



# Pharmacology of Diabetes Mellitus (DM)

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# Diabetes Mellitus

## ■ classification (Expert Committee; 2003)

### ■ Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus (IDDM)

- severe and/or absolute insulin deficiency
- <30 years (childhood, young adulthood)
- viral infection, immunological dysfunction (autoAB)
- insulin replacement!!!
- life-threatening complications

### ■ Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (NIDDM) (90-95%)

- relative insulin deficiency
- adulthood, elderly
- multifactorial (genetic-, environmental factors)
- insulin oversecretion! - tissue resistance! – impaired insulin action
- „metabolic X” syndrome

### ■ Type 3 Diabetes Mellitus

- elevated glucose levels
  - pancreatectomia, pancreatitis, drug induced, etc.

### ■ Type 4 Diabetes Mellitus

- gestational DM
- 4-5% of all pregnancies
- insulin therapy
- oral antidiabetics – CI!!!

## Complications of DM (AGE/AGP)

### •macroangiopathy

•stroke

•ACS

### •microangiopathy

•diabetic nephropathy

•diabetic retinopathy

•diabetic neuropathy

# Main symptoms of Diabetes

blue = more common  
in Type 1

## Central

- Polydipsia
- Polyphagia
- Lethargy
- Stupor

## Eyes

- Blurred vision

## Systemic

- Weight loss

## Breath

- Smell of acetone

## Respiratory

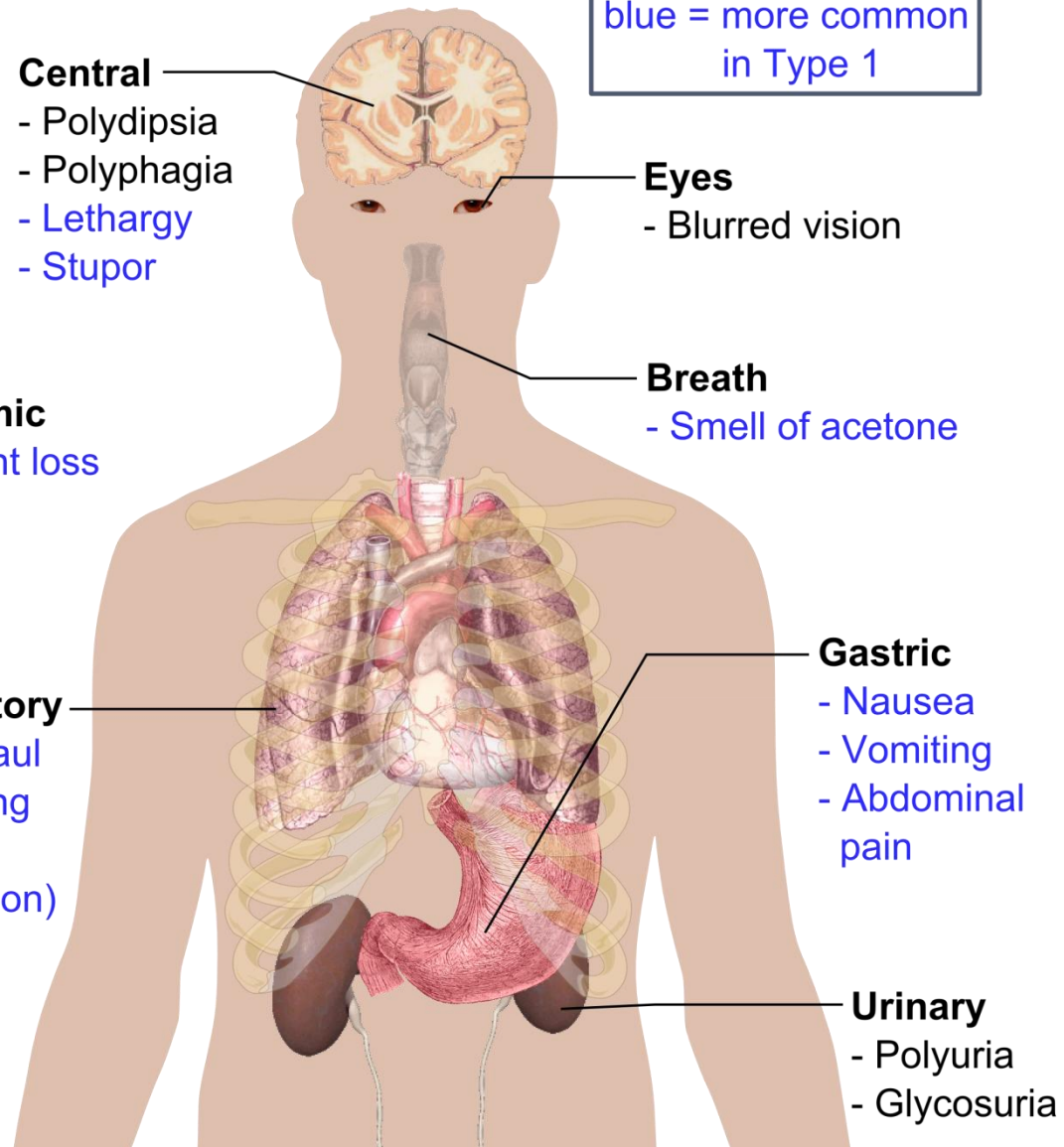
- Kussmaul breathing (hyper-ventilation)

