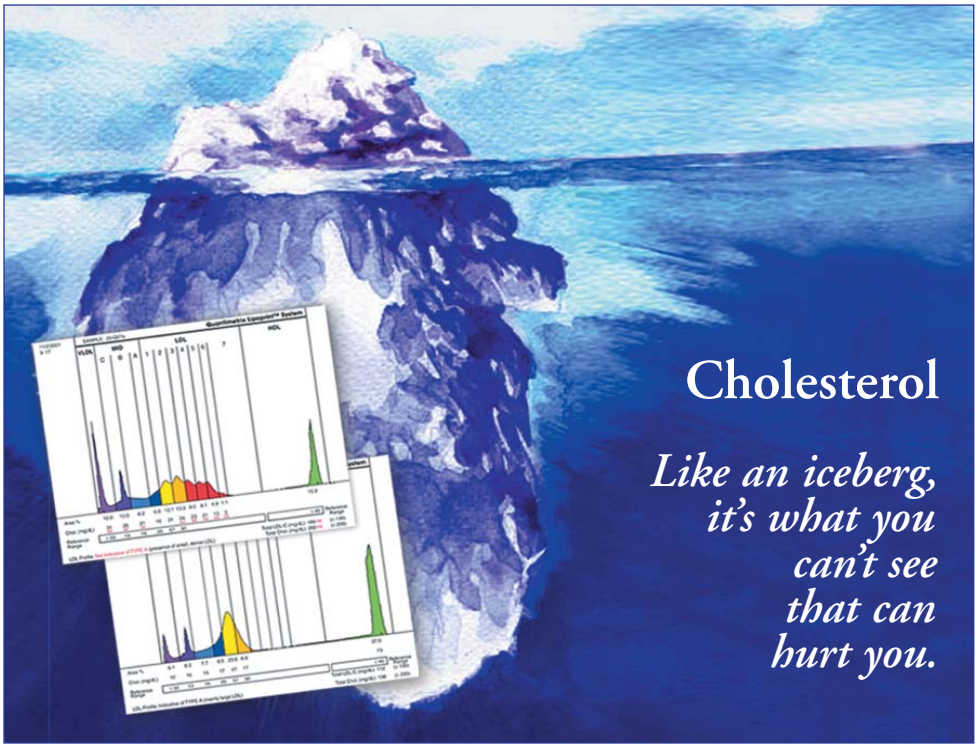
Quantimetrix Corporation
LIPOPRINT SYSTEM

# CHOLESTEROL TEST
# Lipoprint®




## New Cholesterol Subfraction Test Cleared By The FDA

The Lipoprint System, which measures cholesterol LDL subfractions, was cleared for sale by the FDA. This new test gives physicians more specific data about a patients' cholesterol than any other cholesterol test presently available.

Researchers have shown small dense LDL subfractions to be the 'baddest" of the bad cholesterol. In the case of a patient's lipoprotein subfractions, size does matter. As the LDL subfraction (particles) become smaller and denser they more easily bind to the coronary artery wall and contribute to a narrowing of the blood vessel.

The Lipoprint System identifies patients into two distinctive profiles: patients with larger buoyant LDL, and patients with smaller, denser LDL. The Lipoprint system also measures the amount of cholesterol present in each LDL subfraction.
The new Lipoprint test indicates whether a patient's LDL subfractions undergo any change from any drug therapy. As a patient's LDL subfractions become smaller and denser they are more atherogenic or prone to building arterial plaque and therefore blocking blood vessels. Some cholesterol lowering drugs lower total cholesterol but shift the patients LDL subfraction profile to the larger less dense subfractions that have been shown to be a lower cardiac risk. Other cardiac drugs make small dense subfractions smaller and, potentially more dangerous. Prior to the Lipoprint System, LDL subfraction testing usually took several weeks for the physician to receive test results and the costs were prohibitive. For this reason few HMO's or private insurance companies encouraged their members or their physicians to utilize this type of cholesterol test.

