

## Objectives

- Apply current ADA/EASD recommendations for setting A1C and glucose targets and timely intensification of therapy in patients with type 2 diabetes
- Compare and contrast the clinical profiles of the different GLP-1 receptor agonists and assess their utility in reducing postprandial glucose
- Evaluate current data on fixed-ratio combinations of GLP-1 RAs and basal insulin for the treatment of type 2 diabetes
- Formulate evidence-based treatment regimens that optimize control of both fasting and postprandial glucose in patients requiring therapy intensification

## Case 1 – Bruce

- Bruce is a 56-year-old man who presents for evaluation of fatigue and progressively increasing nocturia. Suspects prostate “acting up”
- Medical history includes hypertension, dyslipidemia, gout
- Current meds: ACE inhibitor, thiazide, statin, allopurinol
- Physical exam: weight 240 lbs, BMI 36, BP 128/77, abdominal obesity

## Case 1 – Bruce cont’d

- On further questioning, he reported that he lost 10 pounds in the past 3 months, and “it was surprisingly easy.” He also noted some blurry vision, but his optometrist just recommended reading glasses.
- Family history significant for diabetes in mother and 2 older brothers.

## Case 1 – Bruce’s Lab Results

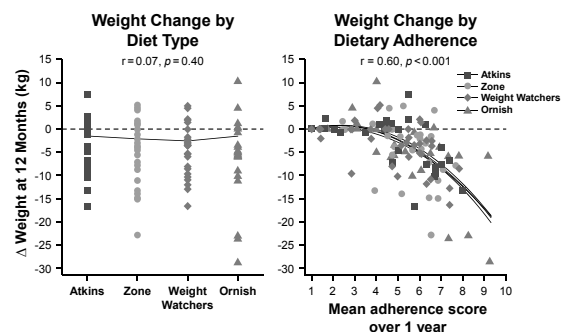
- Random serum glucose: 226 mg/dL
- Hemoglobin A1C: 7.8%
- **Bruce is diagnosed with type 2 diabetes**

## Nutrition: Helpful Advice

- Portion size review; use plate method
- Snack choices
- Decreased soft drink and fruit juice intake
- Volumize high carbohydrate meals with vegetables, cutting down on carbohydrate, but increasing satiety

Courtesy of Dace Trence, MD.

## Adherence Is More Important Than Diet Type for Weight Loss Success



Dansinger M. JAMA. 2005;293:43-53.

## Case 1 – Bruce cont'd

- Goes to diabetes education
- Starts walking every other day and loses 14 pounds
- Starts monitoring his glucose levels
- Blood sugars fasting 160–180 mg/dL, and pre-meal blood sugars 140–160 mg/dL
- A1C now 7.5%



## Normoglycemia and Recommended Glycemic Targets in T2DM

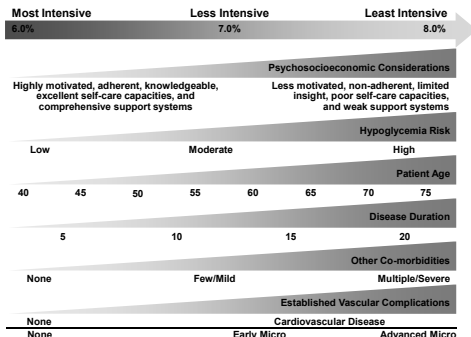
Glucose Control	Healthy Individuals <sup>1-2</sup>	ADA 2016 <sup>1</sup>	ADA & AACE 2016
A1C, %*	< 6.0	< 7.0	Individualized Target* < 7.0% most pts <sup>1</sup> ≤ 6.5% healthy pts <sup>3</sup>
Preprandial PG, mg/dL	< 100	80–130	80–130
Peak postprandial PG, mg/dL	< 140	< 180 <sup>a</sup>	< 140–180 <sup>b</sup>

a. Peak postprandial capillary plasma glucose; b. 2-hour postprandial glucose concentration. \*A1C of 7–8% is reasonable in patients with known CVD or multiple co-morbidities. PG = plasma glucose; ADA = American Diabetes Association.

1. ADA. Diabetes Care. 2016;39(Suppl. 1):S1–S112. 2. ADA. Diabetes Care. 2001;24:775–778. 3. Garber AJ, et al. Endocr Pract. 2016;22:84–113.



