



# DIABETES AND PREGNANCY

CDE Exam Preparation

April 2019

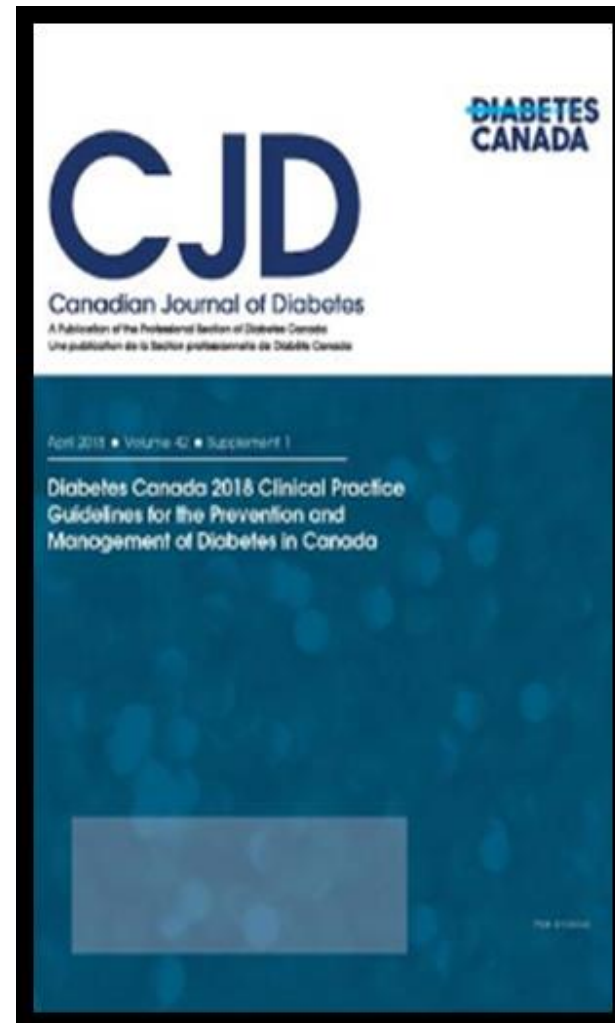
Presented by Wendy Graham RD CDE

Mentor

# OBJECTIVES

- Describe targets for blood glucose in pregnancy
- Discuss the risks to baby if blood glucose is elevated
- Discuss Gestational Diabetes
  - Risk Factors
  - Screening and Diagnosis
  - Complications
  - Management
- Discuss preconception care for women with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes
- Describe treatment through the pregnancy with preexisting diabetes





Clinical Practice Guidelines 2018  
CDE Competencies 2018

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



# WATERLOO WELLINGTON DIABETES PATHWAY

## Waterloo-Wellington Diabetes and Pregnancy Clinical Pathway

This pathway was created to support a consistent standard of care for all women with diabetes and pregnancy throughout the region. It recognizes a multidisciplinary approach and offers details of care and education from preconception to postpartum, based on the 2013 CDA Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Diabetes in Canada. This pathway is to be used as a guideline and does not replace clinical judgment.

