



Endocrine  
System

**PHARMACOLOGY**  
432 TEAM



# USE OF INSULIN IN THE TREATMENT OF DIABETES MELLITUS

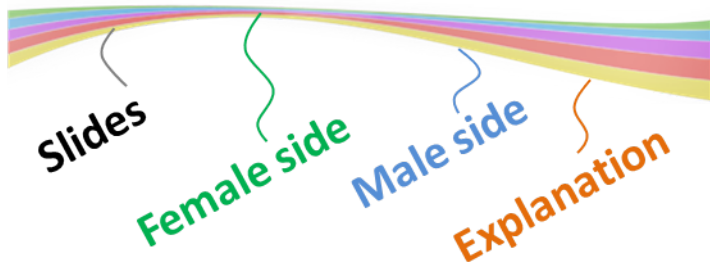
## Objectives:

- Define diabetes and mention different types of diabetes
- Differentiate between difference in treating type I and type II diabetes.
- Understand mechanism of action, secretion, and actions of insulin.
- Describe different types of insulin analogues
  - Be able to recognize the difference in pharmacokinetic of different insulin analogues.
- Know the uses of different insulin analogues

This lecture was done by:  
Mohammed Abalkhail

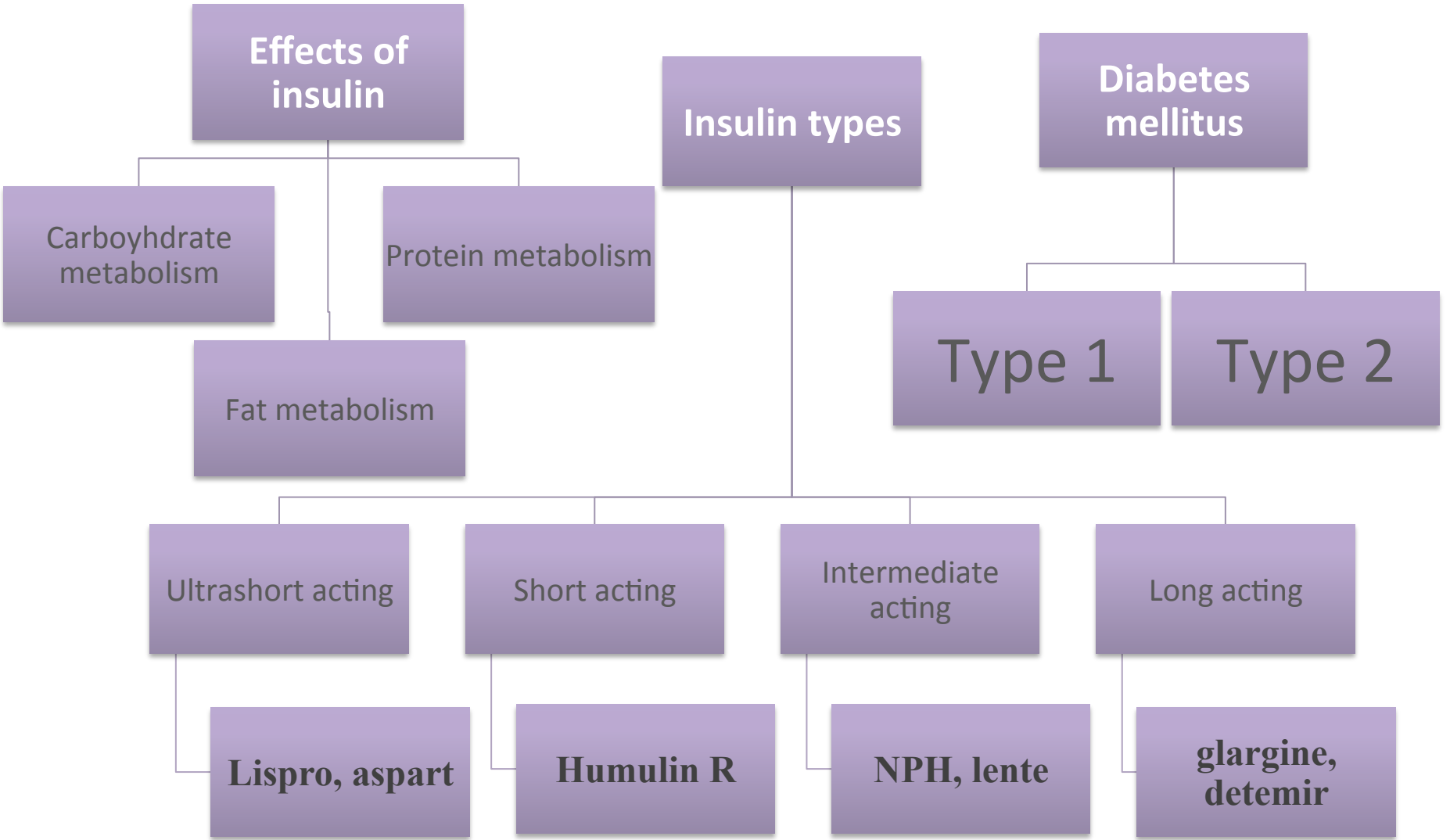
And reviewed by:

