

# HOW TO INITIATE AND INTENSIFY INSULIN THERAPY

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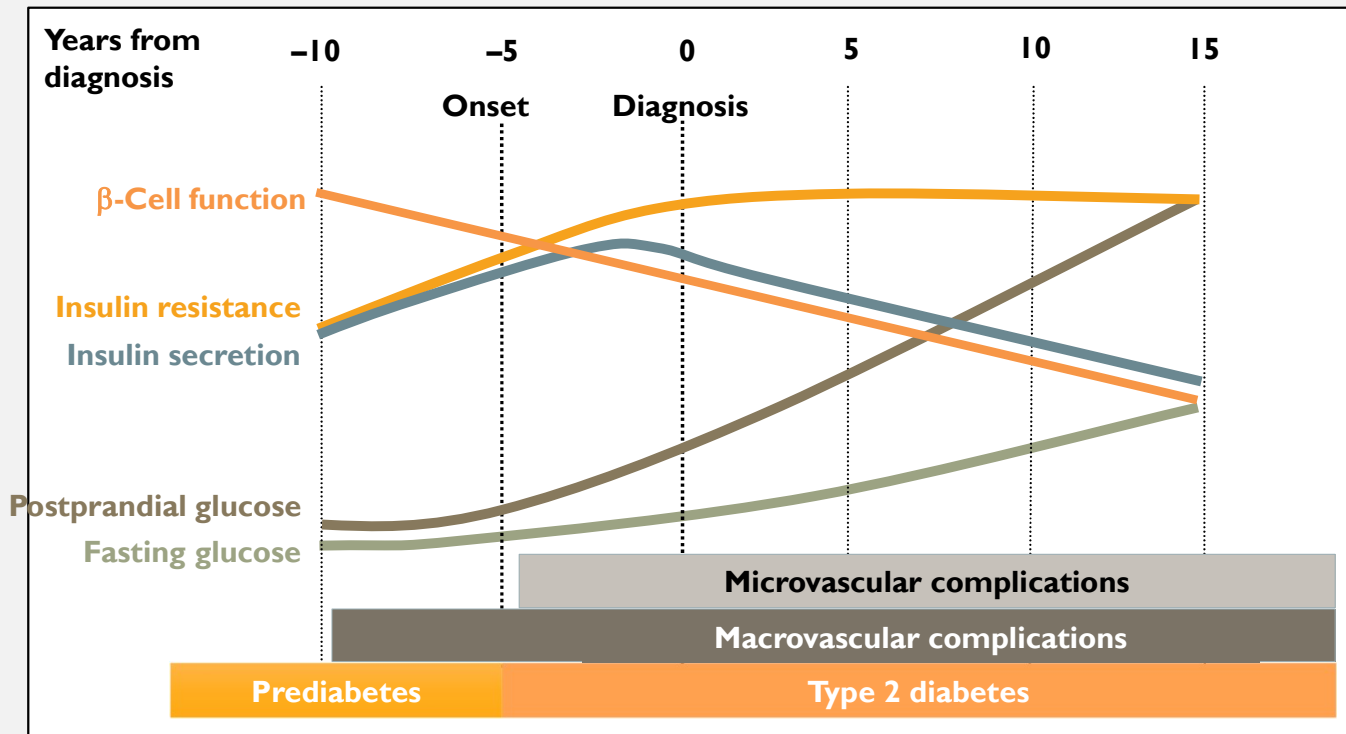
## DISCLOSURES:

- Speaker/Consultant- Abbott, Bayer, Novo Nordisk, Xeris
- Advisor/Consultant- Eversense, Sanofi

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS SESSION,  
PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- Discuss when ADA guidelines recommend utilizing insulin therapy in people with type 2 diabetes
- Learn how to initiate and titrate basal insulin, when patients with type 2 diabetes are not reaching glycemic targets with oral or noninsulin injectable medications
- Identify when intensification of insulin therapy is necessary and how to initiate and intensify prandial insulin

# Natural History of Type 2 Diabetes



Beta Cell Function begins to decline 10 years prior to the diagnosis

50% Beta Cell Decline at time of diagnosis

Progressive decline 5% annually

Figure courtesy of CADRE. Accessed from [www.aace.com](http://www.aace.com), January 2019. Adapted from Holman RR. Diabetes Res Clin Pract 1998;40(Suppl.):S21–S25; Ramlo-Halsted BA, Edelman SV. Prim Care 1999;26:771 – 789; Nathan DM. N Engl J Med 2002;347:1342–1349; UK Prospective Diabetes Study Group. Diabetes 1995;44:1249–1258

# PHYSIOLOGIC RATIONALE FOR INSULIN THERAPY

## Core Mechanisms of T2DM Pathophysiology

Insulin resistance<sup>1,2</sup>

Insulin deficit  
(loss of  $\beta$ -cell function, insulin resistance)<sup>1,2</sup>

Inappropriate glucagon response<sup>1,3,4</sup>

High BG

Glucotoxicity

High free fatty acids (FFAs)

Lipotoxicity

Basal insulin: long-acting, dosed once or twice daily, reduces FBG

Provide insulin

Prandial insulin: short-acting, dosed at mealtime, reduces PPG

Reduces BG<sup>1</sup>

Reverses glucotoxicity<sup>1</sup>

Reduces hyperglucagonemia<sup>4</sup>

Reduces plasma FFAs<sup>1</sup>

1. Hanefeld M, et al. *Diabetes Ther.* 2016;7:187-201; 2. Kahn SE. *Diabetologia.* 2003;46:3-19; 3. Mitrakou A, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 1992;326:22-29; 4. Kramer CK, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2015;100:2987-2995.