## Gastric

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Abdominal pain

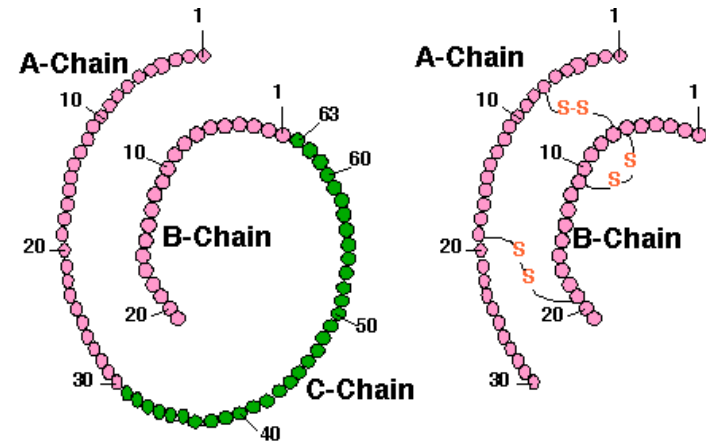
## Urinary

- Polyuria
- Glycosuria

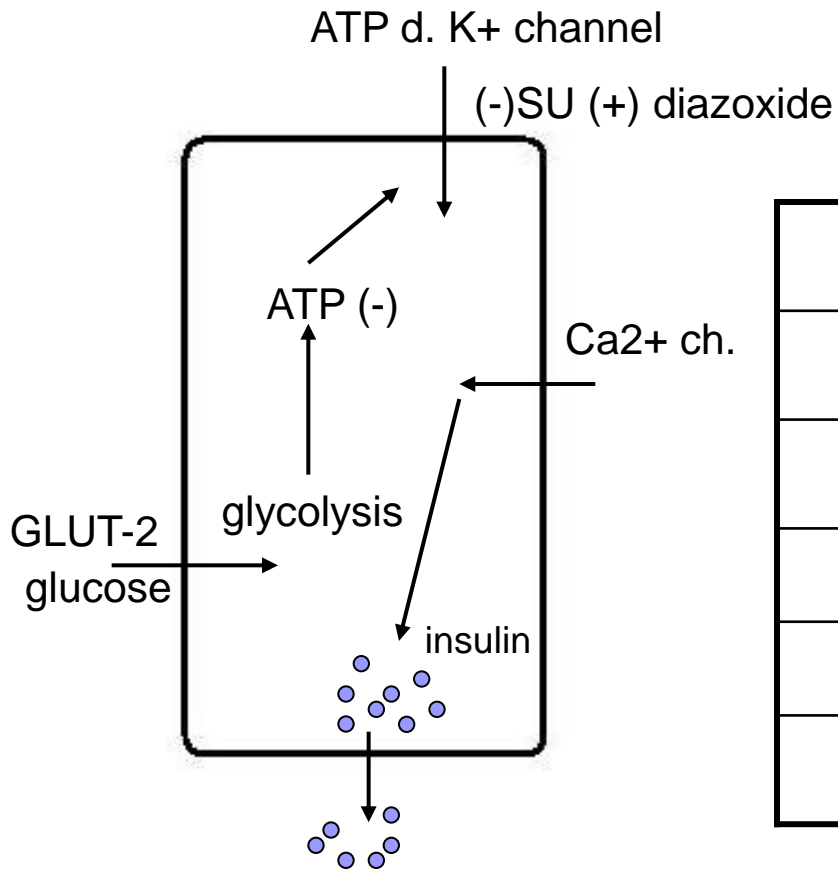


# Insulin

- anti-diabetic hormone
- chemistry
  - contains 51 amino acids –
  - 2 chains (A,B)– disulfide bridges
  - proinsulin (Golgi apparatus) –  
insulin + C-peptide (equimolar dose!)
- secretion
  - pancreatic  $\beta$  cells
    - stimulated by
      - glucose
      - hormones: incretines (GLP-1, GIP), CCK, vagal activity
    - inhibited by
      - somatostatin, leptin, FFA, triglycerides $\uparrow$
- degradation
  - liver (60%), kidney (35-40%)



# Pancreatic secretion



Cell types	Appr. percent of islet mass	Secretory product
A cell	20	Glucagon, proglucagon
B cell	75	Insulin, proinsulin, C-peptide, amylin
D cell	3-5	Somatostatin
G cell	1	Gastrin
F cell	1	Pancreatic polypeptide

## ■ Insulin receptor

- represented in „target cells”
  - liver, muscle, adipose tissue
- heterodimer structure -  $2\alpha$   $2\beta$  subunits
- autophosphorylation, Tyr-kinase activity
- phosphorylation pathways (IRS, PI3 kinase, MAP kinase)

## ■ Effects of insulin

- anabolic hormone, antidiabetic!, lipogenetic! effects
- liver
  - promotes glucose storage as glycogen (induces glucokinase, glycogen synthetase, inhibits glycogen phosphorylase)
  - increase glucose transport (GLUT-4)
  - stimulates TG synthesis
  - inhibits of glycogenolysis
  - inhibits conversion of fatty acids and amino acids to ketoacids
