

Common Oral Diabetes Meds



Class/Main Action	Name(s)	Daily Dose Range	Considerations
Biguanides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 \geq 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” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prolongs action of gut hormones Increases insulin secretion Delays gastric emptying 	sitagliptin (Januvia, Zituvio)	25 - 100 mg daily*	*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 & saxagliptin can cause heart failure. Report signs of HF; shortness of breath, edema, 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*	
	saxagliptin	2.5 - 5 mg daily*	