## PROGRESSIVE NATURE OF T2DM: NEED FOR INSULIN

In the UKPDS, **75%** of adults with newly diagnosed T2DM needed insulin within **9 years**<sup>1</sup>

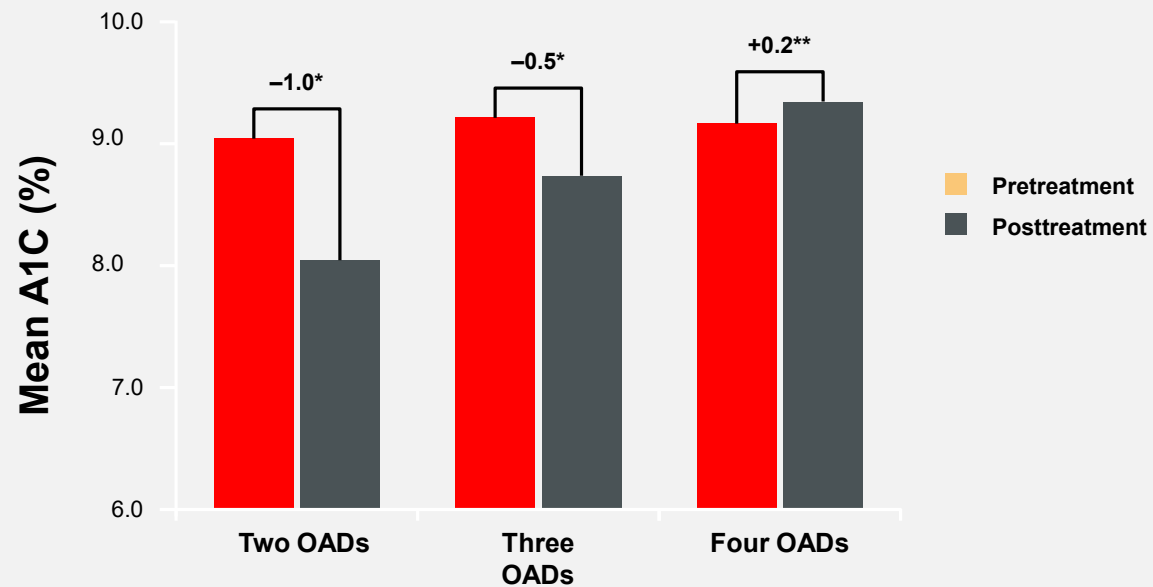
In the ORIGIN study, **11.4%** of adults with impaired fasting glucose, impaired glucose tolerance, or T2DM in the standard care arm **used insulin within 7 years**<sup>2</sup>

Even after **7 years with A1c >8%**, insulin initiation is often postponed, including patients using **2 or 3 oral agents**<sup>4</sup>

ORIGIN = Outcome Reduction With Initial Glargine Intervention; TODAY = Treatment Options for Type 2 Diabetes in Adolescents and Youth; UKPDS = United Kingdom Prospective Diabetes Study.

1. Turner RC, et al. *JAMA*. 1999;281:2005-2012. 2. ORIGIN Trial Investigators, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2012;367:319-328. 4. Khunti K, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2013;36:3411-3417.

# REDUCTION IN A1C WITH MULTIPLE OADS



\* $p < 0.001$ .

\*\* $p = 0.54$

OADs = oral antidiabetic drugs.

Calvert MJ, et al. *Br J Gen Pract.* 2007;57:455-460.

# CLINICAL INERTIA: FAILURE TO ADVANCE THERAPY WHEN REQUIRED

- 7208 courses of various Diabetes treatment in patients with T2DM
- At the time of insulin initiation, the average patient had:
  - 5 years with an A1c > 8%
  - 10 years with an A1c > 7%

Brown JB, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2004;27:1535-1540.



# BARRIERS TO USING INSULIN

- Health care providers
  - Lack of time and resources to supervise treatment
  - Lack of training, understanding, or experience
  - Fear of inducing hypoglycemia or concerns of insulin-related weight gain
  - Patients are resistant so HCPs are reluctant to start insulin
- **Medical limitations of insulin treatment**
  - Hypoglycemia
  - Weight gain

## BARRIERS TO USING INSULIN

### Patients

- Perceived significance of needing insulin
- Worse form of diabetes - “bad diabetes”
- Complications/Causal “myths”
  - Amputations, blindness, kidney failure are due to insulin
- Fear of injections, pain, hypoglycemia
- Concern of weight gain
- Complexity of regimens and insulin delivery devices
- Financial: newer physiologic insulin may be cost prohibitive for patients w or w/o health insurance (vs. human regular and NPH)