## Individualizing A1C Targets for Patients with T2DM

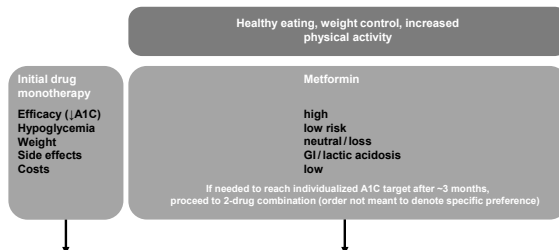


Data from Ismail-Beigi F, et al. Ann Intern Med. 2011;154(8):554–9.

## Which Agent to Use? Do Guidelines Provide Direction?

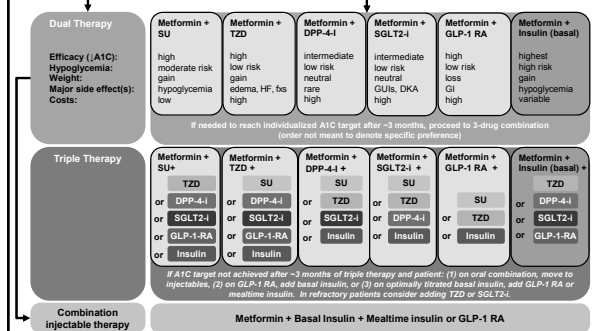


## ADA/EASD 2016 Guidelines



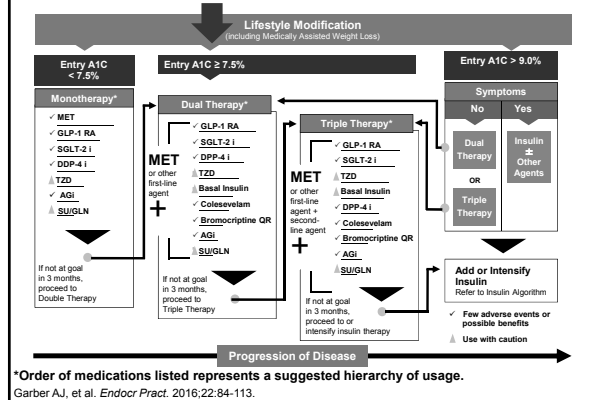
Adapted from American Diabetes Association. Diabetes Care. 2015;38(suppl 1):S41–S48.

## ADA/EASD 2016 Guidelines cont'd



DPP-4-i = dipeptidyl-peptidase 4 inhibitor; SGLT2-i = sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitor; GLP-1 RA = glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists; GUI = genitourinary infections; DKA = diabetic ketoacidosis. Adapted from American Diabetes Association. Diabetes Care. 2016;39(Suppl. 1):S1–S112.

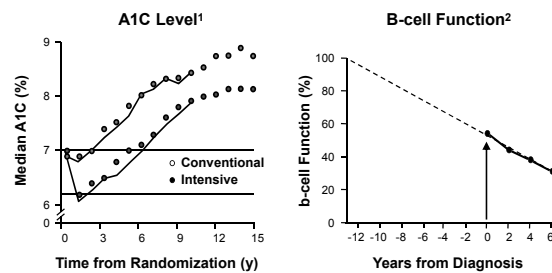
## AACE: Glycemic Control Algorithm for T2DM



## Case 1 – Bruce cont'd

- You recommend starting metformin. Bruce reports diarrhea; you suggest switching to extended-release. A1C drops to 6.9% at 3-month follow-up.
- Bruce maintained good glycemic control for about 2 years on metformin alone, then glimepiride was added.
- One year after adding the glimepiride, Bruce reports his job has changed to involve considerable travel. You note his weight is up 5 lbs. Fasting blood sugars have bumped up to 160–170 mg/dL, but postprandial glucose is stable A1C now 8.1%.

## UKPDS: Progressive Deterioration in Glycemic Control Over Time



1. UKPDS Group. *Lancet.* 1998;352:837-853. 2. Holman RR. *Diabetes Res Clin Pract.* 1998;40(suppl):S21-S25.

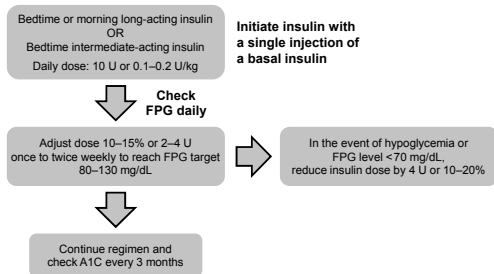
## Basal Insulin in Type 2 Diabetes

- When to consider
  - When combination oral/injectable agents become inadequate (A1C > 6.5% or higher)
  - High FPG > 150 mg/dL
  - Unacceptable side effects of other agents
  - "Severely" uncontrolled\*
- To be effective, basal insulin plus oral agents require presence of some endogenous B-cell function (oral agents are not effective in T1DM)

FPG = fasting plasma glucose; PPG = postprandial glucose.  
\*Defined as fasting glucose > 250 mg/dL, random glucose > 300 mg/dL, A1C > 10%, ketonuria, or symptomatic (polyuria, polydipsia, and weight loss) by ADA 2009 Consensus Statement. After glucose is controlled, oral agents can be added and insulin withdrawn if preferred.