  - inhibits conversion of aminoacids to glucose
- muscle
  - increases protein synthesis
    - increases amino acid transport
  - increased glycogen synthesis
  - increased glucose transport (GLUT-4)
- adipose tissue
  - increased triglycerid storage
  - induce LPL (lipoprotein lipase), hydrolyze triglycerides from lipoproteins
  - glycerol-3-phosphate $\uparrow$  - TG synthesis $\uparrow$
  - inhibits i.c. lipase (hormone-sensitive-lipase)

# Insulin therapy



- daily insulin demand: 40 IU (1IU=28mg)
- circulating insulin:
  - basal insulin value: 5-15 $\mu$ U/mL
  - postprandial insulin value: 60-90  $\mu$ U/mL
- application: subcutaneously!!!
- Aim: to reproduce the normal, physiologic insulin secretion, (to replace the background-, basal overnight-, fasting-, prandial (mealtime) insulin)
- Insulin production: recombinant DNA techniques
- Classification
  - rapid acting
    - insulin LisPro (Humalog)
    - insulin Aspart (Novolog)
    - insulin GluLisine (Apidra)
  - short acting
    - Regular Novolin R
    - Regular Humulin R
  - intermediate acting
    - NPH insulin (Humulin N)
  - long acting
    - insulin detemir (Levemir)
    - insulin glargine (Lantus)
  - premixed insulins

# Insulin therapy

## ■ Rapid acting insulin

- ☐ rapid onset, early peak action
- ☐ most similar to physiologic insulin effect
- ☐ applied before meal (immediately)
- ☐ lowest variability of absorption ( $\approx 5\%$ )
- ☐ prandial insulin replacement (two phases of insulin secretion)