# INSULIN DELIVERY OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Syringes

Insulin pens

Inhaled insulin

Disposable  
patch pump

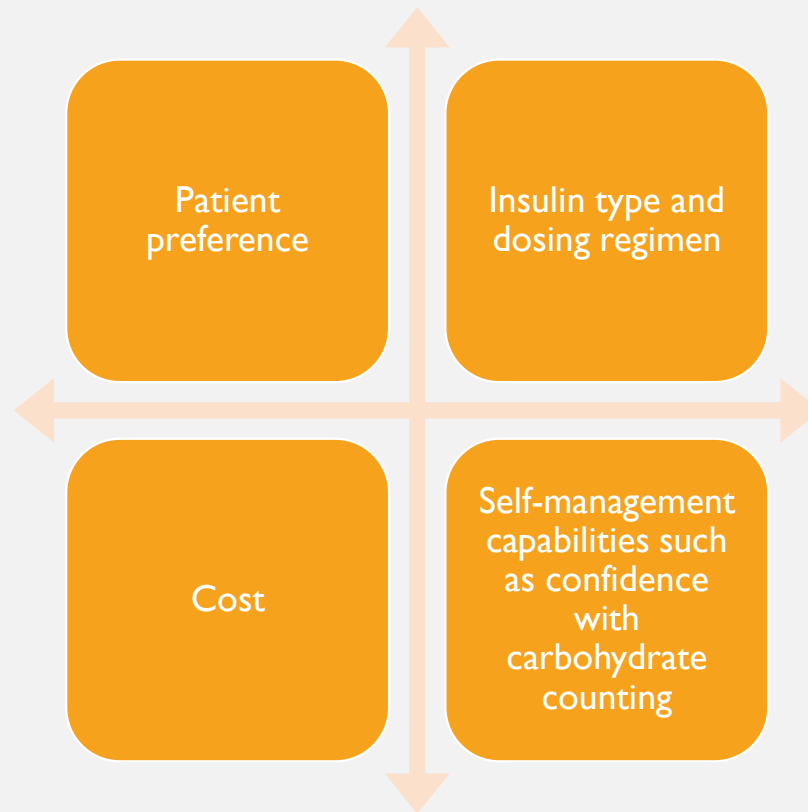
Smart pens

Insulin pumps

Sensor-  
augmented  
pumps

Automated  
Insulin Delivery  
(AID) systems

# INDIVIDUAL INSULIN DELIVERY CONSIDERATIONS

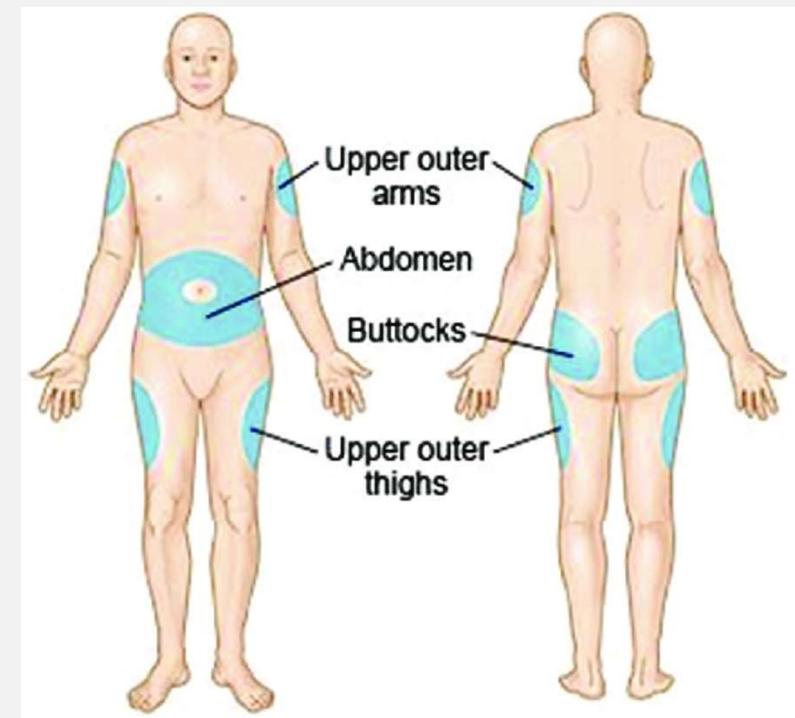


EISayed NA et al 7. Diabetes Technology: *Standards of Care in Diabetes—2023*. *Diabetes Care* 1 January 2023; 46 (Supplement\_1): S111–S127.

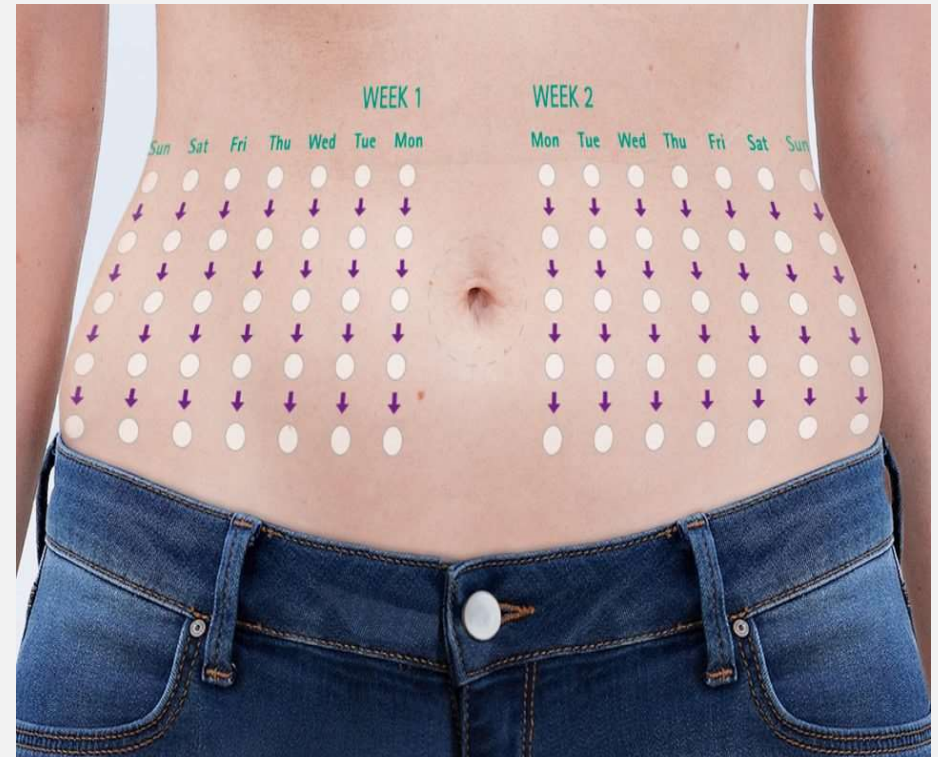
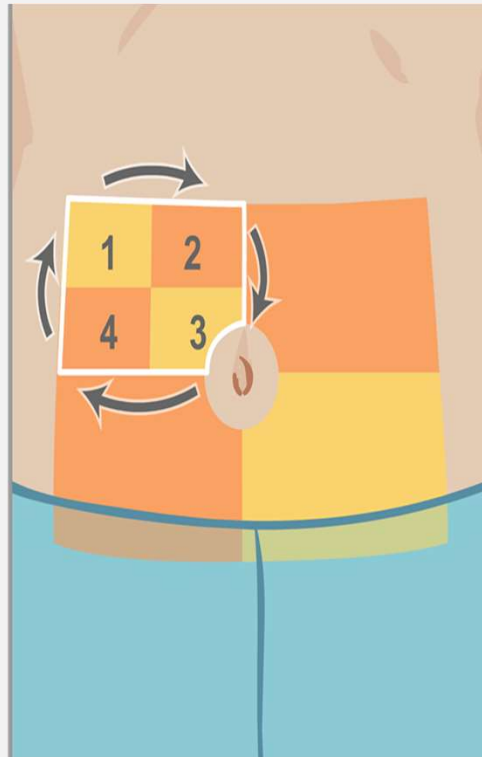
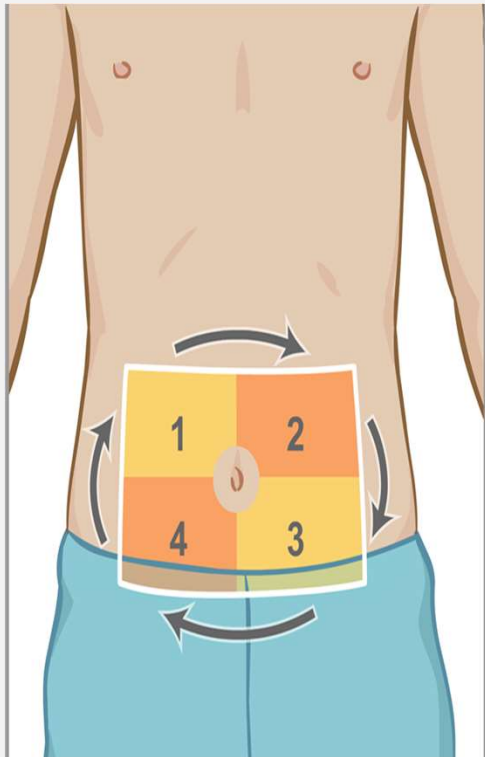
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## PROPER INSULIN INJECTION TECHNIQUE MATTERS

