

Common Oral Diabetes Meds



Class/Main Action	Name(s)	Daily Dose Range	Considerations
Biguanides • Decreases hepatic glucose output	metformin (Glucophage)	500 - 2550 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If GFR <30, do not use. If GFR <45, don't start Metformin If pt on Metformin and GFR falls to 30-45, eval risk vs. benefit; consider decreasing dose. 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%.
	Riomet (liquid metformin)	500 - 2550 mg 500mg/5mL	
	Extended Release-XR (Glucophage XR) (Glumetza) (Fortamet)	(1x daily w/dinner) 500 – 2000 mg 500 – 2000 mg 500 – 2500 mg	
Sulfonylureas • Stimulates sustained insulin release	glyburide: (Diabeta) (Glynase PresTabs)	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. Caution: Glyburide most likely to cause hypoglycemia. Lowers A1c 1.0% – 2.0%.
	glipizide: (Glucotrol) (Glucotrol XL)	2.5 – 40 mg 2.5 – 20 mg	
	glimepiride (Amaryl)	1.0 – 8 mg	

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SGLT2 Inhibitors “Glucoretic” • Decreases glucose reabsorption in kidneys	Canagliflozin* (Invokana)	100 - 300 mg 1x daily	Side effects: hypotension, UTIs, genital infections, increased urination, weight loss, ketoacidosis. Heart Failure, CV & Kidney Protection: 1st line therapy for Heart Failure (HF), Kidney Disease (CKD), Cardiovascular Disease, before or with metformin Considerations: If GFR ≥ 20, use SGLT-2 to reduce CVD, Heart Failure and Chronic Kidney Disease. Limited BG lowering effect if GFR <45. See package insert for GFR cut-offs and dosing. Benefits: SGLT-2s* reduce BG, CV death & HF, slow CKD. †Approved for peds, 10 yrs +. Lowers A1C 0.6% to 1.5%.
	Dapagliflozin*† (Farxiga)	5 - 10 mg 1x daily	
	Empagliflozin*† (Jardiance)	10 - 25 mg 1x daily	
	Ertugliflozin (Steglatro)	5 – 15 mg 1x daily	
	Bexagliflozin (Brenzavvy)	20 mg 1x daily	
DPP – 4 Inhibitors “Incretin Enhancers” • Prolongs action of gut hormones • Increases insulin secretion • Delays gastric emptying	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. †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%.
	linagliptin (Tradjenta)	5 mg daily – eliminated via feces	
	alogliptin (Nesina)†	6.25 - 25 mg daily – eliminated via kidney*	

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Other Oral Diabetes Medications

Class/Main Action	Name(s)	Daily Dose Range	Considerations
Thiazolidinediones “TZDs” • Increases insulin sensitivity	pioglitazone (Actos)	15 – 45 mg daily	Black Box Warning: TZDs may cause or worsen CHF. Monitor for edema and weight gain. Increased peripheral fracture risk. Actos may increase risk of bladder cancer. Lowers A1c 0.5% – 1.0%
	rosiglitazone	4 – 8 mg daily	
Glucosidase Inhibitors • Delays carb absorption	acarbose (Precose)	25 – 100 mg w/meals;	Start low dose, increase at 4-8 wk intervals to decrease GI effects. Caution with liver or kidney problems. In case of hypo, treat w/ glucose tabs. Lowers A1c 0.5– 1.0%.
	miglitol (Glyset)	300 mg max daily dose	
Meglitinides • Stimulates rapid insulin burst	repaglinide (Prandin)	0.5 – 4 mg w/meals (metabolized in liver)	Take before meals. Side effects may include hypoglycemia and weight gain. Lowers A1c 1.0% – 2.0%.
	nateglinide (Starlix)	60 – 120 mg w/meals (eliminated via kidney)	
Dopamine Receptor Agonists • Resets circadian rhythm	bromocriptine mesylate – Quick Release “QR” (Cycloset)	1.6 to 4.8 mg a day (each tab 0.8 mg)	Take within 2 hrs of waking. Side effects: nausea, headache, fatigue, hypotension, syncope, somnolence. Lowers A1c 0.6% – 0.9%.
Bile Acid Sequestrants • Decreases cholesterol / BG levels.	Colesevelam HCL (Welchol)	Up to six (6) 625 mg pills (3 tabs am, 3 tabs pm) 3.75gm packet in 4-8 ounces of fluid	Do not use if history of bowel obstruction, triglycerides >500, or pancreatitis. Can decrease absorption of certain meds, soluble vitamins. Lowers LDL by 15-30%. Side effects GI in nature. Lowers A1c 0.5%

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Combo Oral Medications PocketCard™

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Medications	Doses in mg	Medications	Doses in mg	Medications	Doses in mg
Trijardy XR (3 meds) empagliflozin linagliptin metformin XR	5 - 25 2.5 -5 1000	Janumet (sitagliptin/ metformin)	50/500 50/1000	Prandimet (repaglinide/ metformin)	1/500 2/500
ACTOplus Met* (pioglitazone/ metformin)	15/500 15/850	Janumet XR (sitagliptin/ metformin)	50/500 50/1000 or 100/1000	Qtern (saxagliptin / dapagliflozin)	5/10
ACTOplus Met XR (pioglitazone/ metformin)	15/1000 30/1000	Jentaduetto (linagliptin/ metformin)	2.5/500 2.5/850 or 2.5/1000	Segluromet (ertugliflozin/ metformin)	2.5/500 or 2.5/1000 or 7.5/500 or 7.5/1000
Duetact* (pioglitazone/ glimepiride)	30/2 30/4	Kazano (alogliptin/ metformin)	12.5/500 12.5/1000	Steglujan (ertugliflozin/ sitagliptin)	5/100 or 15/100
Glucovance* (glyburide/ metformin)	1.25/250 2.5/500 5/500	Metaglip* (glipizide/ metformin)	2.5/250 2.5/500 or 5/500	Synjardy (empagliflozin/ metformin)	5/500 or 12.5/500 5/1000 or 12.5/1000
Glyxambi (empagliflozin and linagliptin)	10/5 25/5	Oseni (alogliptin/ pioglitazone)	12.5/15 or 25/15 12.5/30 or 25/30 12.5/45 or 25/45	Synjardy XR† (empagliflozin/ metformin XR)	5/1000 or 10/1000 12.5/1000, 25/1000 †Approved for peds
Invokamet (canagliflozin/ metformin)	50/500 or 50/1000 150/500 or 150/1000			Xigduo XR (dapagliflozin/ metformin)	5/500 or 10/500 5/1000 or 10/1000

*Available in generic. Observe precautions of each component drug.

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