Lama Al-Tawil , Tuqa Alkaff





# Mind Map





# Endogenous Insulin

1. Basal level of insulin is 5-15  $\mu\text{U/ml}$ . ( produced even when there is no food )
2. Half life of circulating insulin is 3-5 min

## **N.B**

Insulin levels peek during the three daily meal times due to their major stimuli ,glucose, however in between meals it returns back to its basal level.

Other release stimuli ( GIT hormones , vagal stimuli , amino acid , and fatty acids )

## **Insulin receptors:**

Present on cell membranes of most tissues as **liver**, **muscles** and **adipose tissues**



# Effects of insulin

## Carbohydrate Metabolism

- **Lowers of blood glucose by: (main goal)**
- ↑ glucose uptake & utilization by peripheral tissue
- ↑ Glycogen synthesis
- ↑ Conversion of carbohydrate to fats.
- ↓ Gluconeogenesis.
- ↑ Glycolysis (muscle).

## Fat Metabolism

- **Liver:**
  - ↑ Lipogenesis.
  - ↓ Lipolysis.
  - Inhibits conversion of fatty acids to keto acids.
- **Adipose Tissue:**
  - ↑ Triglycerides storage.
  - ↑ Fatty acids synthesis.
  - ↓ Lipolysis

## Protein Metabolism

- **Liver:**
  - ↓ protein catabolism.
- **Muscle: (anabolic action )**
  - ↑ amino acids uptake.
  - ↑ protein synthesis.
  - ↑ glycogen synthesis (glycogenesis).

## potassium

- ↑ potassium uptake into cells.

↓ Glucose uptake

Hyperglycemia

Glycosuria

**With Diabetes**

Dehydration

Acidosis

Glucose synthesis

↑ Lipolysis

Plasma FFA

Ketosis

↑ AA mobilization

Plasma AA

Pyruvate



# Diabetes mellitus

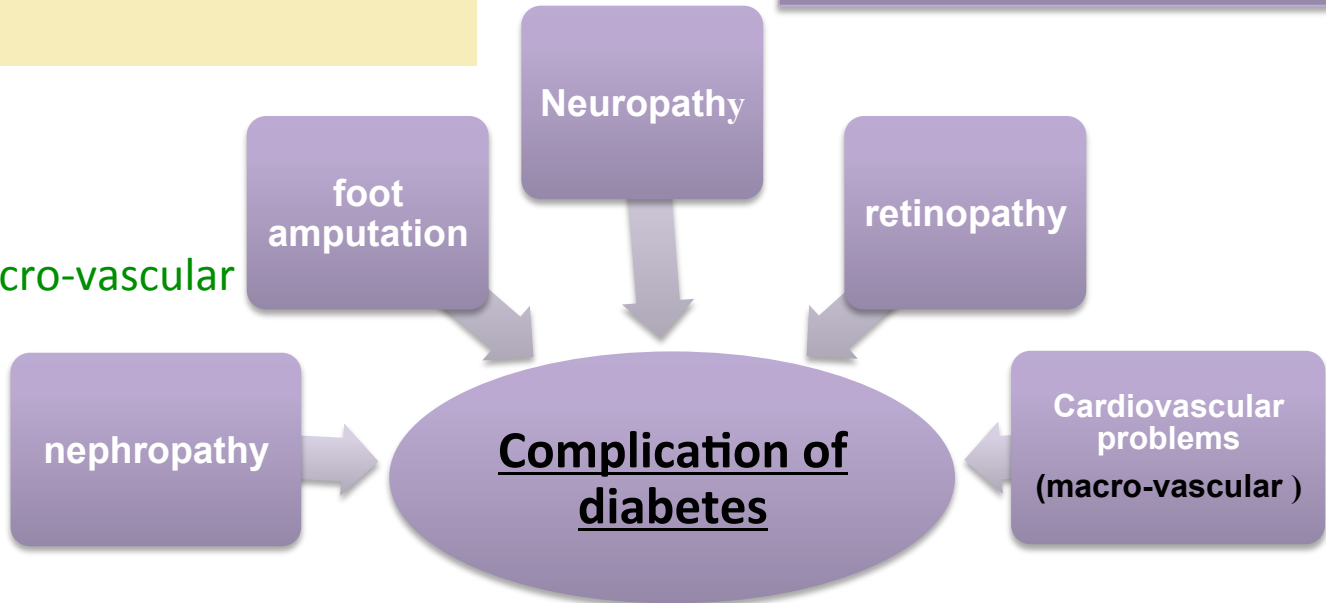
- ★ Is a **chronic** metabolic disorder characterized by high blood glucose level caused by **insulin deficiency** and sometimes accompanied with **insulin resistance**.
- ★ Fasting plasma glucose > 7 mmol/L(126mg/dl) or
- ★ Plasma glucose > 11.1 mmol/L (200mg/dl) 2h after a meal confirms a diagnosis of diabetes.

