

# Facts or Fiction about Insulin Use

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## Speaker:

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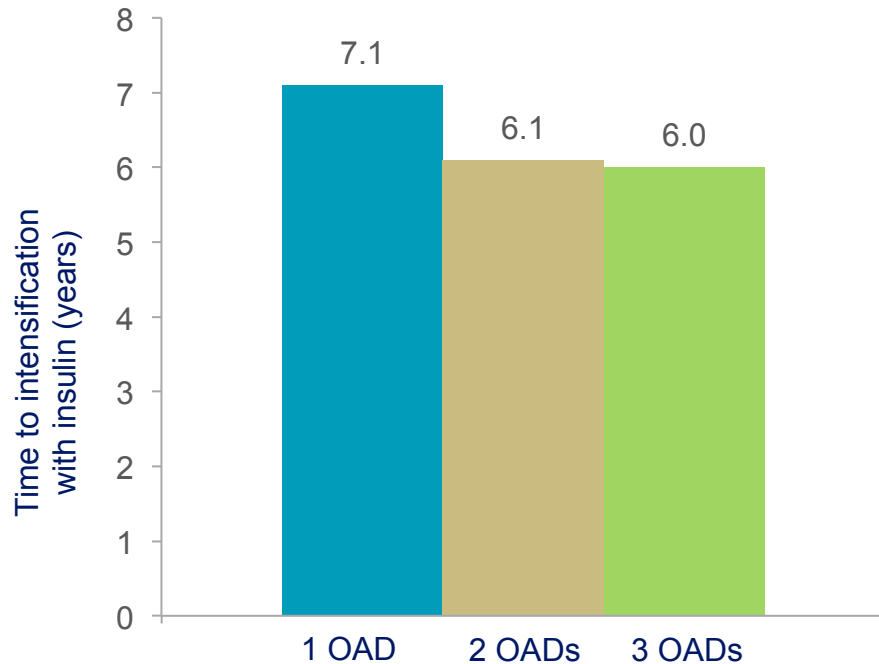
- Has disclosed that he serves on the Speaker's bureau and receives consulting fees and honoraria from Lilly, Novo Nordisk, MSD, AstraZeneca, J&J and Servier
- Will not be discussing the off-label or investigational use of products



# Objectives

- Fears of insulin use and how to overcome them
- Dealing with potential risk: Hypoglycemia
- Role of analogues in current setting
- Review of data on new insulins
- Discuss inhaled insulin

# Insulin use is delayed despite elevated HbA<sub>1c</sub>: a retrospective cohort study of 80,000 patients



Number of OADs patient is currently taking

**Clinical Inertia in DM2:**  
It can take up to 7  
years to initiate  
insulin therapy, even  
in the presence  
of elevated HbA<sub>1c</sub>

OAD: oral antidiabetics

Khunti et al. *Diabetes Care* 2013; 36(11):3411-3417



# Selected barriers to insulin injection therapy among patients, providers, and health care systems

Strategies for Insulin Injection Therapy in Diabetes  
Self-Management

American Association of Diabetes Educators, 2011.

# Patient Barriers

## Psychological resistance

- Myth-based fear of insulin
- Fear of hypoglycemia
- Concern about weight gain
- Fear of needles and pain
- Self-blame
- Loss of control
- Social stigma
- Poor self-efficacy

# Patient Barriers

## Lifestyle

- Time-consuming; inconvenient
- Travel issues

## Physical/mental

- Poor recall/cognitive impairment
- Visual/hearing/dexterity impairment
- Learning difficulties; low literacy/numeracy skills

## Financial

- Reimbursement issues

# Provider Barriers

- Perceived patient resistance
- Patient's adherence behavior
- Belief that patient's improved status negates need to start insulin therapy
- Concerns about adverse effects (hypoglycemia; weight gain)
- Provider time constraints (instruction; titration)
- Lack of resources/ organizational structure to facilitate guideline adherence

# System Barriers

- Overburdened workload among providers
- Access to education
- Limited training of providers in injection technique
- Underutilization of resources  
(within clinical practices, hospitals, and community)
- Reimbursement issues
- Poor follow-up system
- Suboptimal team collaboration; poor chronic care model

## Common Patient Concerns When Initiating Insulin Therapy and Suggested Responses for HCPs

Patient Concern	Reassurance
"I need insulin because I have failed."	HCPs should present insulin in a positive light at the time of diagnosis, explaining that type 2 diabetes is a progressive disease with a gradual decline in $\beta$ -cell function, meaning that most patients will eventually require insulin. Emphasize that oral anti-diabetic agents have failed the patient rather than this situation being related to any failure on the patient's part.
"Insulin injections are painful."	Modern needles are very fine, laser-sharpened, and silicone-coated for ease of entry. They are practically pain-free. A demonstration needle can usually dispel this concern.
"I have needle phobia."	A number of injection aids are available, such as needle shields. A demonstration needle can usually dispel this concern. For genuine needle phobia, jet injectors deliver a high-pressure jet of insulin directly through the skin; however, HCPs should point out that jet injectors are not completely pain-free and can cause bruising in some patients if not used correctly.
"Insulin regimens are complex, restrictive, and intrusive."	There are many insulin formulations and dosage combinations that can be tailored to suit each patient's lifestyle with minimum disruption. For example, new insulin analogs mimic natural insulin much more closely than human insulins, and the rapid-acting formulation can be given just before mealtimes. Pre-filled insulin pens containing insulin analogs can be carried discreetly to work, school, or social activities. These devices are also particularly suitable for patients with visual or dexterity difficulties, cognitive impairment, or compliance issues.

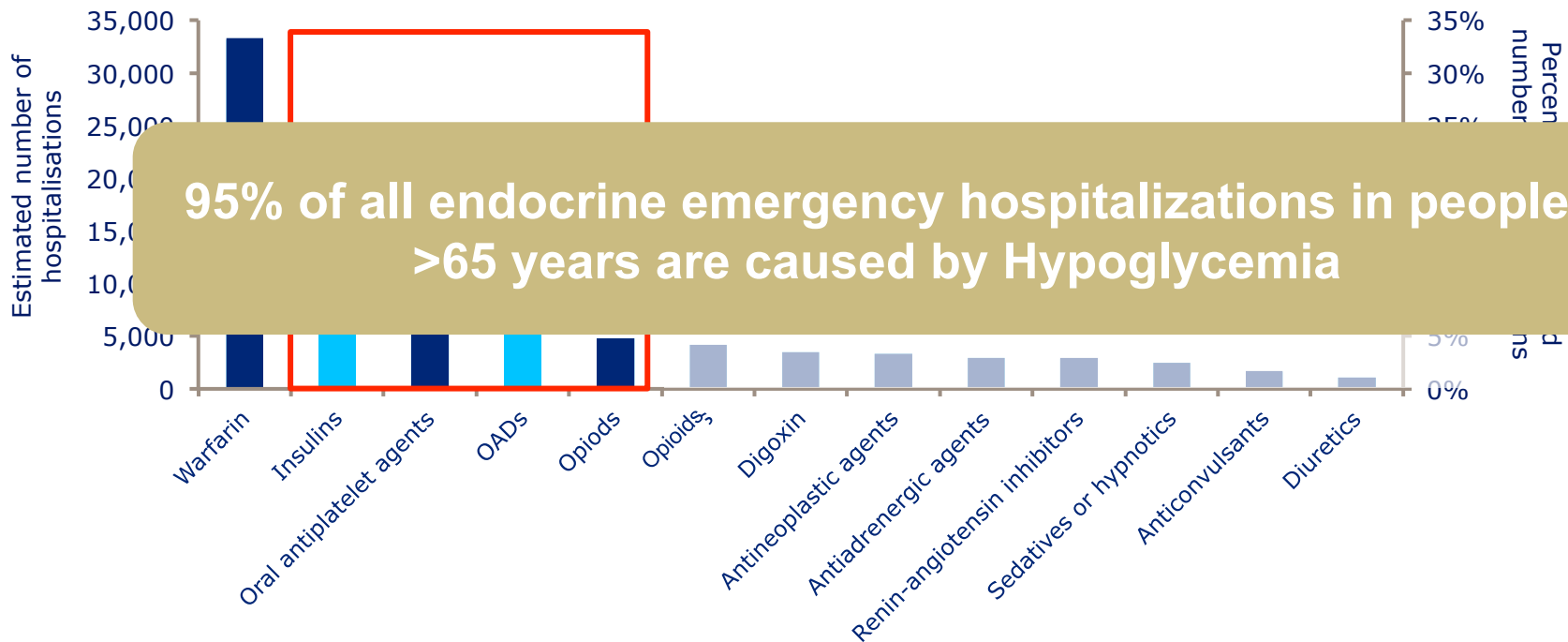
Funnell MM. Overcoming barriers to the initiation of insulin therapy. Clin Diabetes. 2007;25:36-38

