

Observational data indicate that coexistent risk factors, such as raised blood pressure and dyslipidaemia, generally exert a multiplicative effect on the risk of experiencing cardiovascular events,( Kannel WB, 1999) and subgroup analyses of intervention studies(Downs JR, Clearfield M, Weis S, et al., 1998) suggest that the relative cardiovascular benefits of lipid lowering are similar among hypertensive and normotensive participants.

### **1.3 Calcium channel blocking; atherosclerosis and Amlodipine**

Arterial hypertension is the single largest contributor to global mortality,( Ezzati M, Lopez AD, Rodgers A, Vander Hoorn S, Murray CJ. , 2002) and is responsible for approximately 7.1 million deaths each year.( World Health Organization., 2008) In 2000, it was estimated that nearly 1 billion people worldwide had hypertension, and it was predicted that the prevalence would increase to over 1.5 billion by 2025. (Kearney PM, Whelton M, Reynolds K, Muntner P, Whelton PK, He J. ,2005)The prevalence of hypertension among people aged 35–64 years is about 30% in the US population,( Ong KL, Cheung BM, Man YB, Lau CP, Lam KS. ,2007) and about 44% in European countries.( Wolf-Maier K, Cooper RS, Banegas JR, et al. , 2003) Hypertension continues to be underdiagnosed and undertreated.( Smith DH., 2008) Raised blood pressure (BP) is a major risk factor for stroke, heart disease and renal failure.( Kannel WB ,1996) ( Klag MJ, Whelton PK, Randall BL, et al ,1996) (Mancia G, Laurent S, Agabiti-Rosei E, et al ,2009) Many clinical trials have shown that BP reduction by a variety of strategies reduces the risk of stroke by approximately 35%, congestive heart failure by 42%, and coronary heart disease by 28%.(ALLHAT Officers and Coordinators for the ALLHAT Collaborative Research Group . 2002) (Dolor RJ, Yancy WS Jr, Owen WF, et al. , 2009) (Gueyffier F, Froment A, Gouton M. 1996) (Psaty BM, Smith NL, Siscovick DS, et al, 1997). (SHEP Cooperative Research Group.,1991) Current European guidelines recommend a target systolic BP (SBP) and diastolic BP (DBP) of 140/90 mmHg in the general population .( Mancia G, Laurent S, Agabiti-