WaterlooWellington  
D I A B E T E S

Type:	Type 1 Diabetes	Type 2 Diabetes	Gestational Diabetes	Repeat Gestational Diabetes/High Risk for GDM
Stage:	<b>Preconception (3-6 months preconception)</b>			
Activities:	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 24%;"> <p><b>Referrals</b></p> <p>Referral to Diabetes Central Intake (1-855-DIA-BETS)* Ophthalmologic assessment (Retinal Eye Exam) Consider referral to nephrologist if:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>serum creatinine <math>\geq 100 \mu\text{mol/L}</math> or</li> <li>eGFR <math>\leq 60 \text{ mL/min}</math> or</li> <li>urine ACR <math>\geq 2.0 \text{ mg/mmol}</math> or</li> <li>eGFR <math>60\text{-}100 \text{ mL/min}</math> requires close monitoring</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Tests</b></p> <p>A1C, FBS, creatinine, eGFR, uric acid, ALT, AST, bilirubin, thiamine, vitamin B12, ferritin, CBC Urine ACR TSH (Target 0.1-3.0 mIU/L)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>if above target order free T4 + thyroid antibodies</li> <li>if below target order free T3 + free T4</li> </ul>                     If abnormal thyroid, repeat tests every 4 weeks Lipid profile Lab/meter correlation Self-monitoring of blood glucose ac meals and hs (more frequently if needed)</p> <p><b>Targets</b></p> <p>A1C <math>\leq 7\%</math> (or as close to normal as can safely be achieved) BP <math>&lt; 130/80</math> BG <math>4\text{-}7 \text{ mmol/L}</math> FPG or preprandial PG 5-10 mmol/L 2 hours postprandial PG</p> <p><b>Treatment</b></p> <p>Encourage reliable contraception until optimal glycemic control Basal bolus insulin injections or insulin pump Folic Acid 5 mg OD, Vitamin D 4000 IU Stop ACE inhibitors and ARBs (continuation may be considered in case of significant diabetic nephropathy to prevent progression, but must be stopped at dx of pregnancy) Consider CCBs, BB, labetalol, and methylglopa Stop Statins, Fibrates and Niacin Identify hypoglycaemia unawareness and Rx for Glucagon</p> <p><b>Teach</b></p> <p>Encourage optimal control 3 months prior to conception Reinforce healthy lifestyle including nutrition and exercise Review self-care practices Assess carb/insulin ratio knowledge and ability Discuss:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-monitoring of BG QID (ac meals and hs)</li> <li>Importance of maintaining glycemic targets</li> <li>Importance of regular visits</li> <li>Avoiding ketosis</li> </ul>                     Assess the need for social/financial support during pregnancy</p> <p><b>Frequency of Visits</b></p> <p>Monthly</p> <p><b>Supporting Documents</b></p> <p>"A Record of my Journey with Pregnancy and Diabetes"</p> </div> <div style="width: 24%;"> <p><b>Referrals</b></p> <p>Referral to Diabetes Central Intake (1-855-DIA-BETS)* Ophthalmologic assessment (Retinal Eye Exam) Consider referral to nephrologist if:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>serum creatinine <math>\geq 100 \mu\text{mol/L}</math> or</li> <li>eGFR <math>\leq 60 \text{ mL/min}</math> or</li> <li>urine ACR <math>\geq 2.0 \text{ mg/mmol}</math> or</li> <li>eGFR <math>60\text{-}100 \text{ mL/min}</math> requires close monitoring</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Tests</b></p> <p>A1C, FBS, creatinine, eGFR, uric acid, ALT, AST, bilirubin, thiamine, vitamin B12, ferritin, CBC Urine ACR TSH (Target 0.1-3.0 mIU/L)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>if above target order free T4 + thyroid antibodies</li> <li>if below target order free T3 + free T4</li> </ul>                     If abnormal thyroid, repeat tests every 4 weeks Lipid profile Lab/meter correlation Self-monitoring of blood glucose ac meals and hs (more frequently if needed)</p> <p><b>Targets</b></p> <p>A1C <math>\leq 7\%</math> (or as close to normal as can safely be achieved) BP <math>&lt; 130/80</math> BG <math>4\text{-}7 \text{ mmol/L}</math> FPG or preprandial PG 5-10 mmol/L 2 hours postprandial PG</p> <p><b>Treatment</b></p> <p>Encourage reliable contraception until optimal glycemic control Folic Acid 5 mg OD, Vitamin D 4000 IU Stop oral diabetes agents Initiate insulin therapy Calculate Total Daily Dose 0.3-0.5 units/kg 40% Basal (Determic, Glargine, NPH) at bedtime 60% Bolus divided between 3 meals (Apart, Lispro) This is a starting dose, increase aggressively to reach target Maintain Metformin if PCOS Stop ACE inhibitors and ARBs Consider CCBs, BB, labetalol, and methylglopa Stop Statins, Fibrates and Niacin</p> <p><b>Teach</b></p> <p>Encourage optimal control 3 months prior to conception Encourage healthy weight reduction if BMI <math>&gt; 29</math> Reinforce healthy lifestyle including nutrition and importance of exercise in reducing insulin resistance Discuss:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Importance of maintaining glycemic targets</li> <li>Importance of regular visits</li> </ul>                     Review current therapy and reason for switching to insulin therapy for the duration of the pregnancy Teach insulin administration Assess the need for social/financial support during pregnancy</p> <p><b>Frequency of Visits</b></p> <p>Monthly</p> <p><b>Supporting Documents</b></p> <p>"A Record of my Journey with Pregnancy and Diabetes"</p> </div> <div style="width: 24%; background-color: #e0f0ff; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>High Risk for Gestational Diabetes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previous diagnosis of GDM</li> <li>Prediabetes</li> <li>Ethnicity (Aboriginal, Hispanic, South Asian, Asian, African)</li> <li>BMI <math>\geq 30 \text{ kg/m}^2</math></li> <li>Age <math>\geq 35</math> years</li> <li>PCOS</li> <li>Acanthosis nigricans</li> <li>Corticosteroid use</li> <li>History of macrosomic infant (<math>&gt; 9 \text{ lb}</math>)</li> </ul> </div> <div style="width: 24%;"> <p><b>Referrals</b></p> <p>Referral to Diabetes Central Intake (1-855-DIA-BETS)* if diagnosed with prediabetes, or at risk for diabetes</p> <p><b>Tests</b></p> <p>A1C, FBS, creatinine, uric acid, ALT, AST, bilirubin, thiamine, vitamin B12, ferritin, CBC TSH (Target 0.1-3.0 mIU/L)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>if above target order free T4 + thyroid antibodies</li> <li>if below target order free T3 + free T4</li> </ul>                     If abnormal thyroid, repeat tests every 4 weeks 2 hour 75 gm OGTT (high risk women)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dx of diabetes is confirmed if: FPG <math>\geq 7.0 \text{ mmol/L}</math> 2HPG <math>\geq 11.1 \text{ mmol/L}</math> A1C <math>\geq 6.5\%</math></li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Targets</b></p> <p>A1C <math>\leq 5.5\%</math> Normal BP FBS <math>&lt; 5.6 \text{ mmol/L}</math> 2hr BG <math>&lt; 7.8 \text{ mmol/L}</math></p> <p><b>Treatment</b></p> <p>Folic Acid 5 mg OD, Vitamin D 4000 IU</p> <p><b>Teach</b></p> <p>Reinforce healthy lifestyle including nutrition and importance of exercise in reducing insulin resistance Encourage healthy weight reduction if BMI <math>&gt; 29</math> Risks for Type 2 diabetes</p> <p><b>Frequency of Visits</b></p> <p>As needed</p> <p><b>Supporting Documents</b></p> <p>As needed</p> </div> </div>			

PRECONCEPTION





Items that are “Good to Know” for the exam.