“Insulin causes complications.”	This misconception may arise because the patient knows people who started insulin therapy late in their disease, when the adverse effects of long-term hyperglycemia were just becoming evident. Assure the patient that the opposite is true by discussing the evidence from studies demonstrating that good glycemic control can reduce microvascular complications such as nephropathy, neuropathy, and visual deterioration, as well as possibly reducing cardiovascular events.
“I will experience severe hypoglycemia.”	Because the new insulin analogs are more similar to natural insulin than older formulations, the risk of hypoglycemia is reduced with these agents. Patients should be reassured that severe hypoglycemia is rare and affects only about 0.5% of patients with type 2 diabetes. Patients can also take various precautions against low blood glucose such as taking their insulin as scheduled, learning to recognize the signs of hypoglycemia, always carrying low-glucose treatment, and learning to adjust their insulin dose, food intake, or exercise level according to any divergence from the agreed schedule.
“I will gain weight.”	Insulin analogs are much less likely to cause weight gain than human insulins; patients who eat sensibly and exercise should not experience excessive weight gain. HCPs can arrange for a meeting with a diabetes educator or dietitian to discuss strategies to prevent weight gain.

Funnell MM. Overcoming barriers to the initiation of insulin therapy. Clin Diabetes. 2007;25:36-38

# Hypoglycemia is a problem with diabetes therapy

## Medications most commonly associated with emergency hospitalisation



Data given are number and percentage of annual national estimates of hospitalisations. Data from the NEISS-CADES project.

ER visits n=265,802/Total cases n=12,666. ER, emergency room

Budnitz *et al.* *N Engl J Med* 2011;365:2002-12



**HEADACHE**

**SWEATINESS**

**RINGING  
IN THE EARS**

**BLURRY VISION**

**INCREASE  
HEART RATE**

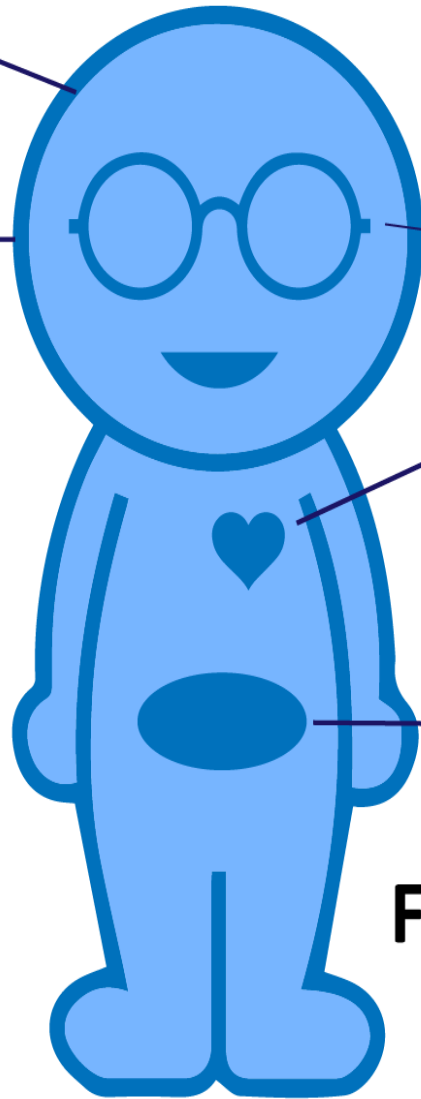
**TREMBLING**

**HUNGER**

**IRRITABILITY**

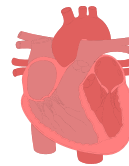
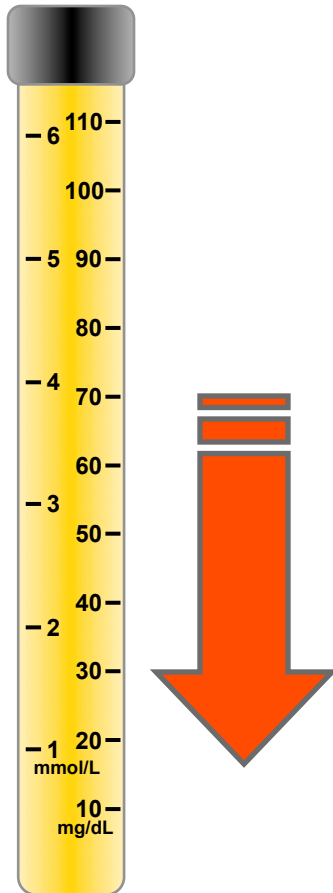
**FEELING ANXIOUS**

**WEAKNESS OR TIREDNESS**



# Potential Complications and Effects of Severe Hypoglycemia

Plasma glucose level



## Arrhythmia<sup>1</sup>

- Abnormal prolonged cardiac repolarization — ↑ QTc and QT dispersion
- Sudden death

## Neuroglycopenia<sup>2</sup>

- Cognitive impairment
- Unusual behavior
- Seizure
- Coma
- Brain death

1. Landstedt-Hallin L et al. *J Intern Med.* 1999;246:299–307.

2. Cryer PE. *J Clin Invest.* 2007;117:868–870.

# Management of Hypoglycemia

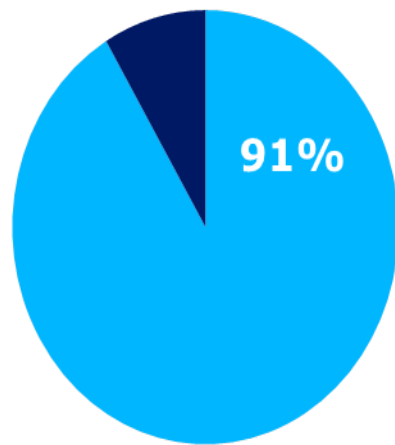
- Patients with asymptomatic or symptomatic hypoglycemia should ingest carbohydrates. 15 to 20 grams of oral glucose is typically sufficient.

Glucose may be ingested in the form of tablets, juice, milk, other snacks, or a meal.

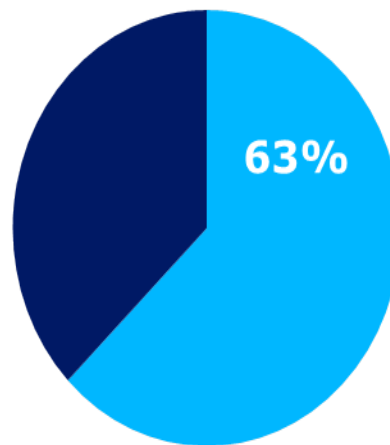
- For the treatment of hypoglycemia in a person with impaired consciousness and no established intravenous (IV) access, administer glucagon. The usual dose is 0.5 to 1.0 mg given SC or IM. Education and training for clinicians, friends, and family on the recognition and treatment of severe hypoglycemia, including the use of glucagon kits, is necessary.
- IV dextrose (25 g of 50% glucose [dextrose]) can be administered to treat hypoglycemia in patients with impaired consciousness and established IV access (typically in a hospital).
- A subsequent glucose infusion (or food, if patient is able to eat) is often needed, depending upon the cause of the hypoglycemia, to prevent recurrence of symptoms.

# Severe events often require hospitalisation and inpatient care

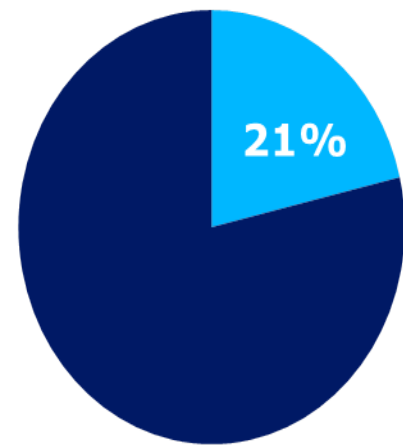
Percentage of severe events requiring hospital services



