

# Diabetes Medications

Class of Medication	Main Action	Name of Medication	Dose Range	Considerations/Side Effects	Benefits
<b>Biguanides</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decreases liver output of glucose</li> <li>First line medication at diagnosis of T2DM</li> </ul>	Metformin (Glucophage/XR) (Glumetza) (Fortamet)	500-2500mg 500-2000mg 500-2000mg 500-2500mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May cause nausea, bloating, diarrhea, metallic taste in mouth</li> <li>hold for dye studies</li> <li>May cause resumption of ovulation in non-ovulating pre-menopausal women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowers cholesterol, no weight gain, lowers A1c 1-2%</li> <li>Low cost</li> <li>Does not cause hypoglycemia</li> </ul>
		Riomet (Liquid)	500-2500mg 500mg/5ml		
<b>Sulfonylureas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stimulates sustained insulin release</li> </ul>	Glyburide (Micronase) (Glynase)	1.25-20mg 0.75-12mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can take once or twice before meals</li> <li>May cause weight gain, nausea, vomiting</li> <li>Can cause hypoglycemia</li> <li>Glyburide is not preferred over other sulfonylureas due to increased risk of hypoglycemia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low cost generic</li> <li>Lowers A1C 1-2%</li> </ul>
		Glipizide (Glucotrol/XL)	2.5-40mg 2.5-20mg		
		Glimepiride (Amaryl)	1-8mg		
<b>SGLT2 Inhibitors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decreases glucose reabsorption in the kidneys</li> <li>Glucose is excreted through urine</li> </ul>	Invokana* (Canagliflozin)	100-300mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May cause hypotension, UTIs, increased urination, genital infections, ketoacidosis</li> <li>Monitor GFR</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No weight gain or hypoglycemia</li> <li>Lowers A1C 0.6-1.5%</li> </ul> <p>*Reduces risk of CV death, heart failure, and preserves long-term kidney function</p>
		Farxiga* (Dapagliflozin)	5-10mg		
		Jardiance* (Empagliflozin)	10-25mg		
		Steglatro (Ertugliflozin)	5-15mg		

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<b>DPP-4 Inhibitors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prolongs action of gut hormones</li> <li>• Increases insulin secretion after meals</li> <li>• Delays gastric emptying</li> </ul>	Januvia (Sitagliptin)	25-100mg (Eliminated via kidney)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May cause headache and flu-like symptoms</li> <li>• May cause severe, disabling joint pain- notify MD, stop medication</li> <li>• May cause pancreatitis</li> <li>• Saxagliptin &amp; Alogliptin can increase risk of heart failure- notify MD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No weight gain or hypoglycemia</li> <li>• Lowers A1C 0.6-0.8%</li> </ul>
		Onglyza (Saxagliptin)	2.5-5mg (Eliminated via kidney&feces)		
		Tradjenta (Linagliptin)	5mg (Eliminated via feces)		
		Nesina (Alogliptin)	6.25-25mg (Eliminated via kidney)		
<b>GLP-1 Agonists (Injectables)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increases insulin secretion after meals</li> <li>• Delays gastric emptying</li> </ul>	Trulicity (Dulaglutide)	0.75 or 1.5mg 1x/wk Pen injection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, acute pancreatitis</li> <li>• Not indicated with a family history of thyroid cancer or multiple endocrine neoplasia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No hypoglycemia</li> <li>• Helps with weight loss with lifestyle modifications</li> <li>• May help reduce risk of cardiovascular complications.</li> </ul>
		Bydureon/Byetta (Exenatide)	2mg 1x/wk Pen injection		
		Ozempic (Semaglutide)	0.5 or 1mg 1x/wk Pen injection		
		Rybelsus (Oral) (Semaglutide)	3, 7, or 14mg QD in AM w/ empty stomach		
		Victoza (Liraglutide)	0.6, 1.2, or 1.8mg daily		
		Adlyxin (Lixisenatide)	10mcg 1x/day for 14days 20mcg day 15		

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<b>GIP/GLP-1 Agonists</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increases insulin sensitivity</li> <li>Increases insulin release after meals</li> <li>Reduces glucagon</li> <li>Delays gastric emptying</li> </ul>	Mounjaro (Tirzepatide)	2.5-15mg 1x/wk injection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, constipation, indigestion, and abdominal pain</li> <li>Not indicated with a family history of thyroid cancer or multiple endocrine neoplasia</li> <li>May cause hypoglycemia when used along with insulin or sulfonylureas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helps with weight loss (12-25lb) and improvement of blood glucose along with diet and exercise</li> <li>Helps reduce A1C</li> </ul>
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<b>Thiazolidinediones (TZDs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increases insulin sensitivity</li> </ul>	Actos (Pioglitazone) Avandia (Rosiglitazone)	15-45mg 4-8mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>BLACK BOX WARNING:</b> May worsen congestive heart failure- Notify MD</li> <li>Monitor routine liver function</li> <li>Can cause hypoglycemia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowers A1C 0.5-1%</li> </ul>
<b>Glucosidase Inhibitors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delays carbohydrate absorption</li> </ul>	Precose (Acarbose) Glyset (Miglitol)	25-100mg 300mg max	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gradually increase dosage</li> <li>Caution with liver or kidney problems</li> <li>With hypoglycemia, treat with glucose tablets for better absorption</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowers A1C 0.5-1%</li> </ul>
<b>Meglitinides</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stimulates rapid insulin burst</li> </ul>	Prandin (Repaglinide) Starlix (Nateglinide)	0.5-4mg 60-120mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May cause hypoglycemia and weight gain</li> <li>Take before meals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowers A1C 1-2%</li> </ul>
<b>Dopamine Receptor Agonists</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resets circadian rhythm</li> </ul>	Bromocriptine Mesylate Cycloset	1.6-4.8mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take within 2 hours of waking</li> <li>May cause nausea, headache, fatigue, hypotension,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowers A1C 0.6-0.9%</li> </ul>

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<b>Bile Acid Sequestrants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decreases cholesterol and BG levels</li> </ul>	Welchol (Colesevelam HCL)	Up to six 625mg pills (3 in AM, 3 in PM)	syncope, somnolence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not use with history of bowel obstruction, TG&gt;500, pancreatitis</li> <li>Can decrease absorption of certain medications and soluble vitamins</li> <li>May cause GI upset</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowers LDL by 15-30%</li> <li>Lowers A1C 0.5%</li> </ul>
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