Management of Type 2 Diabetes

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Why Do We Bother to Achieve Good Control in DM2





Pharmacotherapy: Common Principles

- Combining drugs is usually more effective than stopping one agent and introducing another
- Adding a second agent is usually better than increasing the dosage of one that is already near maximum dosage
- Secondary failure of 2 drug combinations should be expected eventually

Common Principles (Cont)

- 3 drug combinations may be useful although clinical trial evidence is lacking
- Failure of 2 oral drug combinations usually calls for the use of insulin, alone or in combination with oral agents
- In patient with severe hyperglycaemia insulin may be started from the beginning until glucotoxicity resolves. It can then be reduced or even withdrawn.

Clinical Effects of Anti-hyperglycemic Agents

Name	Average HbA1c reduction	Patient best suited
Acarbose	0.5 – 1	High postprandial glucose
Metformin	1 – 2	Obese patients
Meglitinides	1 – 2	High postprandial glucose
Sulph/urias	1 – 2	Recently Dx type 2 diabetes
Glitazones	0.5 - 1.5	Obese or insulin resistant









Available drugs

Insulin Secretagogues

- Sulphonylurias
- Meglitinides

Increase the secretion of endogenous insulin, as long as pancreatic beta – cell function remains

Available Insulin Secretagogues

Sulphonylureas
Glipizide (Minidiab)
Gliclazide (Diamicron)
Glimperide (Amaryl)

Meglitinides

Repaglinide (Novonorm) Nataglinide (Starlix)



Take Note (Sulphonylureas)

- Alcohol and H2 blockers are competitive inhibitors of sulphonylurea metabolism
- Hypoglycaemia is the most serious complication of sulphonylurea use
- Pancreatic vs. Cardiac SUR

Meglitinides (Post-prandial Glucose Regulators)

- Bind to the SUR at a different site than Sulphonylureas
- Given at mealtimes and mimics the physiological insulin response
- Correlation between post-prandial hyperglycaemia and incidence of cardiovascular mortality (Honolulu heart study, Chicago heart study, DECODE and DIAS studies)
- No long term studies are available on Repaglanide use and cardiovascular risk. Studies using IMT as outcome however showed significant benefit

Available Insulin Sensitizing Agents

Biguanides (Metformin) Thiazolidinediones (Pioglitazone, Rosiglitazone)

Biguanides (Metformin)

Mechanisms of action

- Decrease GNG (liver)
- Increase insulin mediated
- glucose uptake Reduce glucose absorption
- Increase splanchnic glucose utilisation
- Activate insulin receptors and GLUT-4

Advantages

- Weight loss, mild anorexic effect
- No hypoglycaemia
- Decrease thrombotic risk ■ ↓ platelet aggregation
- \downarrow PAI-1 levels Beneficial effect on lipid
- profile
- ↓ LDL, ↓ Triglyserides, ↑ HDL
- Save in pregnancy (MiG study)

Alpha glucosidase inhibitors

- Slows the digestion of sucrose and starch and therefore delay absorption
- Slow post-meal rise in blood glucose

Side effects

- Flatulence, abdominal discomfort, diarrhoea
- As mono-therapy will not cause hypoglycaemia
- Hypoglycaemia when used with other medicine (e.g. a sulphonylurea)



Alpha glucosidase inhibitors

Contraindications

- · Intestinal diseases, such as Crohn's
- Autonomic neuropathy affecting the gastro-intestinal tract

Must be taken just before a meal

Incretins

Gastric Inhibitory peptide Glucagon like peptide-1









Incretin Drugs

- GLP-1 analogues:
 - Exenatide (Bayetta): Given twice daily as subcutaneous injection
 - Liraglutide: Currently in phase III development. Given as a once daily subcutaneous injection
- DPP-IV inhibitors:
 - Vildagliptin: Taken orally once daily
 - Sitagliptin: Taken orally once daily
 - Saxagliptin: Taken orally once daily
 - Linagliptin: Taken orally once daily

GLP-1 (incretin mimetic agent)

- Improves beta-cell responsiveness to increasing glucose levels
- Decreases glucagon secretion
- Slows gastric emptying
- Results in a feeling of fullness
- Must be injected subcutaneously twice a day, within 30-60 minutes before a meal
- Reduces HbA_{1c} by ~1%

GLP-1 (incretin mimetic agent)

Side effects

- Nausea
- Weight loss
- Diarrhoea
- Risk of hypoglycaemia when used with a sulphonylurea

GLP-1 (incretin mimetic agent)

Contraindications

- End-stage kidney disease or renal impairment
- Pregnancy
- · Severe gastrointestinal disease

Insulin in Type 2 Diabetes

When to Start Insulin in Type 2 Diabetic Patients

- Timely initiation of insulin therapy optimises blood glucose control and therefore improves prognosis
- HbA1C routinely > 7% indicates patient may benefit from insulin; three-monthly HbA1C monitoring is recommended

When to Start Insulin in Type 2 Diabetic Patients

- After OAD failure, combination insulin + OAD can improve glycaemic control with less weight gain than insulin alone
- Some patients may benefit from insulin therapy as soon as diet becomes inadequate

Indications for Insulin Therapy in Type 2 Diabetes

- Persistent hyperglycemia with oral agents
- Uncontrolled weight loss
- Latent autoimmune diabetes in adults (LADA)
- Advanced renal or hepatic disease
- Allergic reactions to oral agents
- Intercurrent events: MI, CVA, acute illness, surgery
- Women planning pregnancy
- Gestational diabetes

Early Insulin Initiation: Why Is It Important?

- Type 2 diabetes is a disease of insulin resistance and insulin deficiency
- Beta cell decline is inevitable
- Insulin is the most powerful drug we have
- Starting early means fewer years of poor control

SEMDSA Algorithm

Lifeshyle measures plus	Preferred	Alternative therapies for special circumstances*				
STEP 1: INITIATE AT LEAST ONE ORAL DRUG AT DIAGNOSIS	Melformin			DP7-41		Acarbose
4						
STEP 2: COMBINE ANY TWO DEUCS*	Melformin	50-	Increfin	Acarbose		Basal insulin
4						
STEP 3: COMBINE THREE DRUGS	Mettormin + SU + basai ins ins	Metformin + SU + Incretin Metformin		ılın + SV + acarbose		
4						
STEP 4: MORE ADVANCED THERAPIES	Refer to specialist for basal + acorbase	Mettormin + pre-mix insulin (if not used yet)				

Conclusion

- Remember: management of diabetes type 2 is more than just treating blood glucose.
- The number of drugs significantly increased from 2 classes of drugs 15 years ago to 8 classes at the moment (excluding insulins) with a few novel ones on the way.