# TARGET BLOOD GLUCOSE



Testing Times	Target
Fasting	< 5.3
One hour after meal	< 7.8
Two hour after meal	< 6.7



# TARGET A1c



Preconception	< 7.0 or below if safe
Pregnancy	$\leq 6.5$
	$\leq 6.1$ if safe

# TARGET BLOOD GLUCOSE



During Labour	4 -7 mmol/L





# TARGET BLOOD SUGAR



Hypoglycemia- on Insulin

< 3.7 mmol/L





## RISK TO BABY TYPE 1 OR TYPE 2

- Congenital Malformation
- Stillbirth
- Macrosomia
- Perinatal Mortality
- Morbidity
- Hypoglycemia
- Jaundice
- Obesity in later life



# RISK TO BABY GESTATIONAL DIABETES



- Large for gestational age (macrosomia)
- Trauma
  - Shoulder dystocia
- Hypoglycemia
- Respiratory Distress
- Jaundice
- Obesity later in life



# GESTATIONAL DIABETES : RISK FACTORS

- Age
- Obesity
- Ethnicity
- PCOS
- Family History of Type 2
- Family History of large babies  
(ie. >9 lbs)



# GESTATIONAL DIABETES : SCREENING AND DIAGNOSIS

## Two Methods in the Clinical Practice Guidelines

- 1 Step ( 75 g )
- 2 Step ( 50 g, 75g )





## GESTATIONAL DIABETES: 1 STEP

24 to 28 weeks

75 g oral glucose tolerance test

FBS  $\geq$  5.1  
1 hr  $\geq$  10.0  
2 hr  $\geq$  8.5



Preferred method recommended in Waterloo Wellington



# GESTATIONAL DIABETES: 2 STEP

24 to 28 weeks

50 g oral glucose tolerance test

1 hr pc 7.8 - 11.0



Screening

1 hr > 11.0  
GDM

Follow by 75 g glucose tolerance test

FBS  $\geq$  5.3  
1 hr  $\geq$  10.6  
2 hr  $\geq$  9.0





# GESTATIONAL DIABETES: TREATMENT

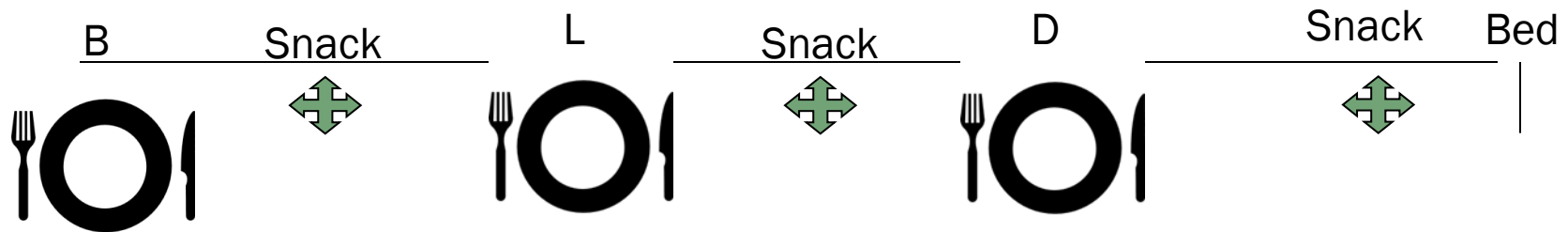
- Diet
- Blood Glucose monitoring
- Exercise
- Ketone testing ?
- Medication(as required)
  - Insulin
  - Metformin
  - Glyburide





# GESTATIONAL DIABETES: DIET

- 3 meals/ 3 snacks/day
- Bedtime snack is important



- Control the amount of Carbohydrate at meals
- Adequate protein and nutrients for pregnancy
- **Low Glycemic Index**