- Subcutaneous injection
- Injection sites- abdomen, thigh, buttock, upper arm
- Short needles (4 mm needles) are effective and well tolerated in all adults with diabetes
- Injection rotation to avoid lipohypertrophy
- Education on proper insulin injection technique should occur
- Regular assessments/examination of insulin injection sites should occur



# EXAMPLES OF SITE ROTATION



# LIPOHYPERTROPHY



Figure 2a



Figure 2b



Figure 2c



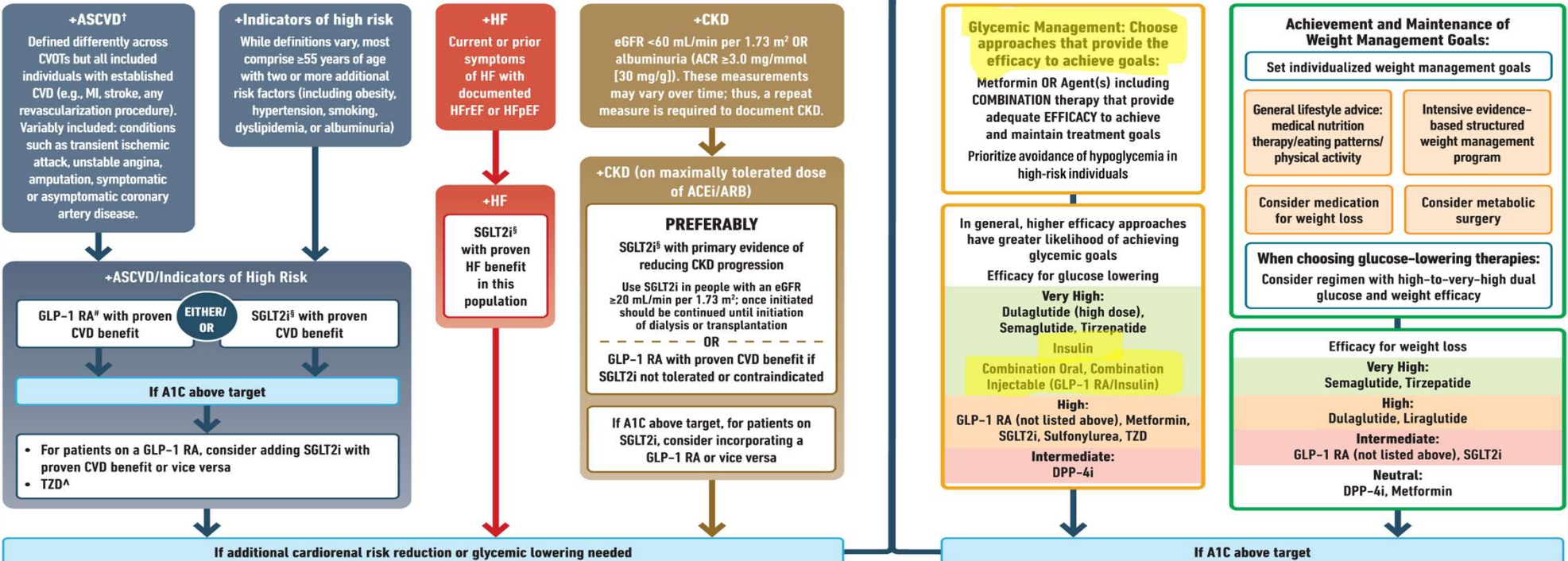
# USE OF GLUCOSE-LOWERING MEDICATIONS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF TYPE 2 DIABETES

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE BEHAVIORS; DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT (DSMES); SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH (SDOH)



**Goal: Cardiorenal Risk Reduction in High-Risk Individuals with Type 2 Diabetes (in addition to comprehensive CV risk management)\***

**Goal: Achievement and Maintenance of Glycemic and Weight Management Goals**



\* In people with HF, CKD, established CVD, or multiple risk factors for CVD, the decision to use a GLP-1 RA or SGLT2i with proven benefit should be independent of background use of metformin; † A strong recommendation is warranted for people with CVD and a weaker recommendation for those with indicators of high CV risk. Moreover, a higher absolute risk reduction and thus lower numbers needed to treat are seen at higher levels of baseline risk and should be factored into the shared decision-making process. See text for details; ^ Low-dose TZD may be better tolerated and similarly effective; § For SGLT2i, CV/renal outcomes trials demonstrate their efficacy in reducing the risk of composite MACE, CV death, all-cause mortality, MI, HFrEF, and renal outcomes in individuals with T2D with established/high risk of CVD; # For GLP-1 RA, CVOTs demonstrate their efficacy in reducing composite MACE, CV death, all-cause mortality, MI, stroke, and renal endpoints in individuals with T2D with established/high risk of CVD.

**Identify barriers to goals:**

- Consider DSMES referral to support self-efficacy in achievement of goals
- Consider technology (e.g., diagnostic CGM) to identify therapeutic gaps and tailor therapy
- Identify and address SDOH that impact achievement of goals



## ADA STANDARDS OF CARE RECOMMENDATIONS

- **9.22** In adults with type 2 diabetes, initiation of insulin should be considered regardless of background glucose-lowering therapy or disease stage if there is evidence of ongoing catabolism (e.g., unexpected weight loss), if symptoms of hyperglycemia are present, or when A1C or blood glucose levels are very high (i.e., A1C >10% [ $>86$  mmol/mol] or blood glucose  $\geq 300$  mg/dL [ $\geq 16.7$  mmol/L]). **E**
- **9.23** In adults with type 2 diabetes, a GLP-1 RA, including a dual glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) and GLP-1 RA, is preferred to insulin. **A**
- **9.24** If insulin is used, combination therapy with a GLP-1 RA, including a dual GIP and GLP-1 RA, is recommended for greater glycemic effectiveness as well as beneficial effects on weight and hypoglycemia risk for adults with type 2 diabetes. Insulin dosing should be reassessed upon addition or dose escalation of a GLP-1 RA or dual GIP and GLP-1 RA. **A**

