



AACE/ACE COMPREHENSIVE TYPE 2 DIABETES MANAGEMENT ALGORITHM

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TASK FORCE

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PRINCIPLES OF THE AAACE/ACE COMPREHENSIVE TYPE 2 DIABETES MANAGEMENT ALGORITHM



1. Lifestyle therapy, including medically supervised weight loss, is key to managing type 2 diabetes.
2. Weight loss should be considered as a lifelong goal in all patients with prediabetes and T2D who also have overweight or obesity, utilizing behavioral interventions and weight loss medications as required to achieve chronic therapeutic goals.
3. The A1C target must be individualized.
4. Glycemic control targets include fasting and postprandial glucoses.
5. The choice of therapies must be individualized on basis of patient characteristics, impact of net cost to patient, formulary restrictions, personal preferences, etc.
6. Minimizing risk of hypoglycemia is a priority.
7. Minimizing risk of weight gain is a priority.
8. Initial acquisition cost of medications is only a part of the total cost of care which includes monitoring requirements, risk of hypoglycemia, weight gain, safety, etc.
9. This algorithm stratifies choice of therapies based on initial A1C.
10. Combination therapy is usually required and should involve agents with complementary actions.
11. Comprehensive management includes lipid and blood pressure therapies and related comorbidities.
12. Therapy must be evaluated frequently until stable (e.g., every 3 months) and then less often.
13. The therapeutic regimen should be as simple as possible to optimize adherence.
14. This algorithm includes every FDA-approved class of medications for diabetes.



LIFESTYLE THERAPY

RISK STRATIFICATION FOR DIABETES COMPLICATIONS



INTENSITY STRATIFIED BY BURDEN OF OBESITY AND RELATED COMPLICATIONS

Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain optimal weight Calorie restriction (if BMI is increased) Plant-based diet; high polyunsaturated and monounsaturated fatty acids 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid <i>trans</i> fatty acids; limit saturated fatty acids 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structured counseling Meal replacement
Physical Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 150 min/week moderate exertion (eg. walking, stair climbing) Strength training Increase as tolerated 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structured program Wearable technologies 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical evaluation/clearance Medical supervision
Sleep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About 7 hours per night Basic sleep hygiene 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screen OSA Home sleep study 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referral to sleep lab
Behavioral Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community engagement Alcohol moderation 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss mood with HCP 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal behavioral therapy
Smoking Cessation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No tobacco products 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nicotine replacement therapy 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referral to structured program



COMPLICATIONS-CENTRIC MODEL FOR CARE OF THE PATIENT WITH OVERWEIGHT/OBESITY



STEP 1

EVALUATION FOR COMPLICATIONS AND STAGING

CARDIOMETABOLIC DISEASE | BIOMECHANICAL COMPLICATIONS



STEP 2

SELECT:

Therapeutic targets for improvement in complications



Treatment modality



Treatment intensity based on staging

Lifestyle Therapy:

Physician/RD counseling, web/remote program, structured multidisciplinary program

Medical Therapy (BMI ≥ 27):

Individualize care by selecting one of the following based on efficacy, safety, and patients' clinical profile: phentermine, orlistat, lorcaserin, phentermine/topiramate ER, naltrexone/bupropion, liraglutide 3 mg

Surgical Therapy (BMI ≥ 35):

Gastric banding, sleeve, or bypass

STEP 3

If therapeutic targets for complications not met, intensify lifestyle, medical, and/or surgical treatment modalities for greater weight loss. Obesity is a chronic progressive disease and requires commitment to long-term therapy and follow-up.



PREDIABETES ALGORITHM



IFG (100-125) | IGT (140-199) | METABOLIC SYNDROME (NCEP 2001)

LIFESTYLE THERAPY (Including Medically Assisted Weight Loss)

TREAT ASCVD RISK FACTORS

WEIGHT LOSS THERAPIES

TREAT HYPERGLYCEMIA
FPG > 100 | 2-hour PG > 140

ASCVD RISK FACTOR MODIFICATIONS ALGORITHM

NORMAL GLYCEMIA

1 PRE-DM CRITERION

MULTIPLE PRE-DM CRITERIA

DYSLIPIDEMIA ROUTE

HYPERTENSION ROUTE

Progression

Intensify Weight Loss Therapies

Low-risk Medications
Metformin
Acarbose

Consider with Caution
TZD
GLP-1 RA

OVERT DIABETES

PROCEED TO HYPERGLYCEMIA ALGORITHM

LEGEND
Orlistat, lorcaserin, phentermine/topiramate ER, naltrexone/bupropion, liraglutide 3 mg, or bariatric surgery as indicated for obesity treatment