**Type I (IDDM)**  
due to autoimmune or viral diseases

**Type II (NIDDM)**  
due to obesity, genetic factors

**Gestational**  
Occurs transiently in pregnancy

- The rest are micro-vascular



Characteristic	Type 1	Type 2
Onset (Age)	Usually during childhood or puberty	Usually over age 40
Type of onset	Abrupt	Gradual
Prevalence	10-20%	80-90 % (more common)
Genetic predisposition	Moderate	Very strong
Defects	$\beta$ -cells are destroyed	$\beta$ -cells produce inadequate quantity of insulin
Endogenous insulin	Absent	Present (not enough) (partial deficiency )
Insulin resistance	absent	present
Nutritional status	Usually thin	Usually obese
Ketosis	Frequent	Usually absent
Clinical symptoms	Polydipsia, polyphagia, polyuria, Wt loss	Often asymptomatic
Related lipid abnormalities	Hypercholesterolemia frequent	Cholesterol & triglycerides often elevated
Treatment	Insulin	Oral hypoglycemic (oral anti-diabetic ) $\pm$ insulin



# Insulin Preparation

	<b>Ultra-Short acting insulins</b> e.g. Lispro, aspart, glulisine	<b>Short-acting (regular) insulins</b> e.g. Humulin R, Novolin R
<b>Physical Characteristics</b>	Clear solution at neutral pH <b>so can be given IV</b> . Can mimic the post prandial insulin release	
<b>Chemistry</b>	Monomeric analogue	Hexameric analogue, <b>soluble crystalline (more than 1 molecule) zinc insulin</b>
<b>Rout &amp; time of administration</b>	S.C. 5 min (no more than 15 min) before meal, <b>you can eat after taking it</b>	S.C. 30 – 45 min before meal
<b>Onset of action</b>	5 – 15 min ( S.C ) <b>(very fast onset of action)</b>	30 – 45 min ( S.C ) <b>fast action</b>
<b>Peak level</b>	30 – 90 min	2 – 4 hr
<b>Duration</b>	3 – 4 hr <b>( very short duration)</b>	6 – 8 hr <b>short duration</b>
<b>Usual administration</b>	2 – 3 times / day or more	2 – 3 times/day or more
<b>Indication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✱ postprandial hyperglycemia <b>(S.C)</b></li> <li>✱ emergency diabetic ketoacidosis <b>(I.V)</b></li> <li>✱ <b>Can be used in pregnancy ( Regular insulin only)</b></li> </ul>	



# Insulin Preparation

## Advantages of Insulin Lispro vs Regular Insulin:

- ✦ Rapid onset of action ( patients will not wait long before they eat ).(due to rapid absorption)
- ✦ Its duration of action is no longer than 3-4 hrs regardless of the dose.
- ✦ Decreased risk of postprandial hypoglycemia. due to short duration of action
- ✦ Decreased risk of hyperinsulinemia (due to short duration of action)



**NORMALLY**, Insulin is released in response to food, then glucagon come and antagonize it to make BALANCE.

**But** in with these drugs (exogenous insulin), patient develop postprandial hypoglycemia because there is nothing antagonize them.





