

Common Oral Diabetes Meds



Class/Main Action

Name(s)

Daily Dose Range

Considerations

Biguanides

- Decreases hepatic glucose output
- First line med at diagnosis of type 2

metformin
(Glucophage)

500 - 2500 mg
(usually BID w/ meal)

Side effects: nausea, bloating, diarrhea, B12 deficiency. To minimize GI Side effects, use XR and take w/ meals. **Obtain GFR before starting.**

- If GFR <30, do not use.
- If GFR <45, don't start Metformin

Riomet
(liquid metformin)

500 - 2500mg
500mg/5mL

- If pt on Metformin and GFR falls to 30-45, eval risk vs. benefit; consider decreasing dose.

Extended Release-XR
(Glucophage XR)
(Glumetza)
(Fortamet)

(1x daily w/ dinner)
500 - 2000 mg
500 - 2000 mg
500 - 2500 mg

For dye study, if GFR <60, liver disease, alcoholism or heart failure, restart metformin after 48 hours if renal function stable.

Benefits: lowers cholesterol, no hypo or weight gain, cheap. Approved for pediatrics, 10 yrs +

Lowers A1c 1.0%-2.0%.

Sulfonylureas

- Stimulates sustained insulin release

glyburide:
- Micronase,
- Diabeta,
- Glynase

1.25 - 20 mg
0.75 - 12 mg

Can take once or twice daily before meals.
Low cost generic.
Side effects: hypoglycemia and weight gain. Eliminated via kidney.

glipizide: (Glucotrol)
(Glucotrol XL)

2.5 - 40 mg
2.5 - 20 mg

Caution: Glyburide most likely to cause hypoglycemia.

glimepiride (Amaryl)

1.0 - 8 mg

Lowers A1c 1.0% - 2.0%.

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SGLT2 Inhibitors “Glucoretic”	Canagliflozin (Invokana)	100 - 300 mg 1x daily	Side effects: hypotension, UTIs, increased urination, genital infections, ketoacidosis. Obtain GFR when starting and yearly: Invokana – stop med if GFR <45 Jardiance – do not start if GFR <45 Farxiga – stop med if GFR <60. Do not use Farxiga in pts with bladder cancer. Benefits: no hypo or weight gain. Jardiance lowers all-cause mortality by 32%. Lowers A1c 1.0%-2.0%. Lowers wt 1-3 lbs.
	Dapagliflozin (Farxiga) Empagliflozin (Jardiance)	5 - 10 mg 1x daily 10 - 25 mg 1x daily	
DPP – 4 Inhibitors “Incretin Enhancers”	sitagliptin (Januvia)	25 - 100 mg daily – eliminated via kidney*	* If creat elevated, see med insert for dosing. Side effects: headache and flu-like symptoms. Can cause severe, disabling joint pain. Contact MD, stop med. Report signs of pancreatitis.
	saxagliptin (Onglyza)†	2.5 - 5 mg daily – eliminated via kidney*, feces	
	linagliptin (Tradjenta)	5 mg daily – eliminated via feces	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prolongs action of gut hormones • Increases insulin secretion • Delays gastric emptying 	alogliptin (Nesina)†	6.25 - 25 mg daily – eliminated via kidney*	† Saxagliptin and alogliptin can increase risk of heart failure. Notify MD for shortness of breath, edema, weakness, etc. No wt gain or hypoglycemia. Lowers A1c 0.6%-0.8%.

Note: Content is for educational purposes only; please consult prescribing information for details.