

Insulin 301:  
Case, after case, after case

# Learning objectives

By the end of this session, you will be able to :

1. List the 3 types of insulin, 3 insulin regimens and pros/cons of each
2. Select the regimen best suited for a particular patient with dosing and titration
3. Address issues in patients on glucocorticoids, dialysis, acute infection, parenteral feeds

# CJD

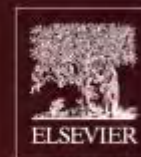
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### Canadian Diabetes Association 2013 Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Diabetes in Canada

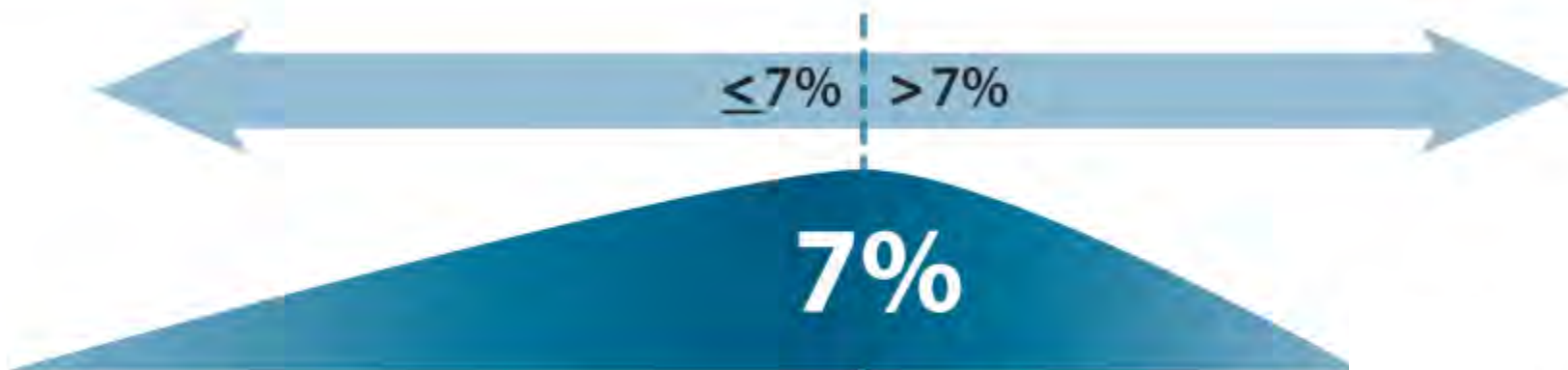
[guidelines.diabetes.ca](http://guidelines.diabetes.ca)



PM# 41536048

[www.canadianjournalofdiabetes.com](http://www.canadianjournalofdiabetes.com)

# Individualizing A1C Targets 2013



A target A1C  $\leq 6.5\%$  may be considered in some patients with type 2 diabetes to further lower the risk of nephropathy and retinopathy which must be balanced against the risk of hypoglycemia

**Most patients  
with type 1  
and type 2  
diabetes**

**Consider 7.1-8.5% if:**

- Limited life expectancy
- High level of functional dependency
- Extensive coronary artery disease at high risk of ischemic events
- Multiple co-morbidities
- History of recurrent severe hypoglycemia
- Hypoglycemia unawareness
- Longstanding diabetes for whom it is difficult to achieve an A1C  $\leq 7\%$ , despite effective doses of multiple antihyperglycemic agents, including intensified basal-bolus insulin therapy

# AT DIAGNOSIS OF TYPE 2 DIABETES

Start lifestyle intervention (nutrition therapy and physical activity) +/- Metformin

A1C < 8.5%

A1C ≥ 8.5%

Symptomatic hyperglycemia with metabolic decompensation

If not at glycemic target (2-3 mos)

Start / Increase metformin

Start metformin immediately  
Consider initial combination with another antihyperglycemic agent

Initiate insulin +/- metformin

If not at glycemic targets

Add an agent best suited to the individual:

## Patient Characteristics

- Degree of hyperglycemia
- Risk of hypoglycemia
- Overweight or obesity
- Comorbidities (renal, cardiac, hepatic)
- Preferences & access to treatment
- Other

## Agent Characteristics

- BG lowering efficacy and durability
- Risk of inducing hypoglycemia
- Effect on weight
- Contraindications & side-effects
- Cost and coverage
- Other

See next page...

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From prior page...

Add an agent best suited to the individual (agents listed in alphabetical order):

Class	Relative A1C lowering	Hypo-glycemia	Weight	Other therapeutic considerations	Cost
Alpha-glucosidase inhibitor (acarbose)	↓	Rare	neutral to ↓	Improved postprandial control, GI side-effects	\$\$
Incretin agents: DPP-4 Inhibitors	↓↓	Rare	neutral to ↓	GI side-effects	\$\$\$
GLP-1 receptor agonists	↓↓ to ↓↓↓	Rare	↓		\$\$\$\$
Insulin	↓↓↓	Yes	↑↑	No dose ceiling, flexible regimens	\$-\$\$\$\$
Insulin secretagogue: Meglitinide	↓↓	Yes	↑	Less hypoglycemia in context of missed meals but usually requires TID to QID dosing	\$\$
Sulfonylurea	↓↓	Yes	↑	Gliclazide and glimepiride associated with less hypoglycemia than glyburide	\$
TZD	↓↓	Rare	↑↑	CHF, edema, fractures, rare bladder cancer (pioglitazone), cardiovascular controversy (rosiglitazone), 6-12 weeks required for maximal effect	\$\$
Weight loss agent (orlistat)	↓	None	↓	GI side effects	\$\$\$

If not at glycemic target

- Add another agent from a different class
- Add/Intensify insulin regimen

Make timely adjustments to attain target A1C within 3 to 6 months

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AT DIAGNOSIS OF TYPE 2 DIABETES

Start lifestyle intervention (nutrition therapy and physical activity) +/- Metformin

A1C < 8.5%

A1C ≥ 8.5%

Symptomatic hyperglycemia with metabolic decompensation

If not at glycemic target (2-3 mos)

Start metformin immediately  
Consider initial combination with another antihyperglycemic agent

Initiate insulin +/- metformin

Start / Increase metformin

If not at glycemic targets

Add an agent best suited to the individual:

**Patient Characteristics**

Degree of hyperglycemia  
Risk of hypoglycemia  
Overweight or obesity  
Comorbidities (renal, cardiac, hepatic)  
Preferences & access to treatment  
Other

**Agent Characteristics**

BG lowering efficacy and durability  
Risk of inducing hypoglycemia  
Effect on weight  
Contraindications & side-effects  
Cost and coverage  
Other

See next page...

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2013

**Add an agent best suited to the individual** (agents listed in alphabetical order):

<b>Class</b>	<b>Relative A1C lowering</b>	<b>Hypo-glycemia</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Other therapeutic considerations</b>	<b>Cost</b>
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Incretin agents: DPP-4 Inhibitors	↓↓	Rare	neutral to ↓		\$\$\$
GLP-1 receptor agonists	↓↓ to ↓↓↓	Rare	↓	GI side-effects	\$\$\$\$
Insulin	↓↓↓	Yes	↑↑	No dose ceiling, flexible regimens	-\$-\$\$\$\$
Insulin secretagogue: Meglitinide	↓↓	Yes	↑	Less hypoglycemia in context of missed meals but usually requires TID to QID dosing	\$\$
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Weight loss agent (orlistat)	↓	None	↓	GI side effects	\$\$\$



Remember Insulin 101 and  
201?

# 3 Types of insulins

## BOLUS

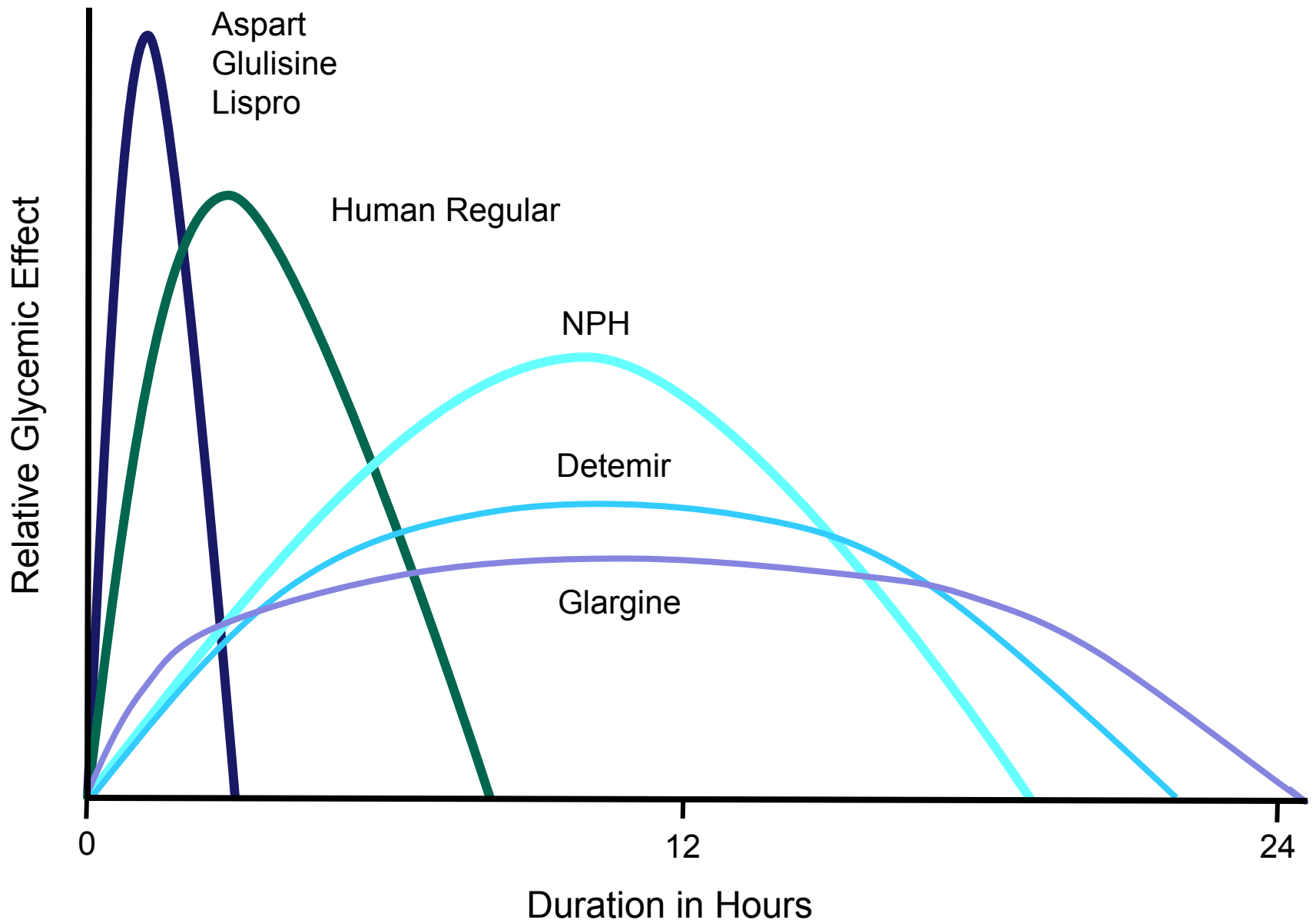
- Regular or Toronto
- Aspart (Novorapid)
- Glulisine (Apidra)
- Lispro (Humalog)

## BASAL

- NPH
- Detemir (Levemir)
- Glargine (Lantus)

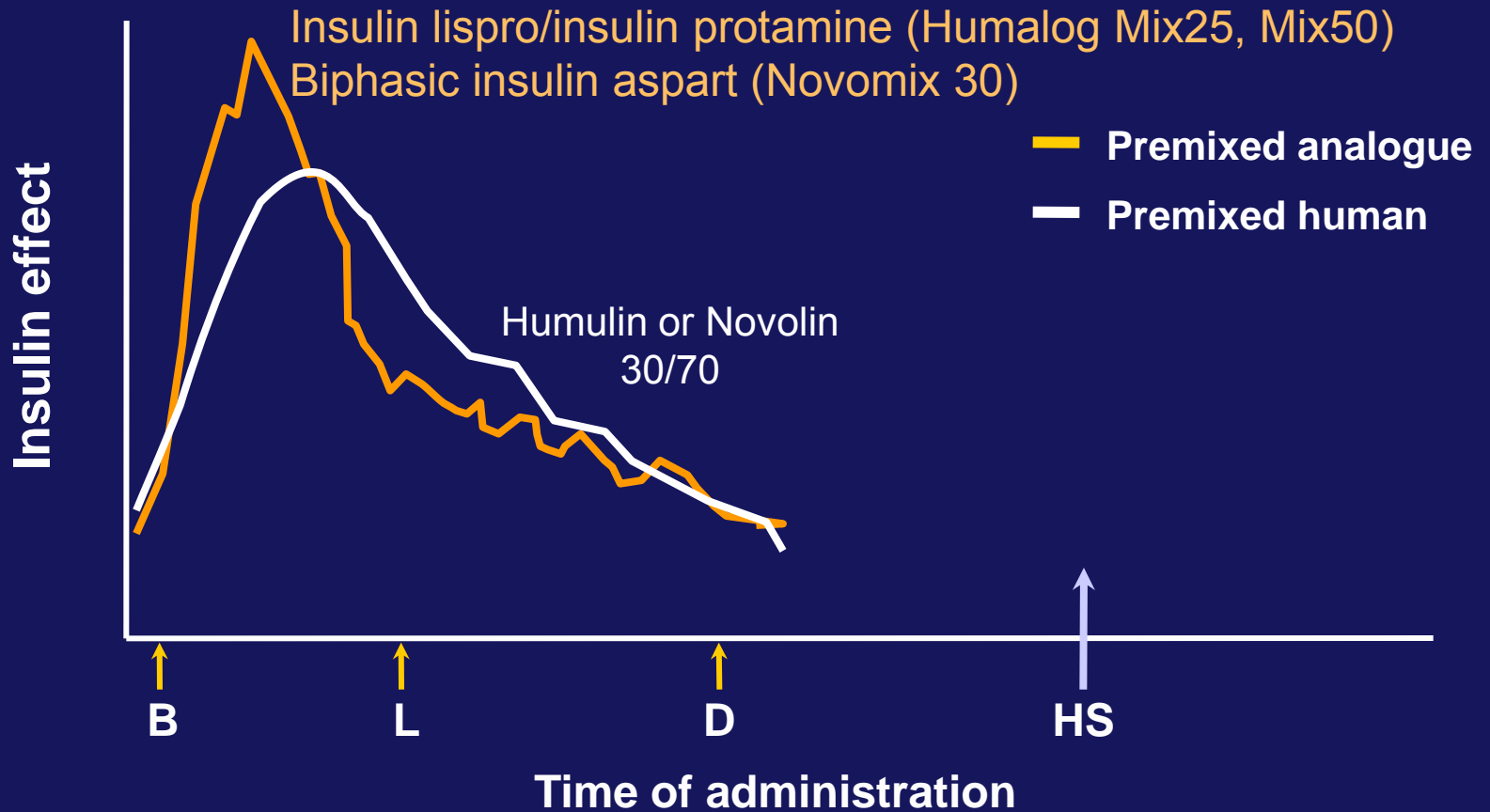
## PRE-MIXED

- 30/70
- insulin lispro/lispro protamine (Humalog Mix25, Mix50)
  - Biphasic insulin aspart (Novomix 30)