Nathan DM, et al. *Diabetes Care.* 2009; volume 32,193-203. Inzucchi SE, et al. *Diabetes Care.* 2012;35(6):1364-1379. *ADA Diabetes Care.* 2014;37(suppl 1):S14-S80.

## Basal Insulin The Simple Way to Add Insulin



Inzucchi S, et al. *Diabetes Care.* 2015;38:140-149.

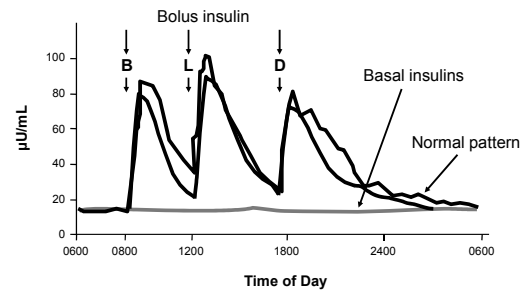
## Case 1 – Bruce Follow-up:

- Bruce returns 3 months later, and he is feeling much better. He has up-titrated his basal insulin dose from 20 to 60 units every night.
- His meter download shows fasting glucose 100–110 mg/dL over the past several weeks.
- His A1C is now 7.2%.
- You congratulate and acknowledge his progress, and ask him to come back in 3 months.

## Case 1 – Bruce Follow-up cont'd:

- Bruce returns in 5 months because he missed his last appointment. He reports that his job has required even more travelling.
- His fasting blood sugars have continued in the 100–130 mg/dL range, but postprandial glucoses are now in the 190–200 mg/dL range.
- His A1C is rechecked; now at 8.0%.

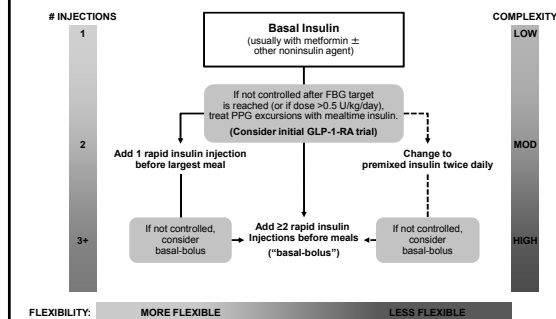
## Physiologic (Basal-Bolus) Insulin Treatment Matching Insulin Administration to Insulin Needs



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

Adapted from Polonsky KS, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 1988;318:1231-9.

## ADA Recommendations for Advancing Insulin



ADA. *Diabetes Care.* 2015;38(suppl 1):S41-S48.

## Basal Plus Mealtime Insulin

- Use rapid-acting analogs (Aspart, Lispro, Glulisine), not regular insulin
  - Easier timing, less postprandial hypoglycemia
- Start with 1 injection at largest meal:
  - 4 units and titrate, OR
  - By weight: 0.1 U/kg
- Titrate to:
  - <140 mg/dL 2 hours postprandial OR
  - <110 mg/dL next meal or bedtime
- Consider a decrease or stopping oral secretagogues when prandial insulin is started
- Can continue metformin, TZD, AGI, GLP-1, DPP-4 inhibitor
- Basal bolus dosing**
  - ~50% bolus insulin and ~50% basal insulin

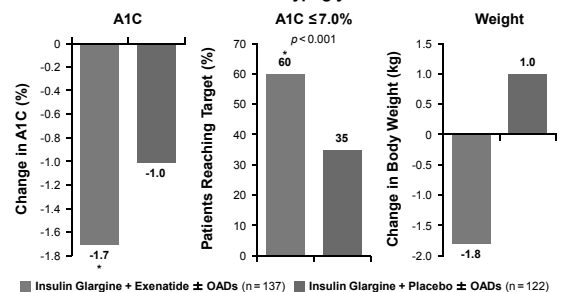
Garber AJ, et al. *Endocr Pract.* 2016;22:84-113.

