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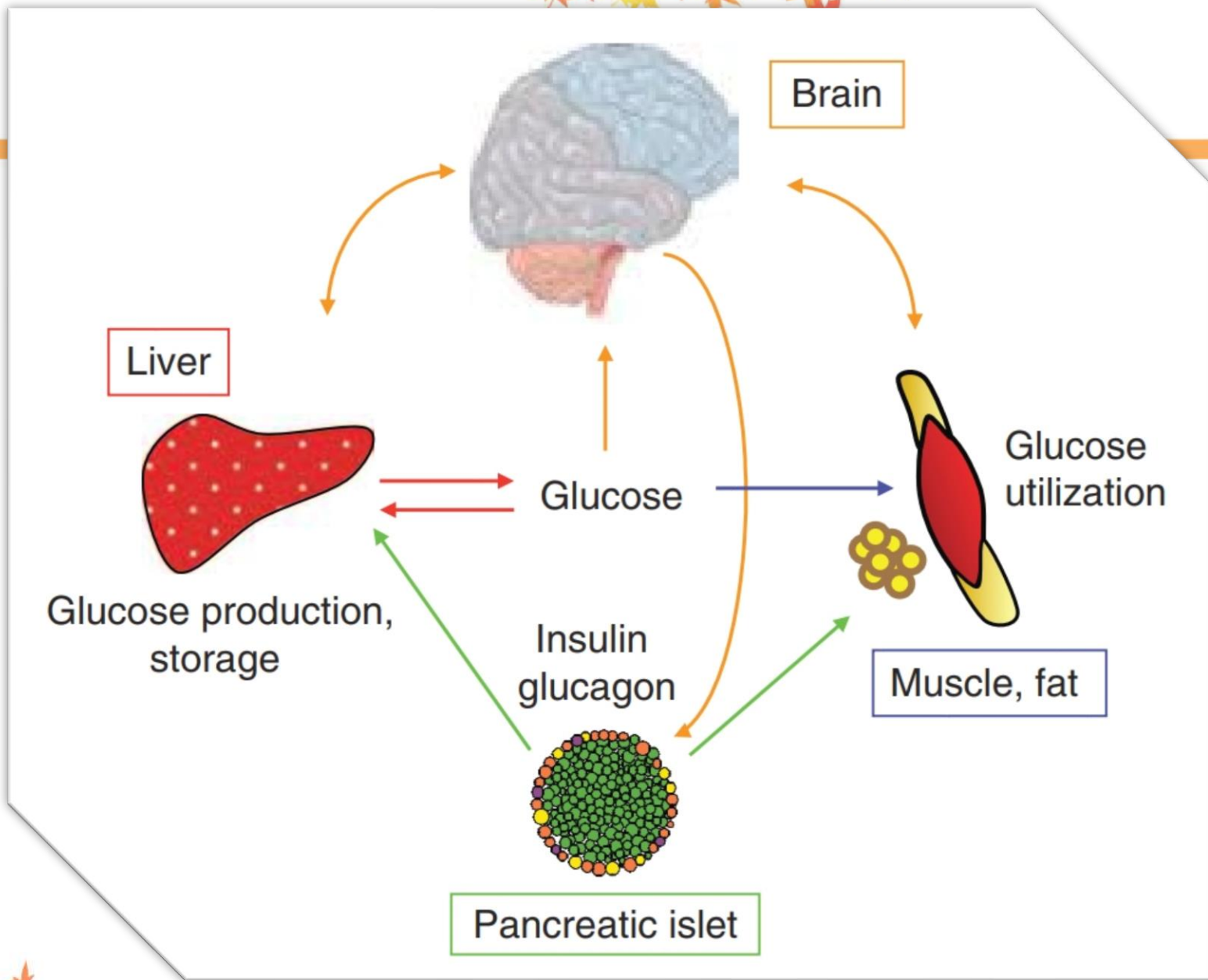