**PRE-MIXED:** 30/70, Humalog Mix25, Mix50, Novomix 30

# Premixed



# CDA 2013 Clinical Practice Guidelines: Pharmacologic therapy in type 2 diabetes

## Recommendation #5:

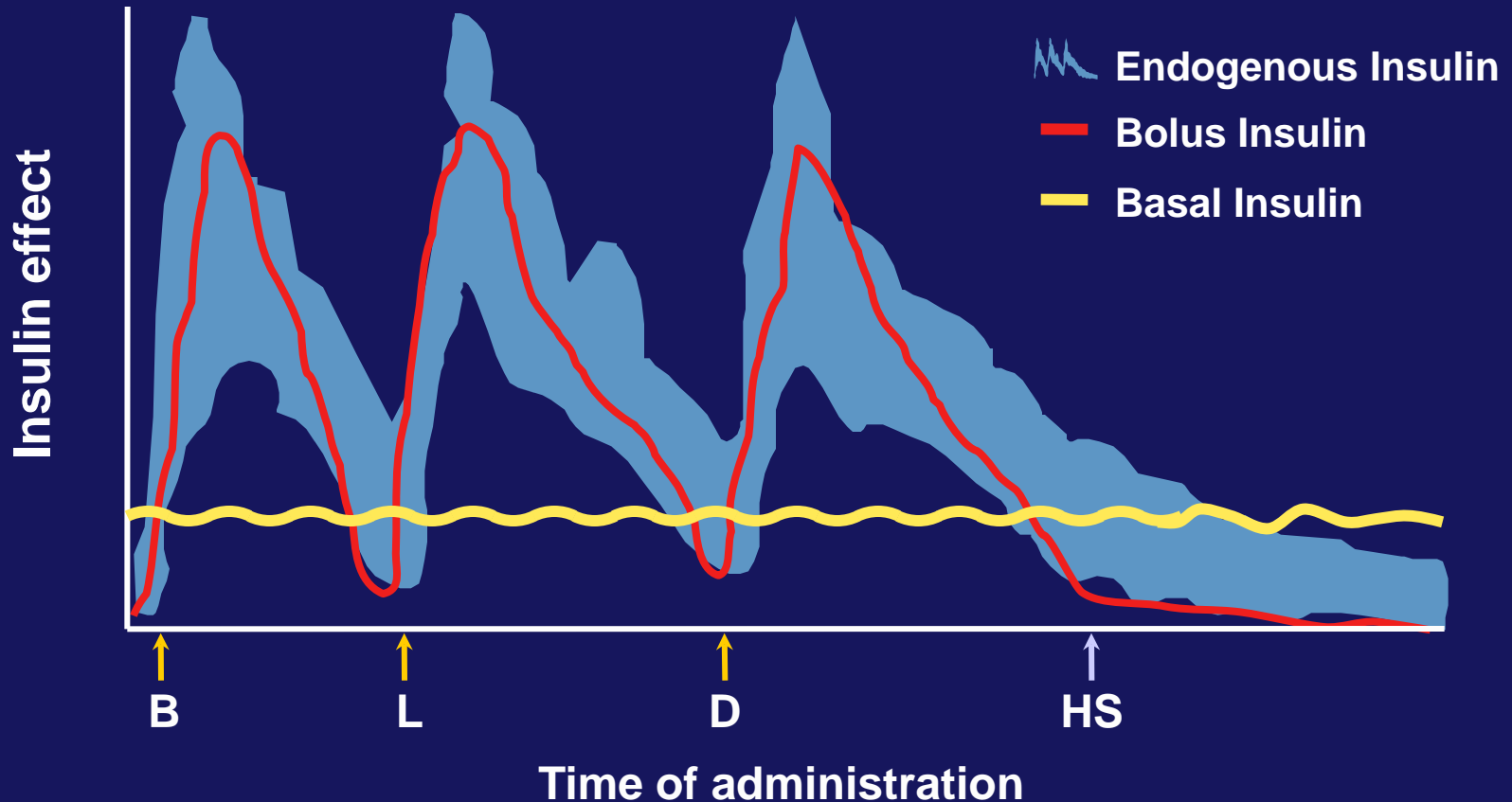
When **basal** insulin is added to antihyperglycemic agents, **long-acting analogues** (detemir or glargine) may be used instead of intermediate-acting NPH to reduce the risk of nocturnal and symptomatic hypoglycemia [*Grade A, Level 1A*]

# CDA 2013 Clinical Practice Guidelines: Pharmacologic therapy in type 2 diabetes

## Recommendation #6:

When **bolus** insulin is added to antihyperglycemic agents, **rapid-acting analogues** (insulin aspart, glulisine, or lispro) may be used instead of regular insulin to reduce the risk of hypoglycemia [*Grade A, Level 1A*]

# Normal Insulin Secretion: The Basal-Bolus Insulin Concept



**B = breakfast; L = lunch; D = dinner; HS = bedtime.**

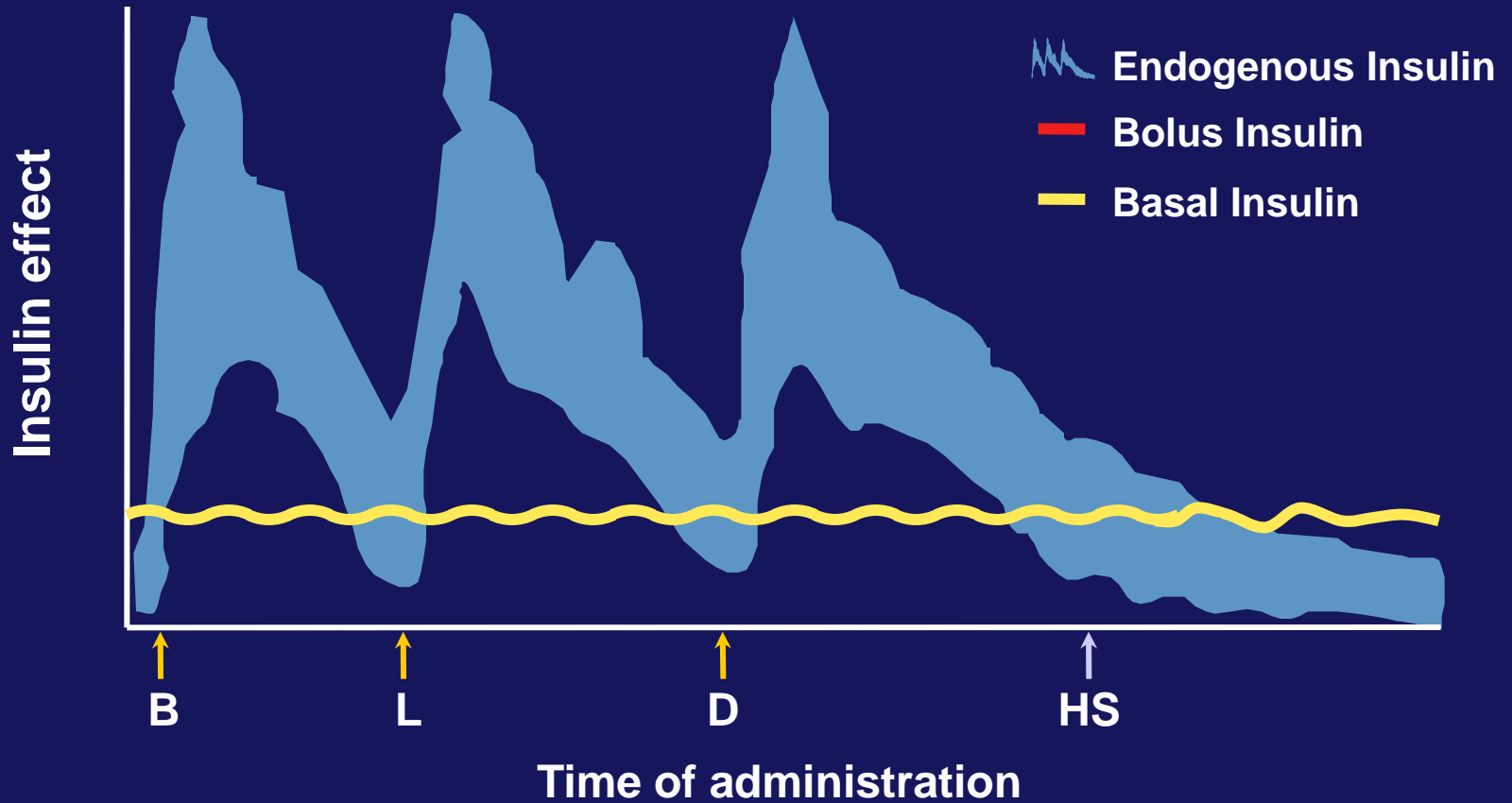
1. Leahy JL. In: Leahy JL, Cefalu WT (eds). *Insulin Therapy*. Marcel Dekker Inc., New York, 2002.

2. Bolli GB, et al. *Diabetologia* 1999; 42:1151-67.

# 3 Insulin Regimens

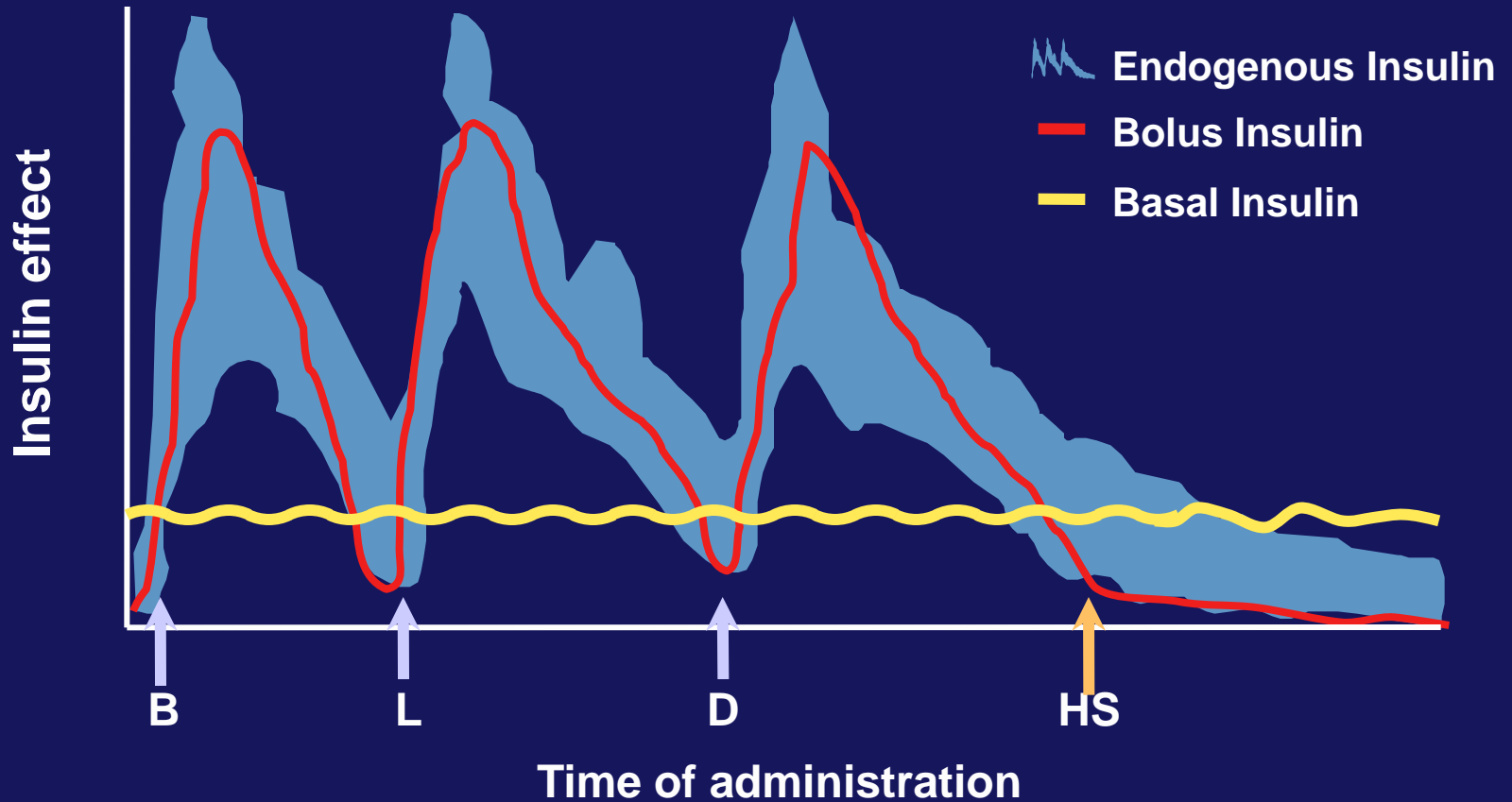


# Basal alone



B = breakfast; L = lunch; D = dinner; HS = bedtime.