If glycemia not normalized



ASCVD RISK FACTOR MODIFICATIONS ALGORITHM



DYSLIPIDEMIA

HYPERTENSION

LIFESTYLE THERAPY (Including Medically Assisted Weight Loss)

LIPID PANEL: Assess ASCVD Risk

STATIN THERAPY

If TG > 500 mg/dL, fibrates, Rx-grade omega-3 fatty acids, niacin

If statin-intolerant

Try alternate statin, lower statin dose or frequency, or add nonstatin LDL-C-lowering therapies

Repeat lipid panel; assess adequacy, tolerance of therapy

Intensify therapies to attain goals according to risk levels

RISK LEVELS	HIGH	VERY HIGH	EXTREME	RISK LEVELS: ■ HIGH: DM but no other major risk and/or age <40 ■ VERY HIGH: DM + major ASCVD risk(s) (HTN, Fam Hx, low HDL-C, smoking, CKD3,4)* ■ EXTREME: DM plus established clinical CVD
	DESIRABLE LEVELS	DESIRABLE LEVELS	DESIRABLE LEVELS	
LDL-C (mg/dL)	<100	<70	<55	
Non-HDL-C (mg/dL)	<130	<100	<80	
TG (mg/dL)	<150	<150	<150	
Apo B (mg/dL)	<90	<80	<70	

IF NOT AT DESIRABLE LEVELS:

Intensify lifestyle therapy (weight loss, physical activity, dietary changes) and glycemic control; consider additional therapy

TO LOWER LDL-C:
TO LOWER Non-HDL-C, TG:
TO LOWER Apo B, LDL-P:
TO LOWER LDL-C in FH:**

Intensify statin, add ezetimibe, PCSK9i, colesovelam, or niacin
Intensify statin and/or add Rx-grade OM3 fatty acid, fibrate, and/or niacin
Intensify statin and/or add ezetimibe, PCSK9i, colesovelam, and/or niacin
Statin + PCSK9i

Assess adequacy & tolerance of therapy with focused laboratory evaluations and patient follow-up

* EVEN MORE INTENSIVE THERAPY MIGHT BE WARRANTED ** FAMILIAL HYPERCHOLESTEROLEMIA

GOAL: SYSTOLIC <130, DIASTOLIC <80 mm Hg

ACEi or ARB

For initial blood pressure >150/100 mm Hg: **DUAL THERAPY**

ACEi or ARB

- Calcium Channel Blocker ✓
- β-blocker ✓
- Thiazide ✓

If not at goal (2–3 months)

Add calcium channel blocker, β-blocker or thiazide diuretic

If not at goal (2–3 months)

Add next agent from the above group, repeat

If not at goal (2–3 months)

Additional choices (α-blockers, central agents, vasodilators, aldosterone antagonist)

Achievement of target blood pressure is critical



GOALS FOR GLYCEMIC CONTROL



INDIVIDUALIZE GOALS

$A1C \leq 6.5\%$

For patients without
concurrent serious
illness and at low
hypoglycemic risk

$A1C > 6.5\%$

For patients with
concurrent serious
illness and at risk
for hypoglycemia



GLYCEMIC CONTROL ALGORITHM



LIFESTYLE THERAPY (Including Medically Assisted Weight Loss)

Entry A1C < 7.5%

Entry A1C ≥ 7.5%

Entry A1C > 9.0%

MONOTHERAPY*

- ✓ Metformin
- ✓ GLP-1 RA
- ✓ SGLT-2i
- ✓ DPP-4i
- ⚠ TZD
- ✓ AGi
- ⚠ SU/GLN

If not at goal in 3 months proceed to Dual Therapy

DUAL THERAPY*

- ✓ GLP-1 RA
 - ✓ SGLT-2i
 - ✓ DPP-4i
 - ⚠ TZD
 - ⚠ Basal Insulin
 - ✓ Colesevelam
 - ✓ Bromocriptine QR
 - ✓ AGi
 - ⚠ SU/GLN
- MET** or other 1st-line agent +

If not at goal in 3 months proceed to Triple Therapy

TRIPLE THERAPY*

- ✓ GLP-1 RA
 - ✓ SGLT-2i
 - ⚠ TZD
 - ⚠ Basal insulin
 - ✓ DPP-4i
 - ✓ Colesevelam
 - ✓ Bromocriptine QR
 - ✓ AGi
 - ⚠ SU/GLN
- MET** or other 1st-line agent + 2nd-line agent +