Use principles in Figure 9.3, including reinforcement of behavioral interventions (weight management and physical activity) and provision of DSMES, to meet individualized treatment goals



If injectable therapy is needed to reduce A1C<sup>1</sup>

Consider GLP-1 RA or dual GIP and GLP-1 RA in most individuals prior to insulin<sup>2</sup>  
**INITIATION:** Initiate appropriate starting dose for agent selected (varies within class)  
**TITRATION:** Titrate to maintenance dose (varies within class)

If already on GLP-1 RA or dual GIP and GLP-1 RA or if these are not appropriate OR insulin is preferred

If above A1C target

Add basal insulin<sup>3</sup>  
 Choice of basal insulin should be based on person-specific considerations, including cost. Refer to Table 9.4 for insulin cost information. Consider prescription of glucagon for emergent hypoglycemia.

Add basal analog or bedtime NPH insulin<sup>4</sup>  
**INITIATION:** Start 10 units per day OR 0.1–0.2 units/kg per day  
**TITRATION:**  
 ■ Set FPG target (see Section 6, “Glycemic Goals and Hypoglycemia”)  
 ■ Choose evidence-based titration algorithm, e.g., increase 2 units every 3 days to reach FPG target without hypoglycemia  
 ■ For hypoglycemia determine cause, if no clear reason lower dose by 10–20%

Assess adequacy of basal insulin dose  
 Consider clinical signals to evaluate for overbasalization and need to consider adjunctive therapies (e.g., basal dose more than ~0.5 units/kg/day, elevated bedtime-to-morning and/or postprandial-to-preprandial differential, hypoglycemia [aware or unaware], high variability)

■ If above A1C target and not already on a GLP-1 RA or dual GIP and GLP-1 RA, consider these classes, either in free combination or fixed-ratio combination, with insulin.  
 ■ If A1C remains above target:

Add prandial insulin<sup>5</sup>  
 Usually one dose with the largest meal or meal with greatest PPG excursion; prandial insulin can be dosed individually or mixed with NPH as appropriate  
**INITIATION:**  
 ■ 4 units per day or 10% of basal insulin dose  
 ■ If A1C <8% (<64 mmol/mol) consider lowering the basal dose by 4 units per day or 10% of basal dose  
**TITRATION:**  
 ■ Increase dose by 1–2 units or 10–15% twice weekly  
 ■ For hypoglycemia determine cause, if no clear reason lower corresponding dose by 10–20%

If on bedtime NPH, consider converting to twice-daily NPH regimen  
 Conversion based on individual needs and current glycemic control. The following is one possible approach:  
**INITIATION:**  
 ■ Total dose = 80% of current bedtime NPH dose  
 ■ 2/3 given in the morning  
 ■ 1/3 given at bedtime  
**TITRATION:**  
 ■ Titrate based on individualized needs

If above A1C target

If above A1C target

Stepwise additional injections of prandial insulin (i.e., two, then three additional injections)

Proceed to full basal-bolus regimen (i.e., basal insulin and prandial insulin with each meal)

Consider self-mixed/split insulin regimen  
 Can adjust NPH and short/rapid-acting insulins separately  
**INITIATION:**  
 ■ Total NPH dose = 80% of current NPH dose  
 ■ 2/3 given before breakfast  
 ■ 1/3 given before dinner  
 ■ Add 4 units of short/rapid-acting insulin to each injection or 10% of reduced NPH dose  
**TITRATION:**  
 ■ Titrate each component of the regimen based on individualized needs

Consider twice-daily premixed insulin regimen  
**INITIATION:**  
 ■ Usually unit per unit at the same total insulin dose, but may require adjustment to individual needs  
**TITRATION:**  
 ■ Titrate based on individualized needs

1. Consider insulin as the first injectable if evidence of ongoing catabolism is present, symptoms of hyperglycemia are present, when A1C or blood glucose levels are very high (i.e., A1C >10% [ $\geq 86$  mmol/mol] or blood glucose  $\geq 300$  mg/dL [ $\geq 16.7$  mmol/L]), or when a diagnosis of type 1 diabetes is a possibility.  
 2. When selecting GLP-1 RAs, consider individual preference, A1C lowering, weight-lowering effect, or frequency of injection. If CVO is present, consider GLP-1 RA with proven CVO benefit. Oral or injectable GLP-1 RAs are appropriate.  
 3. For people on GLP-1 RA and basal insulin combination, consider use of a fixed-ratio combination product (IDegLira or IGlaxLixi).  
 4. Consider switching from evening NPH to a basal analog if the individual develops hypoglycemia and/or frequently forgets to administer NPH in the evening and would be better managed with an A.M. dose of a long-acting basal insulin.  
 5. If adding prandial insulin to NPH, consider initiation of a self-mixed or premixed insulin plan to decrease the number of injections required.

# BASAL INSULIN

# Basal Insulins Used in the U.S.

Name		Form	Time of Action* (h)			Comments
Generic	Brand		Onset	Peak	Duration	
<b>Intermediate-acting ('Basal')</b>						
<b>NPH</b>	Humulin Novolin Relion	Human	1-2	4-12	10-16	Increased risk of hypoglycemia when compared to analog basal insulin. Pregnancy (category B) - safe.
<b>Long-acting ('Basal')</b>						
<b>Detemir U-100</b>	Levemir (d/c)	Analog	1-2	Relatively peakless	24	Expect that a higher daily dose of glargine U-300 than glargine U-100 will be needed. <b>(Glargine - C; Degludec - C; Detemir - B)</b>
<b>Glargine U-100</b>	Lantus, Basaglar Semglee	Analog	1-2	Relatively peakless	24	
<b>Glargine U-300</b>	Toujeo	Analog	6	Relatively peakless	≥24	
<b>Degludec U-100, U-200</b>	Tresiba	Analog	1-2	Relatively peakless	≥42	
*Dose dependent (except glargine U-300, degludec)						

Lepore M, et al. *Diabetes*. 2000;49:2142-2148. Plank J, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2005;28:1107-1112. Heise T, et al. *Diabetes*. 2004;53:1614-1620. Porcellati F, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2007;30:2447-2452. Porcellati F, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2007;30:1261-1263. Hirsch IB. *N Engl J Med*. 2005;352(2):174-183. Meneghini L, et al. *Diabetes Obes Metab*. 2007;9(6):902-913. Lantus [package insert] Bridgewater, NJ: sanofi-aventis US LLC; May 2019. Basaglar [package insert]. Indianapolis, IN: Eli Lilly & Co.; January 2019. Levemir [package insert]. Plainsboro, NJ: Novo Nordisk US; January 2019. Toujeo [package insert]. Bridgewater, NJ: sanofi-aventis US LLC; March 2019. Tresiba [package insert]. Plainsboro, NJ: Novo Nordisk Inc.; November 2018. Nasrallah S, et al. *Clin Med Insights Endocrinol Diabetes*. 2012;5:31-37.