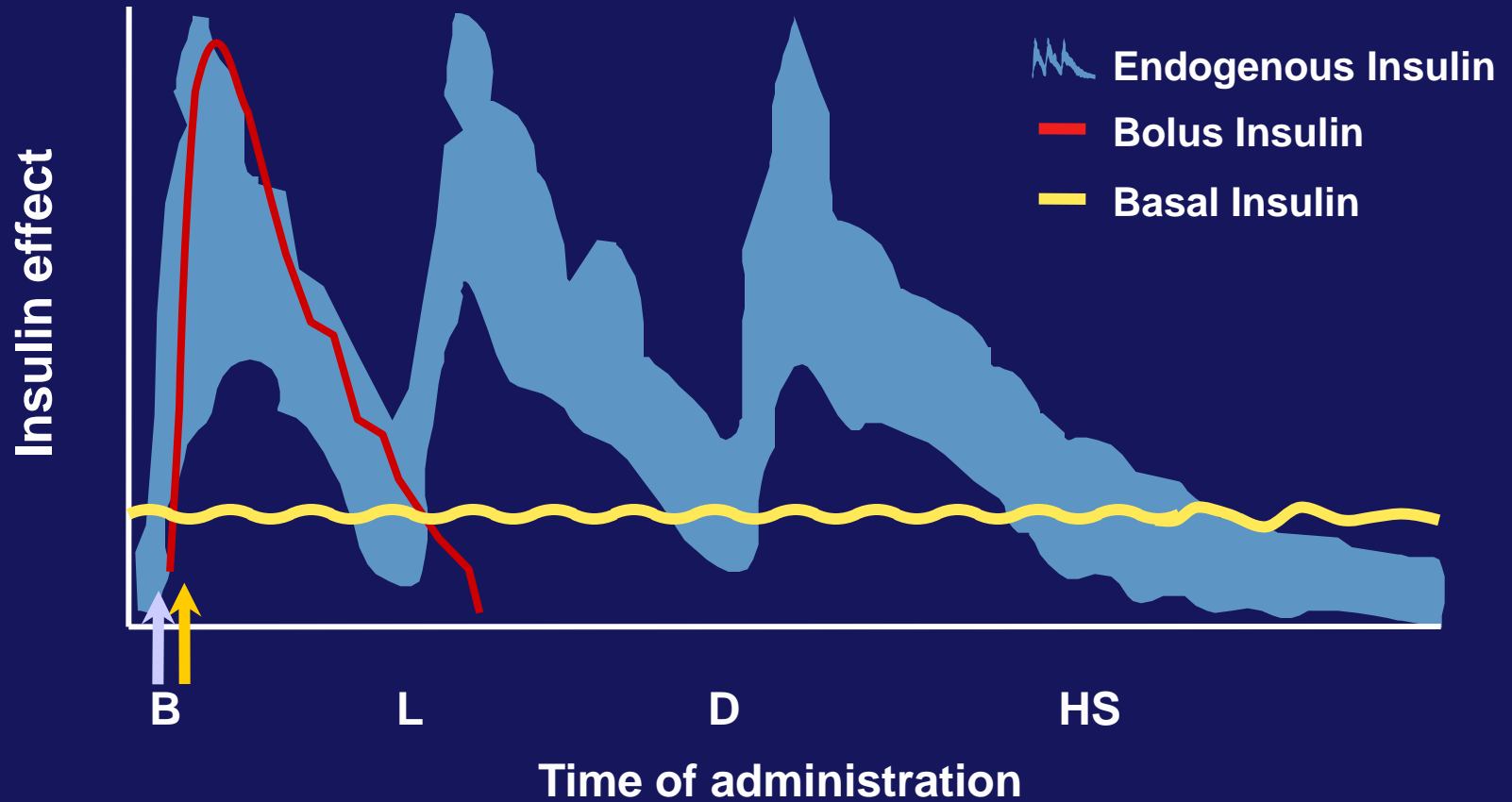
# Basal-Bolus



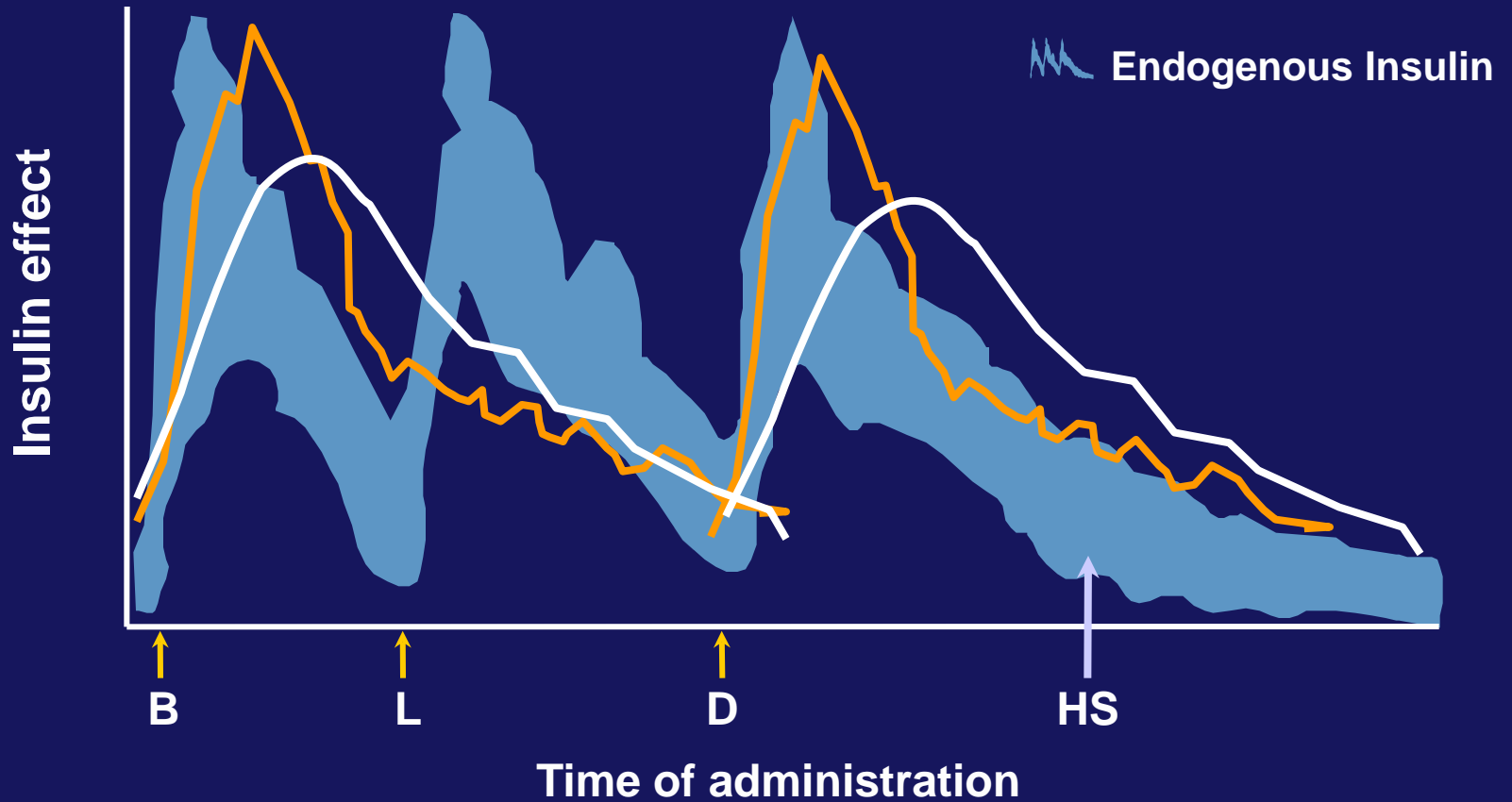
B = breakfast; L = lunch; D = dinner; HS = bedtime.

1. Leahy JL. In: Leahy JL, Cefalu WT (eds). *Insulin Therapy*. Marcel Dekker Inc., New York, 2002.

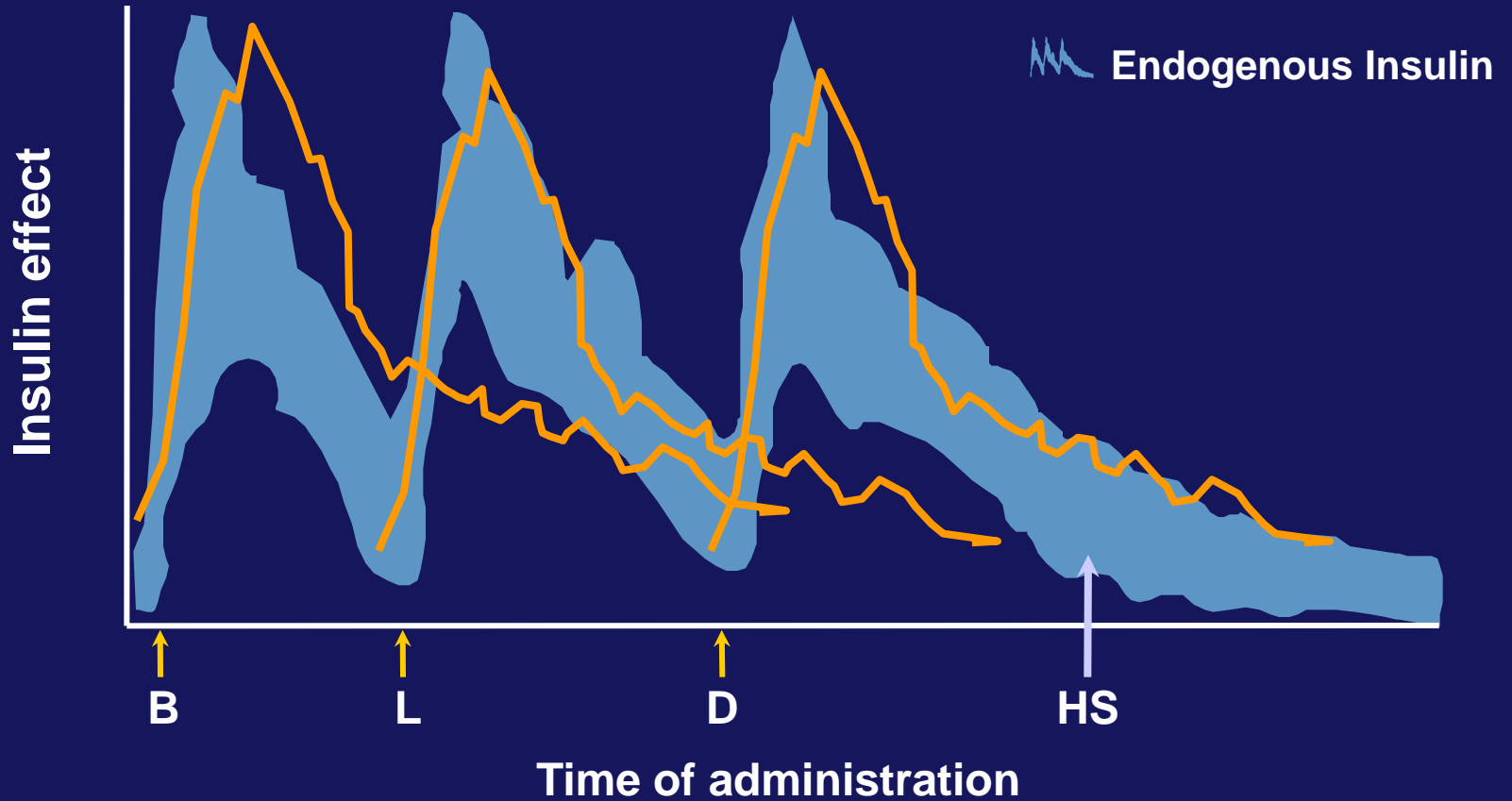
# Basal Plus Bolus



# BID Premixed



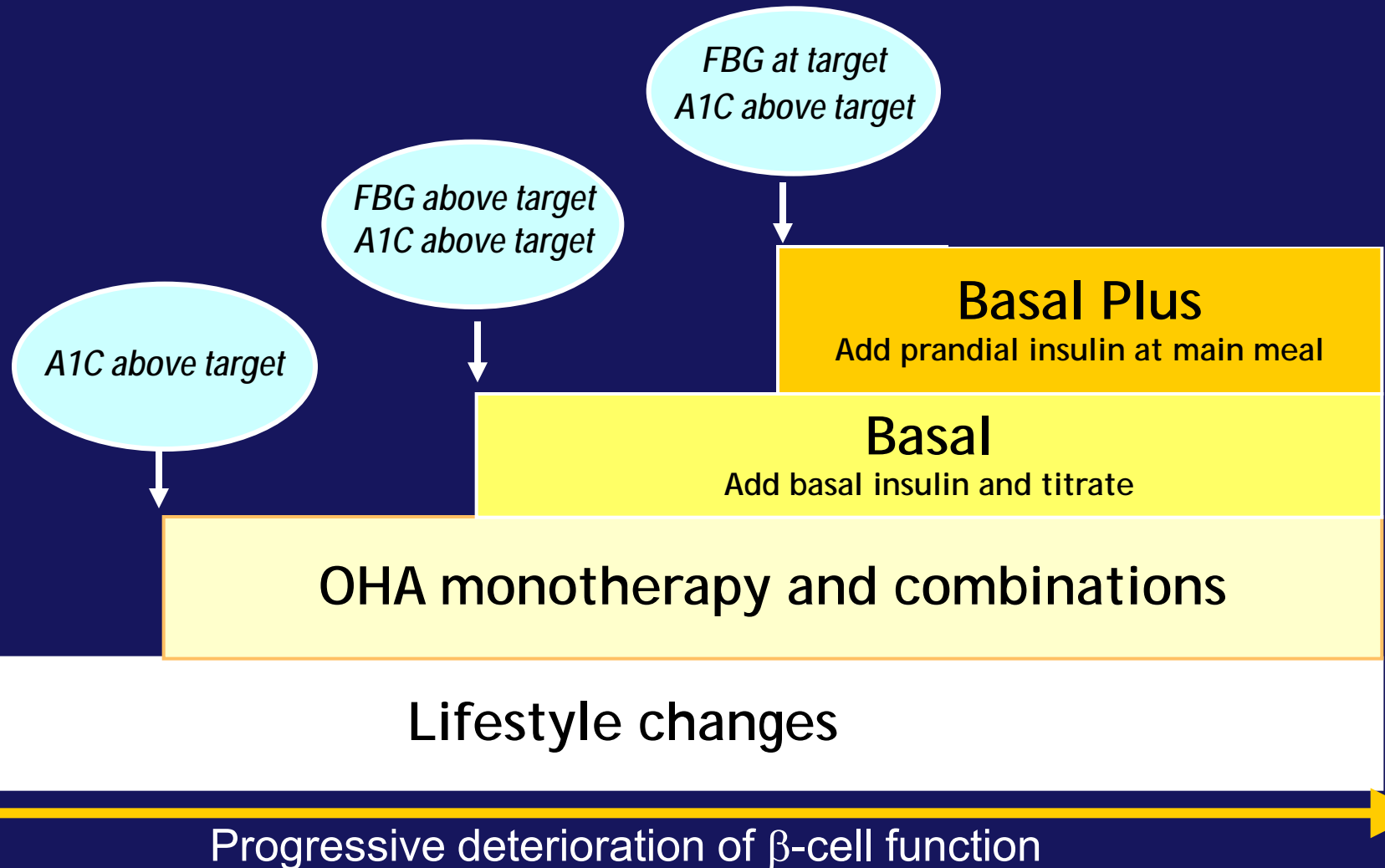
# T1D Premixed



# How do the regimens compare?

- Basal start has advantages (4T)
- Diabetes is PROGRESSIVE
- The regimen must change over time
- All roads lead to Basal Bolus concept
- If you're not going to **TITRATE** – don't start