Pharmacologic Treatment Of  
**Diabetes mellitus**

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Dr. Abolfazl Heidari

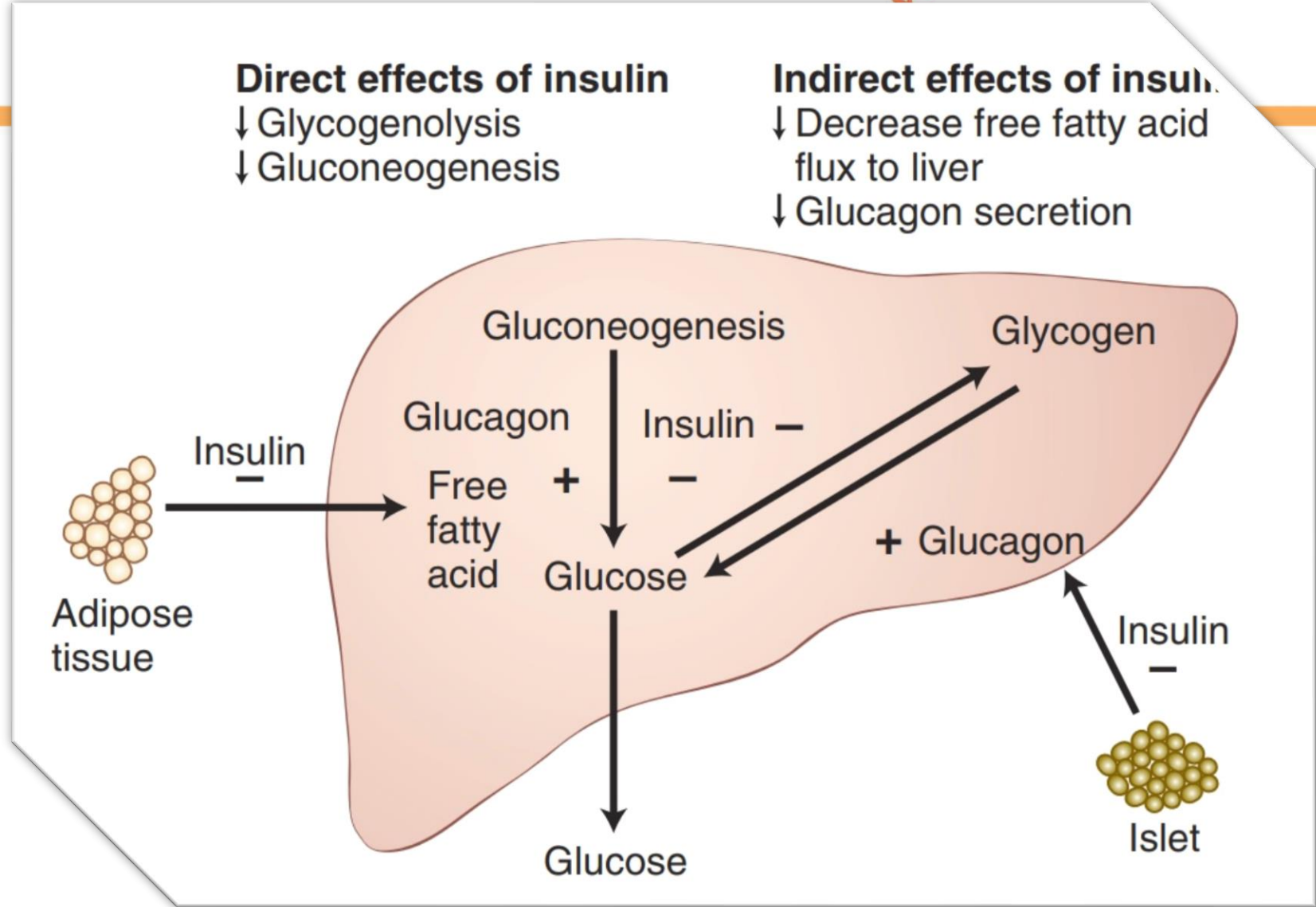


**Direct effects of insulin**

- ↓ Glycogenolysis
- ↓ Gluconeogenesis

**Indirect effects of insulin**

- ↓ Decrease free fatty acid flux to liver
- ↓ Glucagon secretion



# Etiology of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

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**Type 2 DM** is a **heterogeneous group** of disorders characterized by variable degrees of:

**insulin resistance**

impaired **insulin secretion**

excessive **hepatic** glucose production

abnormal **fat** metabolism

# Criteria for the diagnosis of diabetes

**Table 2.2—Criteria for the diagnosis of diabetes**

FPG  $\geq 126$  mg/dL (7.0 mmol/L). Fasting is defined as no caloric intake for at least 8 h.\*

OR

2-h PG  $\geq 200$  mg/dL (11.1 mmol/L) during OGTT. The test should be performed as described by the WHO, using a glucose load containing the equivalent of 75 g anhydrous glucose dissolved in water.\*

OR

A1C  $\geq 6.5\%$  (48 mmol/mol). The test should be performed in a laboratory using a method that is NGSP certified and standardized to the DCCT assay.\*

OR

In a patient with classic symptoms of hyperglycemia or hyperglycemic crisis, a random plasma glucose  $\geq 200$  mg/dL (11.1 mmol/L).

DCCT, Diabetes Control and Complications Trial; FPG, fasting plasma glucose; OGTT, oral glucose tolerance test; WHO, World Health Organization; 2-h PG, 2-h plasma glucose. \*In the absence of unequivocal hyperglycemia, diagnosis requires two abnormal test results from the same sample or in two separate test samples.

# Criteria defining prediabetes

**Table 2.5—Criteria defining prediabetes\***

FPG 100 mg/dL (5.6 mmol/L) to 125 mg/dL (6.9 mmol/L) (IFG)

OR

2-h PG during 75-g OGTT 140 mg/dL (7.8 mmol/L) to 199 mg/dL (11.0 mmol/L) (IGT)

OR

A1C 5.7–6.4% (39–47 mmol/mol)

FPG, fasting plasma glucose; IFG, impaired fasting glucose; IGT, impaired glucose tolerance; OGTT, oral glucose tolerance test; 2-h PG, 2-h plasma glucose. \*For all three tests, risk is continuous, extending below the lower limit of the range and becoming disproportionately greater at the higher end of the range.

# Screening for prediabetes and type 2 diabetes

**Table 2.3—Criteria for testing for diabetes or prediabetes in asymptomatic adults**

1. Testing should be considered in **overweight or obese** (BMI  $\geq 25$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> or  $\geq 23$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> in Asian Americans) adults who have **one or more of the following risk factors**:
  - First-degree relative with diabetes
  - High-risk race/ethnicity (e.g., African American, Latino, Native American, Asian American, Pacific Islander)
  - History of CVD
  - Hypertension ( $\geq 140/90$  mmHg or on therapy for hypertension)
  - HDL cholesterol level  $< 35$  mg/dL (0.90 mmol/L) and/or a triglyceride level  $> 250$  mg/dL (2.82 mmol/L)
  - Women with polycystic ovary syndrome
  - Physical inactivity
  - Other clinical conditions associated with insulin resistance (e.g., severe obesity, acanthosis nigricans)
2. Patients with prediabetes (A1C  $\geq 5.7\%$  [39 mmol/mol], IGT, or IFG) should be tested yearly.
3. Women who were diagnosed with GDM should have lifelong testing at least every 3 years.
4. For all other patients, testing should begin at age 45 years.
5. If results are normal, testing should be repeated at a minimum of 3-year intervals, with consideration of more frequent testing depending on initial results and risk status.

CVD, cardiovascular disease; GDM, gestational diabetes mellitus.