If not at goal in 3 months proceed to or intensify insulin therapy

SYMPTOMS

NO YES

DUAL Therapy
OR
TRIPLE Therapy

INSULIN ±
Other Agents

ADD OR INTENSIFY INSULIN
Refer to Insulin Algorithm

LEGEND

- ✓ Few adverse events and/or possible benefits
- ⚠ Use with caution

* Order of medications represents a suggested hierarchy of usage; length of line reflects strength of recommendation

PROGRESSION OF DISEASE



ALGORITHM FOR ADDING/INTENSIFYING INSULIN



START BASAL (Long-Acting Insulin)

A1C < 8%

A1C > 8%

TDD 0.1–0.2 U/kg

TDD 0.2–0.3 U/kg

Insulin titration every 2–3 days to reach glycemic goal:

- Fixed regimen: Increase TDD by 2 U
- Adjustable regimen:
 - FBG > 180 mg/dL: add 20% of TDD
 - FBG 140–180 mg/dL: add 10% of TDD
 - FBG 110–139 mg/dL: add 1 unit
- If hypoglycemia, reduce TDD by:
 - BG < 70 mg/dL: 10% – 20%
 - BG < 40 mg/dL: 20% – 40%

Consider discontinuing or reducing sulfonylurea after starting basal insulin (basal analogs preferred to NPH)

*Glycemic Goal:

- <7% for most patients with T2D; fasting and premeal BG < 110 mg/dL; absence of hypoglycemia
- A1C and FBG targets may be adjusted based on patient's age, duration of diabetes, presence of comorbidities, diabetic complications, and hypoglycemia risk

INTENSIFY (Prandial Control)

Add GLP-1 RA
Or SGLT-2i
Or DPP-4i

Add Prandial Insulin

Basal Plus 1, Plus 2, Plus 3

Basal Bolus

- Begin prandial insulin before largest meal
- If not at goal, progress to injections before 2 or 3 meals

Start: 10% of basal dose or 5 units

- Begin prandial insulin before each meal
- 50% Basal / 50% Prandial TDD 0.3–0.5 U/kg

Start: 50% of TDD in three doses before meals

Glycemic Control Not at Goal*

Insulin titration every 2–3 days to reach glycemic goal:

- Increase prandial dose by 10% or 1–2 units if 2-h postprandial or next premeal glucose consistently > 140 mg/dL
- If hypoglycemia, reduce TDD basal and/or prandial insulin by:
 - BG consistently < 70 mg/dL: 10% – 20%
 - Severe hypoglycemia (requiring assistance from another person) or BG < 40 mg/dL: 20% – 40%



PROFILES OF ANTIDIABETIC MEDICATIONS



	MET	GLP-1 RA	SGLT-2i	DPP-4i	AGi	TZD (moderate dose)	SU GLN	COLSVL	BCR-QR	INSULIN	PRAML
HYPO	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Moderate/ Severe Mild	Neutral	Neutral	Moderate to Severe	Neutral
WEIGHT	Slight Loss	Loss	Loss	Neutral	Neutral	Gain	Gain	Neutral	Neutral	Gain	Loss
RENAL / GU	Contraindicated if eGFR < 30 mL/min/1.73 m ²	Exenatide Not Indicated CrCl < 30 Possible Benefit of Liraglutide	Not Indicated for eGFR < 45 mL/min/1.73 m ² Genital Mycotic Infections Possible Benefit of Empagliflozin	Dose Adjustment Necessary (Except Linagliptin) Effective in Reducing Albuminuria	Neutral	Neutral	More Hypo Risk	Neutral	Neutral	More Hypo Risk	Neutral
GI Sx	Moderate	Moderate	Neutral	Neutral	Moderate	Neutral	Neutral	Mild	Moderate	Neutral	Moderate
CHF	Neutral	Possible Benefit of Liraglutide	Possible Benefit of Empagliflozin	Possible Risk for Saxagliptin and Alogliptin	Neutral	Moderate	More CHF Risk	Neutral	Neutral	More CHF Risk	Neutral
ASCVD		Possible CV Benefit	Possible CV Benefit	Neutral		May Reduce Stroke Risk	?	Benefit	Safe	Neutral	
BONE	Neutral	Neutral	Canagliflozin Warning	Neutral	Neutral	Moderate Fracture Risk	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
KETOACIDOSIS	Neutral	Neutral	DKA Occurring in T2D in Various Stress Settings	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

■ Few adverse events or possible benefits
 ■ Use with caution
 ■ Likelihood of adverse effects
 ■ ? Uncertain effect
 * FDA indication to prevent CVD death in diabetes plus prior CVD events