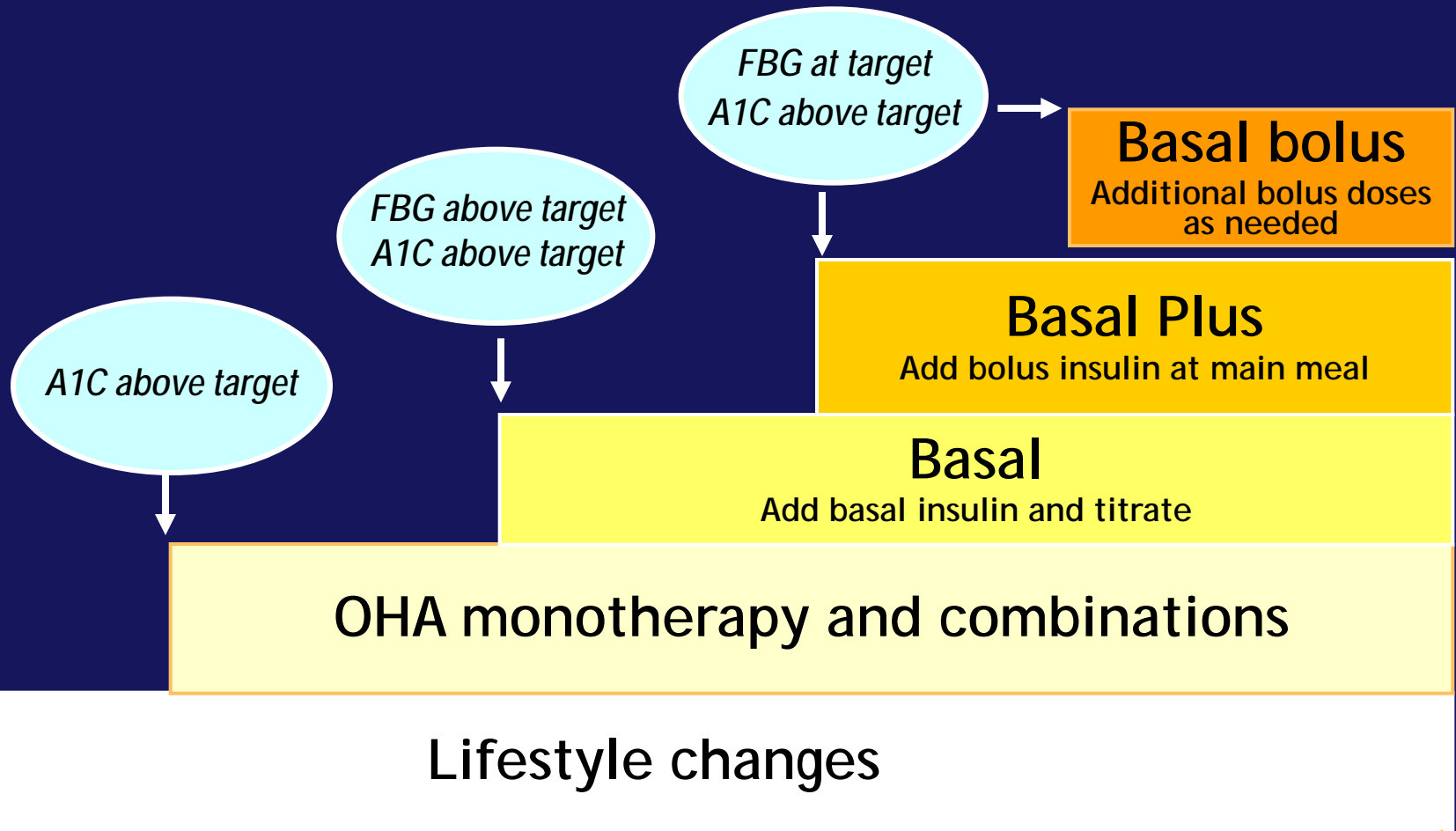
# Intensification of Therapy in T2DM



OHA=oral hypoglycaemic agent

Adapted from Raccach D. et al. Diabetes/Met Res & Rev 2007;23:257-64.

# Intensification of Therapy in T2DM



Progressive deterioration of  $\beta$ -cell function

OHA=oral hypoglycaemic agent

Adapted from Raccach D. et al. Diabetes/Met Res & Rev 2007;23:257-64.



# How to dose?

“Whatever you pick will be  
**WRONG** ... and that’s okay!”

“If you’re not going to **TITRATE**...  
don’t start!”

# Basal insulin self-titration tool

- You will inject 10 units of insulin each night
- You will continue to increase by 1 unit every night until your blood sugar level is 4-7 mmol/L before breakfast
- Do not increase your insulin when your fasting blood sugar is 4-7 mmol/L

*Please refer to the tear-off pad*

# Basal Plus or Basal-Bolus

- If full Basal-Bolus:  $0.5 \text{ u/kg} = \text{TDI}$
- 50% bolus, 50% basal (or 60:40)

OR

- Add 10% of basal dose as bolus (4-T study)

- Add 5 units and self-titrate (START protocol)

OR

- Add 4 units and self-titrate (STEP protocol)

**Pick a number and start!!**

# Bolus insulin self-titration tool

- You will inject 2 units of bolus insulin before breakfast
- You will continue to increase by 1 unit every morning until your 2-hour after breakfast blood sugar level is 5-8 mmol/L
- Do not increase your insulin when your 2-hour after breakfast blood sugar is 5-8 mmol/L

# Premixed

- 0.5 units / kg = TDI
- 2/3 in the AM + 1/3 in the PM
- 5-10 units BID

# What about the orals?

- METFORMIN
- METFORMIN
- METFORMIN
  
- Secretagogues if basal alone
- TZD – stop
- DPP-4 – benefit but cost
- GLP-1 receptor agonist – benefit (dose & weight) but cost
- SGLT2 inhibitor – benefit but cost

# How to approach logbook?

1. Where are the lows / highs?
2. Why are there lows / highs?
3. Do I adjust / switch or add?
  - a) Titrate to avoid hypoglycemia first
  - b) Titrate to reduce hyperglycemia

How much to titrate by?

2 units OR 10%

*“Not an exact science ... trial and error!”*



# Cases



# Patrick

54 year old man with type 2 diabetes diagnosed 5 years ago, comes to see you for his routine diabetes visit. He has generally been feeling well but complains of slightly more fatigue, which he has attributed to getting older. He saw the diabetes nurse educator and dietitian 6 months ago and says that he is trying his best with respect to food and activity levels but finds it challenging because he is on the road so much as part of his job in sales.

- **PMH:** Hypertension, dyslipidemia, appendectomy, ex-smoker (quit 5 years ago)
- **Meds:** Metformin 1g BID, gliclazide MR 120 mg OD, sitagliptin 100 mg OD, acarbose 50 mg TID, simvastatin 40 mg qhs, perindopril 8 mg OD, amlodipine 5 mg OD
- **On exam:** Obese (wt 100kg, ht 175 cm, WC 104 cm), BP 130/80 mmHg, HR 72 regular. Acanthosis nigricans noted. Eyes – no abnormality. Chest, cardiac, abdominal exams normal. Monofilament sensation normal. Feet unremarkable.
- **Labs:** A1c 8.2%; TC 4.23, TG 1.99, HDL 1.00, LDL 1.9 mmol/L; Cr 125 umol/L; ACR 2.3

# Log Book

	Breakfast		Lunch		Dinner		Bedtime	Insulin Dose
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After		
Monday	10.2		9.7		11.5		12.2	
Tuesday	9.8				10.1			
Wednesday	8.7		12.5				8.4	
Thursday	10.4				7.6			
Friday	10.1		8.7				13.1	
Saturday	9.9		9.4		9.2		9.9	
Sunday	8.7		10.2		11.8		13.8	

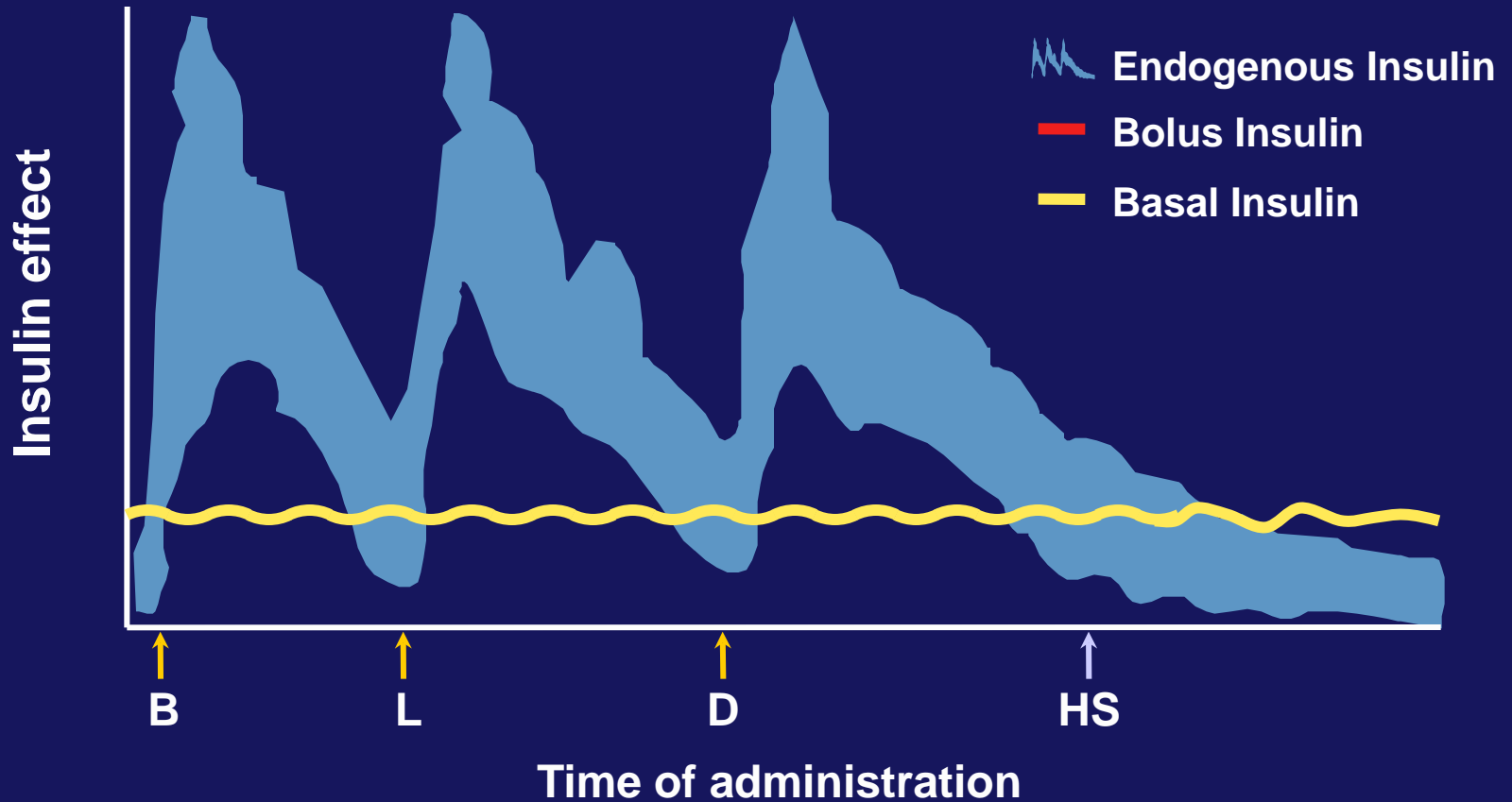
Where are the lows and highs?  
Why are there lows and highs?  
Adjust / switch / add?

# What is your next step?

1. Add basal insulin and keep the SU
2. Add basal insulin and stop the SU
3. Add premixed BID and stop the SU
4. Add Basal Bolus and stop the SU
5. Add Basal and one Bolus

What about the other orals?

# Basal insulin



**B = breakfast; L = lunch; D = dinner; HS = bedtime.**

1. Leahy JL. In: Leahy JL, Cefalu WT (eds). *Insulin Therapy*. Marcel Dekker Inc., New York, 2002.

2. Bolli GB, et al. *Diabetologia* 1999; 42:1151-67.



## Insulin Dosage Instructions (Example)

- Your target fasting blood sugar level is 4-7 mmol/L
- You will inject 10 units of insulin each day
- You will continue to increase by 1 unit every day until your blood sugar level is 4-7 mmol/L before breakfast
- Do not increase your insulin when your fasting blood sugar is 4-7 mmol/L

*Please refer to the tear-off pad*

	Breakfast		Lunch		Supper		Bedtime	Dose
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After		
Sunday	9.7				7.8		7.5	22
Monday	9.4				7.6		6.9	23
Tuesday	9.0		8.9		6.5		7.8	24
Wednesday	9.1		8.5				7.5	25
Thursday	8.8							

Metformin 1000 mg p.o. b.i.d.  
 Gliclazide MR 120 mg p.o. o.d.  
 Acarbose and Sitagliptin were d/c'd to  
 convince him to go on insulin

# What is your next step?

1. Keep titrating the basal
2. Add bolus insulin
3. Change to premixed BID
4. Add basal in the AM
5. Add GLP-1 analogue

- Patrick has been titrating up his long-acting basal insulin at bedtime as instructed and has achieved the target fasting blood glucose levels of 4-7 mmol/L. He remains on metformin 1g BID and gliclazide MR 120 mg od. He has no symptoms of hypoglycemia. Here is his logbook.  
What should be done now?