# Pharmacologic Treatment Of Diabetes

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## TYPE 2 DIABETES MELLITUS

## Management of Type 2 Diabetes

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graph TD; A[Management of Type 2 Diabetes] --> B[Individualized glycemic control]; A --> C[Treat associated conditions]; A --> D[Screen for/manage complications of diabetes];
```

### Individualized glycemic control

- Diet/lifestyle
- Exercise
- Medication

### Treat associated conditions

- Dyslipidemia
- Hypertension
- Obesity
- Coronary heart disease

### Screen for/manage complications of diabetes

- Retinopathy
- Cardiovascular disease
- Nephropathy
- Neuropathy
- Other complications

# Glucose-Lowering Agents

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↓ Hepatic glucose production → **Metformin** (**Glucophage**)

↑ Insulin secretion → **Gliclazide, Glibenclamide, Repaglinide**

↓ Insulin resistance, ↑ glucose utilization → **pioglitazone**

GLP1 receptor agonist → **Liraglutide** (**Victoza**)

DPP4 inhibitor → **Sitagliptin** (**Ziptin**), **Linagliptin** (**Lirenta**)

↑ Urinary glucose excretion → **empagliflozin** (**Gloripa**)

↓ GI glucose absorption → **Acarbose**

Insulin

# Biguanides

**Metformin** (Glucophage) → 500, 1000

Action ⇨ ↓ Hepatic glucose production

HBA1C Reduction (%) ⇨ 1–2

Fasting/Prandial Effect ⇨ Fasting

## Advantages

Weight neutral

No **hypoglycemia**

Inexpensive

Extensive experience

↓ CV events

## Disadvantages

Diarrhea, nausea

**lactic acidosis**

vitamin B12 deficiency

## Contraindications

Renal insufficiency (GFR < 30 mL/min)

CHF

Radiographic contrast studies

Hospitalized patients

Acidosis

# Sulfonylureas

**Gliclazide** (Diabeside) → 80, 30, 60mg

**Glibenclamide** (Glyburide) → 5mg

Action ⇨ **Insulin secretagogue**

(↑ Insulin secretion)

HBA1C Reduction (%) ⇨ 1–2

Fasting/Prandial Effect ⇨ Fasting

## Advantages

Short onset of action

lower postprandial glucose

inexpensive

## Disadvantages

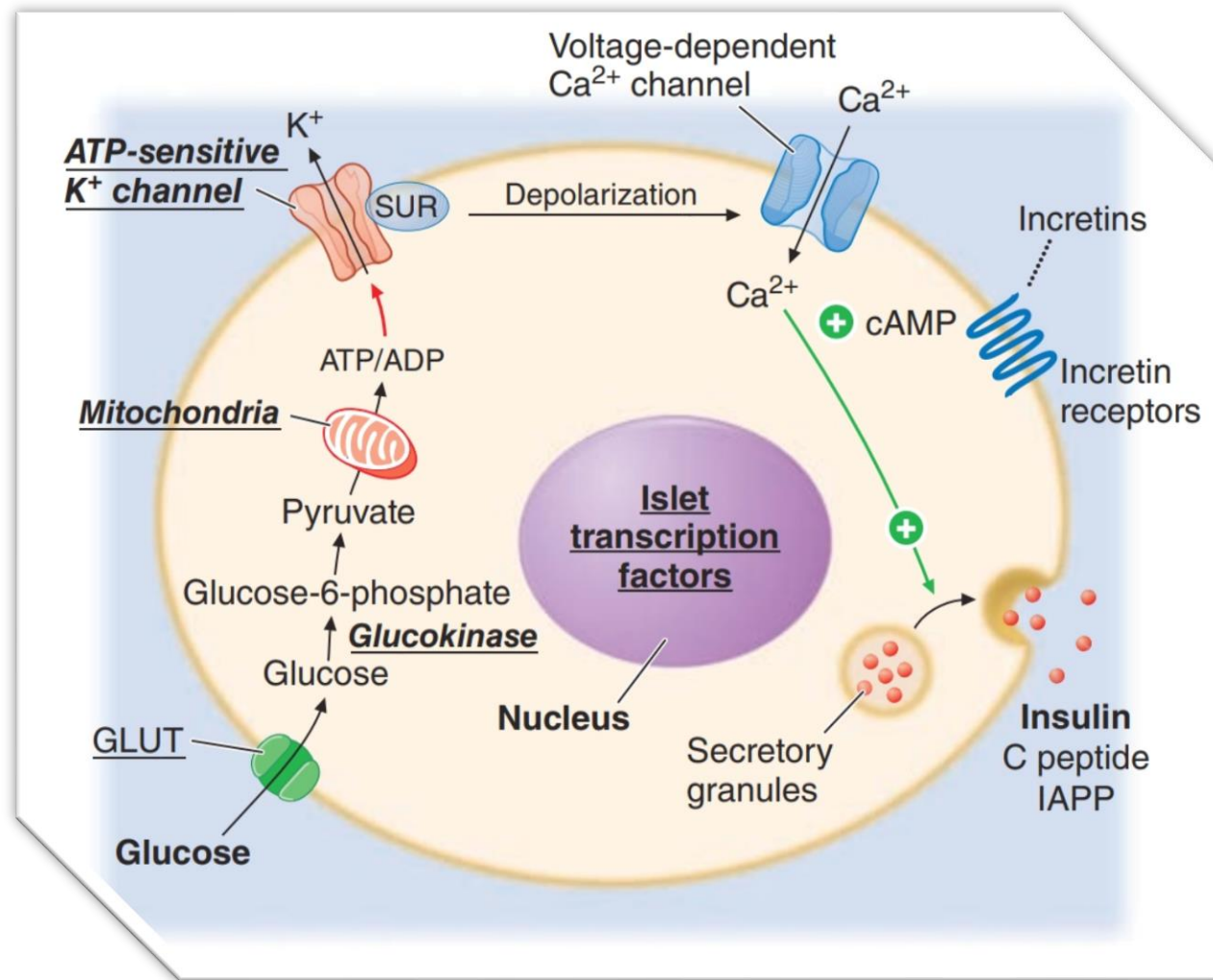
Hypoglycemia

Weight gain

## Contraindications

Renal/liver disease

# Sulfonylureas



# Meglitinide

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**Repaglinide** (Newbet) → 0.5, 1, 2mg

Action ⇨ **Insulin secretagogue**

(↑ Insulin secretion)

HBA1C Reduction (%) ⇨ 0.5–1.0

Fasting/Prandial Effect ⇨ Prandial

## Advantages

Short onset of action

lower postprandial glucose

## Disadvantages

Hypoglycemia

Weight gain

## Contraindications

Renal/liver disease

# Thiazolidinediones (TZDs)

**Pioglitazone** → 15, 30, 45mg

Action ⇨