## Case 1 – Bruce Follow-up cont'd:

- Mealtime insulin of 10 units was added with his largest meal. His basal insulin was reduced to 50 units at bedtime and glimepiride was discontinued.
- At 3-month follow-up, his A1C was 6.8%. Over the next year Bruce continues to maintain good glycemic control, but did report a couple minor episodes of hypoglycemia. His weight has also increased.
- Bruce asks if there is anything that can be done to lower his risk of hypoglycemia. His current meds are metformin, mealtime insulin 10 units and basal insulin 50 units.
- His current A1C is 7.4%. He says he periodically skips his insulin dose to avoid hypoglycemia.

## Addition of Exenatide to Insulin Glargine

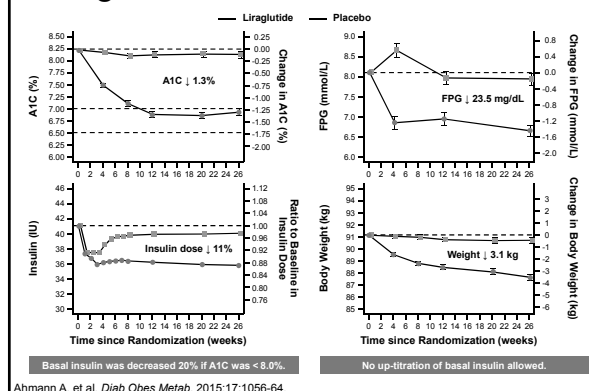
Basal insulin was decreased 20% initially if A1C was <8.0%. Basal was titrated, and dose was greater in placebo group. **No increase in hypoglycemia.**



Data are mean. \*Significant vs placebo.

Buse JB, et al. *Ann Intern Med.* 2011;154:103-112.

## Liraglutide Added to Basal Insulin



## Case 1 – Bruce Follow-up cont'd:

- Mealtime insulin was discontinued.
- Bruce was advanced to liraglutide 1.8 mg daily, and his basal insulin was titrated to 44 units at night.
- At 6-month follow-up, his A1C was 6.9%, and he has not experienced any episodes of hypoglycemia. He reports a weight loss of 5 pounds.

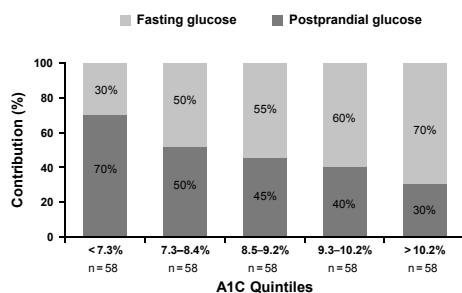
## Case 2 – Ann

- Ann is a 64-year-old woman with a 14-year history of type 2 diabetes. She is active and works full time.
- Had been treated with metformin and glimepiride until bedtime insulin glargine was started 4 years ago. The dose was increased intermittently over the years.
- PMH: Hypertension, hyperlipidemia
- Medications:
  - Metformin 1000 mg bid
  - Glimepiride 4 mg qd
  - Glargine U100, 68 units hs
  - Lisinopril 20 mg qd
  - Atorvastatin 40 mg qd
  - HCTZ 12.5 mg qd

## Case 2 – Ann cont'd

- PE:
  - BMI = 33.6
  - BP = 136/82
  - Central obesity
  - Decreased vibratory sensation and monofilament sensation in feet
- Lab tests:
  - A1C = 8.2%
  - LDL = 78 mg/dL
  - Creatinine = 0.89 mg/dL
- Glucose monitoring:
  - infrequent (< 1x daily) — average = 152 mg/dL

## Relative Contribution of FPG and PPG to A1C



Monnier L, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2003;26:881-885.

## Case 2 – Ann cont'd

- Ann agrees to monitor for 5 days before meals and bedtime
- Mean glucose values:
  - Breakfast 138 mg/dL
  - Lunch 201 mg/dL
  - Dinner 184 mg/dL
  - Bedtime 182 mg/dL

## Adding Prandial Insulin to Basal

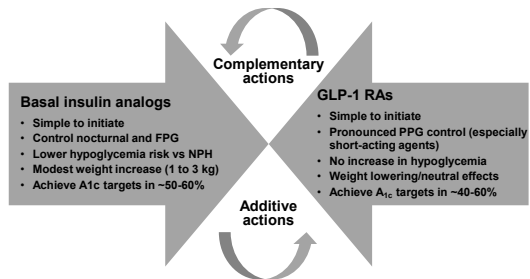
### Advantages

- Treats postprandial hyperglycemia
- Increases success rate in achieving A1C < 7% compared to oral agents
- More effective than oral agents

### Disadvantages

- Increases weight gain
- Increases hypoglycemia risk
- Less convenient with multiple injections

## Combination of Basal Insulin with a GLP-1 RA Has a Scientific Logic



Little S, et al. *Diabetes Technol Ther.* 2011;13(suppl 1):S53-S64. Cohen ND, et al. *Med J Australia.* 2013;199(4):246-249. Carris NW, et al. *Drugs.* 2014;74(18):2141-2152.