# Insulin Preparation

	<u>Intermediate acting insulins</u>	
	Isophane (NPH) is a Neutral Protamine Hagederon (complex of insulin) insulin in phosphate buffer	<u>Lente insulin</u>
<b>Physical Characteristics</b>	Turbid suspension at neutral pH (cant be given I.V). Both are equivalent in activity	
<b>Rout</b>	S.C. only <b>NOT I.V</b>	
<b>Onset of action</b>	1-2 h (slow onset of action)	1-3 h (slow onset of action)
<b>Peak level</b>	5-7 h	4-8 h
<b>Duration</b>	13-18 h (relatively long duration of action cuz it's a bigger molecule)	13-20 h (relatively long duration of action)
<b>Composition</b>	Combination of protamine and crystalline zinc insulin	30% semilente (means partial size half half) insulin + 70% ultralente (very big+long acting )insulin
<b>Indication</b>	* Not used in emergency or diabetic ketoacidosis	* Not used in emergency or diabetic ketoacidosis
<b>Mixture</b>	<p>Can be mixed with ultrashort or short duration:  <b>NPL</b> = NPH/ Lispro  <b>NPA</b> = NPH/ Aspart                      75/25 - 70/30 - 50/50                      (NPH/regular) →</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-left: 200px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">With short acting insulin there is risk of hyperglycemia during night bcuz of it's short duration, so we prescribe drugs with longer duration such as NPH (sometimes given 2/day)                      * We treat depending on blood glucose level</p> </div>	



# Insulin Preparation

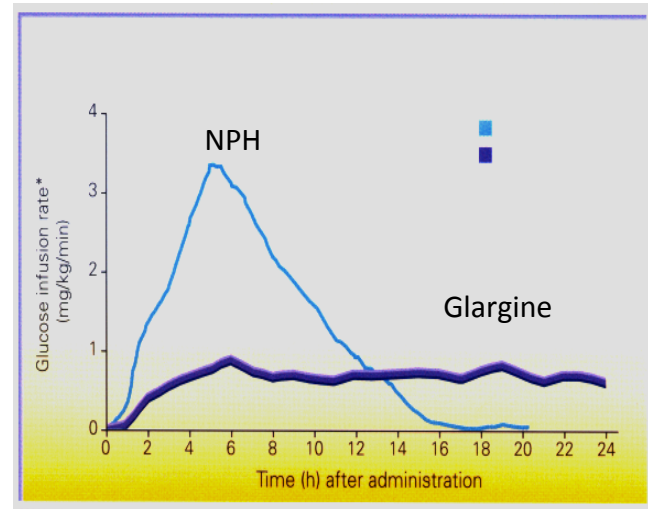
**Long acting insulins,**  
detemir(Levemir)  
**Insulin glargine (lantus)**

**Should not be mixed with other insulin**  
**All the above could be mixed except long acting)**

<b>Physical Characteristics</b>	Clear solution but precipitate at injection site
<b>Rout</b>	Given s.c <b>not I.V.</b>
<b>Onset of action</b>	2 h <b>slow onset of action</b> <b>Absorption less rapidly than NPH &amp; Lente insulin</b>
<b>Peak level</b>	4-5 h <b>produce broad plasma concentration plateau</b> <b>(low continuous insulin level).</b>
<b>Duration</b>	Prolonged (24h)
<b>Usual administration</b>	Once daily
	<b>Produce broad plasma concentration plateau (low continuous (like panceras) level over 24 h low) (reduce risk of hyperinsulinemia)</b>