	Breakfast		Lunch		Dinner		Bedtime	Insulin Dose
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After		
Monday	7.7		7.1				6.2	45
Tuesday	8.3				4.9			46
Wednesday	7.1		6.3				7.3	47
Thursday	6.9				4.4			47
Friday	9.0		5.9		4.1		5.9	48
Saturday	8.1				4.0			49
Sunday	8.2		8.9		4.0		6.1	50

**Where are the lows and highs?  
Why are there lows and highs?  
Adjust / switch / add?**

# What would you do now?

1. Add basal in the morning
2. Increase the basal at bedtime
3. Reduce/stop the gliclazide MR
4. Change to premixed BID
5. 2+3

	Breakfast		Lunch		Dinner		Bedtime	Insulin Dose
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After		
Monday	7.7		7.1				6.2	45
Tuesday	8.3				4.9			46
Wednesday	7.1		6.3				7.3	47
Thursday	6.9				4.4			47
Friday	9.0		5.9		4.1		5.9	48
Saturday	8.1				4.0			49
Sunday	8.2		8.9		4.0		6.1	50

**Where are the lows and highs?  
Why are there lows and highs?  
Adjust / switch / add?**

	Breakfast		Lunch		Dinner		Bedtime	Insulin Dose
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After		
Monday	7.7		7.1				6.2	45
Tuesday	8.3				4.0			46
Wednesday								
Thursday								
Friday								
Saturday								
Sunday	8.2		8.9		4.0		6.1	50

**Continue increasing bedtime basal insulin**

**Decrease gliclazide MR dose**

**Where are the lows and highs?  
Why are there lows and highs?  
Adjust / switch / add?**



	Breakfast		Lunch		Supper		Bedtime	Dose
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After		
Sunday	6.5						7.2	55
Monday	5.9		5.9		5.7		6.9	55
Tuesday	5.7		5.5		6.0		6.7	55
Wednesday	5.8		5.8		6.2		6.5	55
Thursday	5.5		5.1					

Metformin 1000 mg p.o. b.i.d.  
 Gliclazide MR 90 mg p.o. o.d.



## Patrick (3 years later)

He has generally been feeling well but says that his sugars are no longer as well controlled as they have been in the past. He continues to try his best with respect to food and activity levels but continues to find it challenging because he is on the road so much as part of his job in sales.

For his diabetes management, you had started him on long-acting bedtime basal insulin 3 years ago and he responded well to the treatment with A1c maintained below 7% for the last 3 years, although it has risen slightly above 7% at the last visit 4 months ago.

- **Meds:** Metformin 1g BID, gliclazide MR 120 mg OD, glargine 55 units qhs, simvastatin 40 mg qhs, perindopril 8 mg od, amlodipine 10 mg od
- **On exam:** Obese (wt 104kg, ht 175 cm, WC 108 cm), BP 120/80 mmHg, HR 72 regular. Acanthosis nigricans noted. Eyes – no abnormality. Rest normal.
- **Labs:** A1c 8.1%; Cr 130 umol/L

**Why did Patrick need his gliclazide MR to be increased back to 120 mg over time?**

	Breakfast		Lunch		Dinner		Bedtime	Insulin Dose
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After		
Monday	5.9		10.0		7.5			55
Tuesday	6.1	12.3			7.1		7.8	55
Wednesday	5.5		8.7					55
Thursday	5.8	10.1			7.6		6.1	55
Friday	5.2		8.1				6.4	55
Saturday	6.4	11.5			6.9			55
Sunday	7.1		9.1		6.4		5.9	55

Where are the lows and highs?  
Why are there lows and highs?  
Adjust / switch / add?

# What would you do next?

1. Add basal in the morning
2. Increase the basal at bedtime
3. Change to premixed BID
4. Add bolus insulin at all meals
5. Add bolus insulin at breakfast

	Breakfast		Lunch		Dinner		Bedtime	Insulin Dose
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After		
Monday	5.9		10.0		7.5			55
Tuesday	6.1	12.3			7.1		7.8	55
Wednesday	<b>Add bolus insulin at breakfast</b>							
Thursday	5.8	10.1			7.6		6.1	55
Friday	5.2		8.1				6.4	55
Saturday	6.4	11.5			6.9			55
Sunday	7.1		9.1		6.4		5.9	55

Where are the lows and highs?  
Why are there lows and highs?  
Adjust / switch / add?

If you were to add bolus at breakfast, how much?

1. 2 units
2. 4 units
3. 8 units
4. 20 units





# Beverley

55 year old woman, school teacher, type 2 diabetes for last 10 years, is coming to see you for her routine diabetes management. She has generally been feeling well and has no specific complaints. She is followed regularly by her eye doctor and denies any symptoms of complications from diabetes.

- **PMH:** Hypertension, dyslipidemia, menopause, osteoporosis – no fractures, depression
- **Meds:** Metformin 1g BID, gliclazide MR 120 mg OD, NPH 45 units qhs, atorvastatin 10 mg od, ramipril 10 mg od, citalopram 20 mg od
- **On exam:** Overweight (wt 95kg, ht 160 cm, WC 114 cm), BP 125/70 mmHg, HR 72 regular. Acanthosis nigricans noted. Rest normal.
- **Labs:** A1c 6.9%; Cr 76 umol/L

	Breakfast		Lunch		Dinner		Bedtime	Insulin Dose
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After		
Monday	10.2		7.1		7.6		6.2	45
Tuesday	9.8				8.8		10.4	45
Wednesday	4.1		6.3		5.4		7.3	45
Thursday	6.1						9.6	45
Friday	3.9		5.9		6.1		5.9	45
Saturday	10.6		6.1		4.9		5.3	45
Sunday	12.4		8.9		7.1		6.1	45

Where are the lows and highs?  
 Why are there lows and highs?  
 Adjust / switch / add?

On further questioning, Beverley states that she has occasional nightmares and wakes up with headaches or not feeling rested. She has also noticed that if she takes her bedtime snack or has a late large dinner, she feels better in the morning but she stopped doing that because of concerns with weight gain.

**What are you concerned about?**

**What will you ask her to do?**

You ask her to perform several 3 AM blood glucose measurements and they confirm nocturnal hypoglycemia with readings in the 3's.

# Definition of Hypoglycemia

1. Development of neurogenic or neuroglycopenic symptoms

Neurogenic (autonomic)	Neuroglycopenic
Trembling	Difficulty Concentrating
Palpitations	Confusion
Sweating	Weakness
Anxiety	Drowsiness
Hunger	Vision Changes
Nausea	Difficulty Speaking
	Dizziness

2. Low blood glucose (<4 mmol/L if on insulin or secretagogue)
3. Response to carbohydrate load

## Severity of Hypoglycemia

- **Mild**
  - Autonomic symptoms present
  - Individual is able to self-treat
- **Moderate**
  - Autonomic and neuroglycopenic symptoms
  - Individual is able to self-treat
- **Severe**
  - Requires the assistance of another person
  - Unconsciousness may occur
  - Plasma glucose is typically  $<2.8$  mmol/L



- **Adjust/switch/add?**
- After lowering her gliclazide MR dose and trying a lower dose of the NPH at bedtime, Beverley still found that she would get nocturnal hypoglycemia certain nights, despite no change in her routine, the decision was made to change to a long-acting basal analogue insulin. She was taking NPH 35 units qhs.

What dose of basal analogue?

1. 10 units
2. 36 units (her current dose)
3. 48 units (0.5 units/kg)
4. 95 units (1.0 units/kg)
5. Doesn't really matter!

## Insulin Dosage Instructions (Example)

- Your target fasting blood sugar level is 4-7 mmol/L
- You will inject 36 units of insulin each day
- You will continue to increase by 1 unit every day until your blood sugar level is 4-7 mmol/L before breakfast
- Do not increase your insulin when your fasting blood sugar is 4-7 mmol/L



# Deanna

51 year old woman with type 2 diabetes for the last 8 years, is coming to see you for her routine diabetes care. Her diabetes is complicated by early retinopathy and microalbuminuria (ACR 2.2 mg/mmol, eGFR 65 mL/min). After 7 years of being on oral antihyperglycemic agents for her diabetes with poor glycemic control, she finally agreed to insulin therapy last year. She was placed on 30/70 insulin – 40 units before breakfast and 20 units before supper.

- As a nurse on the psychiatry ward, she works either a 12-hour day (0700h to 1900h) or 12-hour night (1900h to 0700h) shift. She was not sure how to time her 30/70 insulin appropriately and therefore, tries to take the 30/70 at the same time everyday (0800h and 2000h) and is consistent with the timing of those 2 meals. However, the 3<sup>rd</sup> meal and snack varies depending on her work schedule and sleep time.
- **Meds:** 30/70 insulin 40 units at 0800h and 20 units at 2000h, metformin 1g bid, rosuvastatin 20 mg od, irbesartan/HCTZ 300/25 mg od, ECASA 81 mg od

	Morning		afternoon	Evening		2400h	0400h	Work Hours
	0800h	Insulin		2000h	Insulin			
Monday	7.8	40	2.8	10.1	20	8.8		Day
Tuesday	5.8	40	7.8	6.4	20			Day
Wed	6.3	40	8.1	5.5	20	8.9		Off
Thursday	6.4	40	5.6	7.8	20	3.4		Night
Friday	14.1	40	3.1 (1400h)	9.6	20	8.9	10.1	Night
Saturday	11.6	40	3.5 (1430h)	8.3	20	6.4	9.9	Night
Sunday	12.4	40	4.0 (1500h)	8.9	20		11.8	Night

Where are the lows and highs?  
Why are there lows and highs?  
Adjust / switch / add?



	Morning			Evening				Work Hours
	0800h	Insulin	afternoon	2000h	Insulin	2400h	0400h	
Monday	7.8	40	2.8	10.1	20	8.8		Day
Tuesday	5.8	40	7.8	6.4	20			Day
Wednesday	<b>Change to basal-bolus</b>							
Thursday	6.4	40	5.6	7.8	20	3.4		Night
Friday	14.1	40	3.1 (1400h)	9.6	20	8.9	10.1	Night
Saturday	11.6	40	3.5 (1430h)	8.3	20	6.4	9.9	Night
Sunday	12.4	40	4.0 (1500h)	8.9	20		11.8	Night

Where are the lows and highs?  
Why are there lows and highs?  
Adjust / switch / add?

How would you dose the BBT?



# James

- 66 year old man, 96 kg
- T2DM x 5 years on metformin/ glyburide
- Admitted for urosepsis
- A1c 8.0%
- Not eating and drinking well
- Creatinine 245  $\mu\text{mol/L}$ , eGFR 27 mL/min

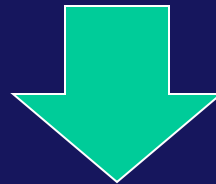
# What would you do now?

1. Sliding scale bolus insulin QID
2. Start IV insulin
3. Resume oral agents
4. Basal + bolus therapy
5. Basal insulin SC OD

What are the issues in a patient with renal failure?

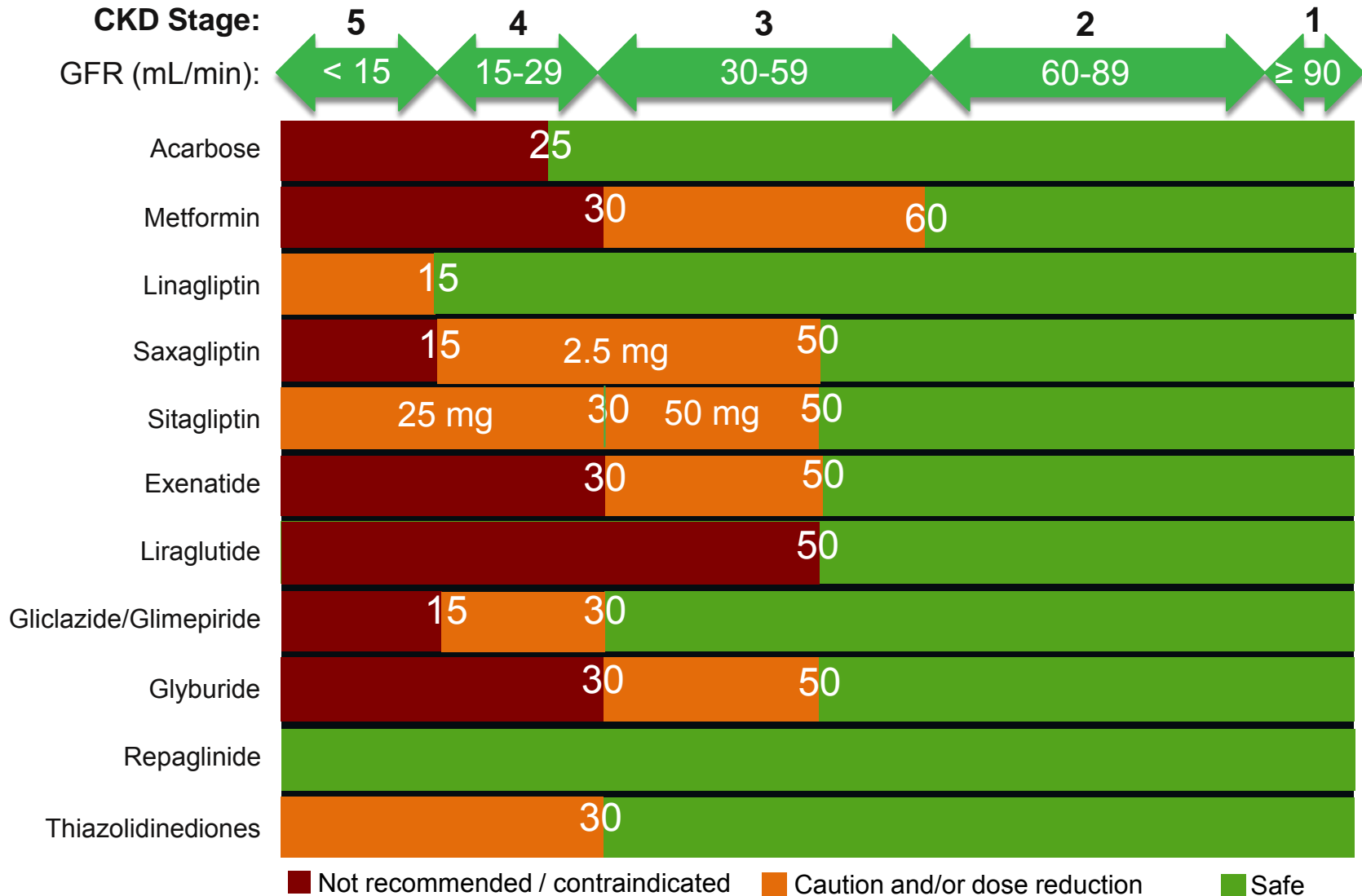
# Considerations in renal failure

- Limitations of therapies
- Reduced clearance of insulin
- Reduced renal gluconeogenesis
- Altered eating habits