## Pharmacokinetic Profile of GLP-1 RAs

Drug	Dosing	Half-life	Duration of Action
Exenatide	5–10 mcg SC twice daily	2.4 hours	Short-acting
Lixisenatide	10–20 mcg SC daily	2–4 hours	Short-acting
Albiglutide	30–50 mg SC once weekly	6–7 days	Long-acting
Dulaglutide	0.75–1.5 mg SC once weekly	5 days	Long-acting
Exenatide ER	2 mg SC once weekly	2.4 hours	Long-acting
Liraglutide	0.6–1.8 mg SC once daily	13 hours	Long-acting

ER = extended release.

Pinelli NR and Hurren KM. *The Annals of Pharmacotherapy.* 2011;45(7-8):850-860. American Diabetes Association. *Diabetes Care.* 2015;38(suppl 1):S41-S48. US FDA. *Drugs@FDA Website.* <http://www.access.data.fda.gov/Scripts/cder/DrugsatFDA/>. EU EMA. *Medicines@EMA Website.* <http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/>.

## Some General Characteristics of GLP-1 Receptor Agonists

- **Short-acting agents (exenatide, lixisenatide)**
  - Have greater effect on postprandial glucose
  - Possibly more nausea
- **Long-acting agents (albiglutide, exenatide ER, dulaglutide, liraglutide)**
  - Less effect on postprandial glucose but greater fasting glucose reduction
  - May have variable efficacy and weight loss
    - Albiglutide appears to have lower efficacy and less weight loss but has proven effective in combination with basal insulin

## Considerations for GLP-1 RAs

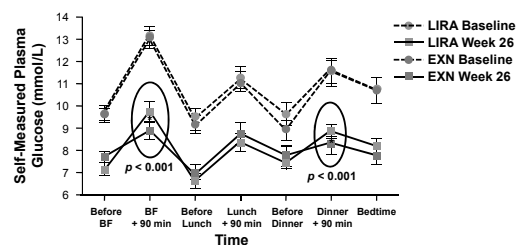
- **Renal impairment**
  - Reduced clearance of exenatide
  - Exenatide should not be used in patients with severe renal impairment or ESRD (CrCl < 30 mL/min)
  - Hypovolemia due to nausea and vomiting
- **Pancreatitis**
  - No causal relationship confirmed
  - Not for use in patients with history of pancreatitis
  - Educate patients about signs and symptoms; stop therapy if signs and symptoms present
  - Do not restart therapy if pancreatitis is confirmed
- **Personal or family history of MTC or MEN2**
  - Contraindicated

ESRD = end-stage renal disease; MTC = medullary thyroid carcinoma; MEN2 = multiple endocrine neoplasia syndrome type 2.

Linnelsjerg H, et al. *Br J Clin Pharmacol.* 2007;64:317-327. Egan AG, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2014;370(9):794-7. Exenatide, liraglutide, albiglutide and dulaglutide at [www.pdr.net](http://www.pdr.net). Accessed April 2, 2106.

## Postprandial Glucose Effect of Short- and Long-Acting GLP-1 RAs: EXN vs. LIRA

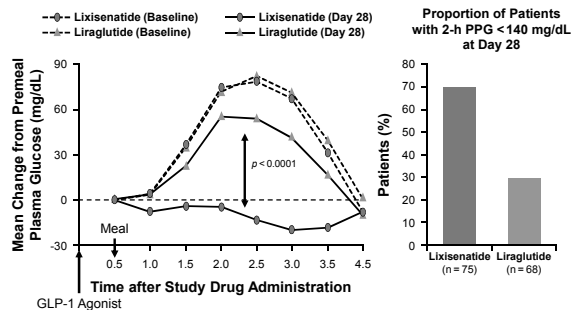
EXN twice daily preferentially affects PPG compared to liraglutide. EXN twice daily reduced PPG significantly more after breakfast and dinner than LIRA,  $p < 0.001$



PPG = postprandial glucose; BF = breakfast; EXN = exenatide; LIRA = liraglutide.

