

# PRESS RELEASE

Number 22

## New Study Confirms That WACKER's Antioxidant HTEssence<sup>®</sup> Promotes Heart Health

**Munich, September 22, 2020 – The results of two studies show that WACKER's hydroxytyrosol HTEssence<sup>®</sup> has a positive effect on heart health. A recent human clinical study demonstrates that HTEssence<sup>®</sup> is able to reduce LDL (low density lipoprotein) cholesterol. Reducing LDL has been found to support heart health. This study confirms the positive effects of HTEssence<sup>®</sup> that had been demonstrated in an earlier study. Regarded as a highly effective antioxidant found in olives, hydroxytyrosol may have positive effects on blood pressure, joints and the immune and cardiovascular systems. WACKER manufactures hydroxytyrosol in a patented process that ensures high purity and a precisely defined content.**

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), some 17.9 million people die of cardiovascular diseases – particularly coronary heart disease and strokes – every year. This makes cardiovascular diseases the No. 1 cause of death worldwide. Risk factors that increase the likelihood of such diseases may be affected by health-conscious habits, with diet playing a key role. In this regard, there is increasing demand for ingredients that promote coronary health.

Hydroxytyrosol is a secondary metabolite considered to be a particularly effective antioxidant. Its reported properties include lowering blood pressure and reducing inflammation. In addition, two clinical studies provide proof that WACKER's hydroxytyrosol HTEssence® has a positive effect on LDL cholesterol. In an initial randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study published in 2018, 29 healthy volunteers consumed 30 mg of hydroxytyrosol per day for a total of four weeks (Siefer et al., 2018, Journal of Nutritional Medicine and Diet Care). In a recent, similarly devised study, 92 healthy volunteers were prescribed 30 mg of hydroxytyrosol a day (Knaub et al., 2020, Journal of Nutrition & Food Sciences). This recently completed study lasted three times longer, running for twelve weeks.

#### **HTEssence® Confirmed to Reduce LDL Cholesterol**

The results of the earlier study had shown a significant reduction of LDL cholesterol in the blood plasma by 9.4 mg/dL with HTEssence®. This positive effect has now been confirmed. The results of the second, lengthier study likewise demonstrated a reduction of LDL cholesterol in the blood plasma, this time by 8.5 mg/dL. A high LDL level is one main factor for the occurrence of coronary heart disease and arteriosclerosis (see diagram). The US NCEP (National Cholesterol Education Program) estimates that each 1-percent reduction in LDL cholesterol can reduce the risk of heart disease by approximately 1 percent.

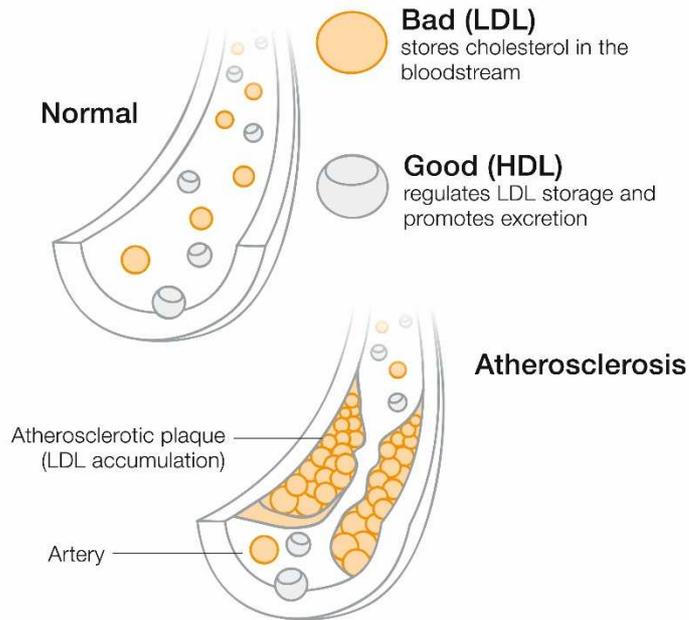
WACKER's patented process makes it possible to synthesize a nature-identical substance of high purity, free of unwanted byproducts, and with a precisely defined hydroxytyrosol content. Available both as an odorless, water-soluble powder and in liquid

form, the product is suitable for use in functional foods and dietary supplements, such as tablets, capsules, energy bars and beverages.