↓ Insulin resistance

↑ glucose utilization

HBA1C Reduction (%) ⇨ 0.5–1.4

Fasting/Prandial Effect ⇨ Fasting

## Advantages

Lower insulin requirements

## Disadvantages

Fluid retention (Peripheral edema)

CHF

weight gain

## Contraindications

CHF (class III or IV)

liver disease



# GLP-1 receptor agonists

## Liraglutide (Victoza, Saxenda)

### Action ⇨

↑ glucose-stimulated insulin secretion

↓ glucagon

Slow gastric emptying

Satiety

HBA1C Reduction (%) ⇨ 0.5–1.0

Fasting/Prandial Effect ⇨ Both

### Advantages

**Weight loss**

No **hypoglycemia**

decrease CVD events

### Disadvantages

**Injection**, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

expensive

### Contraindications

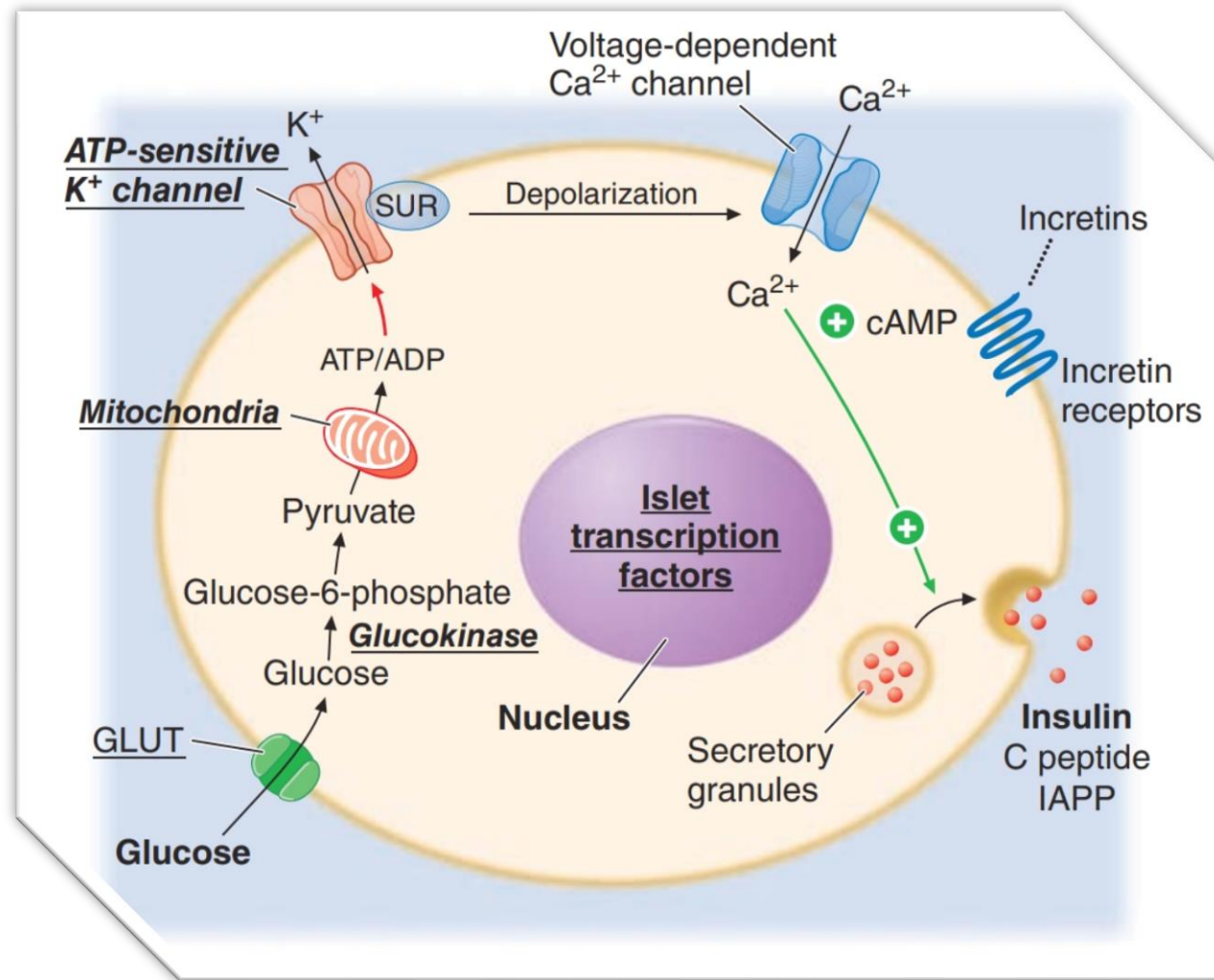
Renal disease

Agents that also slow GI motility

History of Medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC)

pancreatic disease

# GLP-1 receptor agonists



# Dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitors

**Sitagliptin** (Ziptin) → 50, 100mg

**Linagliptin** (Lirenta) → 5mg

Action ⇨

Prolong endogenous GLP-1 action

↑ Insulin

↓ glucagon

HBA1C Reduction (%) ⇨ 0.5–0.8

Fasting/Prandial Effect ⇨ Both

## Advantages

Well tolerated

do not cause hypoglycemia

## Disadvantages

Angioedema/urticarial

## Contraindications

Renal disease

Pancreatitis

# Sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors

**Empagliflozin** (Gloripa) → 10, 25mg

Action ⇨ ↑ renal glucose Excretion

HBA1C Reduction (%) ⇨ 0.5–1.0

Fasting/Prandial Effect ⇨ Both

## Advantages

No hypoglycemia

↓ weight and BP

decrease CVD events

## Disadvantages

Urinary and genital infections

Polyuria (diuretic effect)

Dehydration

Euglycemic DKA

## Contraindications

Renal disease

Type 1 DM

# $\alpha$ -Glucosidase inhibitors

**Acarbose**  $\rightarrow$  50, 100mg

Action  $\Rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  GI glucose Absorption

HBA1C Reduction (%)  $\Rightarrow$  0.5–0.8

Fasting/Prandial Effect  $\Rightarrow$  Prandial

## Advantages

Reduce postprandial Glycemia

## Disadvantages

Diarrhea

GI flatulence

abdominal distention

Liver function tests

## Contraindications

Renal/liver disease

inflammatory bowel disease

gastroparesis

# Combination Pills

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**Zipmet** (Sitagliptin + Metformin) → 50/500, 50/1000

**Melijent-M** (Linagliptin + Metformin) → 2.5/500, 2.5/1000

**Synoripa** (Empagliflozin + Metformin) → 5/500, 5/1000, 12.5/500, 12.5/1000

**Glorenta** (Empagliflozin + Linagliptin) → 10/5

# Initiation of medication

**Metformin** is the preferred initial pharmacologic agent.

Weight neutral