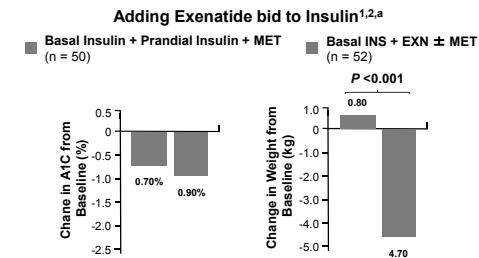
Buse JB, Rosenstock J, Sesti G, et al. *Lancet.* 2009;374:39-47.

## PPG Effect of Short- and Long-Acting GLP-1 RAs: LIXI vs LIRA



LIXI = lixisenatide; PPG = postprandial glucose.  
Kapitza C, et al. *Diabetes Obes Metab*. 2013;15(7):642-9.

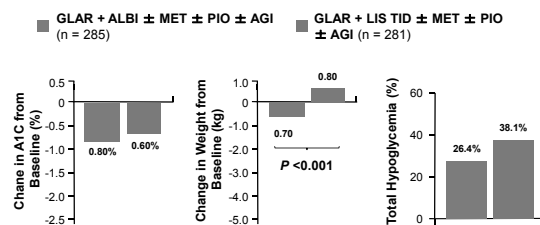
## Exenatide + Basal Insulin as an Alternative to Prandial Insulin + Basal Insulin



Glycemic variability (MAGE) was improved in the EXN bid group but not in the prandial insulin group<sup>2</sup>. No severe hypoglycemia events reported in either group.

a. EXN administered at 2-3 meals daily, prandial insulin administered at 3 meals daily<sup>1</sup>  
1. FLAT-SUGAR Trial Investigators. *Diabetes Care*. 2015;38:1558-1566. 2. Hirsch IB, et al. *Diabetes*. 2015; 64(suppl 1):A100 [abstract 385-OR].

## Albiglutide as an Alternative to Prandial Insulin to Intensify Basal Insulin

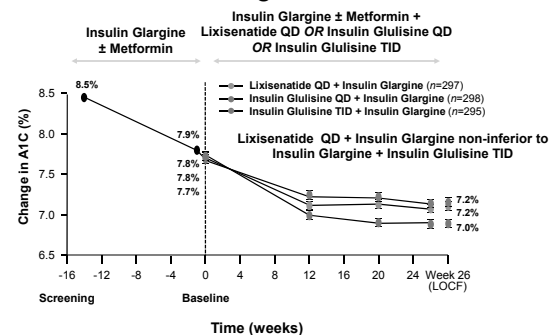


Documented symptomatic hypoglycemia was more frequent in the lispro group; 2.3 vs 0.9 events/pt/yr (p value not reported)

ALBI = albiglutide; GLAR = glargine; LIS = lispro; MET = metformin; PIO = pioglitazone; AGI = alpha-glucosidase inhibitor.

Rosenstock J, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2014;37:2317-2325.

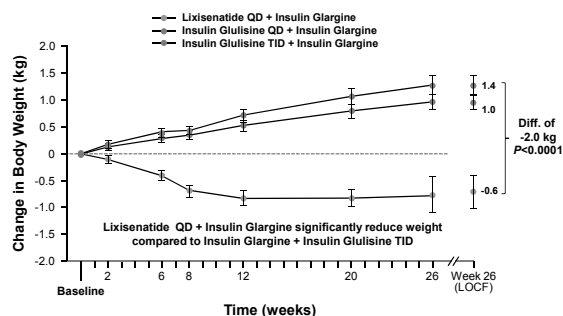
## Lixi/Basal vs Basal/Plus, Basal/Bolus: Change in A1C



QD = daily; TID = three times daily; LOCF = last observation carried forward.

Rosenstock J, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2016;39:1318-1328.

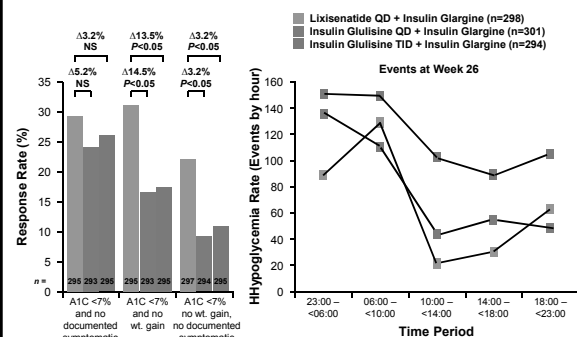
## Lixi/Basal vs Basal/Plus, Basal/Bolus: Change in Weight



Diff. of -2.0 kg P<0.0001

Rosenstock J, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2016;39:1318-1328.

## Efficacy and Safety



wt = weight.