**Ambulance**



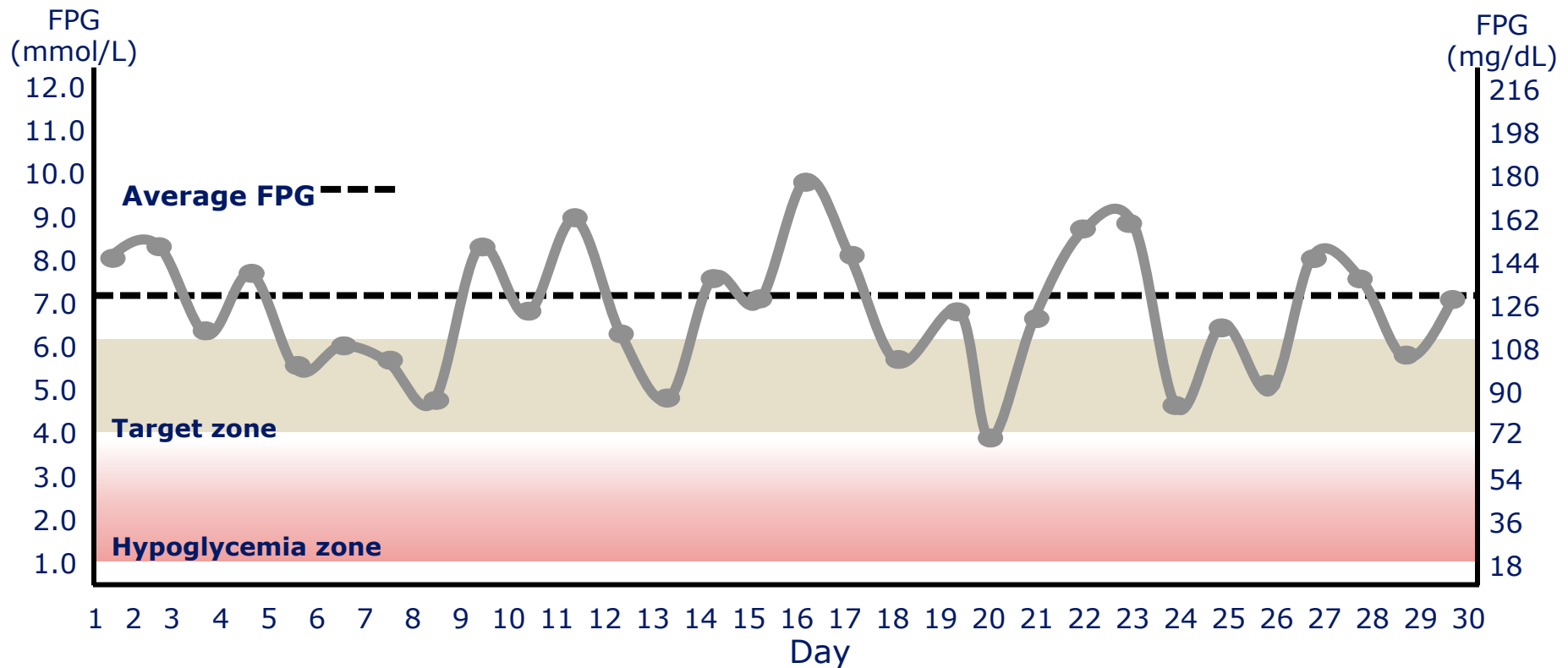
**Accident and  
Emergency**



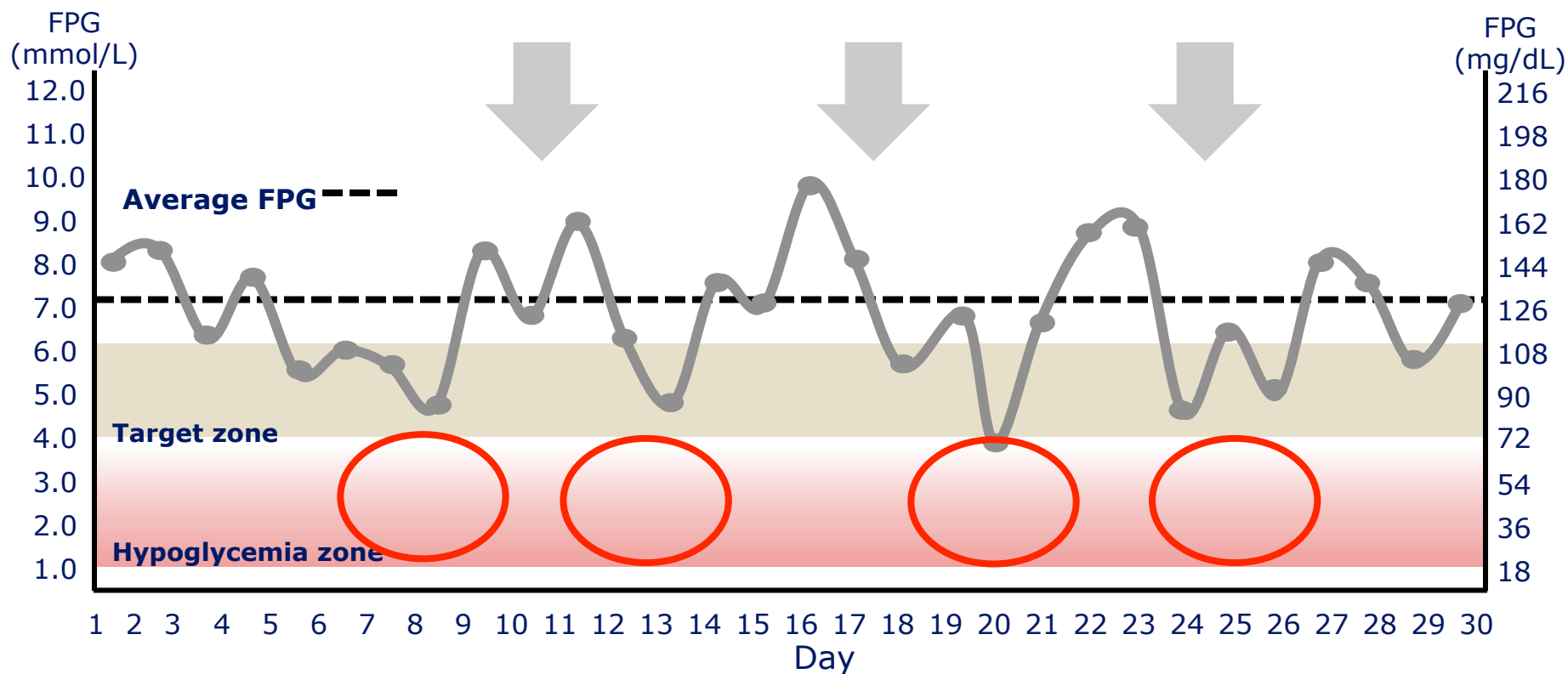
**Inpatient  
admission**

Based on 8,655 patients with diabetes experiencing 244 events

# Glucose variability and the risk of Hypoglycemia



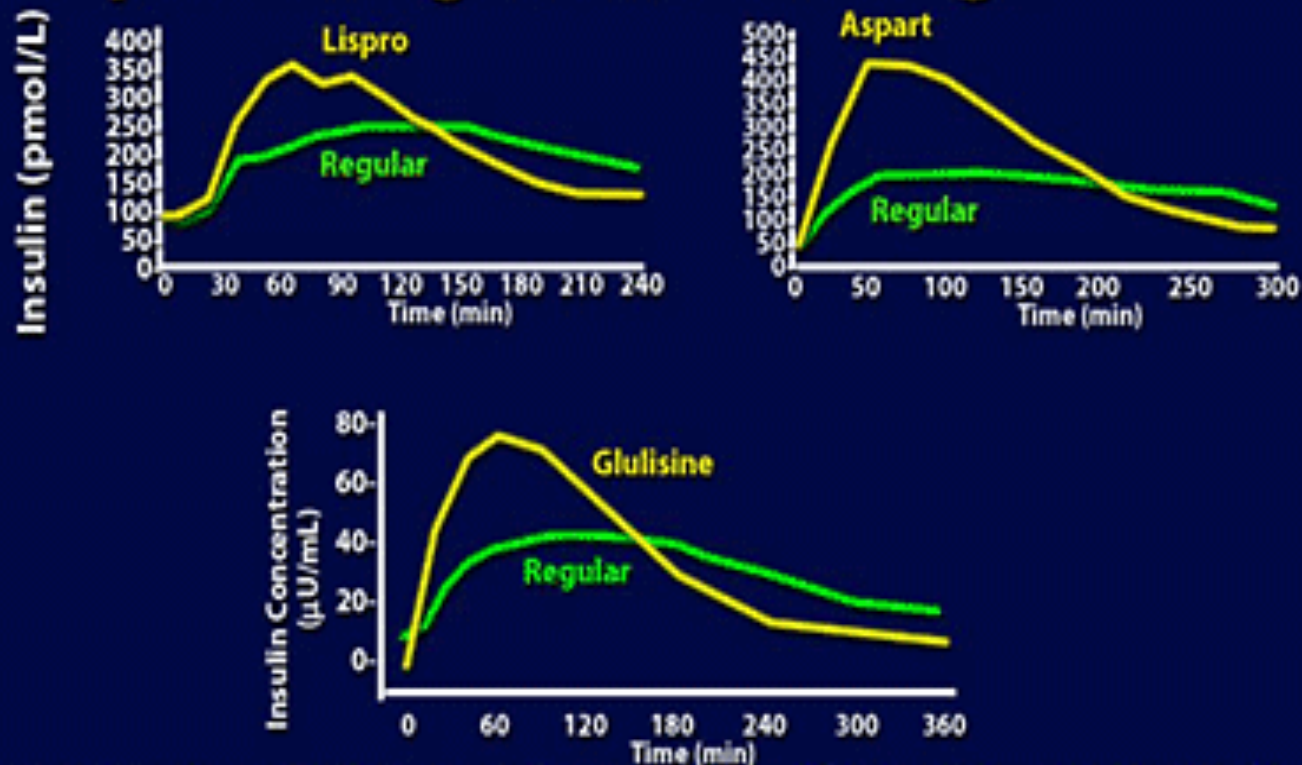
# Glucose variability and the risk of Hypoglycemia