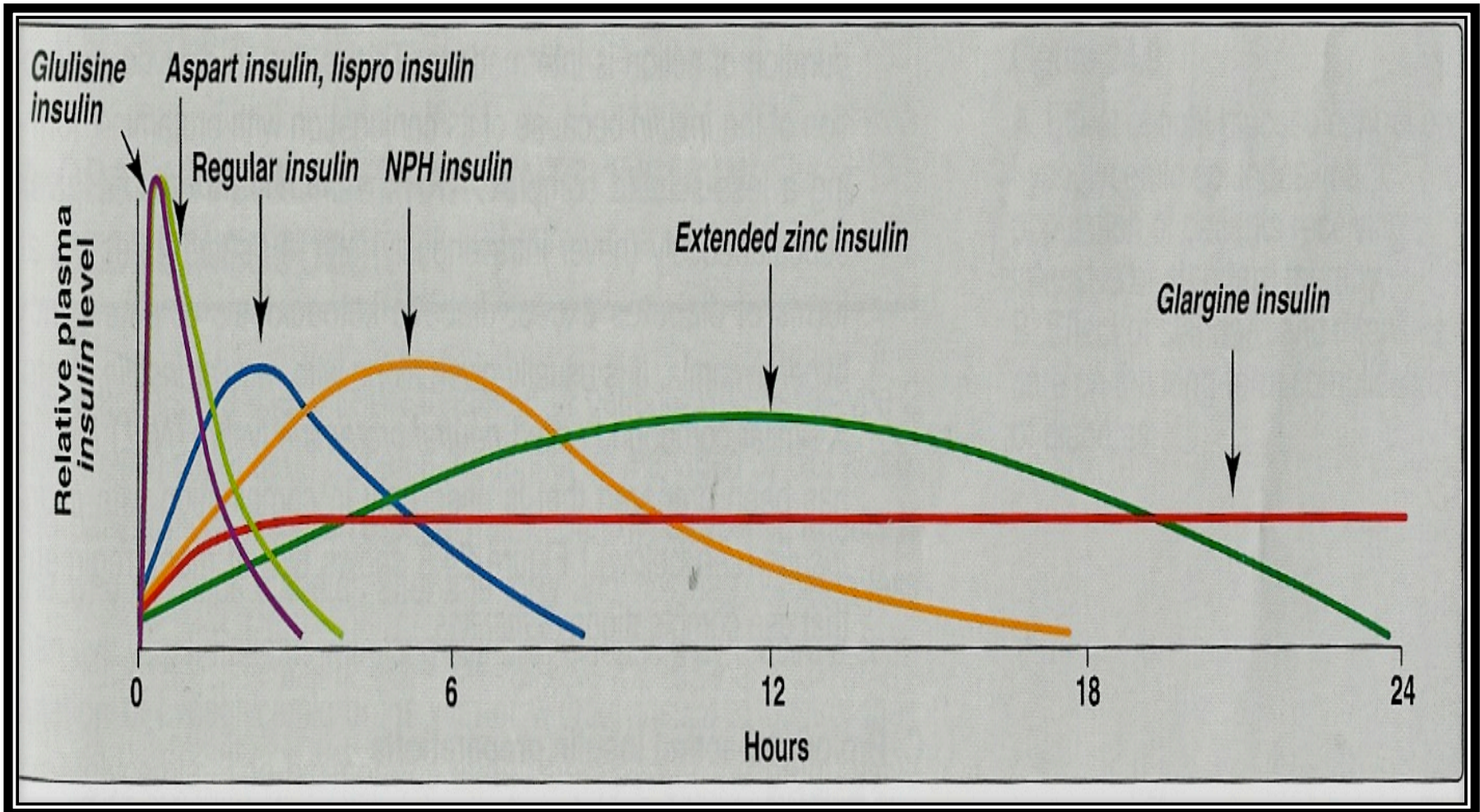
**Advantages of Insulin glargine over intermediate-acting insulins:**

- ★ Constant circulating insulin over 24 hr with **no pronounced peak.**(**not absorbed rapidly**)
- ★ More safe than **NPH & Lente insulins** (reduced risk of hypoglycemia).
- ★ **NPH >> there is pronounced peak (maximum concentration )then decline in concentration**





# Insulin Preparation



Aspart produces peak with (short onset+duration)  
NPH produces peak and shorter in action than Lente  
Lente (extended zinc insulin)  
Glargine (constant level with long duration)



## Sources of Exogenous Insulin

- **Beef Insulin**
- **Porcine Insulin**
- **Human Insulin**



Both are not preferable due to Ag/Ab interaction , for the beef has three different amino acids in the insulin sequence than that of humans and the pork has one

**Less immunogenic.**

Prepared by **recombinant DNA techniques** ( a method by which PCR amplification is used to read the 51 amino acid sequence in the human insulin → introduction to e-coli →they start to grow in number and so does the insulin ..etc. its along process but all you need to know is that it's a technique used when you want to match something with something found in the human body )