Rosenstock J, et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2016;39:1318-1328.

## Benefits of Adding a GLP-1 RA to Basal Insulin as Compared with Adding Prandial Insulin

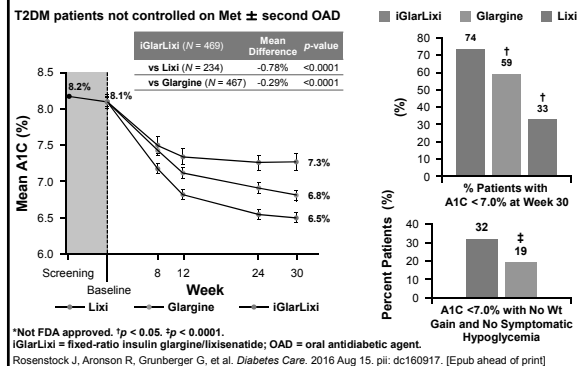
- Fewer injections
- Weight loss
- Lower hypoglycemic risk
- Reduce insulin doses
- Postprandial benefit, particularly with short-acting agents

Carris NW, et al. *Drugs*. 2014;74(18):2141-2152.

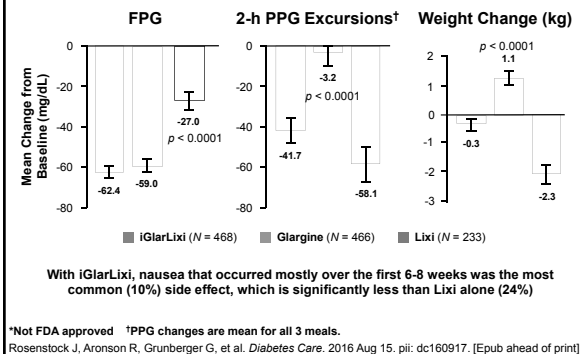
## Case 2 – Ann Follow-up

- In addition to her current meds, Ann was started on lixisenatide 20 mcg once daily to better manage her postprandial hyperglycemia.
- At 1-month follow-up, her A1C is 6.9%.

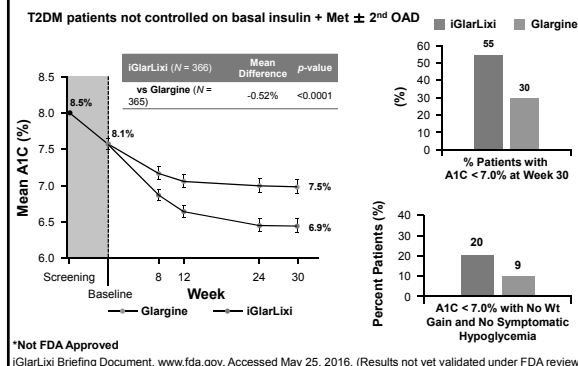
## Efficacy of Fixed-Ratio iGlarLixi\* in Insulin Naïve T2DM Patients



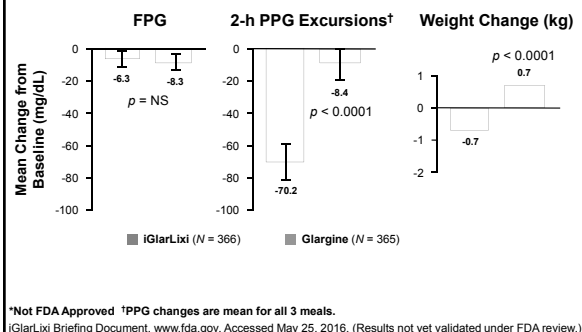
## Fixed-Ratio iGlarLixi\* in Insulin Naïve T2DM Patients: Glucose and Weight Effects



## Efficacy of Fixed-Ratio iGlarLixi\* in T2DM Patients Not Controlled on Basal Insulin



## Fixed-Ratio iGlarLixi\* in T2DM Patients Not Controlled on Basal Insulin: Glucose and Weight Effects

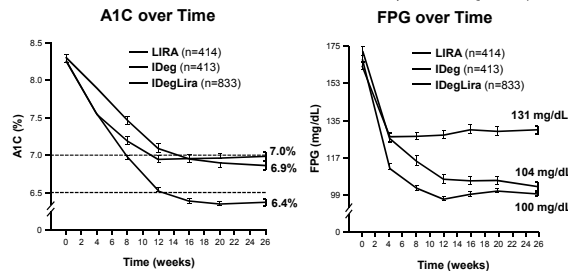




## Efficacy of Fixed-Ratio IDegLira\* in Insulin Naïve T2DM Patients not Controlled on OADs

Deg/Lira was superior ( $p<0.001$ ) to Lira and non-inferior to insulin Deg in reducing A1C