# DOSING FLEXIBILITY WITH BASAL INSULINS

Insulin	Dosing Instructions
<b>NPH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once or twice daily</li> </ul>
<b>Detemir (has been discontinued)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once or twice daily</li> <li>• Once daily with dinner or at bedtime</li> <li>• 12 h apart for twice daily</li> </ul>
<b>Glargine and U-300 glargine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once daily at any time, but the same time each day</li> </ul>
<b>Degludec</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once daily at any time</li> <li>• Missed dose when remembered, with at least 8 h between doses</li> </ul>

# HYPOGLYCEMIA RISK DIFFERS AMONG BASAL INSULINS

## DEGLADEC:

- Overall hypoglycemia ↓ **30%**<sup>2</sup>
- Nocturnal ↓ **42%**<sup>2</sup>
- Severe, in patients at high CV risk ↓ **40%**<sup>3</sup>

## U-300 GLARGINE:

- Clinically significant nocturnal ↓ **25%**<sup>4</sup>
- Risk of confirmed or severe events<sup>5</sup>
  - ↓ **15%** at night
  - ↓ **6%** during the day

Lower risk\* with  
DET or U-100  
GLAR vs  
NPH<sup>1</sup>

Lower risk with  
DEG or U-300  
GLAR vs  
U-100 GLAR<sup>1</sup>

\*Lower risk of symptomatic and nocturnal hypoglycemia.

1. American Diabetes Association. Diabetes Care. 2019;42(suppl 1):S1-S193; 2. Wysham C, et al. JAMA. 2017;318:45-56; 3. Marso SP, et al. N Engl J Med. 2017;377:723-732; 4. Diez-Fernandez A, et al. Acta Diabetol. 2019;56:355-364; 5. Ritzel R, et al. Diabetes Obes Metab. 2018;20:541-548.

## ADA'S RECOMMENDATION TO INITIATION OF BASAL INSULIN

Add basal analog or bedtime NPH NPH insulin

Start 10 units a day **or** 0.1-0.2 units/kg a day

Choice of basal insulin should be based on person-specific considerations, including cost. Refer to **Table 9.4** for insulin cost information. Consider a prescription of glucagon for emergent hypoglycemia

## EXAMPLE OF CALCULATING BASAL INSULIN

- 53 year old patient who weighs 253 lbs is ready to start basal insulin
- **10 units** initiation dose
- Or calculate weight-based dose

253 divided by 2.2= 115 kg

115 kg x 0.2 units= **23 units**

Base your starting dose on individual factors per patient



# ADA'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO TITRATING BASAL INSULIN

- **Titrate or Adjust**
  - **Set Fasting Plasma Glucose Target**
    - (ADA recommends 80 to 130 mg/dl)
  - **Choose evidence-based titration algorithm (e.g., increase 2 units every 3 days) to reach FPG target without hypoglycemia**
    - **For hypoglycemia determine cause, if no clear reason lower dose by 10-20%**
    - **Recommend to only adjust ultra long-acting insulins weekly or no more than every 3 to 4 days**

American Diabetes Association. 9. Pharmacologic approaches to glycemic treatment: Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes 2024. Diabetes Care January 2024;47(Suppl. 1):S158–S178

## ADA STANDARDS OF CARE RECOMMENDATIONS

- **9.27** Monitor for signs of overbasalization during insulin therapy, such as basal dose exceeding ~0.5 units/kg/day, significant bedtime-to-morning or postprandial-to-preprandial glucose differential, occurrences of hypoglycemia (aware or unaware), and high glycemic variability. When overbasalization is suspected, a thorough reevaluation should occur promptly to further tailor therapy to the individual's needs. **E**
- **9.26** To minimize the risk of hypoglycemia and treatment burden when starting insulin therapy in adults with type 2 diabetes, reassess the need for and/or dose of glucose-lowering agents with higher hypoglycemia risk (i.e., sulfonylureas and meglitinides). **A**

## ASSESS ADEQUACY OF BASAL INSULIN DOSE

- Consider clinical signals to evaluate **overbasalization** and the need to consider adjunctive therapies:
  - Basal dose > 0.5units/kg/day
  - Elevated bedtime-morning and/or post-preprandial differential
  - Hypoglycemia (aware or unaware)
  - High variability

# GUIDANCE REGARDING USE OF OTHER GLUCOSE-LOWERING AGENTS WHEN INITIATING BASAL INSULIN

## Continue

- Metformin<sup>1,2</sup>
- GLP-1 RA, DPP-4 inhibitor<sup>1,2</sup>
- SGLT2 inhibitor (to prevent diabetic ketoacidosis, do not down titrate insulin overaggressively)<sup>1,2</sup>

## Reduce dose or discontinue

- Sulfonylurea (to prevent hypoglycemia)<sup>1,2</sup>
- Thiazolidinedione (to prevent edema or heart failure)<sup>1,2</sup>

Consider discontinuation of other agents on an individual basis to avoid unnecessarily complex\* or costly regimens<sup>2</sup>