Analogue	Modification	Mechanism
<b>A</b>		
Lispro (Humalog®) Eli Lilly and Co	Pro <sup>B28</sup> →Lys Lys <sup>B29</sup> →Pro	IGF-I-related motif impairs dimerization
Aspart (NovoLog®) Novo-Nordisk	Pro <sup>B28</sup> →Asp	Charge repulsion at dimer interface
Glulisine (Apidra®) Sanofi-Aventis	Asn <sup>B3</sup> →Lys Lys <sup>B29</sup> →Glu	Decreased zinc-free self-association
<b>B</b>		
Glargine (Lantus®) Sanofi-Aventis	Arg <sup>B31</sup> -Arg <sup>B32</sup> tag Asp <sup>A21</sup> →Gly	Shift in pI to pH 7 leads to isoelectric precipitation on injection
Detemir (Levemir®) Novo-Nordisk	Modification of Lys <sup>B29</sup> by a tethered fatty acid	Stabilization of hexamer and binding to serum albumin

<sup>a</sup>Panel A describes rapid-acting analogues employed in prandial regimens and in insulin pumps whereas B lists basal insulin analogues with protracted action. Table is reprinted from Berenson *et al.* with permission of the authors.<sup>[6]</sup>

# Rapid-acting Insulin Analogs



Heinemann, et al. *Diabet Med.* 1996;13:625-629; Mudaliar, et al. *Diabetes Care.* 1999;22:1501-1506.  
Program at 64th meeting of the ADA. Orlando, FL: 2004.

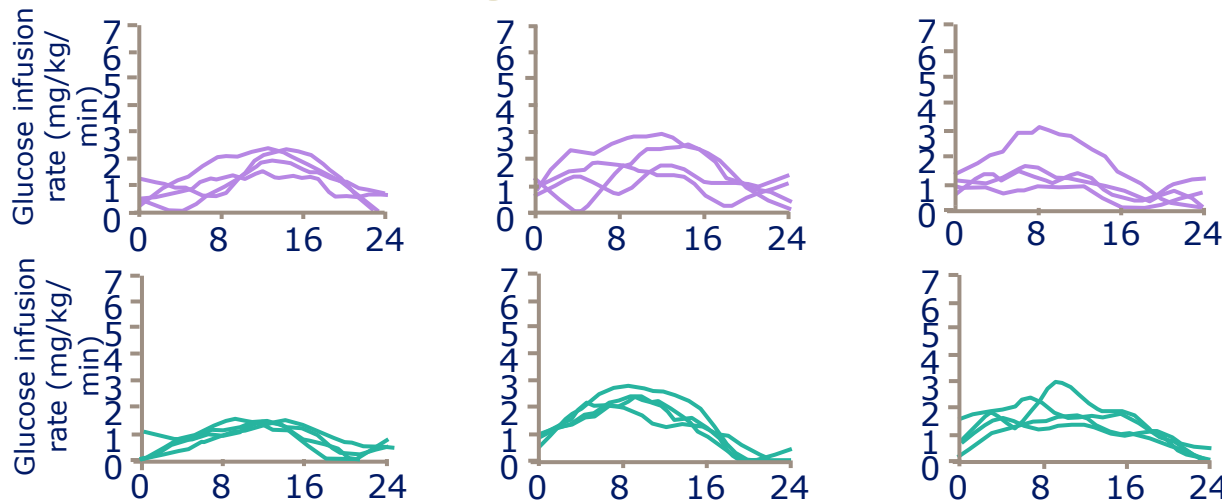


# Current basal analogs: less hypoglycemia but still room for improvement

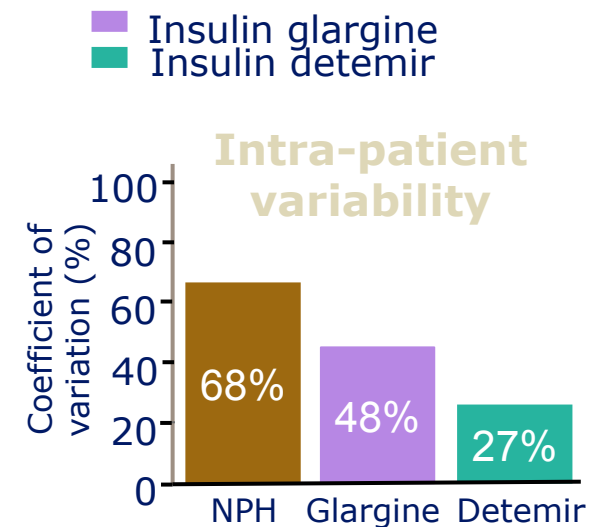
Most of the time I feel fine, but sometimes my blood glucose values are all over the place without any apparent reason