Modifications of amino acid sequence of human insulin **can change its pharmacokinetics** ( absorption and duration of action) **N.B**

pharmacodynamics, the action, remains the same



## Routes of administrations & degradation of insulin

- ✳ **Can not be given orally** ( because they are amino acids and they will get destroyed )
- ✳ **Insulin is given subcutaneously (s.c) ( most common method )**
- ✳ 1/ Insulin syringes (s.c., arms, abdomen, thighs). ( you need to change sight of entry otherwise lipodystrophy/Lipohypertrophy will happen )
- ✳ 2/ Portable pin injector (pre-filled). └── Good for kids
- ✳ 3/ Continuous S.C. infusion (insulin pump).
  - \* More convenient
  - \* Eliminate multiple daily injection
  - \* Programmed to deliver basal rate of insulin
  - \* Disadvantage is 1-tendency to get infected 2-if adjusted to a certain dose yet person didn't eat he/she is at risk of developing hypoglycemia mainly seen in kids
- **intravenously (in a hyperglycemic emergency)**

### Pin injector



### Insulin pump



- ✳ **60% liver & 40% kidney (endogenous insulin)**
- ✳ **60% kidney & 40% liver (exogenous insulin)**
- ✳ Should be stored in refrigerator & warm up to room temp before use.
- ✳ Must be used within 30 days.



# Complications of Insulin Therapy

★ **Hypoglycemia (life threatening occurs when blood glucose < 50 mg/dl)**

**Caused by:**

- Overdose of insulin
- Excessive (unusual) physical exercise
- A meal is missed

**How it is treated?**

**If Conscious patient:** Sugar containing beverage or food (30 g orally).

**If Unconscious patient:** 20-50 ml of 50% glucose solution I.V. infusion, OR  
Glucagon (1 mg S.C. or I.M.)

★ **Weight gain(anabolic effect of insulin)**

★ **Hypersensitivity reactions(rare)**

★ **Lipohypertrophy = hypertrophy at injection site (don't inject at the same area many times)**

★ **Insulin resistance(rare)**

★ **Hypokalaemia**



- \* Diabetes type 1 patient with deficiency of insulin because of enormous beta-cell destruction. And **treatment includes:** dietary and exercise with **Insulin**.
- \* Diabetes type 2 patient have low-to-normal insulin levels and target-organ insulin resistance. And **treatment includes:** Dietary, Weight reduction, **Oral hypoglycemic agents as a monotherapy or combined with insulin**.

### **Types of insulin preparations :**

Differs in pharmacokinetic properties mainly

Rate of absorption

Onset ( **time between time of injecting and action to occur** ) & duration of action

Variation is due to :

Change of amino acid sequence.

Size and composition of insulin crystals in preparations.

**N.B whenever the rate of absorption is low , the release is slow and duration of action is longer and vise versa**

- \* Ulterashort acting insulin: **Lispro & aspart**.
- \* Short acting insulin: **Regular insulin (Humulin R and novolin R)**.
- \* Intermediate acting insulin: **Isophane (NPH) & Lente**.
- \* Long acting insulin: **detemir(Levemir) & Glargline (Lantus)**.
- \* **Lispro** used for management of hyperglycemic emergencies.
- \* **Glargine** (Lantus) should not be mixed with other insulin.
- \* The standard route for administration of insulin is **subcutaneous injection**.



**1. Insulin can not be administered by:**

- a) Oral route
- b) Intravenous route
- c) Subcutaneous route
- d) Intramuscular route

**2. Main complications of insulin therapy include the following:**

- a) Hypoglycemia**
- b) Insulin allergy
- c) Lipodystrophy at an injection site
- d) All of the above

**3. Which of the flowing statements is correct regarding insulin Glargine?**

- a) It is primarily used to control postprandial hyperglycemia.**
- b) It is peakless insulin.
- c) It is used in a regimen with insulin lispro or glulisine.
- d) It may be administrated IV in emergency cases.





**4. Pregnant type1 hyperglycemic patient, which treatment suits her ?:**

- a) Humilin R
- b) Aspart
- c) Lente
- d) NPH

**5. Patient came to ER with diabetic ketoacidosis , which drug can't be given to him ?**

- a)Aspart
- b) Novolin R
- c) Glulisine
- d) NPH





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**PHARMACOLOGY**  
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**Pharmacology Leaders**

**Tuqa Al-Kaff & Abdullah Al-Anzi**

**Pharmacologyteam1@gmail.com**