No **hypoglycemia**

Inexpensive

Extensive experience

↓ CV events

Consider **initiating dual therapy** in patients with:

**A1C ≥1.5%** above their **glycemic target**

patients who have **CVD** or **CKD**, **SGLT2 inhibitors**, or **GLP1 receptor agonists** are recommended as **second choice**.

patients with CVD with **heart failure** or at **high risk of HF** **SGLT2 inhibitors** are preferred.

**FIRST-LINE Therapy is Metformin and Comprehensive Lifestyle (including weight management and physical activity)**



**INDICATORS OF HIGH-RISK OR ESTABLISHED ASCVD, CKD, OR HF†**

**NO**

**CONSIDER INDEPENDENTLY OF BASELINE A1C OR INDIVIDUALIZED A1C TARGET**

**IF A1C ABOVE INDIVIDUALIZED TARGET PROCEED AS BELOW**

**ASCVD PREDOMINATES**

- Established ASCVD
- Indicators of high ASCVD risk (age ≥55 years with coronary, carotid or lower extremity artery stenosis >50%, or LVH)

**PREFERABLY**

GLP-1 RA with proven CVD benefit<sup>1</sup>

**OR**

SGLT2i with proven CVD benefit<sup>1</sup> if eGFR adequate<sup>2</sup>

**If A1C above target**

If further intensification is required or patient is now unable to tolerate GLP-1 RA and/or SGLT2i, choose agents demonstrating CV safety:

- For patients on a GLP-1 RA, consider adding SGLT2i with proven CVD benefit<sup>1</sup>
- DPP-4i if not on GLP-1 RA
- Basal insulin<sup>4</sup>
- TZD<sup>5</sup>
- SU<sup>6</sup>

**HF OR CKD PREDOMINATES**

- Particularly HFrEF (LVEF <45%)
- CKD: Specifically eGFR 30-60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> or UACR >30 mg/g, particularly UACR >300 mg/g

**PREFERABLY**

SGLT2i with evidence of reducing HF and/or CKD progression in CVOTs if eGFR adequate<sup>3</sup>

**OR**

If SGLT2i not tolerated or contraindicated or if eGFR less than adequate<sup>3</sup> add GLP-1 RA with proven CVD benefit<sup>1</sup>

**If A1C above target**

- Avoid TZD in the setting of HF
- Choose agents demonstrating CV safety:
- For patients on a SGLT2i, consider adding GLP-1 RA with proven CVD benefit<sup>1</sup>
- DPP-4i (not saxagliptin) in the setting of HF (if not on GLP-1 RA)
- Basal insulin<sup>4</sup>
- SU<sup>6</sup>

**COMPELLING NEED TO MINIMIZE HYPOGLYCEMIA**

DPP-4i	GLP-1 RA	SGLT2i <sup>2</sup>	TZD
<b>If A1C above target</b>	<b>If A1C above target</b>	<b>If A1C above target</b>	<b>If A1C above target</b>
SGLT2i <sup>2</sup>	SGLT2i <sup>2</sup>	GLP-1 RA OR DPP-4i OR TZD	SGLT2i <sup>2</sup> OR DPP-4i OR GLP-1 RA
<b>OR</b>	<b>OR</b>		
TZD	TZD		