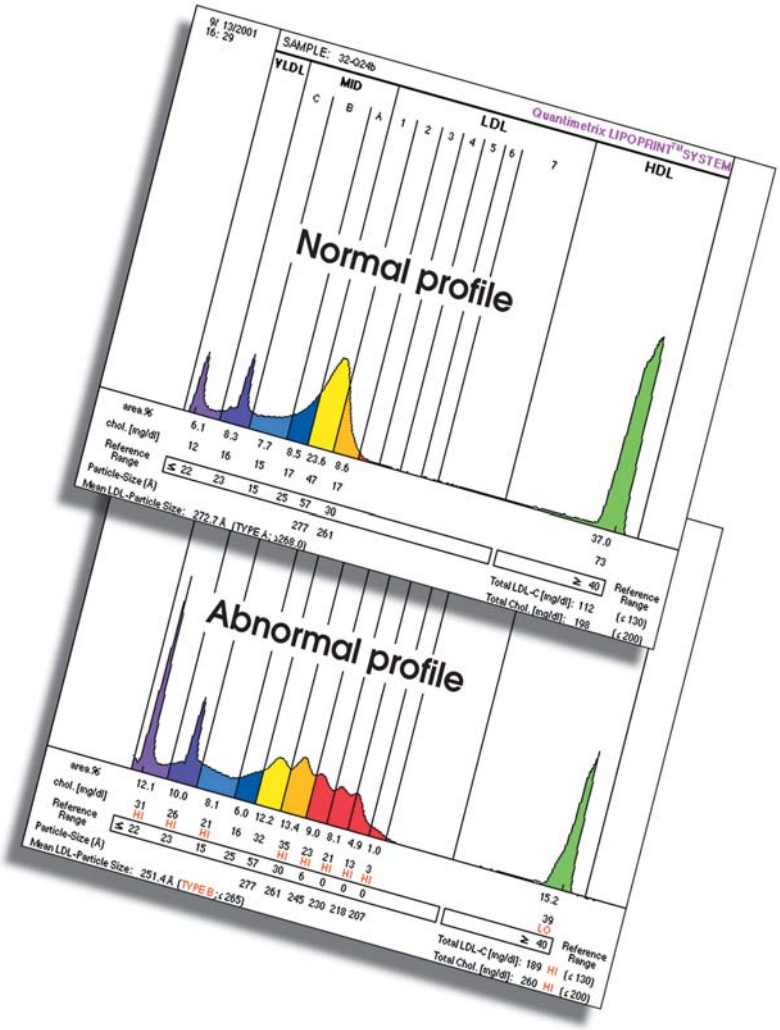
The new Lipoprint subfraction test can be completed in approximately 2.5 hours for about 1/3 of the cost of previous testing methods. In addition, the Lipoprint test is easily set up in any laboratory setting, allowing physicians in any location to compare LDL subfraction test results. Fortunately for patients the test requires only a tiny amount of serum sample to give a complete measurement of twelve different LDL fractions and nineteen different lipid variables.

The Lipoprint Test has already been adopted by the MAYO Clinic and several other leading cardiac care institutions across the US. To reach these new Lipoprint testing sites patients and physicians who were aware of the new test have been calling Quantimetrix or accessing the company's Web site to get the addresses of the local Lipoprint laboratories.

With wide spread use of the new test, treatment recommendations may be affected. This difference in treatment may result in a dramatic impact on US healthcare cost and practice. Currently lipid disorders have been proven to be directly related with the growing epidemic of diabetes and cardiac disease.

Cardiac disease is the number one killer of both men and women in the US, far exceeding cancer and other health risks. The medical cost estimates for treating cardiovascular disease in the US is over $150 billion yearly. Any diagnostic that has a large impact on the cost effectiveness of national cardiovascular treatment should gain notice in Congress. The current dilemma Congress has been debating, regarding the containment of the total cost of health care, has been widely reported. New diagnostic tools like subfraction testing may help physicians effectively reduce some of these costs.

The recent NCEP lowering of the cholesterol target ranges means more Americans will qualify for statins and other cholesterol lowering drugs. This has been seen as one of the government's efforts to stem the escalating tide of deaths and patient costs related to these two diseases. This new test may allow physicians to more clearly identify which patients would benefit from drug therapy vs. patients who wouldn't.




If the Quantimetrix Lipoprint test proves to be a better diagnostic for patients with lipid disorders, it may allow patients, physicians, HMO's and the government to decide what therapy is best. No one can explain the mystery of why 50% of heart attack patients meet all the government guidelines for healthy total cholesterol. The Lipoprint System indicates which patients have "normal cholesterol levels" but still have abnormal LDL subfraction profiles. This might help solve part of the mystery.

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