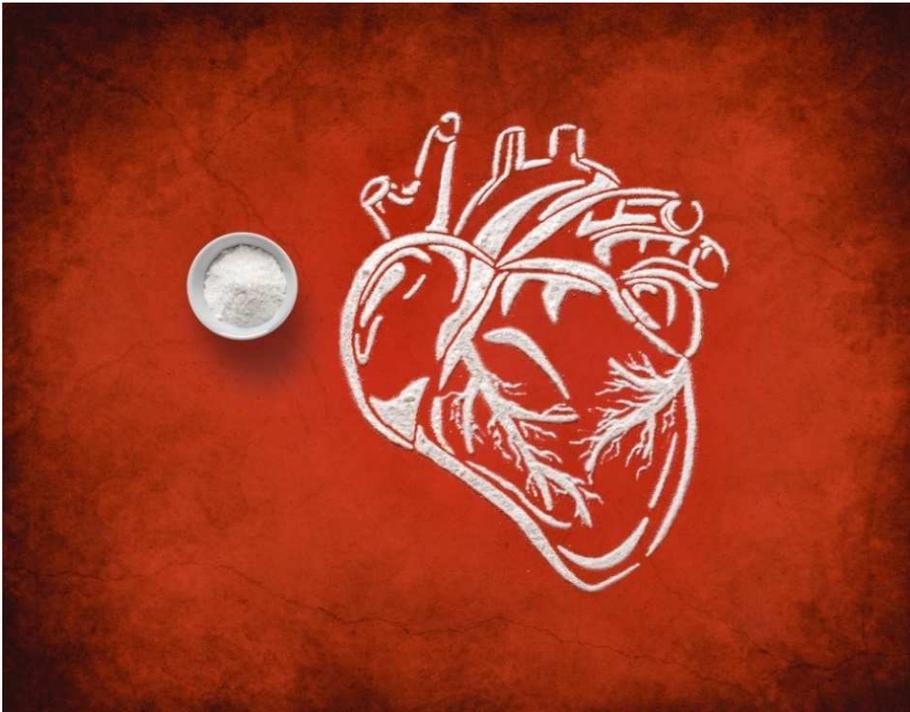
### **CAVAQ10<sup>®</sup> Enhances Cardiovascular Health**

Alongside HTEssence<sup>®</sup>, WACKER's portfolio features another active ingredient that promotes heart health: CAVAQ10<sup>®</sup>, a coenzyme Q10 cyclodextrin complex. A vitamin-like molecule, coenzyme Q10 is present in various foodstuffs, as well as in every human cell, where its function is to efficiently transform ingested food into energy. What is more, studies demonstrate that CoQ10 protects LDL cholesterol against oxidation, contributes toward cardiovascular health and promotes optimal functioning of the heart muscle. With increasing age, however, the biosynthesis of CoQ10 declines; age-related tissue deficits are associated with this decline. Taking CoQ10 supplements may improve the efficiency of energy production in human heart tissue.

Since coenzyme Q10 does not readily dissolve in water, the body has difficulty in absorbing the active. CAVAQ10<sup>®</sup> has solved the problem of poor bioavailability: the presence of WACKER's cyclodextrin allows complexation of the substance which greatly increases bioavailability, approximately 18 times higher than in conventional CoQ10.



High LDL (low density lipoprotein) levels are one main factor for the occurrence of coronary heart disease and arteriosclerosis (diagram: WACKER).



HTEssence<sup>®</sup>, available as a water-soluble powder or in liquid form, has a positive effect on heart health (photo: WACKER).

Note:

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<http://www.wacker.com/pressreleases>

**For further information, please contact:**

Wacker Chemie AG  
Media Relations & Information  
Manuela Dollinger  
Tel. +49 89 6279-1629  
Manuela.Dollinger@wacker.com  
follow us on:   

**The Company in Brief:**

WACKER is a globally active chemical company with some 14,700 employees and annual sales of around €4.93 billion (2019). WACKER has a global network of 24 production sites, 23 technical competence centers and 51 sales offices.

**WACKER SILICONES**

Silicone fluids, emulsions, rubber grades and resins; silanes; pyrogenic silicas; thermoplastic silicone elastomers

**WACKER POLYMERS**

Polyvinyl acetates and vinyl acetate copolymers and terpolymers in the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions, solid resins and solutions

**WACKER BIOSOLUTIONS**

Biotech products such as cyclodextrins, cysteine and biologics, as well as fine chemicals and PVAc solid resins

**WACKER POLYSILICON**

Polysilicon for the semiconductor and photovoltaic industries