<b>If A1C above target</b>			
Continue with addition of other agents as outlined above			
<b>If A1C above target</b>			
Consider the addition of SU <sup>6</sup> OR basal insulin:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choose later generation SU with lower risk of hypoglycemia</li> <li>Consider basal insulin with lower risk of hypoglycemia<sup>7</sup></li> </ul>			

**COMPELLING NEED TO MINIMIZE WEIGHT GAIN OR PROMOTE WEIGHT LOSS**

**EITHER/ OR**

GLP-1 RA with good efficacy for weight loss<sup>8</sup> OR SGLT2i<sup>2</sup>

**If A1C above target**

SGLT2i<sup>2</sup> OR GLP-1 RA with good efficacy for weight loss<sup>8</sup>

**If A1C above target**

If quadruple therapy required, or SGLT2i and/or GLP-1 RA not tolerated or contraindicated, use regimen with lowest risk of weight gain

**PREFERABLY**

DPP-4i (if not on GLP-1 RA) based on weight neutrality

**COST IS A MAJOR ISSUE<sup>9-10</sup>**

SU<sup>6</sup> OR TZD<sup>10</sup>

**If A1C above target**

TZD<sup>10</sup> OR SU<sup>6</sup>

**If A1C above target**

- Insulin therapy basal insulin with lowest acquisition cost
- OR**
- Consider DPP-4i OR SGLT2i with lowest acquisition cost<sup>10</sup>

1. Proven CVD benefit means it has label indication of reducing CVD events
2. Be aware that SGLT2i labelling varies by region and individual agent with regard to indicated level of eGFR for initiation and continued use
3. Empagliflozin, canagliflozin and dapagliflozin have shown reduction in HF and to reduce CKD progression in CVOTs. Canagliflozin has primary renal outcome data from CREDENCE. Dapagliflozin has primary heart failure outcome data from DAPA-HF
4. Degludec or U100 glargine have demonstrated CVD safety

6. Choose later generation SU to lower risk of hypoglycemia, Glimepiride has shown similar CV safety to DPP-4i
7. Degludec / glargine U300 < glargine U100 / detemir < NPH insulin
8. Semaglutide > liraglutide > dulaglutide > exenatide > lixisenatide
9. If no specific comorbidities (i.e. no established CVD, low risk of hypoglycemia and lower priority to avoid weight gain or no weight-related comorbidities)
10. Consider country- and region-specific cost of drugs. In some countries

If DPP-4i not tolerated or contraindicated or patient already on GLP-1 RA, cautious addition of:

- SU<sup>6</sup> • TZD<sup>5</sup> • Basal insulin



**CONSIDER INDEPENDENTLY OF BASELINE A1C OR INDIVIDUALIZED A1C TARGET**

**ASCVD PREDOMINATES**

- Established ASCVD
- Indicators of high ASCVD risk (age  $\geq 55$  years with coronary, carotid or lower extremity artery stenosis  $>50\%$ , or LVH)