### ■ insulin lispro

- ☐ monomeric insulin analog
- ☐ Proline B28-B29
- ☐ Lysine B29-B28

### ■ insulin aspart

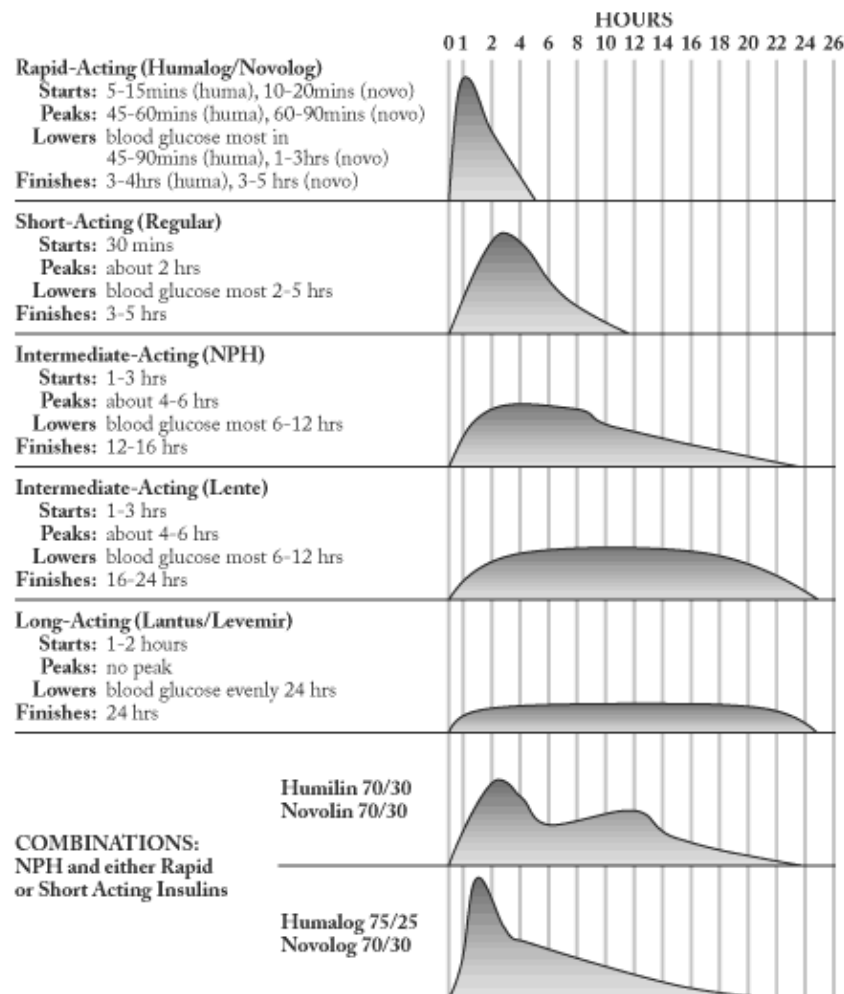
- ☐ Proline B28 - Aspartic acid
- ☐ inhibits insulin self aggregation

### ■ insulin glulisine

- ☐ Asparagine B3 – Lys
- ☐ Glutamic acid B29 – Lys

## ■ Short acting insulin

- ☐ regular insulin – complexed in crystalline zinc
- ☐ hexameric structure – delayed absorption, prolonged effect
- ☐ 30-45min before meal to avoid pp. hyperglycaemia – hypoglycaemia (mismatch)
- ☐ variability of absorption ( $\approx 25\%$ )
- ☐ dose dependent duration of action (complex forming)
- ☐ only one that allowed iv. application – dilution!





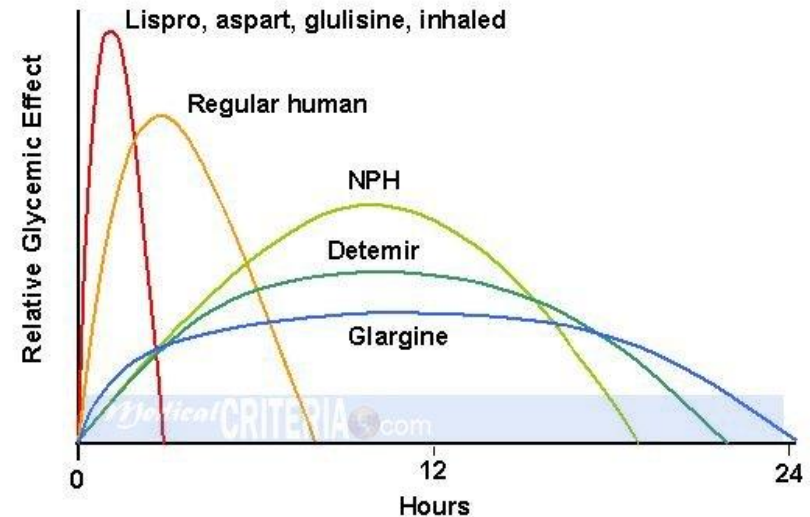
# Insulin therapy

## ■ Intermediate acting insulin

- ☐ NPH insulin (neutral protamine Hagedorn, isophane)
- ☐ combination of insulin and protamine
- ☐ variability of absorption  $\approx 50\%$
- ☐ mixed forms