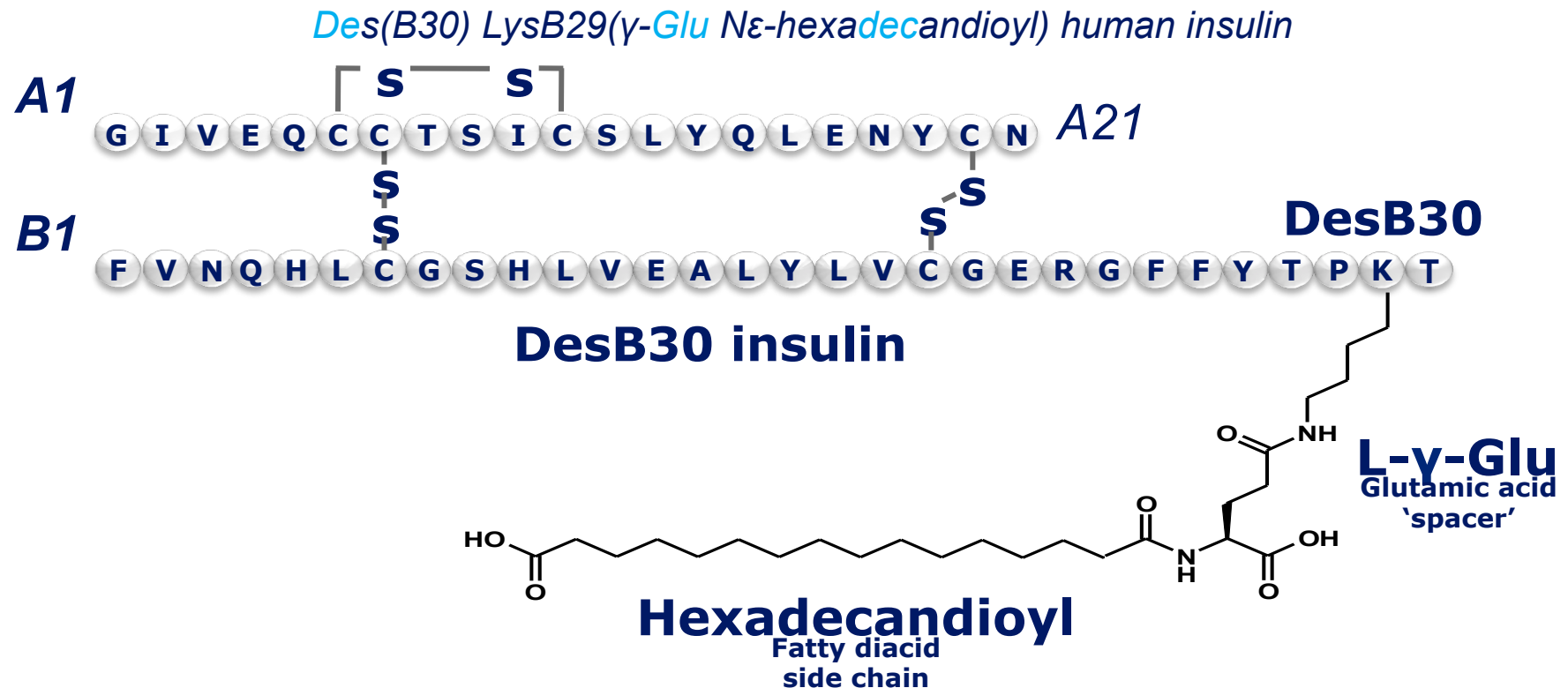
## Intra-patient daily profiles



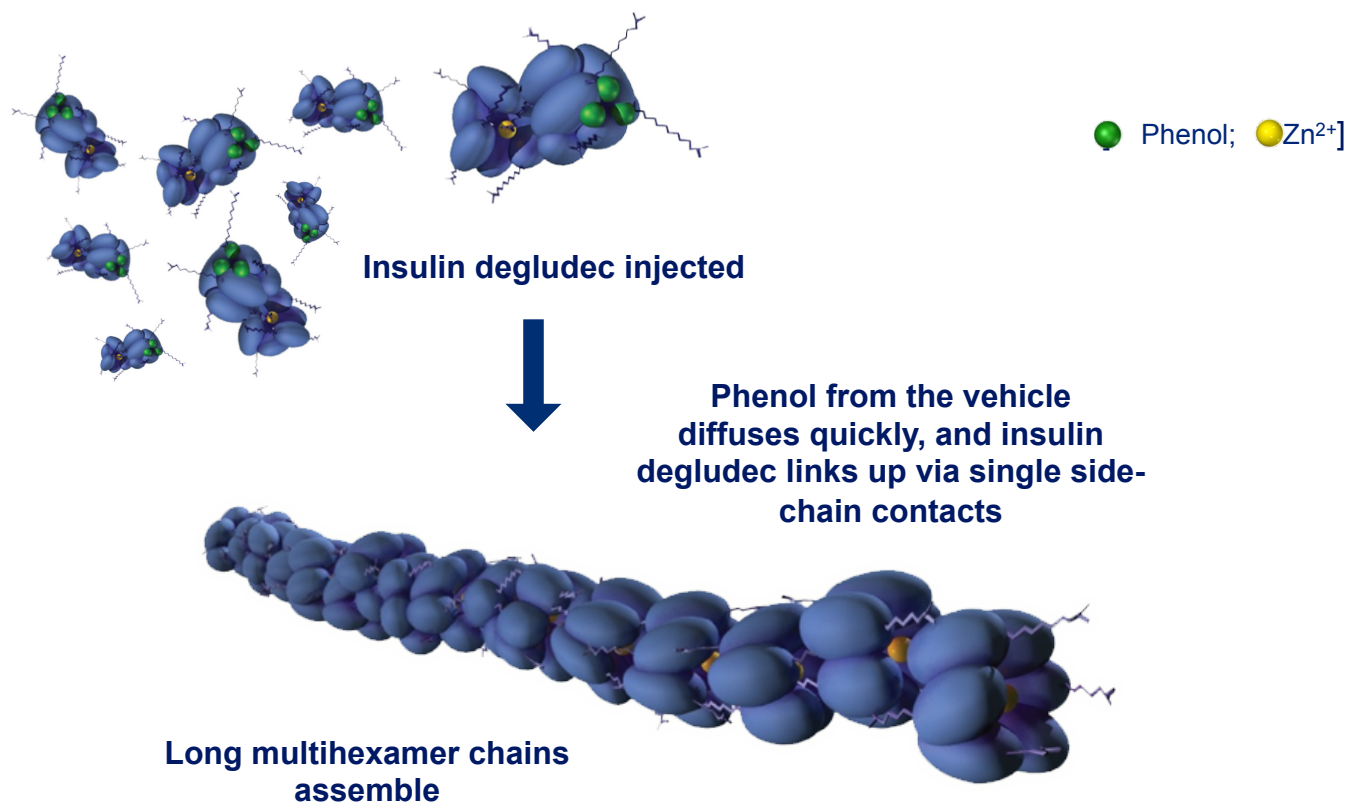
Heise et al. *Diabetes* 2004;53:1614-20



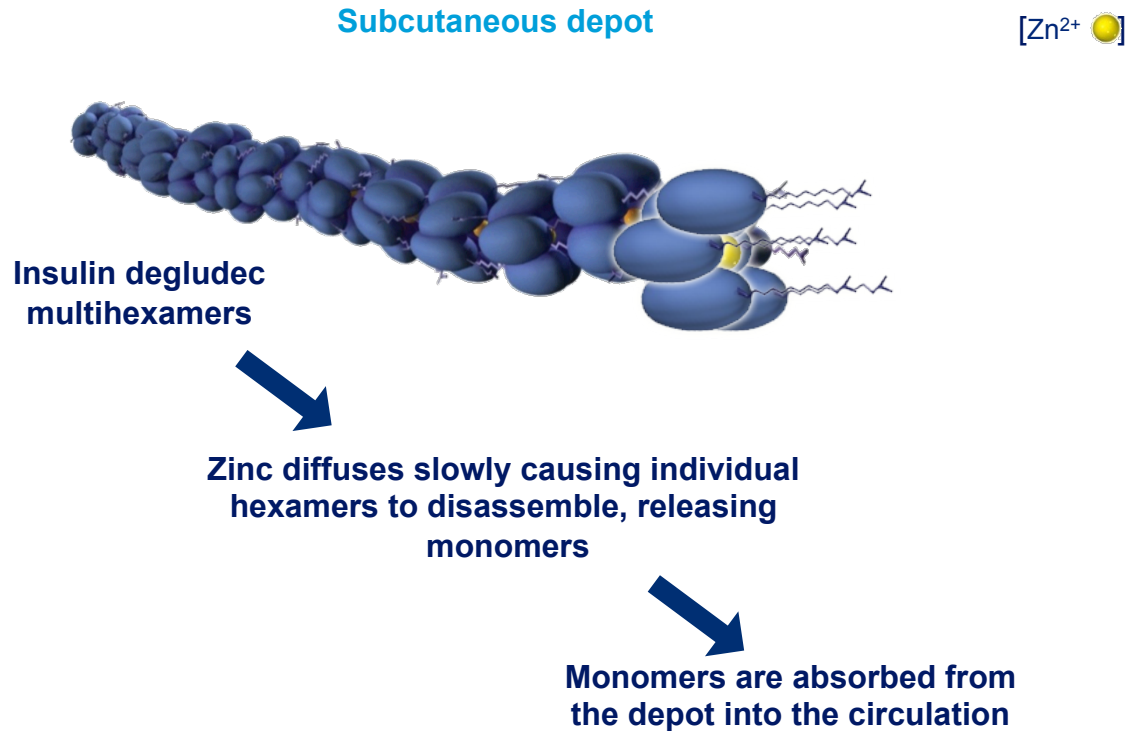
# Insulin degludec: rationally designed, beyond sequence modification



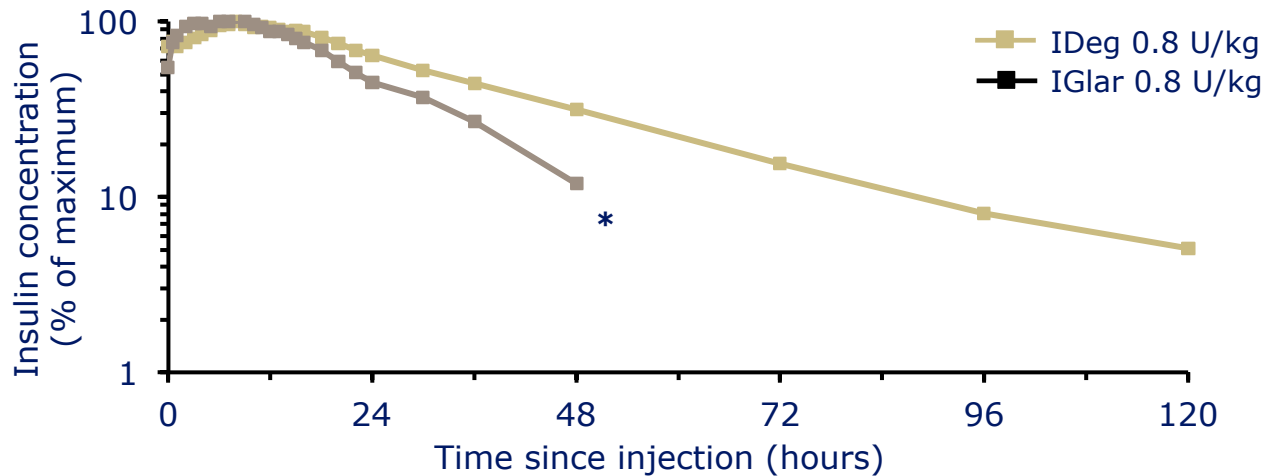
# Insulin degludec: immediately after injection