**PREFERABLY**

GLP-1 RA with proven CVD benefit<sup>1</sup>

**OR**

SGLT2i with proven CVD benefit<sup>1</sup> if eGFR adequate<sup>2</sup>

**If A1C above target**

If further intensification is required or patient is now unable to tolerate GLP-1 RA and/or SGLT2i, choose agents demonstrating CV safety:

- For patients on a GLP-1 RA, consider adding SGLT2i with proven CVD benefit<sup>1</sup>
- DPP-4i if not on GLP-1 RA
- Basal insulin<sup>4</sup>
- TZD<sup>5</sup>
- SU<sup>6</sup>

**HF OR CKD PREDOMINATES**

- Particularly HFrEF (LVEF  $<45\%$ )
- CKD: Specifically eGFR 30-60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> or UACR  $>30$  mg/g, particularly UACR  $>300$  mg/g

**PREFERABLY**

SGLT2i with evidence of reducing HF and/or CKD progression in CVOTs if eGFR adequate<sup>3</sup>

**OR**

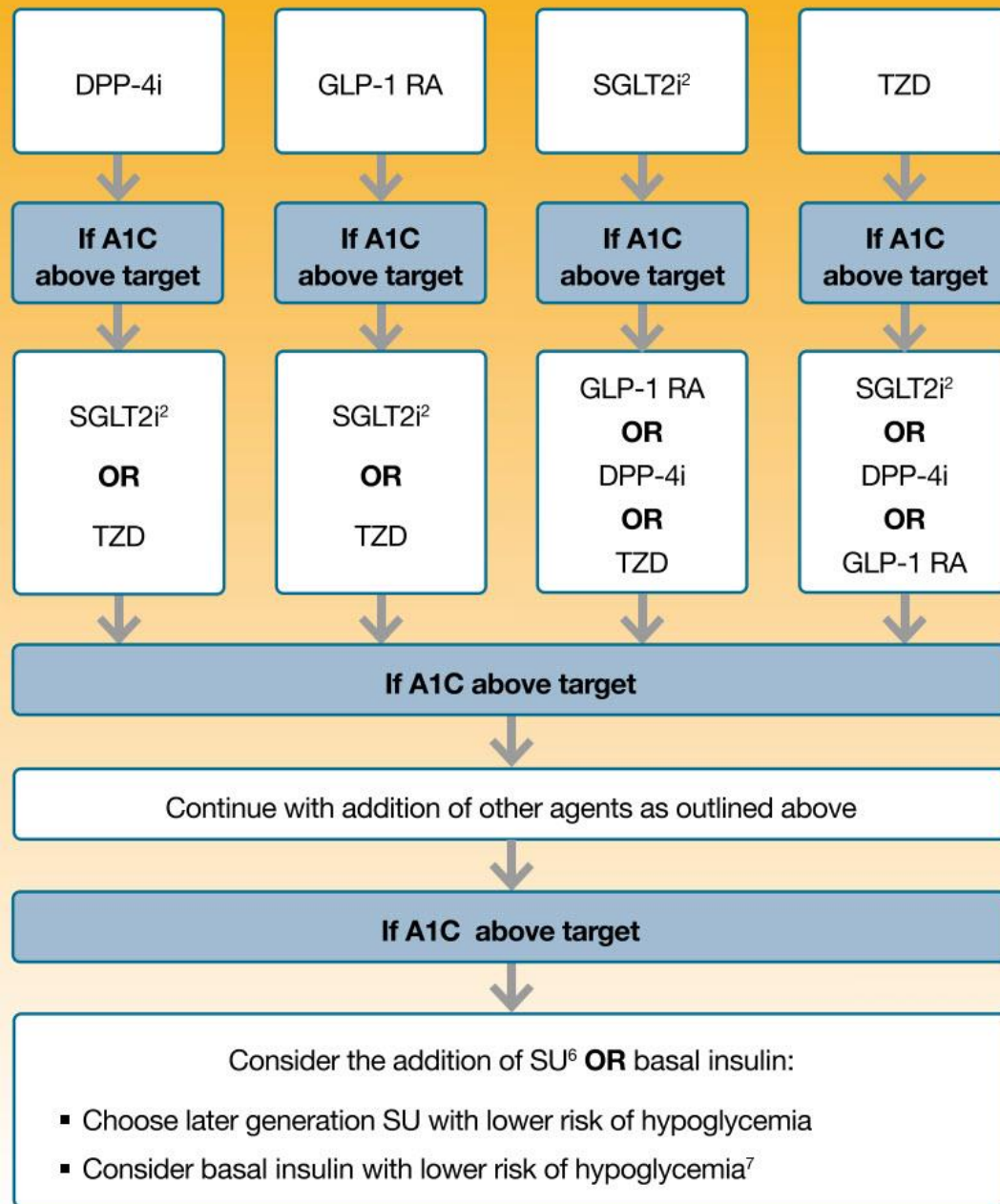
If SGLT2i not tolerated or contraindicated or if eGFR less than adequate<sup>2</sup> add GLP-1 RA with proven CVD benefit<sup>1</sup>

**If A1C above target**

▪ Avoid TZD in the setting of HF  
Choose agents demonstrating CV safety:

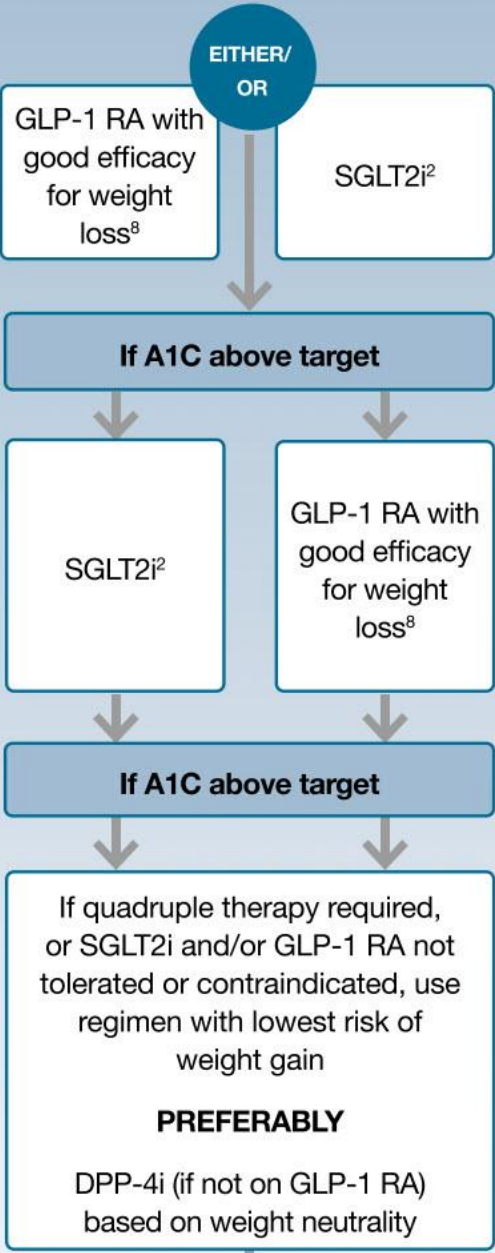
- For patients on a SGLT2i, consider adding GLP-1 RA with proven CVD benefit<sup>1</sup>
- DPP-4i (not saxagliptin) in the setting of HF (if not on GLP-1 RA)
- Basal insulin<sup>4</sup>
- SU<sup>6</sup>

## COMPELLING NEED TO MINIMIZE HYPOGLYCEMIA



- Consider the addition of SU<sup>6</sup> OR basal insulin:
- Choose later generation SU with lower risk of hypoglycemia
- Consider basal insulin with lower risk of hypoglycemia<sup>7</sup>

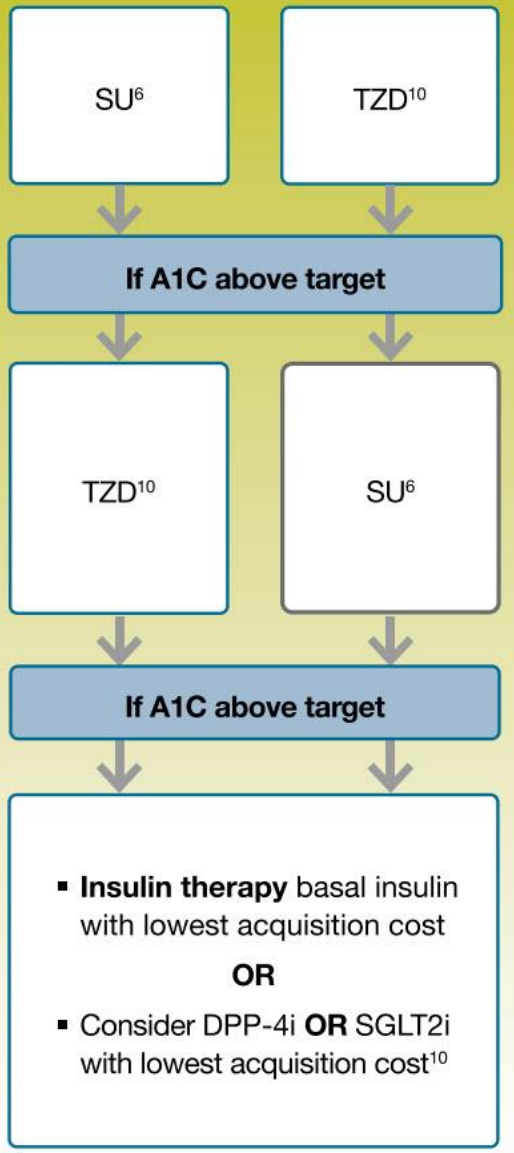
## COMPELLING NEED TO MINIMIZE WEIGHT GAIN OR PROMOTE WEIGHT LOSS

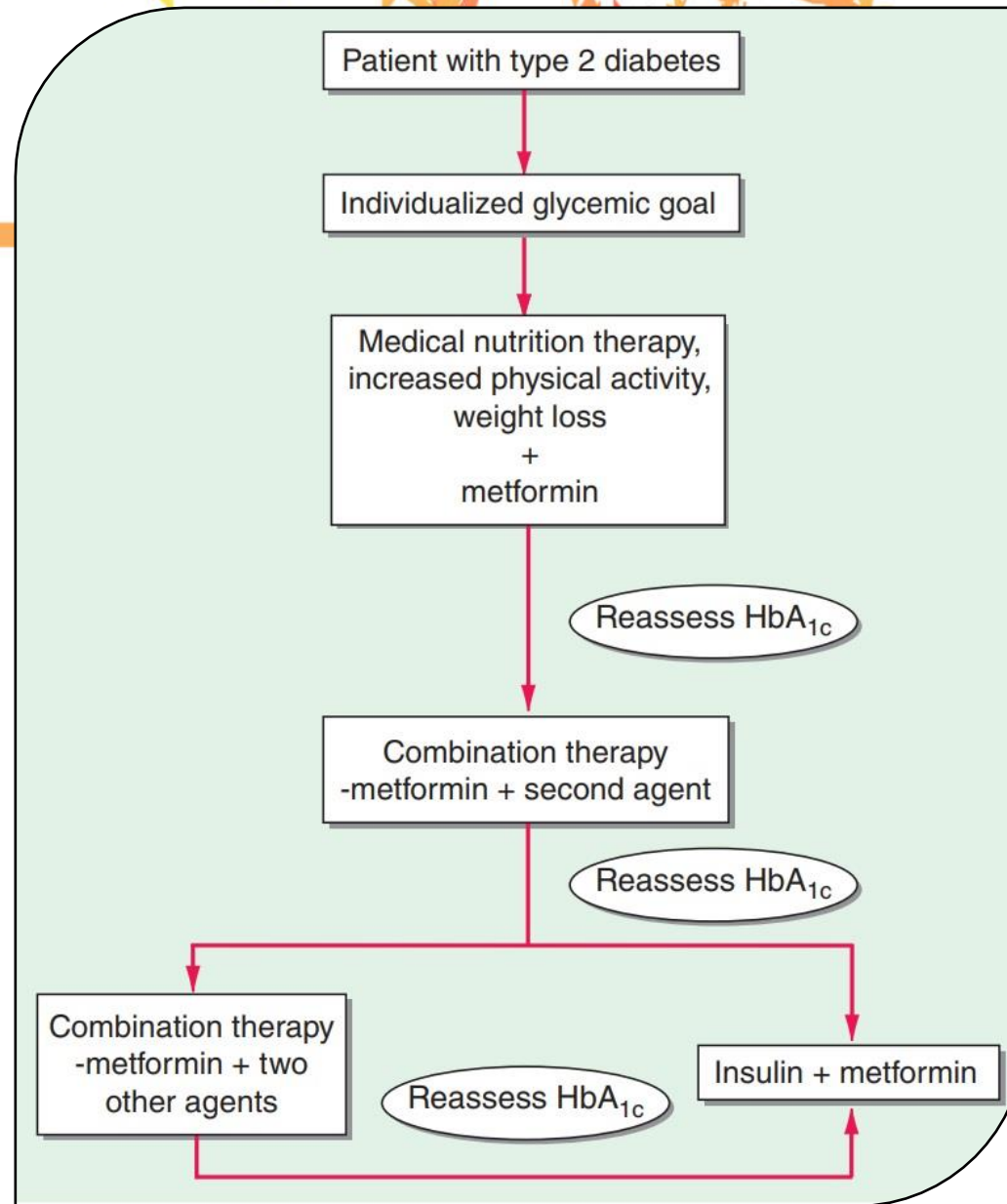


If DPP-4i not tolerated or contraindicated or patient already on GLP-1 RA, cautious addition of:

- SU<sup>6</sup> • TZD<sup>5</sup> • Basal insulin

## COST IS A MAJOR ISSUE<sup>9-10</sup>





# A1C Level

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Perform the A1C test at least **two times** a year in patients:

- who are **meeting treatment goals** and
- who have **stable glycemic control**

Perform the A1C test **quarterly** in patients whose **therapy has changed** or who are **not meeting glycemic goals**

Conditions that affect red blood cell **turnover**

**hemolytic** and other anemias

**G6PD** deficiency

recent blood **transfusion**

use of drugs that **stimulate erythropoiesis**

end-stage kidney disease

**pregnancy**

# A1C Level

**Table 6.1—Estimated average glucose (eAG)**

A1C (%)	mg/dL*	mmol/L