## ■ Long acting insulin

- ☐ insuline glargine
  - peakless action, broad plateau
  - background insulin replacement
  - low pH
    - ☐ slow dissolve at neutral pH – prolonged effect
    - ☐ not mixed with other prep.!
- ☐ insuline detemir
  - myristic acid (C-14 fatty acid) attached
  - increased self aggregation – slow absorption



## ■ Mixtures of insulin

- ☐ rapid acting insulines are often mixed with NPH (no effect on absorption)
- ☐ NPL (NPH+lispro) 50-50%, 75-25%
- ☐ NPA (NPH+aspart) 70-30%

# Insulin therapy

- Insulin regimens
  - Intensive Insulin Therapy
    - exact det. of daily insulin requirement
      - 50%- basal, background, insulin requir.
      - 50%- prandial, postprandial, high gl. level corrections
    - formulas – food types - CALCULATION
    - intensive glucose control
  - Conventional Insulin Therapy
    - insulin application – evidence based (fix doses)
  - IIT vs. CIT ???
  - Insulin delivery systems (insulin pumps)
    - sc. application
    - CSII (continuous subcutan insulin infusion)
      - open-loop system
      - closed loop system???

# Insulin therapy

## ■ Complications

- ☐ hypoglycaemia
  - background:
    - ☐ inadequate carbohydrate consumption
    - ☐ unusual physical exertion
    - ☐ large doses of insulin
  - symptoms:
    - ☐ sweating, tachycardia, palpitations, altered behaviour (aggression), nausea, hunger
  - treatment
    - ☐ glucose administration – CAVE: unconsciousness! i.v.!!!
    - ☐ 1 mg glucagon s.c., i.m.
- ☐ insulin allergy
  - rare condition
- ☐ immune insulin resistance
- ☐ lipodystrophy
  - injection sites



# Regulation of insulin release in humans

- stimulants of insulin release
  - ☐ glucose, mannose
  - ☐ leucin
  - ☐ vagal stimulation
  - ☐ SUs
  
- amplifiers of glucose induced insulin release
  - ☐ hormones (incretin effect!!!)
    - GLP-1 (glucagon like peptide)
    - GIP (gastric inhibitory peptide)
    - secretin, gastrin, glucagon
  - ☐ neural amplifiers
    - $\beta$  adrenoceptor stimulation
  - ☐ amino acids
    - Arg
  
- inhibitors of insulin release
  - ☐ neural
    - $\alpha$  adrenergic drugs
  - ☐ humoral
    - somatostatin, leptin
  - ☐ diazoxide,
  - ☐ phenytoin,
  - ☐ vinblastin, colchicine

## Classification of oral antidiabetics

- Insulin secretagogues
  - SUs
  - meglitinide derivatives
  - D-phenylalanine derivatives
  
- biguanides
  - metformin
  
- thiazolidinediones
- $\alpha$ -glucosidase inhibitors
- incretin based therapy
- amylin analogues
- $\text{Na}^+$ -glucose cotransport inhibitors

# Oral antidiabetic agents

## Insulin secretagogues

- Sulfonylureas
  - mechanism of action
    - ↑insulin release from pancreatic B cells
      - inhibits ATP sensitive K<sup>+</sup> channels – B cell depolarization
    - long term action reduces serum glucagon levels
  - drug class
    - first generation SU
      - tolbutamide
        - UGDP (Univ. Group Diab. Progr.) – ↑cardiavascular risk
        - UKPDS – no such findings
        - safe for elderly patients
      - chlorpropamide
        - CI in patients with hepatic or renal failure
        - a.e.: prolonged hypoglycaemia (t<sub>1/2</sub>: 32 hours)
      - tolazamide
        - shorter half life, than chlorpropamide
    - second generation SU
      - glibenclamid (Gilemal)
        - safer, than 1st generation SU
        - lower CV risk/ hypoglycaemic effect
      - glimepirid (Amaryl)
        - potent and effective
        - 1mg p.o.
      - glipizide
        - short half life