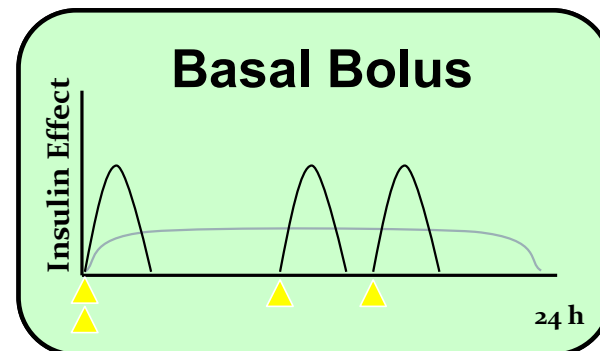
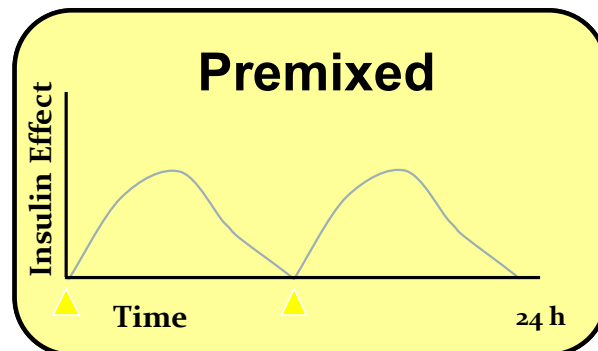
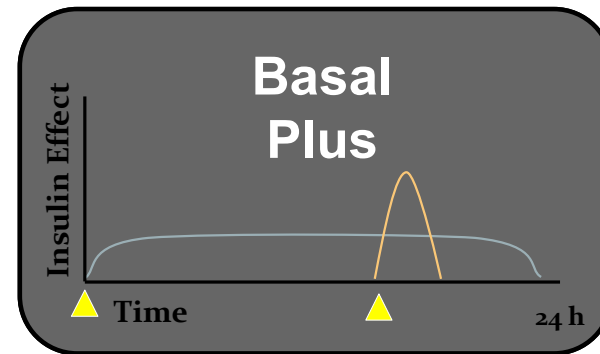
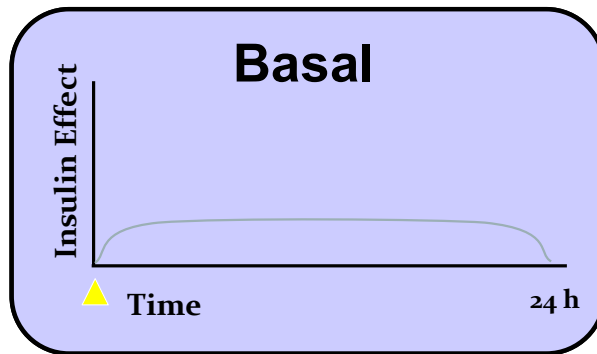
\*4-drug combinations.

1. Davies MJ, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2018;41:2669-2701; 2. American Diabetes Association. *Diabetes Care*. 2019;42(suppl 1):S1-S193;

3. Drugs@FDA. [www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/daf](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/daf).

# INTENSIFYING INSULIN THERAPY

# COMMON INSULIN REGIMENS



▲ = insulin injection

- Del Prato S, et al. *Diabetes Technol Ther.* 2012;14:175-182.
- American Diabetes Association. In: *Practical Insulin: A Handbook for Prescribing Providers.* 3rd ed. 2011:1-68.

# THE BASAL/BOLUS INSULIN CONCEPT

## Basal insulin:

The goal of basal insulin is to suppress hepatic glucose production and limit fasting hyperglycemia. Helps to improve both overnight and between meals control.

When using replacement therapy, **~50 percent of the total daily insulin dose is given as basal.**

## Bolus insulin (prandial/mealtime):

The goal of bolus insulin is to cover the carbohydrate in meals and to limit postprandial hyperglycemia. Ideally, blood glucose should rise only 30-60 mg/dL from pre- to post-meal.

When using replacement therapy, **~50 percent of daily needs are provided as bolus: distributed between the meals.**

Petznick A. Insulin management of type 2 diabetes mellitus. Am Fam Physician. 2011 Jul 15;84(2):183-90

# Prandial Insulins Used in the U.S.

Name		Form	Time of Action* (h)			Meal Timing (min)
Generic	Brand		Onset	Peak	Duration	
<b>Rapid-acting ( 'Bolus' or 'Prandial' )</b>						
Aspart	Fiasp	Analog	0.25-0.3	1.5-2	5-7	0 to +20
Lispro	Lyumjev	Analog	15-17	57min	5-7	0 to +20
Aspart	Novolog	Analog	< 0.25	1-3	3-5	-5 to -10
Glulisine	Apidra	Analog	< 0.25	0.7-3	3-5	-15 to +20
Lispro	Humalog (U-100, U-200) Admelog (U-100)	Analog	< 0.25	0.5-1.5	3-6	-15 to immediately after
Insulin Inhalation	Afrezza	Human	< 0.25	0.5-1.5	2.7	0
<b>Short-acting ( 'Bolus' or 'Prandial' )</b>						
Regular	Humulin R Novolin R	Human	0.25-1.25	1.5-3.5	8	-30

Fiasp [package insert]. Plainsboro, NJ: Novo Nordisk Inc.; September 2018. Novolog [package insert]. Plainsboro, NJ: Novo Nordisk Inc.; December 2018. Apidra [package insert]. Bridgewater, NJ: sanofi-aventis US, LLC; January 2019. Humalog [package insert]. Indianapolis, IN: Eli Lilly; March 2019. Admelog [package insert]. sanofi-aventis US, LLC; December 2018. Afrezza [package insert]. Danbury, CT: MannKind Corp.; October 2018. Humulin R [package insert]. Indianapolis, IN: Eli Lilly; November 2018. Novolin R [package insert]. Plainsboro, NJ: Novo Nordisk Inc; June 2018.