# GESTATIONAL DIABETES: MONITORING

## Diet Controlled

- Fasting
- 1 or 2 hours after each meal



## Using Insulin

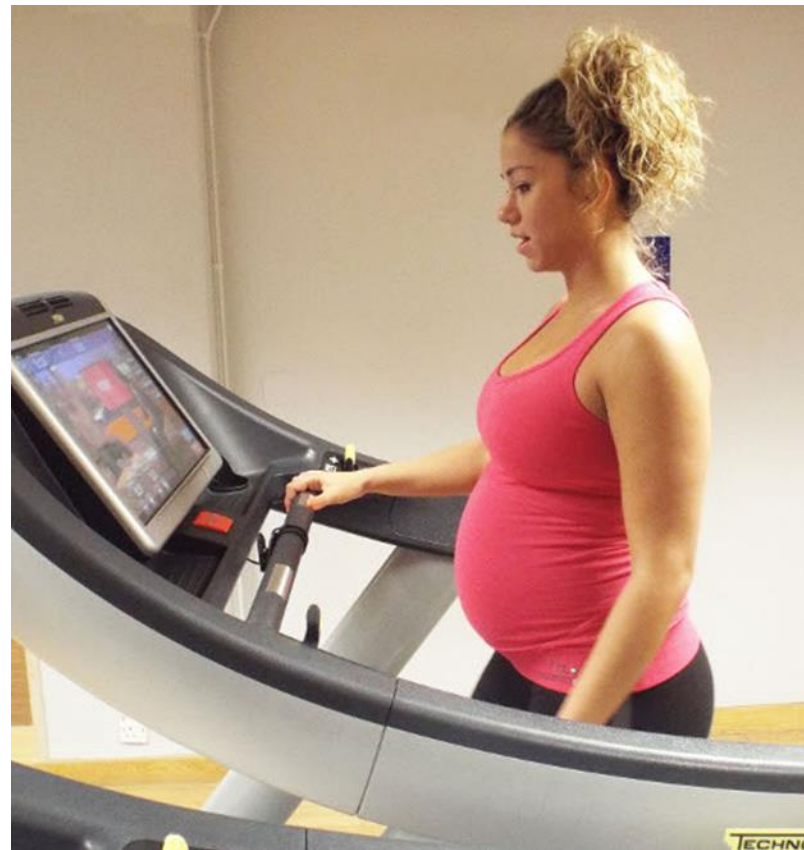
- Fasting/ac meals
- 1 or 2 hours after meals

Testing Times	Target
Fasting	< 5.3
One hour after meal	< 7.8
Two hour after meal	< 6.7



# GESTATIONAL DIABETES: EXERCISE

Walking  
after  
meals



# GESTATIONAL DIABETES: MEDICATION

## Insulin – 1st choice

- No upper limit
- Safe

## Oral Medications

- Metformin 2<sup>nd</sup> choice
- Glyburide only if not able to use insulin and/or metformin



# GESTATIONAL DIABETES: COMPLICATIONS TO MOTHER

- Polyhydramnios
- Fluid retention
  - Hypertension
  - Preeclampsia
- Difficult delivery
- Trauma
- Caesarian section
- Infection



## Post Partum

Birth Control  
Breastfeeding

75 g OGTT 6 weeks – 6 months

Next Pregnancy

- Screened early in next pregnancy
- Risk of Type 2



# PREGNANCY WITH PREEEXISTING DIABETES



## PRECONCEPTION CARE: TYPE 1 & TYPE 2

**All women with Type 1 and Type 2 should receive education and preconception care.**

- Optimize blood sugars
- Assess complications - eyes, kidneys, heart
- Review medications
- Begin folic acid supplements





## PRECONCEPTION CARE: TYPE 1 & TYPE 2

Blood sugars A1c  $\leq 7\%$  ;  $\leq 6.5$  if safe

Reduces risk of:

- Stillbirth
- Congenital malformations
- Preeclampsia
- Progression of retinopathy

Folic acid supplements 1mg 3 months  
preconception up to 12 weeks

- Neural tube defects



## PRECONCEPTION CARE: TYPE 1 & TYPE 2

### Hyperglycemia

- Teratogenic to the fetus
- *Increased birth weight*
- *Increased risk of obesity*
- *Post delivery hypoglycemia of infant*
- *Increased incidence jaundice/respiratory distress*



# PRECONCEPTION CARE: TYPE 1 & TYPE 2

## Hypertension

40-50 % in women with diabetes

- Type 1 – increased risk of pre-eclampsia
- Type 2 – chronic hypertension
- Teratogens: ACE/ARB

Substitute with effective antihypertensives,  
calcium channel blockers, beta blockers  
eg. labatolol/aldomet



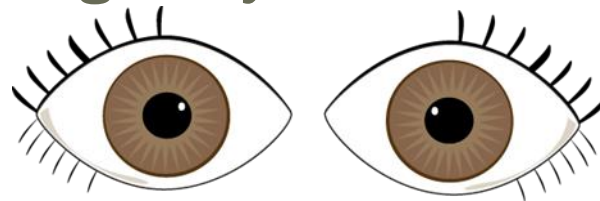
# PRECONCEPTION CARE: TYPE 1 & TYPE 2

## Hyperlipidemia

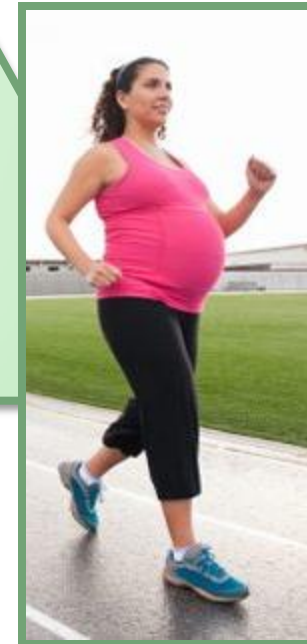
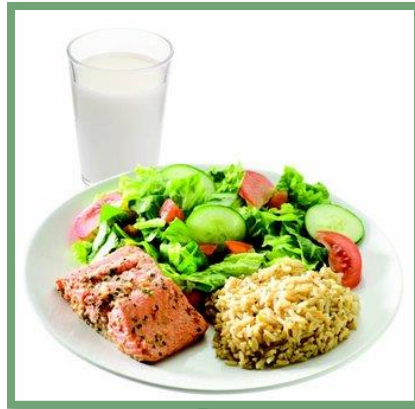
- Medications are teratogens