# Oral antidiabetic agents

## Insulin secretagogues



- meglitinide derivatives
  - mechanism of action
    - ↑insulin release from pancreatic B cells
      - inhibits ATP sensitive K<sup>+</sup> channels – B cell depolarization
    - two binding sites on channel (SU-one b.s.)
  - drug types
    - repaglinide
      - rapid onset of action
      - metabolized in liver: CYP3A4
      - dose: before each meal 0,25-4mg
      - coappl: biguanides
      - appl.: allergy to SUs
- D-phenylalanine derivative
  - mechanism of action
    - ↑insulin release from pancreatic B cells
      - inhibits i.r. ATP sensitive K<sup>+</sup> channels – B cell depolarization
  - nateglinide
    - rapid onset of action

# Oral antidiabetic agents

## Biguanides

- mechanism of action
  - reduce hepatic glucose production
    - activating AMPK (AMP activated protein kinase)
  - facilitating glucose uptake (liver, muscle)
  - stimulating glycolysis
  - slow glucose absorption from GIT
  - reduction of plasma glucagon levels
  - ↓food intake (appetite lowering effect)
  - ↓insulin resistance
  - ↑HDL ↓LDL
- drug types
  - metformin
    - not metabolized
    - impair the metabolism of lactic acid! – lactate acidosis
    - first line th. of Type 2 DM
    - UKPDS
      - ↓risk of macroangiopathy/microangiopathy
    - dose 500mg-2000mg/day
    - a.e.: nausea, diarrhea, impaired Vit. B12 absorption, not recommended with contrast-material (X-ray)

# Oral antidiabetic agents

## Thiazolidendiones



- mechanism of action
  - agonism of PPAR- $\gamma$ R (fat, muscle, liver – endothel, ovarium, imm.cells)
  - effects mainly on adipocytes
    - $\uparrow$  glucose uptake and utilization
    - $\downarrow$  synthesis of resistin
    - $\downarrow$  synthesis of cytokines and lipid hormones
    - slow onset – nuclear receptor
- drug types
  - pioglitazone
    - metabolized by CYP2C8, CYP3A4 (CAVE: OAC!)
    - reduces CV mortality (macroangiopathia)
    - triglyceride lowering effect (anti-obesity drug)
    - 15-30mg/day
    - increased risk of heart failure
  - rosiglitazone
    - 4-8 mg/day
    - fluid retention
    - monotherapy in type 2 DM
    - coapplication.: biguanides, SU
  - troglitazone
    - withdrawn (hepatotoxicity)
    - beneficial effects in PCOS