# Insulin degludec: slow release following injection



# Half-life of insulin degludec is twice as long as that of insulin glargine



	Insulin degludec			Insulin glargine		
	0.4 U/kg	0.6 U/kg	0.8 U/kg	0.4 U/kg	0.6 U/kg	0.8 U/kg
<b>Half-life</b> (hours)	25.9	27.0	23.6	11.5	12.9	11.9
<b>Mean half-life</b>	25.4			12.1		

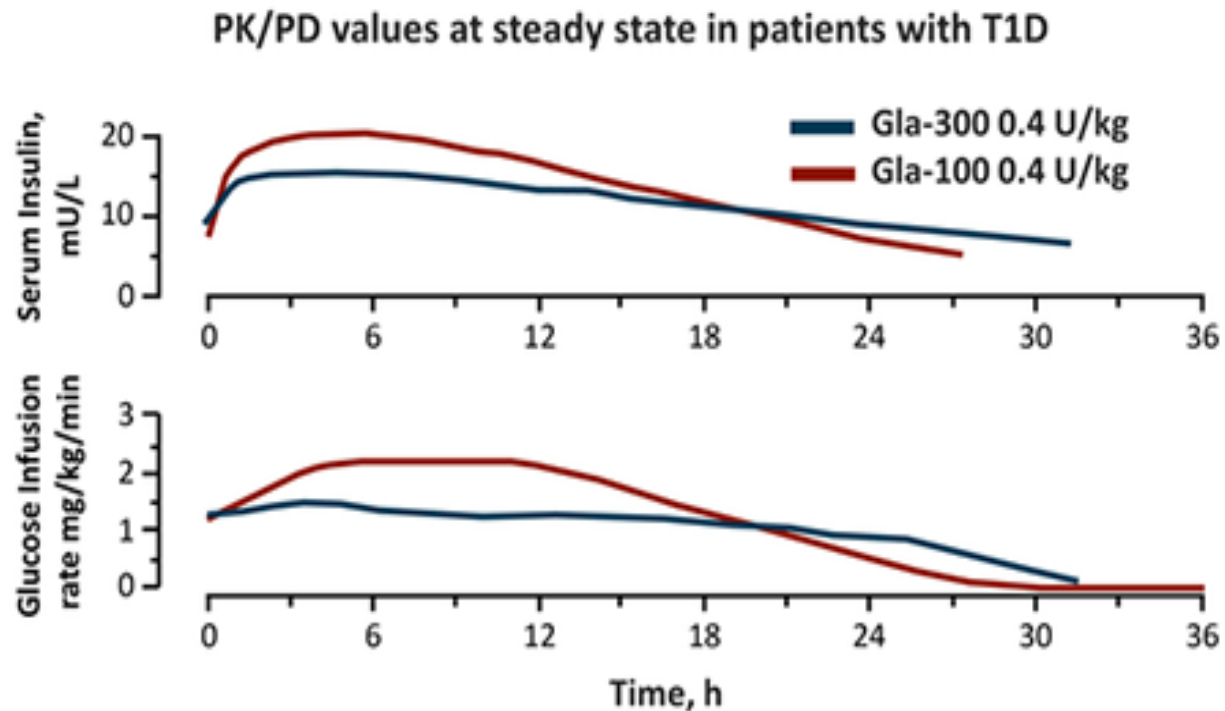
\*Insulin glargine was undetectable after 48 hours

Results from 66 patients with type 1 diabetes (T1D)

IDeg, insulin degludec; IGLar, insulin glargine

Heise *et al. Diabetes* 2011;60(Suppl. 1):LB11; Heise *et al. Diabetologia* 2011;54(Suppl. 1):S425

# Insulin Glargine U300



Gla-300 = glargine U300. Gla-100 = glargine U100.

Tillner J, et al. *Diabetologia*. 2013;56(suppl 1):A1033.<sup>[12]</sup>

Jax T, et al. *Diabetologia*. 2013;56(suppl 1):A1029.<sup>[13]</sup>

# Basaglar

Biosimilar medications are "highly similar" to an already FDA-approved biological product.

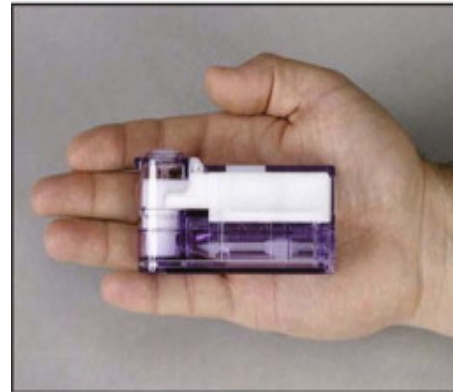
The FDA determined that Basaglar was sufficiently similar to Glargine to justify approval based on the safety and effectiveness of Glargine as well as certain Basaglar-specific data.

Basaglar was approved in Europe as a biosimilar last year. The FDA is calling the product a "follow-on" biologic rather than a biosimilar.

# Inhaled Insulin

- A rapid-acting insulin that is inhaled instead of injected.
- This inhaled insulin uses the pocket-sized *Dreamboat* inhaler. The insulin is powdered and encased in a matrix of FDKP, a material that dissolves almost instantly, releasing the insulin, when it is inhaled. This delivery system helps insulin enter the bloodstream nearly as fast as an injection.
- Patients with obstructive lung disease should not use inhaled insulin, and acute bronchospasm is a potential side effect.
- Patients with cancer are also warned not to take the drug.

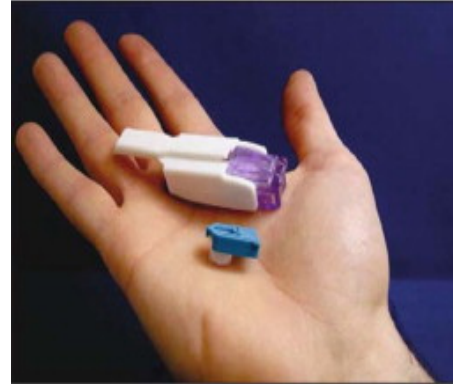
A



B



C













D





# Inhaled Insulin Dosing

<b>Injected</b> <b>Mealtime</b> <b>Insulin Dose</b> 	# of cartridges needed			
	Dose	4 unit (blue)	8 unit (green)	12 unit (yellow)
up to <b>4</b> units	<b>4</b> units			
<b>5-8</b> units	<b>8</b> units			
<b>9-12</b> units	<b>12</b> units			
<b>13-16</b> units	<b>16</b> units	 +		
<b>17-20</b> units	<b>20</b> units		 +	
<b>21-24</b> units	<b>24</b> units			 