## Retinopathy

- Eye exam prior to pregnancy and in 1<sup>st</sup> trimester and as required each trimester
- With 1 year post partum
- Retinopathy worsens during pregnancy



# TYPE 1 TREATMENT



# TYPE 1

## 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester

- Insulin requirements are decreased
- Risk of hypoglycemia is highest
- Hypoglycemia unawareness
- Partner should be taught glucagon
- Risk for other autoimmune disorders
  - hypothyroidism

**Risk for severe hypoglycemia in 1<sup>st</sup> trimester  
especially when asleep**



# TYPE 1

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester

- Risk of hypoglycemia until 16 weeks
- Insulin requirements go up 1.5 - 2 times
- Frequent monitoring and insulin adjustment
- Fetal monitoring
- Start ASA 81 mg

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester

- Frequent monitoring and insulin adjustment
- Fetal monitoring
  - Ultrasound, non stress test, kick counts



# COMPLICATION TO MOTHER TYPE 1

- Spontaneous abortion
- Hypoglycemia/ketoacidosis
- Polyhydramnios
- Infections
- Hypertension
- Pre-eclampsia
- Preterm labour
- Caesarian section
- Progression of complications





## TYPE 2

- Older
- Heavier
- PCOS
- Taking oral medications
- Likely to have hypertension, hyperlipidemia



Less likely to have preconception care for diabetes



# TYPE 2

## 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester

- Monitoring and initiation of Insulin
- Discontinuation of oral medications
  - ACE, ARB, statins

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester

- Insulin requirements will increase
- Frequent monitoring and insulin adjustment
- Monitoring of blood pressure
- Fetal monitoring
- Start ASA 81 mg

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester

- Frequent monitoring and insulin adjustment
- Fetal monitoring
  - Ultrasound, Non stress test, kick counts



# TYPE 1 & 2 DIABETES AND PREGNANCY

## Management

- Monitoring 6-8 times/day
- Insulin at all meals/sometimes snacks
- Frequent appointments



Testing Times	Target
Fasting	< 5.3
One hour after meal	< 7.8
Two hour after meal	< 6.7



## SAMPLE QUESTION # 1


Geraldine is newly-diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, A1c 8.4%. She has been started on metformin 500 mg bid and empagliflozin 25 mg. During your initial interview she shares that she and her husband are trying to have a baby. What would your 1<sup>st</sup> concern be around this topic?

- a) She should lose weight before trying to conceive
- b) She should take a prenatal vitamin with folic acid
- c) She should use some type of contraception until her A1c is 7% or below
- d) She should not have children as they might also have diabetes



## SAMPLE QUESTION # 1

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-  c) She should use some type of contraception until her A1c is 7% or below
- d) She should not have children as they might also have diabetes



## SAMPLE QUESTION #2

Karina has been diagnosed with gestational diabetes. Her father has type 2 diabetes and feels she is testing too often.

How often should Karina be testing her blood glucose?

- a) Twice per day at different times
- b) Fasting and 1 hour after meals
- c) Before all meals and at bedtime
- d) Before and after 1 meal a day, rotating between meals.



## SAMPLE QUESTION #2

Karina has been diagnosed with gestational diabetes. Her father has type 2 diabetes and feels she is testing too often.

How often should Karina be testing her blood glucose.

a) Twice per day at different times



b) Fasting and 1 hour after meals

c) Before all meals and at bedtime

d) Before and after 1 meal a day, rotating between meals.



## SAMPLE QUESTION

The recommended amount of folic acid for a woman with type 1 diabetes who is trying to conceive is:

- a) 1 mg
- b) 3 mg
- c) 5 mg
- d) 0.9mg





## SAMPLE QUESTION

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- a) 1 mg
- b) 3 mg
- c) 5 mg
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# Questions



Contact me at: [wendyg@langs.org](mailto:wendyg@langs.org)

Check out information at: [waterloowellingtondiabetes.ca](http://waterloowellingtondiabetes.ca)