# Oral antidiabetic agents

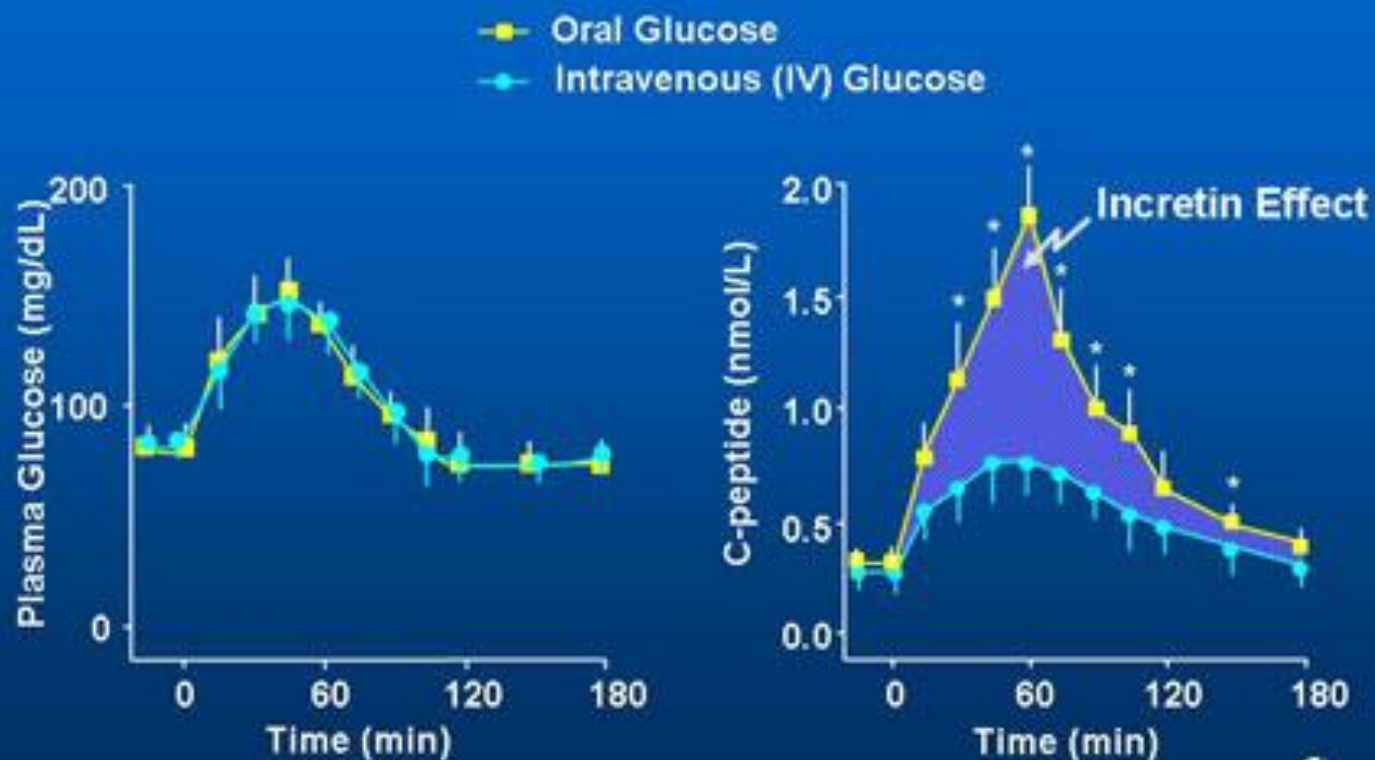
## $\alpha$ -glucosidase inhibitors



- mechanism of action
  - competitive inhibition of intestinal  $\alpha$ -glucosidase enzymes (sucrase, maltase, dextranase, glucoamylase)
    - only monosacharids can be transported out of the intestinal lumen
    - ↓ monosacharid absorption, ↓ postprandial hyperglycaemia
  - acarbose, miglitol
  - 25-50 mg/day
  - a.e.: flatulence, diarrhea, abdominal pain (undigested carbohydr.)
  - STOP-NIDDM – great success

# Incretin based therapy

## The Incretin Effect in Healthy Subjects



N = 6; Mean (SE); \* $P \leq 0.05$

Data from Nauck MA et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 1986;63:492-8.

# Oral antidiabetic agents

## Incretin based therapy

- exenatide, liraglutide
  - mechanism of action
    - synthetic analog of GLP-1
    - multiple actions
      - enhance glucose-mediated insulin secretion
      - suppression of postprandial glucagon release
      - slow gastric emptying
      - central loss of appetite
  - appl.: sc. injection
  - injected 60 min before meal
  - a.e.: nausea, vomiting, weight loss
  - coapplication: biguanides, sulfonylureas (hypoglycaemia!!!)
  
- sitagliptin, saxagliptin
  - mechanism of action
    - inhibitor of DPP-4 (dipeptidil-peptidase-4)
    - inhibiting degradation of incretins (GLP-1, GIP↑)
      - increase glucose mediated insulin secretion
      - decrease glucagon levels
  - appl.: p.o. (OA=85%)
  - 100mg/day
  - a.e.: headache
  - coapplication: biguanides, thiazolidinediones

# Oral antidiabetic agents

## Amylin analogues



- Pramlintide
  - mechanism of action
    - synthetic analog of amylin (IAPP-Islets Amyloid Polypeptide)
      - suppress glucagon release
      - delay gastric emptying
      - anorectic effects in CNS
    - metabolized by kidneys
    - appl.: sc. (immediat. before eating)
      - Type 1 and Type 2 DM
    - a.e.:
      - hypoglycaemia
      - nausea

# Oral antidiabetic agents

## Na<sup>+</sup>-glucose cotransport inhibitor



- dapagliflozine
  - ☐ mechanism of action
    - inhibits SGLT2 (proximal tubule-90% of glucose reabsorption)
    - decreased glucose reabsorption (excreted with urine)
  - ☐ insulin-independent action
  - ☐ appl.: p.o.
  - ☐ a.e.: safe and well-tolerated
  - ☐ coapplication: biguanides, sulfonylureas, insulin

# Complex therapy of DM

- Type 1 DM
  - insulin therapy
- Type 2 DM
  - CHANGE IN LIFESTYLE (glycaemic index!!!)
  - oral antidiabetics
    - biguanides
    - SU
    - TZD's
  - insulin
- Type 4 DM
  - insulin