# Afrezza® Delivers a Distinctly Different Patient Experience than the Previous Inhaled Insulin

## Exubera®

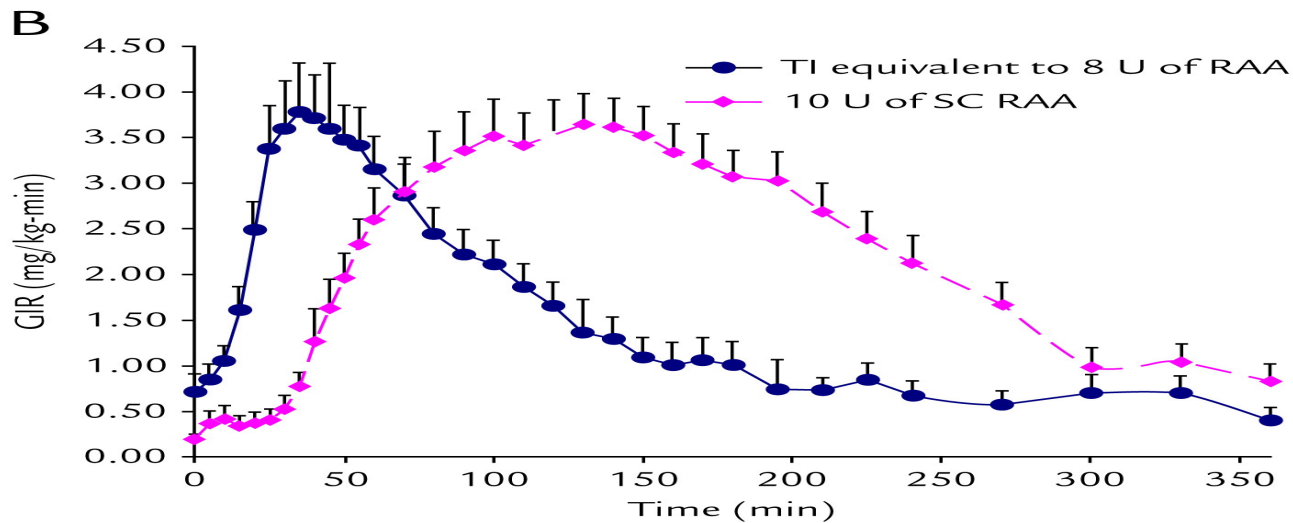
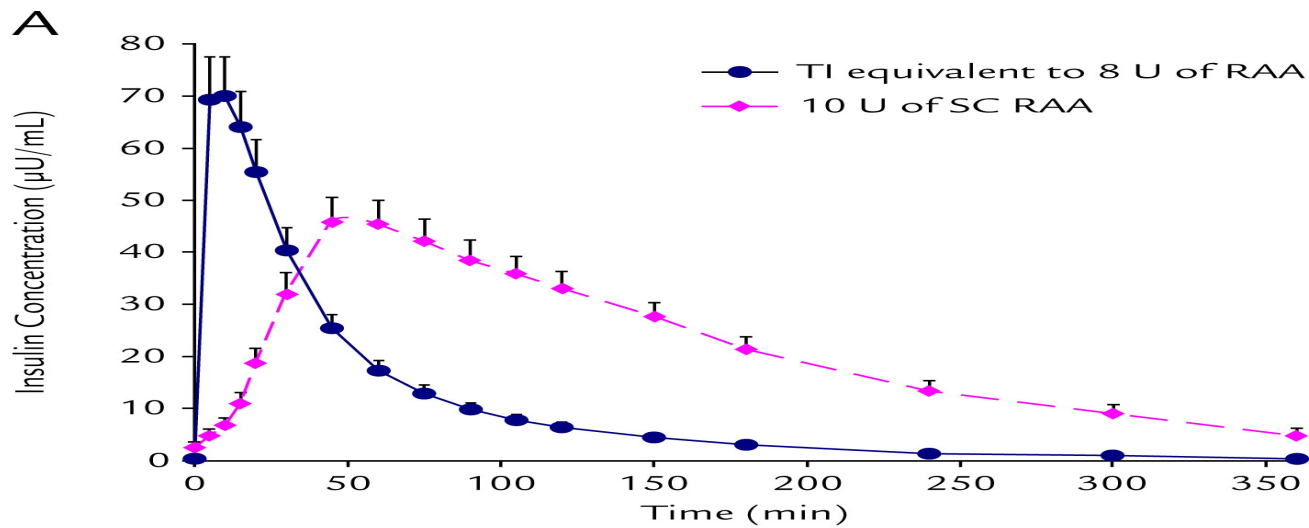
- ✓ Lower bioavailability and slower clearance
- ✓ Large device
- ✓ Complicated titration system
- ✓ Doses were in milligrams
- ✓ Time consuming in-office training
- ✓ Device required weekly cleaning



## Afrezza®

- ✓ Higher bioavailability and faster clearance
- ✓ Small device
- ✓ Easy to use
- ✓ Doses equivalent to insulin units
- ✓ Less training required
- ✓ No cleaning requirement

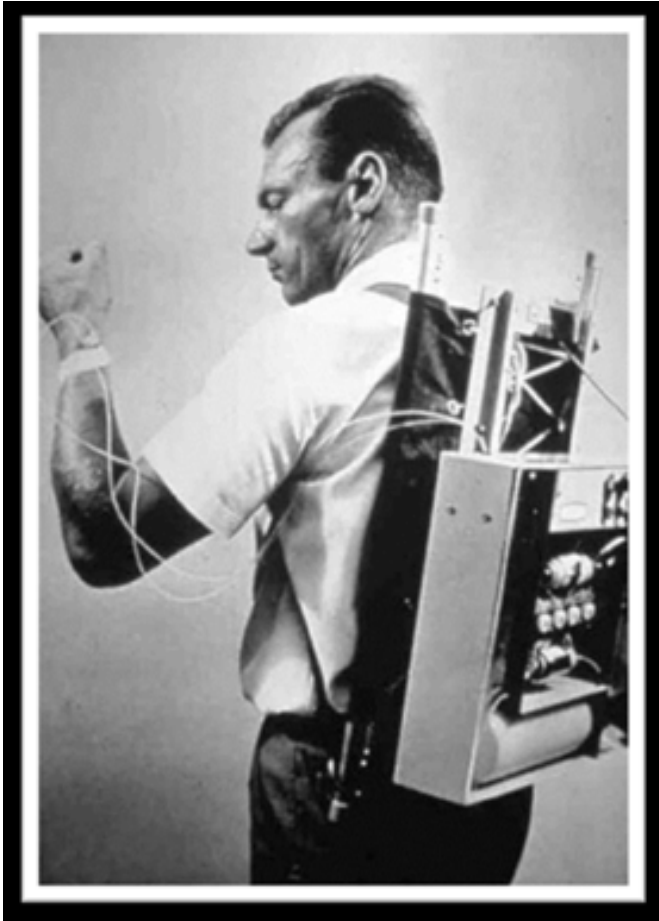




## Pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic profile of Technosphere inhaled insulin (TI) versus a Rapid Acting Analog (RAA)

Tricia Santos Cavaiola, Steven Edelman,  
 Inhaled Insulin: A Breath of Fresh Air? A Review of Inhaled Insulin  
 Clinical Therapeutics, Volume 36, Issue 8, 2014, 1275–1289

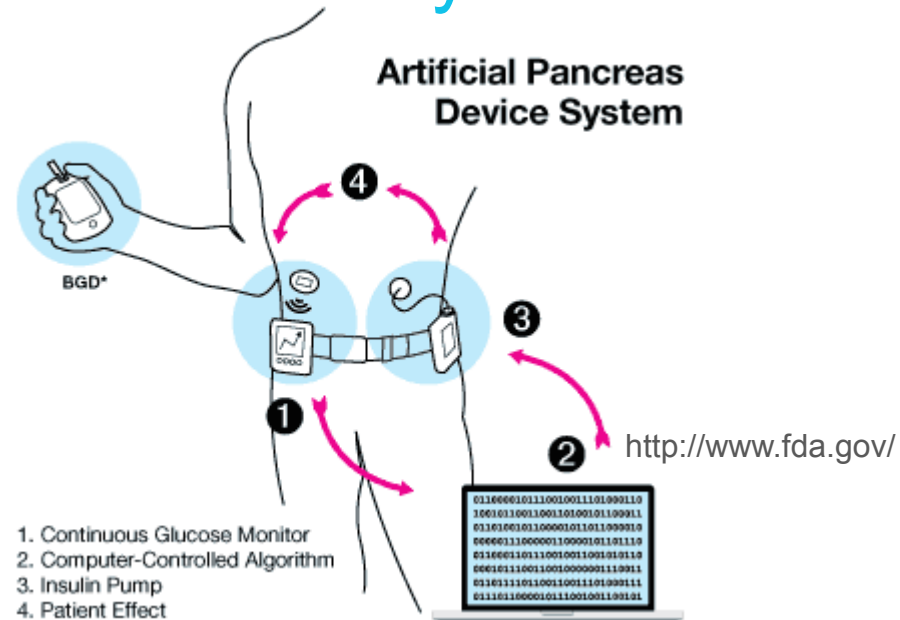
# Continuous subcutaneous Insulin Infusion (CSII) Pump



# Closed Loop Insulin Delivery



<http://www.diabetes.co.uk>



## First Generation

**1**

### Very-Low-Glucose Insulin Off Pump

Pump shuts off when user not responding to low-glucose alarm

**2**

### Hypoglycemia Minimizer

Predictive hypoglycemia causes alarms, followed by reduction or cessation of insulin delivery before blood glucose gets low

**3**

### Hypoglycemia/Hyperglycemia Minimizer

Same product as #2 but with added feature allowing insulin dosing above high threshold (e.g. 200 mg/dL)

## Second Generation

**4**

### Automated Basal/Hybrid Closed Loop

Closed loop at all times with meal-time manual-assist bolusing

**5**

### Fully Automated Insulin Closed Loop

Manual meal-time bolus eliminated

## Third Generation

**6**

### Fully Automated Multihormone Closed Loop



# Artificial Pancreas

This version of the artificial pancreas, consisting of a continuous glucose monitor, smartphone, and two pumps, was tested in the Beacon Hill study.

## Two Pumps

Participants wear one pump containing insulin (which lowers blood glucose) and another with glucagon (which raises it). The pumps deliver the medications following commands from the smartphone's artificial-pancreas app.



## Continuous Glucose Monitor

This device checks glucose levels just under the skin every few minutes and beams the information to the smartphone.