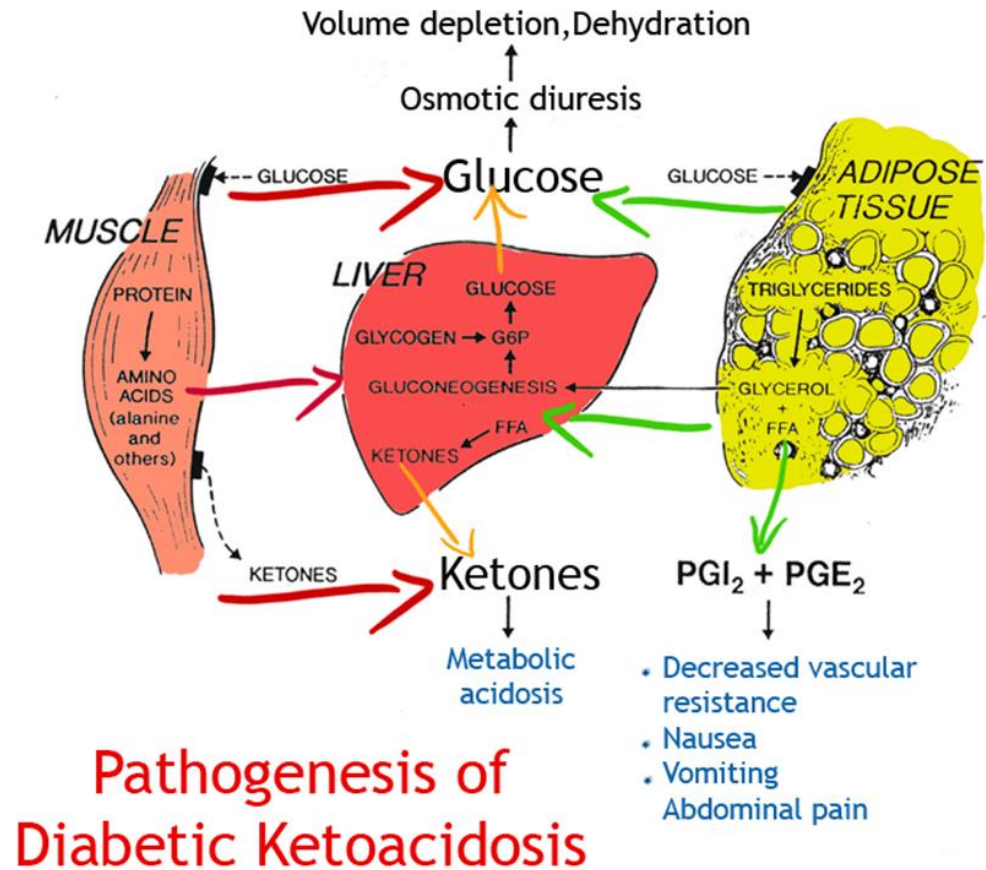
A person in a white lab coat is shown in profile, holding a clear plastic IV drip chamber. The drip chamber is suspended from a black metal stand. The background is a solid, bright blue color. The text "DKA and Hyperosmolar Hyperglycemic State" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font in the center of the image.

**DKA and  
Hyperosmolar  
Hyperglycemic  
State**

# *Hyperglycemia*

- Describe Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Describe Hyperglycemic Hyperosmolar State (HHS)
- Compare the differences in these two hyperglycemia emergencies and the appropriate treatment

# DKA



# Diabetic Ketoacidosis



## Characteristics

- Ketones positive
- Anion Gap  $> 12$  (High)
- Blood Sugar  $\geq 14$  (High)
- Bicarbonate  $\leq 15$  (Low)
- PH  $\leq 7.3$  (Low)
- Sodium Normal or Low
- Potassium Normal, Low , High

**Monitor every 2 hours until fluid and acidosis is corrected**

(electrolytes, creatinine, osmolality, fluid balance, glucose)

Pregnant women in DKA present with lower glucose levels than non-pregnant women

SGLT2 use

# *Diabetic Ketoacidosis*

## Characteristics/ Symptoms

- Quick Less 24 hours
- Polyuria, polyphagia, polydipsia
- Kussmaul respiration
- Nausea and Vomiting
- Tachycardia
- Hypotension
- Leg cramps
- Abdominal pain
- Decreased Extracellular volume (ECFV)
- Weakness, weight loss
- Physical symptoms of dehydration

# *Diabetic Ketoacidosis*

## Causes

- Newly Diagnosed Type 1
- Insulin Omission
- Infection
- MI
- Trauma
- Cardiac Surgery
- Eating Disorders (20% recurrent)
- Pump Failure
- Thyrotoxicosis
- Cocaine, atypical antipsychotics, interferon
- Flu