**INCREASED HYPOGLYCEMIA**

# Antihyperglycemic agents and Renal Function





1. Sliding scale bolus insulin QID

2. Start IV insulin

~~3. Resume oral agents~~

4. Basal + bolus therapy

5. Basal insulin SC OD

- Humulin R or Novolin Toronto SC QID

BS

Insulin

<8

0

8.1-12

2 units

12.1-16

4 units

16.1-20

6 units

>20

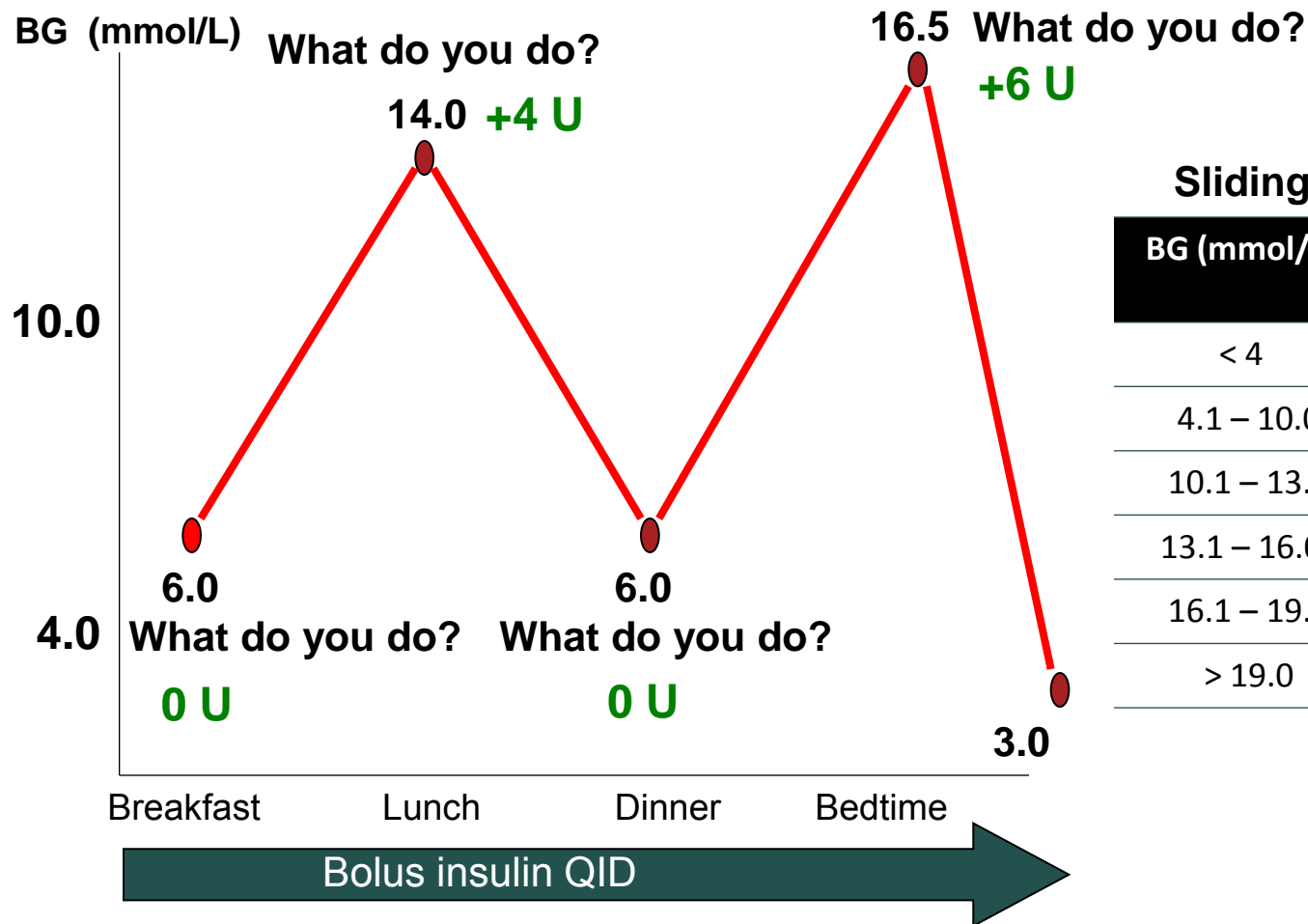
10 units

# Sliding scale insulin - evil

- Sliding scale insulin without a basal insulin is purely REACTIVE and allows for hyperglycemia (Queale WS. et al. *Arch Int Med* 1997;157)

Prolonged therapy with SSI as the sole regimen is discouraged. (AACE/ADA Consensus Statement 2009)

# Sliding scale insulin alone results in variable glucose control



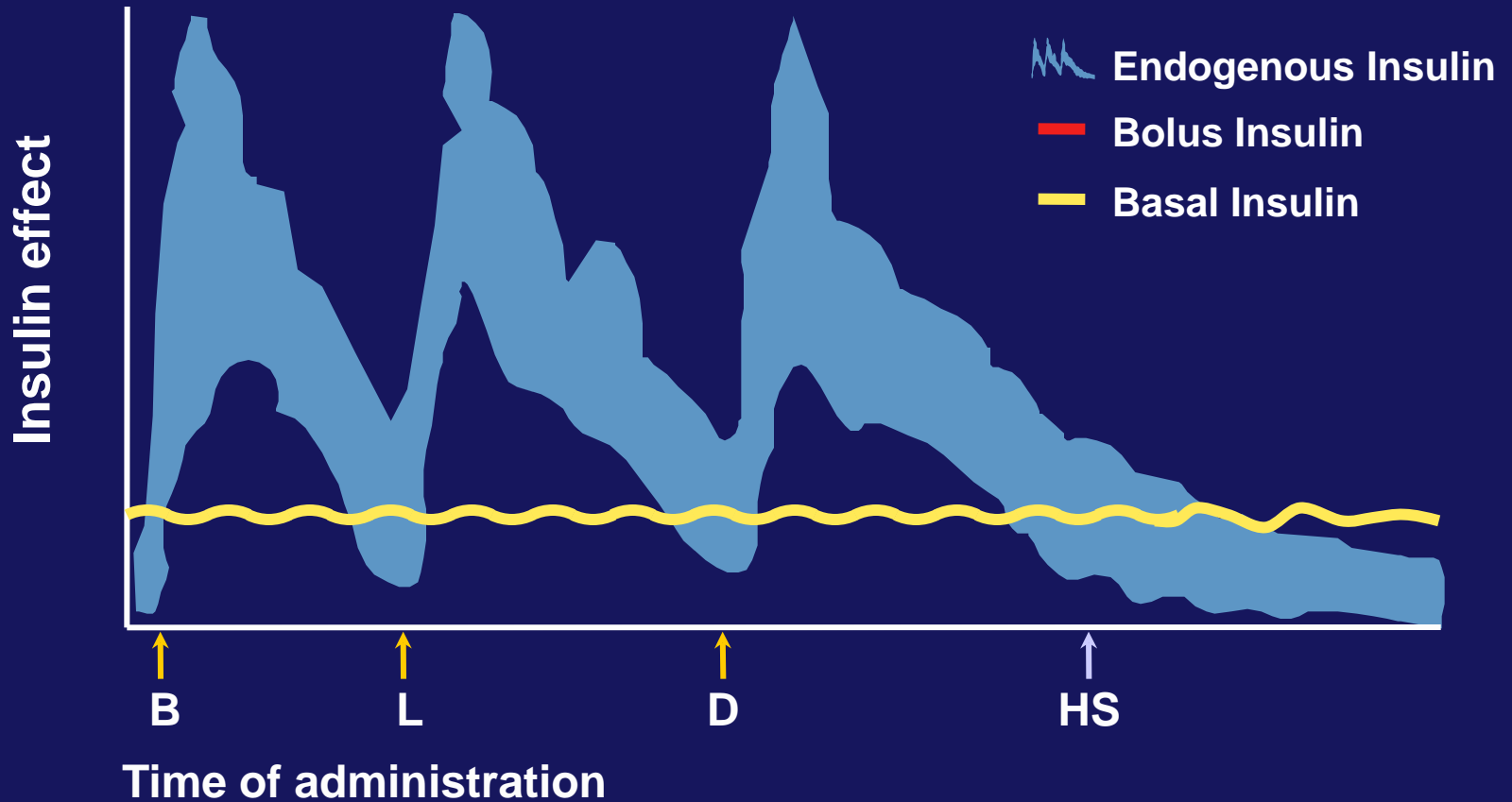
QID: four times daily; SSI: sliding-scale insulin; BG: blood glucose

Medical professionals do not use sliding scale penicillin for fever or sliding scale oxygen for pulmonary edema. It is time to discontinue amusement park diabetes therapy so that decades from now clinicians are still not trying to abolish an illogical treatment. Perhaps next July or the following summer, when the senior resident is explaining to the intern hyperglycemia management for a newly admitted patient with pneumonia, the discussion will revolve around basal insulin, prandial insulin, and correction-dose insulin based on a protocol that all hyperglycemic patients receive throughout the entire health care system.

# NPO

- **IV insulin**
  - For 96 kg = TDI (SC) = 0.5u/kg = 48 units/d
  - IV TDI  $\approx$   $\frac{1}{2}$  SC TDI
  - 1.0 units / hr IV insulin at optimal glucose
  - If on home insulin, TDI = total of home dose
- **SC long-acting basal analogue OD**
  - TDI x 50% = 24 units SC once daily
- **SC NPH q12h**
  - 12 units SC q12h
  - Or can use the TDI dose given the potential insulin resistance

# Basal insulin



**B = breakfast; L = lunch; D = dinner; HS = bedtime.**

1. Leahy JL. In: Leahy JL, Cefalu WT (eds). *Insulin Therapy*. Marcel Dekker Inc., New York, 2002.

2. Bolli GB, et al. *Diabetologia* 1999; 42:1151-67.

# Caveats

- Insulin resistance
  - Greater rate of increase in insulin doses for both SC or IV
- Acute infection
  - ++ insulin resistant state
  - Requirements may double
  - Increase requirements by 30%

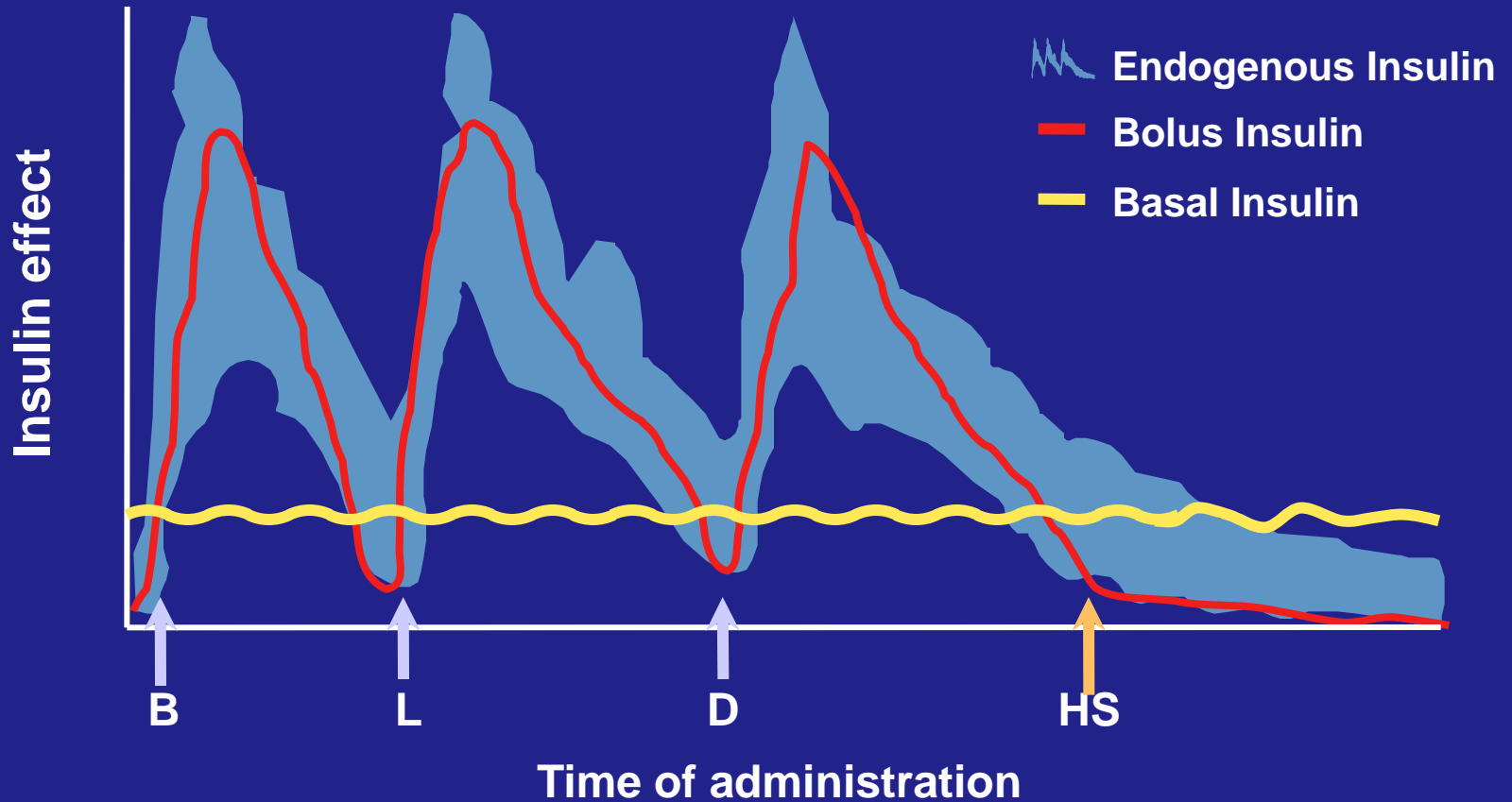


## James (cont'd)

- Basal insulin SC continued
- 2 days post-admission, starting to eat and drink
- Cr 195  $\mu\text{mol/L}$
- DM management now?