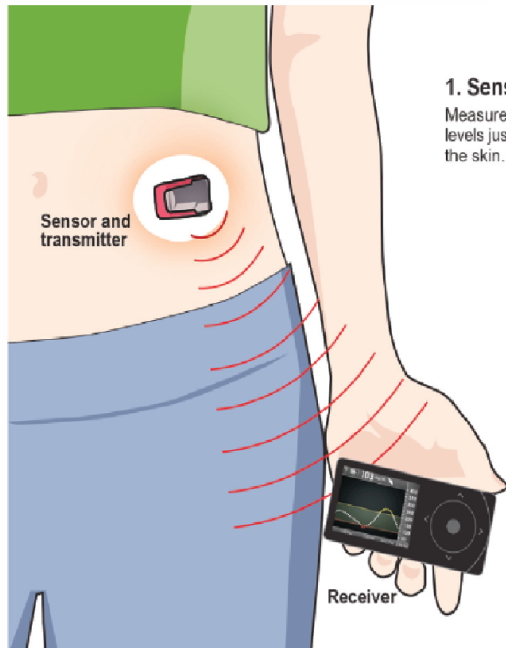


## Smartphone

The smartphone contains the artificial-pancreas app. The app uses glucose measurements from the CGM to calculate how much insulin or glucagon to give the user. The smartphone wirelessly sends this information to the two pumps.

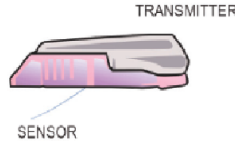


# Continuous Glucose Monitoring Systems (CGMS)



## 1. Sensor

Measures glucose levels just below the skin.



## 2. Transmitter

A transmitter fits onto the sensor and sends data wirelessly to a receiver.



## 3. Receiver

The receiver, about the size of a cell phone, fits in a pocket or purse. It can be programmed to alert you when glucose gets too high or too low, even during sleep.



# CGMS report

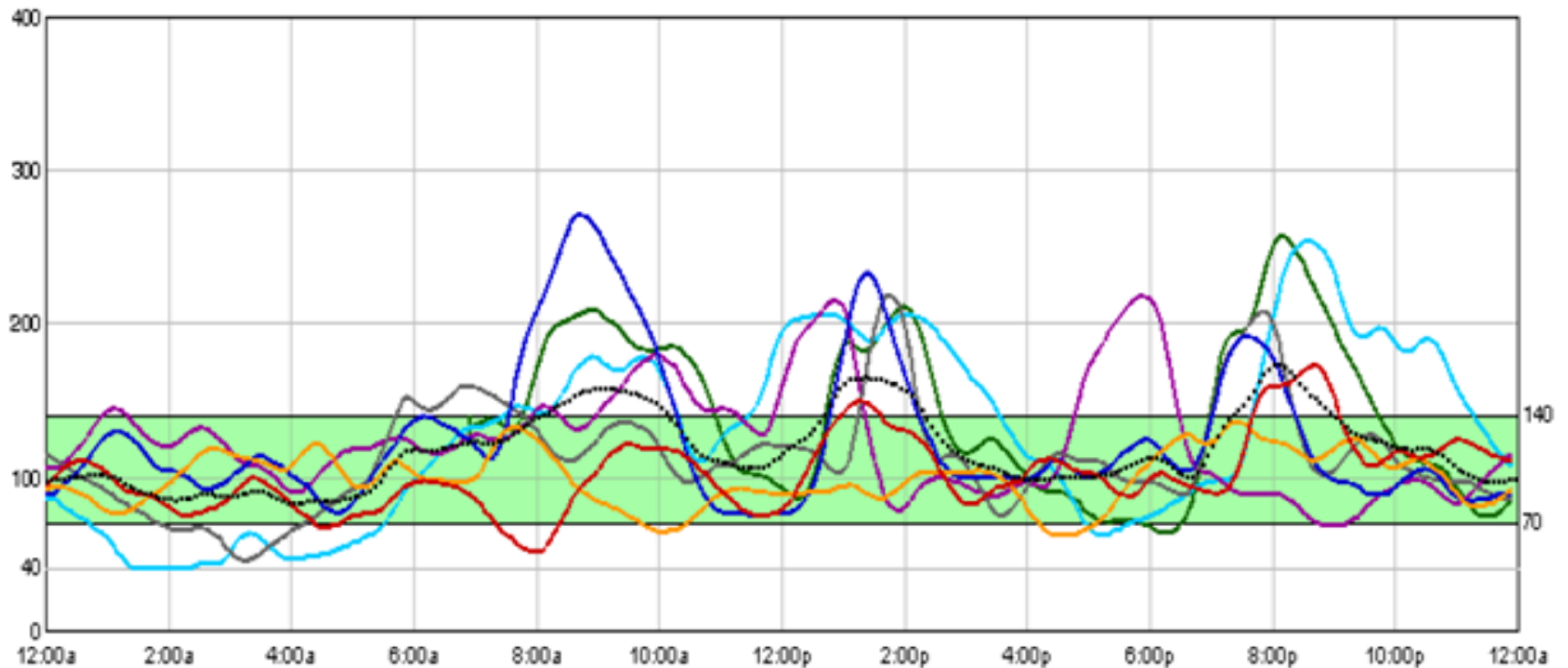
**Daily Overlay for Sample M. Patient**  
**28 Sep - 4 Oct, 2009**

(7 days)

#123456

**Sensor Data (mg/dL)**

Mon 28 Sep	Tue 29 Sep	Wed 30 Sep	Thu 1 Oct	Fri 2 Oct	Sat 3 Oct	Sun 4 Oct	Average
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# CGMS report



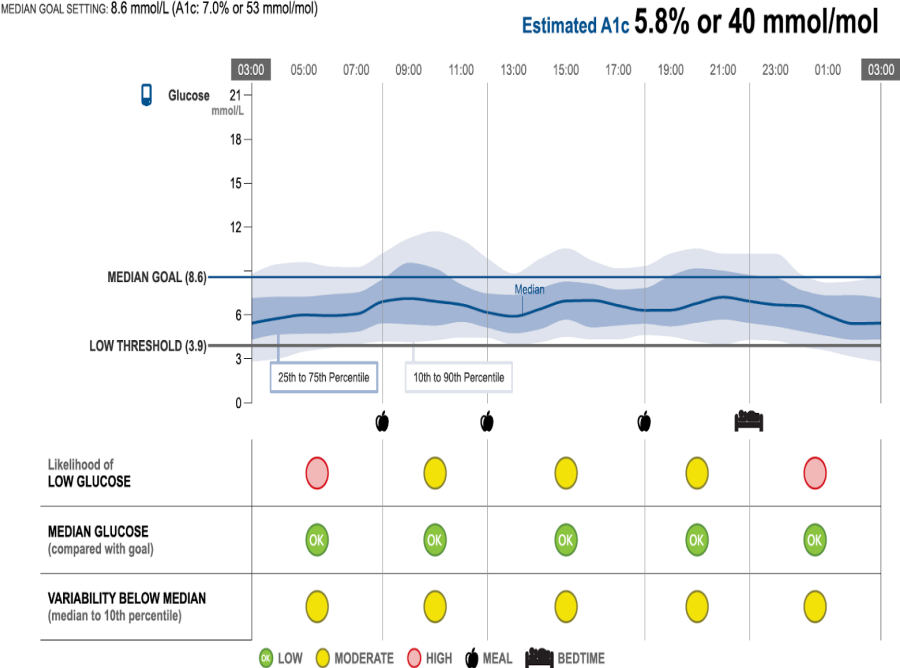
Glucose Pattern Insights

13 September 2014 - 10 October 2014 (28 days)

LOW-GLUCOSE ALLOWANCE SETTING: Medium

MEDIAN GOAL SETTING: 8.6 mmol/L (A1c: 7.0% or 53 mmol/mol)

CGMS (AGP) report



AGP=Ambulatory Glucose Profile

Information on the likelihood of low glucose, the proximity of the median glucose to target, and the degree of variability below the median at various times of day from the glucose pattern insights analysis

Glucose Control Measure	Assessment		
	OK Low	Moderate	High
Likelihood of Low Glucose	Less than 10% likelihood of exceeding the low-glucose allowance*	Between 10% and 50% likelihood of exceeding the low-glucose allowance*	Greater than 50% likelihood of exceeding the low-glucose allowance*
Median Glucose (compared to goal)	Less than goal	Greater than goal	Greater than goal AND More than 20% and 40 mg/dL (2.2 mmol/L) greater than the whole-day median
Variability Below Median (Median to 10th percentile)	Less than 35 mg/dL (1.9 mmol/L)	Between Low and High	Greater than a level that would support achieving the Median Goal without potentially causing low glucose

Thank You!