5	97 (76–120)	5.4 (4.2–6.7)
6	126 (100–152)	7.0 (5.5–8.5)
7	154 (123–185)	8.6 (6.8–10.3)
8	183 (147–217)	10.2 (8.1–12.1)
9	212 (170–249)	11.8 (9.4–13.9)
10	240 (193–282)	13.4 (10.7–15.7)
11	269 (217–314)	14.9 (12.0–17.5)
12	298 (240–347)	16.5 (13.3–19.3)

Data in parentheses are 95% CI. A calculator for converting A1C results into eAG, in either mg/dL or mmol/L, is available at [professional.diabetes.org/eAG](http://professional.diabetes.org/eAG). \*These estimates are based on ADAG data of ~2,700 glucose measurements over 3 months per A1C measurement in 507 adults with type 1, type 2, or no diabetes. The correlation between A1C and average glucose was 0.92 (6,7). Adapted from Nathan et al. (6).

# Treatment goal

**Table 6.3—Summary of glycemic recommendations for many nonpregnant adults with diabetes**

A1C	<7.0% (53 mmol/mol)*
Preprandial capillary plasma glucose	80–130 mg/dL* (4.4–7.2 mmol/L)
Peak postprandial capillary plasma glucose†	<180 mg/dL* (10.0 mmol/L)

\*More or less stringent glycemic goals may be appropriate for individual patients. Goals should be **individualized based** on duration of diabetes, age/life expectancy, comorbid conditions, known CVD or advanced microvascular complications, hypoglycemia unawareness, and individual patient considerations. †Postprandial glucose may be targeted if A1C goals are not met despite reaching preprandial glucose goals. Postprandial glucose measurements should be made 1–2 h after the beginning of the meal, generally peak levels in patients with diabetes.

# A1C goals

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< 7% ⇨ for many **nonpregnant adults**

< 6.5% ⇨ those with:

- **short duration** of diabetes
- type 2 diabetes treated with **lifestyle** or **metformin only**
- **long** life expectancy
- no significant cardiovascular disease
- **Pregnancy**

< 8% ⇨ those with:

- history of **severe hypoglycemia**
- **long-standing diabetes** in whom the goal is difficult to achieve
- **limited** life expectancy
- advanced microvascular or macrovascular complications
- extensive comorbid conditions



# A1C goals

## Approach to Individualization of Glycemic Targets

Patient / Disease Features    More stringent ← A1C 7% → Less stringent

Risks potentially associated with hypoglycemia and other drug adverse effects

low

high

Disease duration

newly diagnosed

long-standing

Life expectancy

long

short

Important comorbidities

absent

few / mild

severe

Established vascular complications

absent

few / mild

severe

Usually not modifiable



**Thank you**  
**for your attention**