# *Hyperosmolar Hyperglycemic State (HHS)*

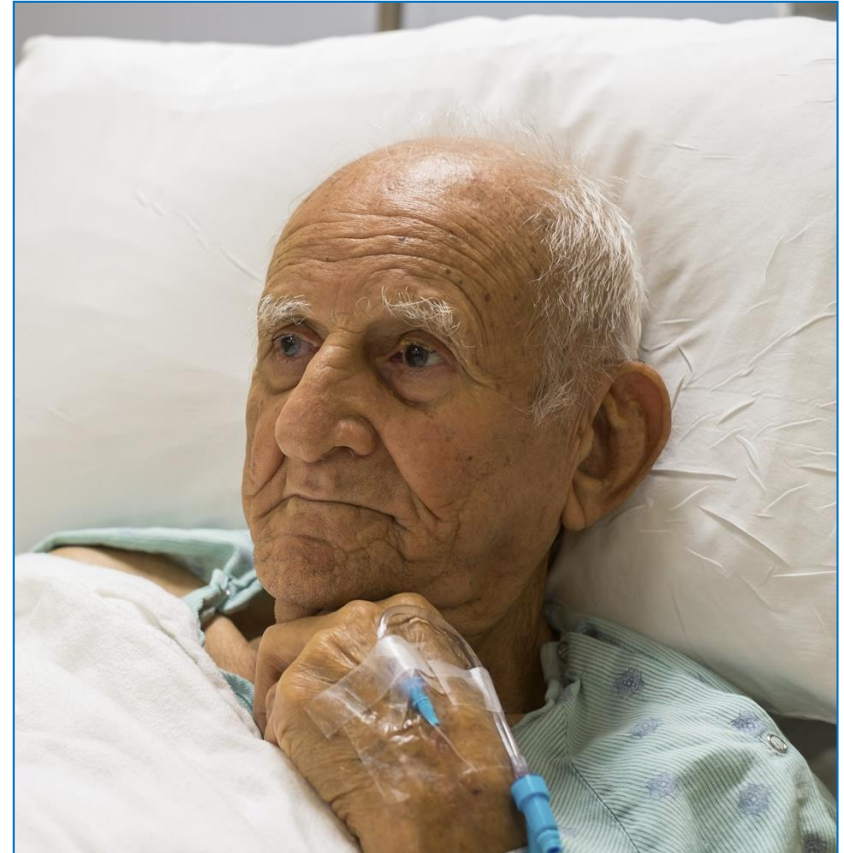
## Characteristics

- Dehydration, Marked Decreased Extracellular volume
- Blood Sugar >33
- Osmolality > 350
- PH > 7.2
- Bicarb >20
- Ketones +/-

Can have neurologic presentation, seizures and stroke like symptoms

## Symptoms

- Dry Mouth
- Poor Urine Output
- Sleepy coma
- Stupor
- Increased BUN, Cr



## Causes

- Infection 40-60%
- Decreased Fluid intake
- Drugs-glucocorticoids, thiazides, lithium and atypical antipsychotics
- Elderly, chronic care
- Following cardiac surgery
- Illness

# Tests



Glucose

Electrolytes and anion gap

Creatinine

Osmolality

Blood gases

Serum and urine ketone

- Beta-hydroxybutyric acid (78%)
- Acetoacetate (20 %)
- Acetone( 2%)

Fluid balance

*Monitor*

Level of consciousness

Precipitating factors

	<b>DKA</b>	<b>HHS</b>
Blood Sugar	> 14	>34
Ketones	Positive	+ / -
Osmolality	Normal	> 350
PH	< 7.3	> 7.2 (normal)
Anion gap	increased	normal
Presentation	Rapid	Slower
Characteristics	Weight Loss Vomiting Abdominal pain	Illness Dehydration Stupor
Treatment	Insulin (0.1u/kg/h) Hydration	Hydration Insulin
Mortality	< 1 % (age 20- 49) 16% (over 75)	12- 17 %
Incidence hospital admissions US	4-9 %	< 1 %