1. Continue SC basal insulin with no changes
2. Add bolus insulin with each meal + continue basal SC dose + supplemental bolus insulin
3. D/C basal SC insulin - resume oral agents
4. D/C basal SC insulin – begin sliding scale bolus insulin QID

# Basal-Bolus

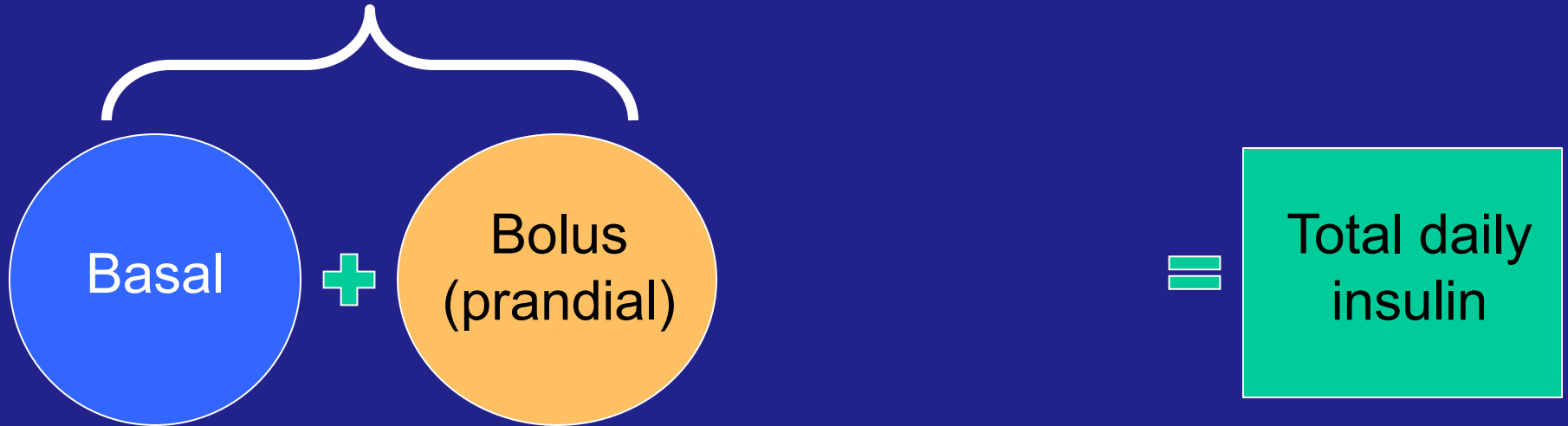


B = breakfast; L = lunch; D = dinner; HS = bedtime.

1. Leahy JL. In: Leahy JL, Cefalu WT (eds). *Insulin Therapy*. Marcel Dekker Inc., New York, 2002.

# Preferred inpatient insulin administration

Routine / scheduled insulin

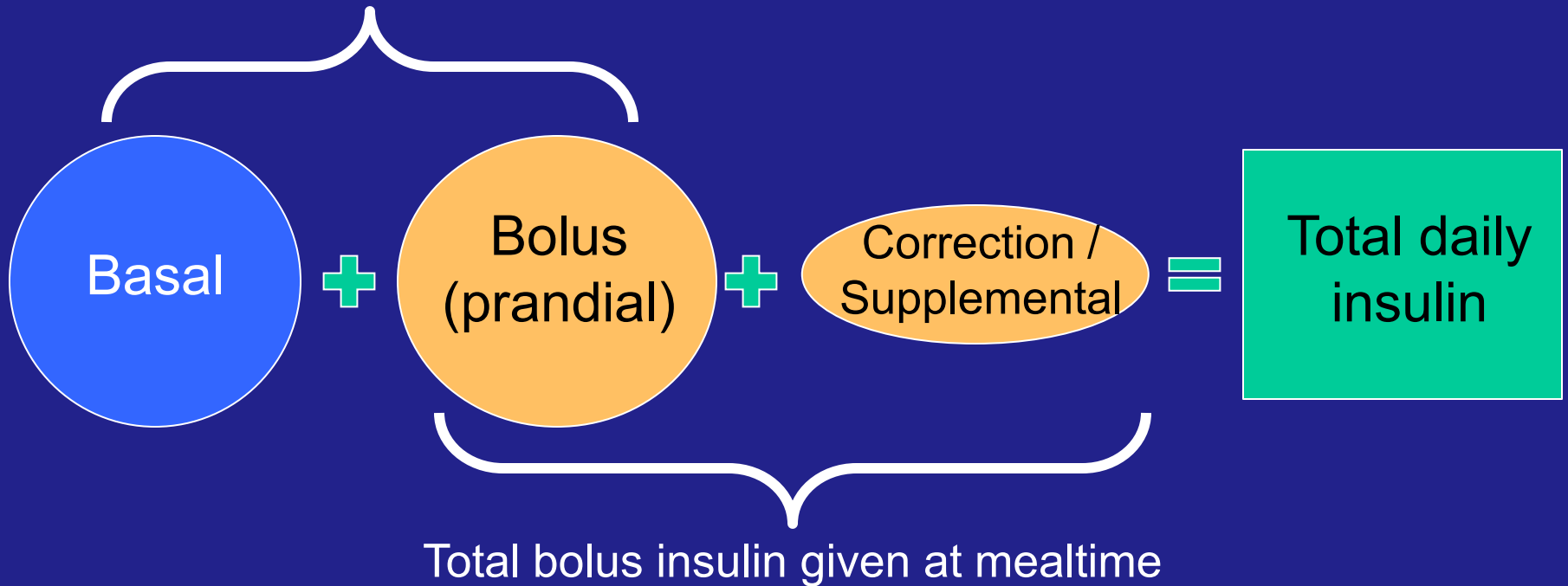


# Supplemental scale – good!

- Supplements ROUTINE insulin
- EXTRA bolus insulin ac meals ONLY
- CORRECTS hyperglycemia
- Can use supplemental needs to reassess standing doses

# Preferred inpatient insulin administration

Routine / scheduled insulin



You choose to start basal-bolus regimen with bolus supplemental scale at meals.

What doses will you order?

Total daily insulin = 0.5 units / kg

50%

50%

Bolus for  
the day

Basal  
dose

1/3

1/3

1/3

Bolus  
Breakfast

Bolus  
Lunch

Bolus  
Dinner



- Basal 24 units SC qhs
- Bolus 8 units SC ac meals
- Bolus SC supplemental scale ac meals

<u>BS</u>	<u>Insulin</u>
<4	call MD
4.1-10	0 units
10.1-13	2 units
13.1-16	4 units
16.1-19	6 units
>19	10 units

His eating is actually quite variable.  
How would you modify his insulin regimen to accommodate this?

1. Routine basal + sliding scale bolus
2. Routine basal + routine bolus (pc meals if pt eats > 50% of tray)
3. Supplemental scale bolus only
4. Routine basal only

# Variable Eating

- Need BASAL insulin (NPH bid or detemir / glargine OD)
- Can give the BOLUS insulin immediately pc meals

He is having difficulties swallowing and is assessed by speech-language pathology and deemed to be inappropriate for oral intake. He is now on continuous enteral feeds.

1. Routine basal only
2. Routine basal + routine bolus
3. Routine basal + supplemental scale
4. Routine bolus only

# Enteral / Parenteral Feeds

- Continuous feeds
  - Detemir or glargine OD
  - NPH q 12 h (not BID!!) (TDI split into 2)
- Bolus feeds
  - Time the insulin dosing to match the feed times
  - Regular insulin can be helpful here
  - Still need basal insulin

# James (cont'd)

- Over time, his ability to swallow improves and he is able to tolerate a full oral diet
- He is then stabilized on:
  - Basal insulin 25 units qhs
  - Bolus insulin 10 units ac meals
  - Supplement bolus insulin as needed

## James (cont'd)

- Just 2 days before planned discharge, he develops acute right knee pain and left great toe pain
- He is diagnosed with gout and is placed on PREDNISONONE 40 mg OD x 5 days

# What would you do with his insulin regimen?

1. Change nothing – it is only 5 days
2. Wait 2 days to see the pattern, then adjust his insulin
3. Increase the breakfast and lunch bolus doses and continue the dinner bolus and basal doses
4. Increase all the insulin doses



# Glucocorticoids

- Prednisone in AM = high glucose at lunch and supper but normal fasting
- Increase existing doses at breakfast and lunch ... may need to increase dinner too

# Glucocorticoids

- If naïve to insulin ...
  - NPH in AM + Bolus insulin acB and acL  
(eg. 10 u NPH qAM, 5 NR acB, 8 NR acL)
  - Metformin 1g BID, repaglinide acB and acS  
(dose acL >> acB)

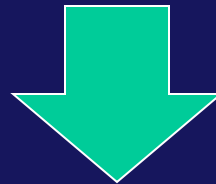
## James (cont'd)

Unfortunately, his renal function fails to improve and he ends up requiring chronic dialysis treatment ...

How will affect his insulin requirements and glycemic control?

# Considerations in renal failure

- Limitations of therapies
- Reduced clearance of insulin
- Reduced renal gluconeogenesis
- Altered eating habits



**INCREASED HYPOGLYCEMIA**

# “Burnt-out Diabetes”





# Mabel

- 72 yo woman in LTC
- Right hemispheric stroke – able to eat and ambulate with walker
- Type 2 DM x 6 years
- Metformin 500 mg BID
- Premixed analogue 30 units BID
- A1c 8.9%, Cr 145 (eGFR 28 mL/min)

# Mabel

	Breakfast		Lunch		Supper		Bedtime	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After		
Sunday	10.2				9.5		10.5	
Monday	9.8				10.7		8.9	
Tuesday	9.0		12.5		9.9		10.3	
Wednesday	10.5		9.7				9.5	
Thursday	8.8							



# What should be done?

- Stop the metformin
- Adjust her insulin



# Mabel

- Pneumonia
- Premixed analogue 40 units ac breakfast and 35 units ac supper
- Blood sugars “teens”

# Mrs. Ma (pneumonia)

1. Add supplemental scale insulin
2. Increase usual dose of insulin
3. Keep same dose of insulin
4. Change to another insulin
5. 1+2

# Non-hospital: sick + eating

- Increase testing frequency
- Increase overall insulin doses
- Consider a correction scale if patient is comfortable with it

# Non-hospital: sick + not eating

- Increase testing frequency
- Decrease insulin doses routinely
- If on basal-bolus → just give basal
- If on premixed → reduce dose
- If on basal alone → hold secretagogue and decrease basal
- Use a correction scale of bolus analogue if patient is comfortable with it

1. Increase premixed analogue to 48 units ac breakfast and 40 units ac supper
2. Increase capillary glucose testing at least 1-2 x day for safety purposes
3. Supplemental bolus analogue ac meals only:

Blood sugar

< 4.0

4.1-10

10.1-13

13.1-16

16.1-19

> 19.0

Insulin

call MD

NO extra insulin

4 units

6 units

8 units

call MD

Don't forget other meds to  
hold/stop when dehydrated



# Counsel all Patients About

# Sick Day Medication List

2013

## Instructions for Healthcare Professionals:

If patients become ill and are unable to maintain adequate fluid intake, or have an acute decline in renal function (e.g. due to gastrointestinal upset or dehydration), they should be instructed to hold medications which will:

### A) Increase risk for a decline in kidney function:

- Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor
- Angiotensin receptor blockers
- Direct renin inhibitors
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
- Diuretics

### B) Have reduced clearance and increase risk for adverse effects:

- Metformin
- Sulfonylureas (gliclazide, glimepiride, glyburide)

- S sulfonylureas
- A ACE-inhibitors
- D diuretics, direct renin inhibitors
  
- M metformin
- A angiotensin receptor blockers
- N non-steroidal anti-inflammatory

Please complete the following card and give it to your patient.

Patients should be instructed that increased frequency of self blood glucose monitoring will be required and adjustments to their doses of insulin or oral antihyperglycemic agents may be necessary.

## Instructions for Patients

When you are ill, particularly if you become dehydrated (e.g. vomiting or diarrhea), some medicines could cause your kidney function to worsen or result in side effects.

If you become sick and are unable to drink enough fluid to keep hydrated, you should **STOP** the following medications:

- Blood pressure pills
- Water pills
- Metformin
- Diabetes pills
- Pain medications
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (see below)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please be careful not to take non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (which are commonly found in pain medications (e.g. Advil) and cold remedies).

Please check with your pharmacist before using over-the-counter medications and discuss all changes in medication with your healthcare professional.

Please increase the number of times you check your blood glucose levels. If they run too high or too low, contact your healthcare professional.

If you have any problems, you can call:

\_\_\_\_\_

How can I remember the  
insulins??

# CHOOSE AN INSULIN TYPE

column.

Prescribe:  
Address:  
Tel:

# CHOOSE A BRAND

Patient's Name:  
Address:  
Tel:

# DOSING

SEE REVERSE FOR TIPS

STEP 1: Choose Insulin Type			STEP 2: Dosing and Titration		
<b>BASAL</b> Long-acting analogues (Clear)	<input type="checkbox"/> Levemir® <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> FlexTouch® (prefilled)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lantus® <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Vial <input type="checkbox"/> SoloSTAR® (prefilled)	<b>Starting dose:</b> _____ units at bedtime  Increase dose by _____ units every night until fasting blood glucose has reached the patient's individual target of _____ mmol/L.		
Intermediate-acting (Cloudy)	<input type="checkbox"/> Humulin® N <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Vial <input type="checkbox"/> Kwikpen™ (prefilled)	<input type="checkbox"/> Novolin® ge NPH <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Vial			
<b>PRANDIAL (BOLUS)</b> Rapid-acting analogues (Clear) Give 0-10 minutes before meal.	<input type="checkbox"/> Humalog® <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Vial <input type="checkbox"/> Kwikpen™ (prefilled)	<input type="checkbox"/> NovoRapid® <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Vial <input type="checkbox"/> FlexTouch® (prefilled)	<input type="checkbox"/> Apidra® <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Vial <input type="checkbox"/> SoloSTAR® (prefilled)	<b>Starting dose:</b> _____ units ac breakfast _____ units ac lunch _____ units ac supper	
Short-acting (Clear) Give 30 minutes before meal.	<input type="checkbox"/> Humulin® R <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Vial	<input type="checkbox"/> Novolin® ge Toronto <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Vial			
<b>PREMIXED</b> Premixed analogues (Cloudy) Give 0-10 minutes before meal.	<input type="checkbox"/> Humalog® Mlx 25™ <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Kwikpen™ (prefilled)  <input type="checkbox"/> Humalog® Mlx 50™ <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Kwikpen™ (prefilled)	<input type="checkbox"/> NovoMlx® 30 <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge	<b>Starting doses:</b> _____ units ac breakfast _____ units ac supper  Increase breakfast dose by _____ units every day until pre-supper blood glucose has reached the target of _____ mmol/L. Increase pre-supper dose by _____ units every day until fasting blood glucose has reached the target of _____ mmol/L.		
Premixed regular (Cloudy) Give 30 minutes before meal.	<input type="checkbox"/> Humulin® 30/70 <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Vial	<input type="checkbox"/> Novolin® ge 30/70 <input type="checkbox"/> Cartridge <input type="checkbox"/> Vial	Beware of hypoglycemia post-breakfast or post-supper. Stop increasing dose if hypoglycemia occurs.		
<b>PEN DEVICE</b> Required if insulin cartridges selected. Insulin pen should match the insulin brand.	<input type="checkbox"/> HumaPen® Savvio™ <input type="checkbox"/> HumaPen LUXURA® HD <input type="checkbox"/> HumaPen® MEMOIR™	<input type="checkbox"/> NovoPen® 4 <input type="checkbox"/> NovoPen Echo®	<input type="checkbox"/> ClickSTAR™		
<b>OTHER SUPPLIES</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pen needles (If using a pen): Check needle size (refer to back for information): <input type="checkbox"/> 4mm <input type="checkbox"/> 5mm <input type="checkbox"/> 6mm <input type="checkbox"/> 8mm OR <input type="checkbox"/> At discretion of pharmacist <input type="checkbox"/> Glucose test strips <input type="checkbox"/> Lancets <input type="checkbox"/> Insulin Syringe (if using vials)				
<b>QUANTITY and REPEATS</b>	Insulin Mitte: _____ boxes Repeats x _____		Supplies Mitte: _____ boxes Repeats x _____		

## SELECT PEN DEVICE

## CHECK OFF SUPPLIES

## QUANTITY & REPEATS

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ License #: \_\_\_\_\_

## SIGN AND DATE

## Insulin Initiation and Titration Suggestions for Type 2 Diabetes

People starting insulin should be counseled about the prevention, recognition and treatment of hypoglycemia.