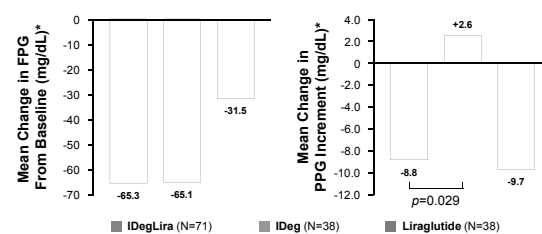
Deg/Lira significantly reduced FPG compared to Lira ( $p<0.001$ )



OADs = metformin ±pioglitazone; LIRA = liraglutide; IDeg = insulin degludec; IDegLira = fixed-ratio insulin degludec/liraglutide. \*Not FDA Approved.

Gough SC, et al. *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol.* 2014;2:885-93.

## Fixed-Ratio IDegLira<sup>†</sup> in Insulin Naïve T2DM Patients: Glucose and Weight Effects



**Hypoglycemia rate:**  
IDegLira vs LIRA: rate ratio 7.61,  $p<0.0001$   
IDegLira vs IDeg: rate ratio 0.68,  $p=0.0023$

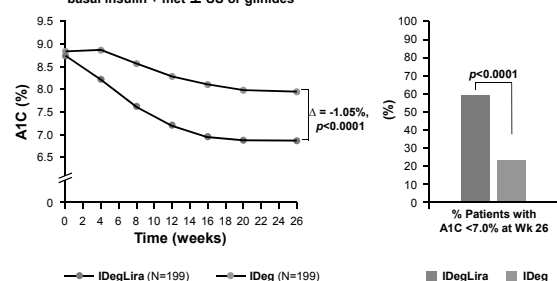
**Mean treatment difference in Wt.:**  
IDegLira vs IDeg: -2.2 kg,  $p<0.0001$   
IDegLira vs LIRA: +2.44 kg,  $p<0.0001$

\*Mean change from baseline at wk 26 in PPG increment across all meals based on continuous glucose monitoring data. †Not FDA Approved.

Gough SC, et al. *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol.* 2014;2:885-93. NDA 208583 Briefing Document. www.fda.gov. Accessed May 25, 2016 (Results not yet validated under FDA review)

## Efficacy of Fixed-Ratio IDegLira\* in T2DM Patients Not Controlled on Basal Insulin

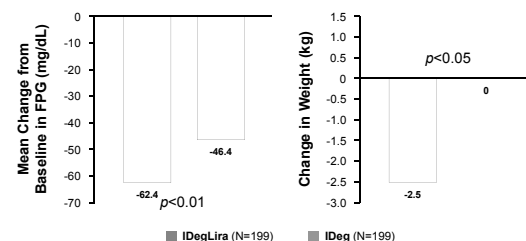
T2DM patients not controlled on basal insulin + met ± SU or glinides



\*Not FDA Approved

NDA 208583 Briefing Document. www.fda.gov. Accessed May 25, 2016 (Results not yet validated under FDA review).

## Fixed-Ratio IDegLira\* in T2DM Patients Not Controlled on Basal Insulin: Glucose and Weight Effects

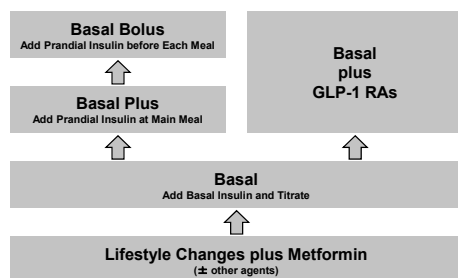


Nausea was most common side effect with IDegLira (7.8%) which occurred mostly over the first 6 weeks which is significantly less than LIRA alone (15.1%)

\*Not FDA Approved

NDA 208583 Briefing Document. www.fda.gov. Accessed May 25, 2016 (Results not yet validated under FDA review).

## When Basal Is Not Enough



## Summary

- Type 2 diabetes is characterized by progressive beta cell dysfunction requiring advancing therapy.
- Following one or two oral agents, GLP-1 receptor agonists or basal insulin are equally effective agents.
- When the combination of oral agents and basal insulin fails, the problem is often postprandial hyperglycemia.
- In T2DM, when glucose control is lost after basal insulin, GLP-1 receptor agonists often hold advantages over rapid-acting insulin analog therapy.
- Premixed basal insulin with a GLP-1 receptor agonist in a single injection may be useful in the future.