# Treatment

## DKA

Fluid resuscitation

Avoid Hypokalemia

Insulin

Avoid rapidly falling serum  
osmolality

Causes

## HHS

Fluid resuscitation

- K
- Bicarb
- Electrolytes

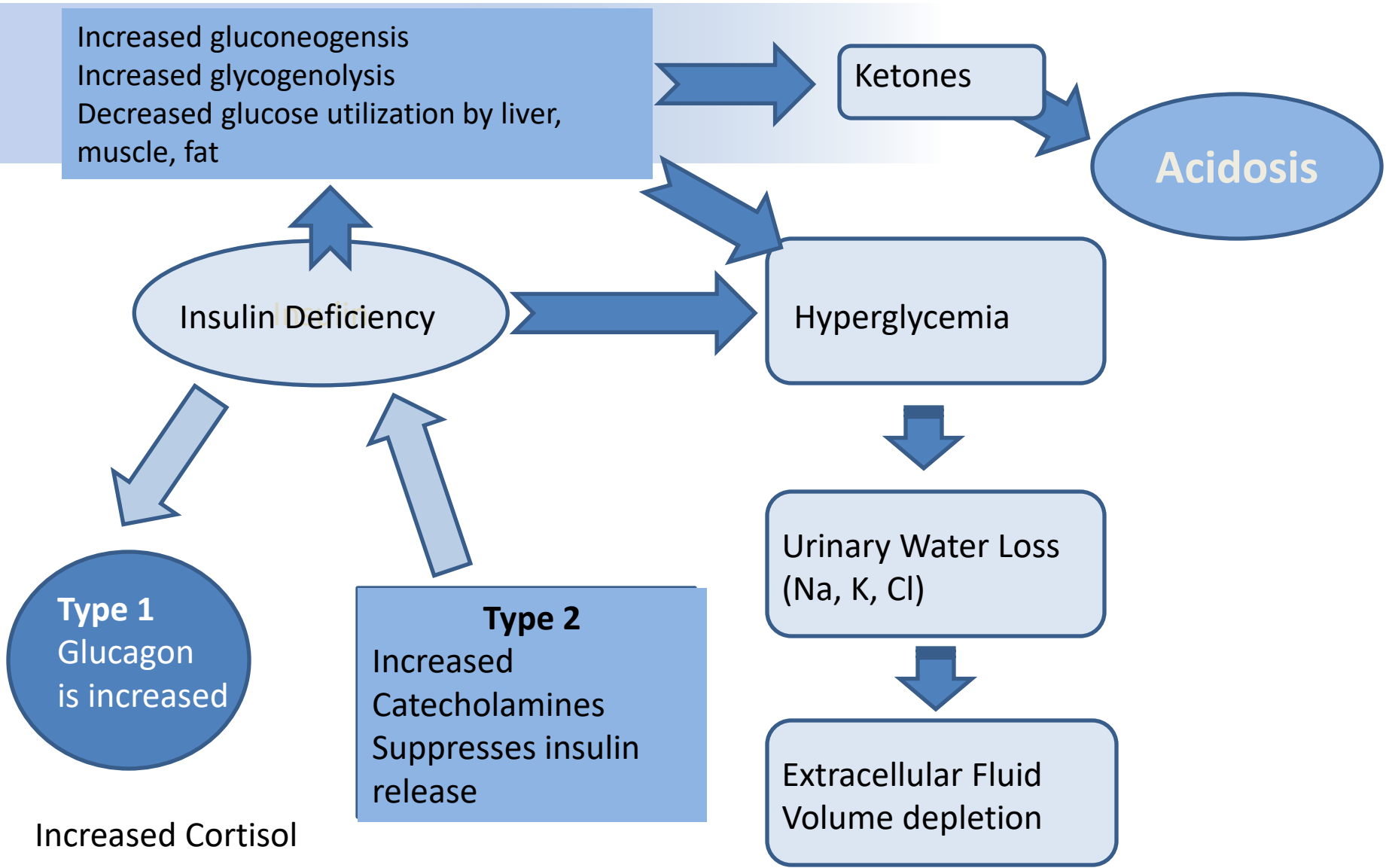
Avoid Hypokalemia

Avoid rapidly falling serum  
osmolality

Causes

Insulin

**Concerns: Cerebral Edema if hyperosmolality is reduced quickly( only 3 mmol/kg/hr)**

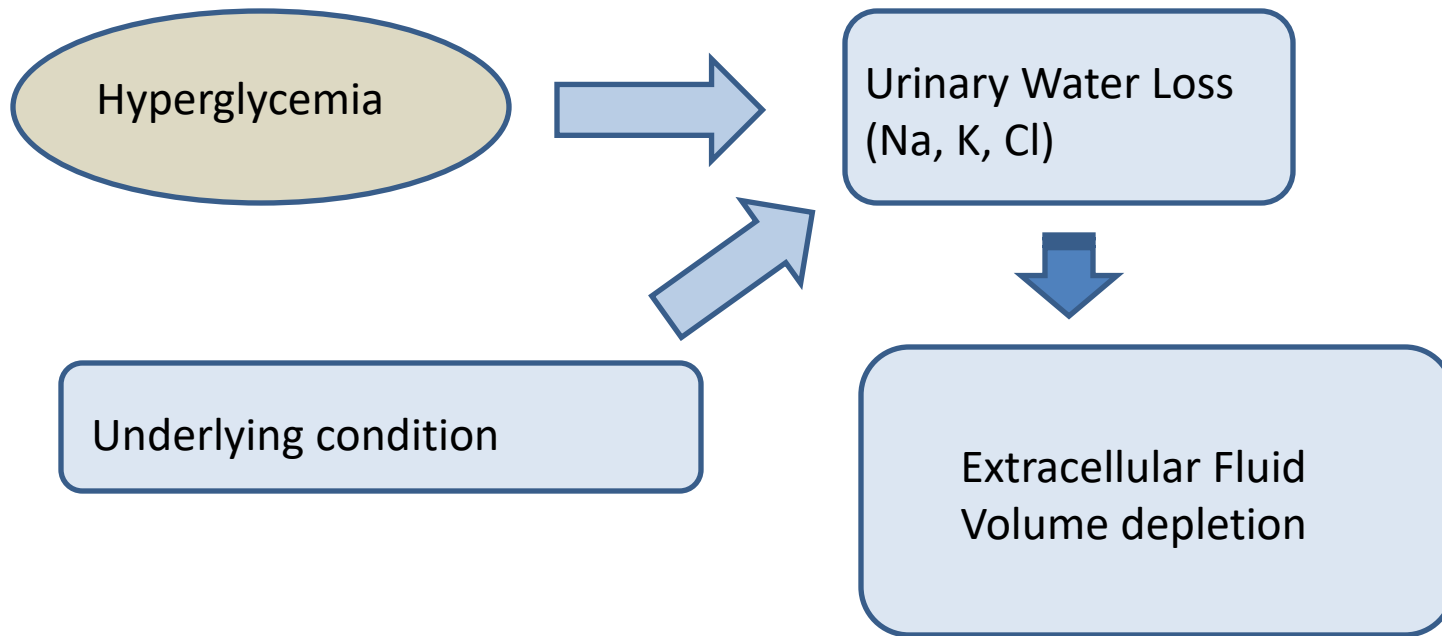


*Wendy's attempt to simplify*

# Diabetic Ketoacidosis

*Wendy's attempt to simplify*

# Hyperosmolar Coma



Insulin is still present but inadequate to control blood glucose, but adequate to prevent formation of ketones.



## Case Study

Judy was brought to hospital by her husband. She has been weak and sleepy for the last 24 hours. She is now complaining of abdominal pain.

What blood tests would you look at to determine if this is DKA or HHS?

- a) Blood Glucose, anion gap, urine ketones, bicarbonate
- b) Ethanol, salicylate, acetaminophen
- c) Insulin levels, blood ketones
- d) Blood glucose, anion gap, blood ketones, pH, bicarbonate

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# Questions



[wendyg@langs.org](mailto:wendyg@langs.org)