# INITIATION OF PRANDIAL INSULIN

- Initiation:
  - 4 units/day or 10% of basal dose
  - One dose with the largest meal or meal with the greatest PPG excursion
  - Prandial insulin can be **dosed individually** or **mixed with NPH as appropriate**
  - If A1C is <8% (64 mmol/mol), consider decreasing the basal dose by 4 units a day or 10% of basal dose

## EXAMPLE OF ADDING PRANDIAL

A1C is  $> 8\%$  and patient is on 36 units of basal insulin:

**36 units** basal at bedtime

**4 units** prandial with largest meal of day (most cases evening meal)

A1C is  $< 8\%$  and patient is on 36 units of basal insulin:

**32 units** of basal at bedtime

**4 units** of prandial with largest meal of day (most cases evening meal)

# TITRATION OF PRANDIAL INSULIN

## Titration:

- Increase dose by 1–2 units or 10–15% twice weekly
- Test plasma glucose levels using SMBG just before and 2 hours after largest meal

## Signs or symptoms of hypoglycemia:

- Determine and address cause
- If no clear reason lower corresponding dose by 10–20%

# PRANDIAL INSULIN IN A STEPWISE APPROACH

Stepwise approach:

Add prandial insulin to a second meal based on post prandial readings

Individualized to the patient based on SMBG or CGM

May be breakfast or lunch

Start 4 units and titrate as previously demonstrated

May need to add to third meal after 3 months if necessary to full basal/bolus

## TRADITIONAL “SLIDING SCALE”

Pre-Meal BG (mg/dl)	Insulin Dose (units)
Less than 151	0
151-200	2
201-250	4
251-300	6
301-350	8
351-400	10

An arbitrary insulin dosing algorithm based only on pre-meal blood glucose values; doesn't consider patients' weight, ISF, ICR, or carbs to be consumed.

# PROBLEMS WITH “TRADITIONAL SLIDING SCALE”

## Sliding scale not specific to patient needs

- Not flexible for carbohydrate in meals
- Some meals may need more insulin
- No adjustment for portion size, lower BG, Higher BG, life in general

No meal insulin if less than 100mg/dl??

Use of correction insulin??

## CARB COUNTING/ INSULIN SENSITIVITY FACTOR

- Can be calculated by Total Daily Insulin Delivery
- Can be used for individuals who want more exact dosing of insulin
- Carb Ratio:  $450/\text{TDD}$  Example:  $450/50 = 9$  grams/carbs
- Insulin Sensitivity Factor:  $1700/\text{TDD}$  Example:  $1700/50 = 34$  mg/dl

# SELF MIXED/SPLIT INSULIN REGIMEN



# SELF MIXED/SPLIT INSULIN REGIMEN

- Can adjust NPH insulin and short/rapid acting insulins separately

## **INITIATION**

- Total NPH dose= 80% of current NPH dose
  - 2/3 given before breakfast
  - 1/3 given before dinner
- Add 4 units of short/rapid acting insulin to each injection or 10% of reduced NPH dose

## **TITRATION**

Titrate each component of the regimen based on individualized needs

# PRE-MIXED INSULIN REGIMEN

## PRE-MIXED INSULIN: RAPID-ACTING + INTERMEDIATE-ACTING

Insulin	Onset	Peak	Duration
Lispro (Humalog) (25%), (50%) Aspart (Novolog) (30%)	~15 min	1-2 h	3-5 h
NPL, insulin lispro protamine (75%), (50%) NPA, insulin aspart protamine (70%)	2-3 h	4-10 h	10-16 h
Humalog 75/25, Humalog 50/50, Novolog 70/30			

# TWICE DAILY PREMIX INSULIN REGIMEN

## Initiation:

- Usually unit to unit at the same total insulin dose, but may require adjustment to individual needs

**Example: 50 units of basal insulin**

**Change to twice daily premix to 25 units twice daily**

## Titration: Titrate based on individualized needs

**Fasting glucose in AM elevated**

**Increase evening dose 2 units every 3 days**

**If pre dinner glucose is elevated**

**Increase morning dose by 2 units every 3 days**

## AVAILABLE GLUCAGON FORMULATIONS

<b>Intranasal Powder Device</b>	<b>Autoinjector pen (a prefilled syringe also available)</b>	<b>Autoinjector prefilled pen</b>
Baqsimi <sup>®</sup> (glucagon)	Zegalogue <sup>®</sup> (dasiglucagon)	Gvoke <sup>®</sup> (glucagon)
>4 years old	>6 years old	>2 years old
3 mg dose 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose can be administered after 15 minutes	0.6 mg 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose can be administered after 15 minutes	Age >12 years old: 1 mg Age <12 years old and <45 kg: 0.5 mg Age <12 years old and >45 kg: 1 mg 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose can be administered after 15 minutes

# NEWER GLUCAGON FORMULATIONS

Gvoke



- Auto Injector prefilled pen
- >2 years old
- Age >12 years old 1 mg. Age <12 if weighs <45 KG 0.5mg, >45 KG 1.0 mg. 2<sup>nd</sup> dose can be administered after 15 minutes



**Autoinjector pen (a prefilled syringe also available)**

Zegalogue<sup>®</sup>  
(dasiglucagon)

>6 years old

0.6 mg  
2<sup>nd</sup> dose can be administered after 15 minutes



- Intra Nasal Powder Device
- >4 years old
- 3 mg dose. 2<sup>nd</sup> dose can be administered after 15 minutes

# INSULIN DELIVERY OPTIONS



Syringes



Traditional Insulin Pens



Afrezza inhaled insulin

# SMART PENS AND SMART BUTTONS



InPen



Tempo Smart Pen/Button



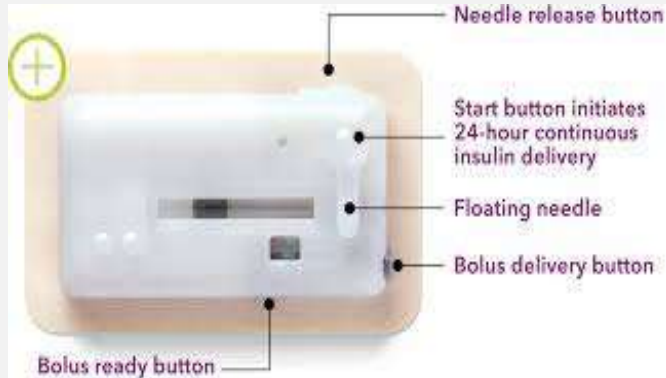
BigFoot Diabetes Unity



NovoPen 6 Novopen  
Echo Plus



# DISPOSABLE PATCH INSULIN DELIVERY DEVICES



V Go Insulin Delivery  
Basal & Bolus Delivery



CeQur Simplicity  
Bolus insulin Delivery

# AUTOMATED INSULIN DELIVERY SYSTEMS



## SUMMARY

- Insulin therapy is often required in persons with diabetes due to the progression of the disease
- GLPI or GLPI/GIP is the first preferred injection
- Basal insulin should be initiated if glycemic targets have not been met with non-insulin medications
- Intensifying insulin with prandial insulin in a step-wise approach is recommended
- There are multiple insulin delivery devices available to meet person's preferences