The following are suggestions for insulin initiation and titration. Clinical judgment must always be used as the suggestions may not apply to every patient.

### Basal Insulin (only) as an add-on to Antihyperglycemic Agents (Lantus<sup>®</sup>, Levemir<sup>®</sup>, Humulin<sup>®</sup> N, Novolin<sup>®</sup> ge NPH)

- Target fasting blood glucose (BG) of 4-7 mmol/L.
- Most patients will need 40-50 units at bedtime to achieve target but there is no maximum dose.
- Start at a low dose of 10 units at bedtime (may start at lower dose [0.1-0.2 units/kg] for lean patients [<50 kg]).
- Patient should gently self-titrate by increasing the dose by 1 unit every 1 night until fasting BG target of 4-7 mmol/L is achieved.
- If fasting hypoglycemia occurs, the dose of bedtime basal should be reduced.
- Metformin and the secretagogue are usually maintained when basal insulin is added.
- If daytime hypoglycemia occurs, reduce the oral antihyperglycemic agents (especially secretagogues).
- Lantus<sup>®</sup> or Levemir<sup>®</sup> can be given at bedtime or in the morning.

#### Dosing and Titration

Starting dose 10 units at bedtime.

---

Increase dose by 1 unit every 1 night until fasting blood glucose has reached the target of 4-7 mmol/L (usual target).

### Basal + Bolus Insulins

- When basal insulin added to meals. The regimens below use basal insulin to control postprandial BG as a starting point.
- Typically, insulin secretagogues are continued.
- For current basal insulin users: For example, if the patient is on 50 units of basal insulin, the bolus insulin should be 40% of TDI: 50 units x 0.4 = 20 units.
- For new insulin users start with:
  - 40% of TDI dose as basal insulin
  - 20% of TDI dose as prandial (bolus) insulin prior to each meal.
  - Rapid-acting insulin analogues (Apidra<sup>®</sup>, Humalog<sup>®</sup>, NovoRapid<sup>®</sup>) should be given 0-10 minutes before eating.
  - Short-acting insulin (Humulin<sup>®</sup> R, Novolin<sup>®</sup> ge Toronto) should be given 30 minutes before eating.
- An alternative distribution is 50% basal insulin (at bedtime) and 50% bolus insulin (distributed among the meals of the day).
- Adjust the dose of the basal insulin to achieve the target fasting BG level (usually 4-7 mmol/L).
- Adjust the dose of the bolus (prandial) insulin to achieve postprandial BG levels (usually 5-10 mmol/L) or pre-prandial BG levels for the subsequent meal (usually 4-7 mmol/L).

<http://guidelines.diabetes.ca/BloodGlucoseLowering/InsulinPrescriptionTool>

#### Dosing Example (100kg person)

Basal insulin = 0.5 units/kg:  
100kg (TDI) = 50 units

---

Basal insulin = 40% of TDI:  
50 units x 0.4 = 20 units

---

Bolus insulin = 60% of TDI:  
60% x 50 units = 30 units  
• Bolus = 30 units  
= 10 units with each meal

### Premixed Insulin Before Breakfast and Before Dinner (Humalog<sup>®</sup> Mix25<sup>™</sup>, Humalog<sup>®</sup> Mix50<sup>™</sup>, NovoMix<sup>®</sup> 30, Humulin<sup>®</sup> 30/70, Novolin<sup>®</sup> ge 30/70)

- Target fasting and pre-supper BG levels of 4-7 mmol/L.
- Most patients with type 2 diabetes will need 40-50 units twice a day to achieve target but there is no maximum dose.
- Start at a low dose of 5 to 10 units twice daily (before breakfast and before supper).
- Patient can gently self-titrate by increasing the breakfast dose by 1 unit every day until the pre-supper BG is at target.
- Patient can gently self-titrate by increasing the supper dose by 1 unit every day until the fasting BG target is at target.
- Beware of hypoglycemia post-breakfast or post-supper. Stop increasing dose if this occurs.
- Premixed analogue insulins (Humalog<sup>®</sup> Mix25<sup>™</sup>, Humalog<sup>®</sup> Mix50<sup>™</sup>, NovoMix<sup>®</sup> 30) should be given 0 to 10 minutes before eating.
- Premixed regular insulins (Humulin<sup>®</sup> 30/70, Novolin<sup>®</sup> ge 30/70) should be given 30 minutes before eating.
- Continue Metformin and consider stopping secretagogue.

#### Dosing and Titration

10 units ac breakfast, 10 units ac supper.

---

Increase breakfast dose by 1 unit every 1 day until pre-supper blood glucose has reached the target of 4-7 mmol/L (usual target).

---

Increase supper dose by 1 unit every 1 day until fasting blood glucose has reached the target of 4-7 mmol/L (usual target).

### Selection of Pen Needle

- Forum for Injection Technique (FIT) Canada recommends that 4, 5, and 6mm needles are suitable for all people with diabetes regardless of BMI. In addition, there is no clinical reason for recommending needles longer than 8mm. Initial insulin therapy should start with the shorter needle length (Berard L, et al. FIT Forum for Injection Technique Canada. Recommendations for Best Practice in Injection Technique. October 2011).

How can I remember the med  
choices in renal failure or  
other comorbidities?

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Clinical Practice Guidelines

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Slides and Videos

Patient Resources

Ressources françaises

# Pharmacotherapy for Type 2 Diabetes By Agent and Patient Characteristics

**At diagnosis of type 2 diabetes:  
Start lifestyle intervention (nutrition therapy and physical activity)  
+/- Metformin**



Which of the following applies to your patient?

- A1C <8.5%
- A1C ≥8.5%
- Symptomatic hyperglycaemia with metabolic decompensation



**Get Recommendation**

This is only to be used as a decision support tool and is subject to these terms.  
For more information, please see the [disclaimer](#).

### Recommendations:

**Start metformin immediately. Consider initial combination with another antihyperglycemic agent.**

If the glycemic target is still not reached, add an agent best suited to the individual. See the following table. **Click a column title** to sort the table by that column.

#### Individualize the table based on patient characteristics:

Does your patient have Congestive Heart Failure?  Yes  No

Does your patient have metabolic bone disease?  Yes  No

Does your patient currently have pancreatitis?  Yes  No

Does your patient have a prior history of pancreatitis?  Yes  No

What is your patients renal function (eGFR in mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>)?

**Individualize**

Class ▲	Relative A1C lowering	Hypoglycemia	Weight	Cost	Other therapeutic considerations
Alpha-glucosidase inhibitor (acarbose)	↓	Rare	neutral to ↓	\$\$	Improved postprandial control, GI side-effects
Incretin agent: DPP-4 Inhibitors	↓↓	Rare	neutral to ↓	\$\$\$	
Incretin agent: GLP-1 receptor agonists	↓↓↓ to ↓↓↓↓	Rare	↓↓	\$\$\$\$	GI side-effects
Insulin	↓↓↓	Yes	↑↑	\$-\$\$\$\$	No dose ceiling, flexible regimens



## Individualize

Class ▲	Relative A1C lowering	Hypoglycemia	Weight	Cost	Other therapeutic considerations
Alpha-glucosidase inhibitor (acarbose)	↓	Rare	neutral to ↓	\$\$	Improved postprandial control, GI side-effects
Incretin agent: DPP-4 Inhibitors	↓ ↓	Rare	neutral to ↓	\$\$\$	
Incretin agent: GLP-1 receptor agonists	↓ ↓ to ↓ ↓ ↓	Rare	↓ ↓	\$\$\$\$	GI side-effects
Insulin	↓ ↓ ↓	Yes	↑ ↑	\$-\$\$\$\$	No dose ceiling, flexible regimens
Insulin secretagogue: Meglitinide	↓ ↓	Yes	↑	\$\$	Less hypoglycemia in context of missed meals but usually requires TID to QID dosing
Insulin secretagogue: Sulfonylurea	↓ ↓	Yes	↑	\$	Gliclazide and glimepiride associated with less hypoglycemia than glyburide
TZD	↓ ↓	Rare	↑ ↑	\$\$	CHF, edema, fractures, rare bladder cancer (pioglitazone), cardiovascular controversy (rosiglitazone), 6-12 weeks required for maximal effect
Weight loss agent (orlistat)	↓	None	↓	\$\$\$	GI side effects

*When sorting table by column, rows with equivalent values are sorted alphabetically. Therefore, the **row order of equivalent values does not imply a preference.***

This is only to be used as a decision support tool and is subject to these terms. For more information, please see the [disclaimer](#).

**Individualize**

Click on column heading to prioritize the table based on that parameter

Class	Relative A1C lowering ▼	Hypoglycemia	Weight	Cost	Other therapeutic considerations
Insulin	↓↓↓	Yes	↑↑	\$-\$\$\$\$	No dose ceiling, flexible regimens
Incretin agent: GLP-1 receptor agonists	↓↓ to ↓↓↓	Rare	↓↓	\$\$\$\$	GI side-effects
TZD	↓↓	Rare	↑↑	\$\$	CHF, edema, fractures, rare bladder cancer (pioglitazone), cardiovascular controversy (rosiglitazone), 6-12 weeks required for maximal effect
Insulin secretagogue: Sulfonylurea	↓↓	Yes	↑	\$	Gliclazide and glimepiride associated with less hypoglycemia than glyburide
Insulin secretagogue: Meglitinide	↓↓	Yes	↑	\$\$	Less hypoglycemia in context of missed meals but usually requires TID to QID dosing
Incretin agent: DPP-4 Inhibitors	↓↓	Rare	neutral to ↓	\$\$\$	
Weight loss agent (orlistat)	↓	None	↓	\$\$\$	GI side effects
Alpha-glucosidase inhibitor (acarbose)	↓	Rare	neutral to ↓	\$\$	Improved postprandial control, GI side-effects

*When sorting table by column, rows with equivalent values are sorted alphabetically. Therefore, the **row order of equivalent values does not imply a preference.***

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sources françaises

### Recommendations:

**Start metformin immediately. Consider initial combination with another antihyperglycemic agent.**

If the glycemic target is still not reached, add an agent best suited to the individual. See the following table. **Click a column title** to sort the table by that column.

#### Individualize the table based on patient characteristics:

Does your patient have Congestive Heart Failure?  Yes  No

Does your patient have metabolic bone disease?  Yes  No

Does your patient currently have pancreatitis?  Yes  No

Does your patient have a prior history of pancreatitis?  Yes  No

What is your patients renal function (eGFR in mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>)?

Add in eGFR

Further individualize the table by answering questions

**Individualize**

Class	Relative A1C lowering ▼	Hypoglycemia	Weight	Cost	Other therapeutic considerations
Insulin	↓↓↓	Yes	↑↑	S-\$\$\$\$	No dose ceiling, flexible regimens
Incretin agent: GLP-1 receptor agonists	↓↓ to ↓↓↓	Rare	↓↓	\$\$\$\$	GI side-effects
TZD	↓↓	Rare	↑↑	\$\$	CHF, edema, fractures, rare bladder cancer (pioglitazone), cardiovascular controversy (rosiglitazone), 6-12 weeks required for maximal effect

This table has been individualized and some medications have been removed based on patient characteristics.

Click **reset** to remove this setting.

**Click a column title to sort results by that column**

Table has changed to match the needs of the patient based on characteristics and eGFR

Class ▲	Relative A1C lowering	Hypoglycemia	Weight	Cost	Other therapeutic considerations
Incretin agent: DPP-4 Inhibitors	↓ ↓	Rare	neutral to ↓	\$\$\$	Reduced dose for saxagliptin and sitagliptin. No change for linagliptin.
Insulin	↓ ↓ ↓	Yes	↑ ↑	\$-\$\$\$\$	No dose ceiling, flexible regimens
Insulin secretagogue: Meglitinide	↓ ↓	Yes	↑	\$\$	Less hypoglycemia in context of missed meals but usually requires TID to QID dosing
Insulin secretagogue: Sulfonylurea	↓ ↓	Yes	↑	\$	Caution/reduced dose gliclazide & glimepiride, glyburide not recommended
TZD	↓ ↓	Rare	↑ ↑	\$\$	Caution/reduced dose
Weight loss agent (orlistat)	↓	None	↓	\$\$\$	GI side effects

*When sorting table by column, rows with equivalent values are sorted alphabetically. Therefore, the **row order of equivalent values does not imply a preference.***

\*Caution: eliminate metformin from treatment plan.\*

\*Caution: Acarbose eliminated from treatment plan because of renal failure.\*

\*Caution: GLP-1 receptor agonists eliminated from treatment plan because of reduced eGFR.\*

# Summary

- Diabetes is PROGRESSIVE
- Regimens need to CHANGE over time
- Understand the time-action profiles to tailor the regimen and dosage to the patient's needs

# Summary

- Shift worker - DO NOT use premixed regimen
- Renal dysfunction
  - Limitations with non-insulin antihyperglycemic agents
  - Need to modify as per dialysis schedule
  - May need lower doses of insulin until dialysis

# Summary

- Acutely ill patient
  - DO NOT use sliding scale only
  - Think Basal + Bolus + Correction regimen
  - Think increase usual dose + Correction
- NPO patient: Basal only (SC or IV)
- Enteral feeds: Basal only (if continuous)
- Glucocorticoids: Remember steroid pattern

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