

## Drug List

Generic Drug Name	US Trade Name
albiglutide	Tanzeum
allopurinol	Zyloprim
atorvastatin	Lipitor
bromocriptine	Cycloset
dulaglutide	Trulicity
exenatide/exenatide ER	Byetta/Bydureon
glimepiride	Amaryl
hydrochlorothiazide (HCTZ)	Microzide
insulin aspart	Novolog

## Drug List (cont.)

Generic Drug Name	US Trade Name
insulin detemir	Levemir
insulin degludec	Tresiba
insulin glargine	Lantus
insulin glulisine	Apidra
insulin lispro	Humalog
lisinopril	Prinivil, Zestril
liraglutide	Saxenda/Victoza
metformin	Glucophage
nateglinide	Starlix
repaglinide	Prandin

## 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

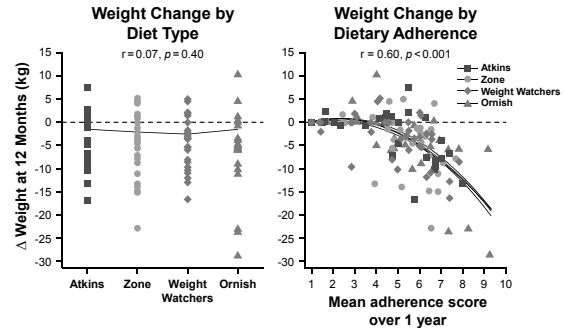
- Random serum glucose: 226 mg/dL
- Hemoglobin A1C: 7.8%
- **Bruce is diagnosed with type 2 diabetes**

## 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%

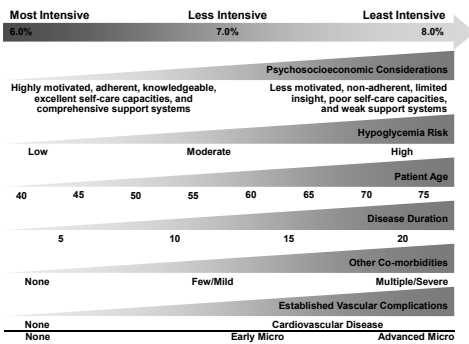
## Normoglycemia and Recommended Glycemic Targets in T2DM

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

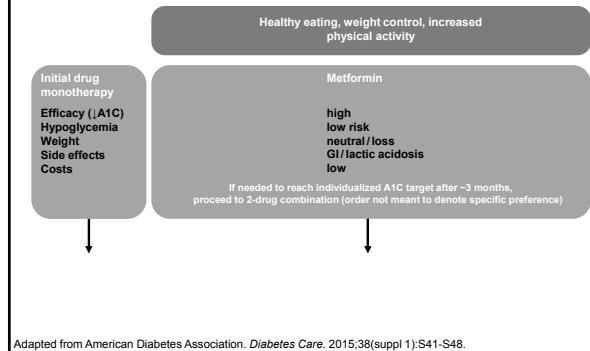


Data from Ismail-Beigi F, et al. Ann Intern Med. 2011;154(8):554-9.

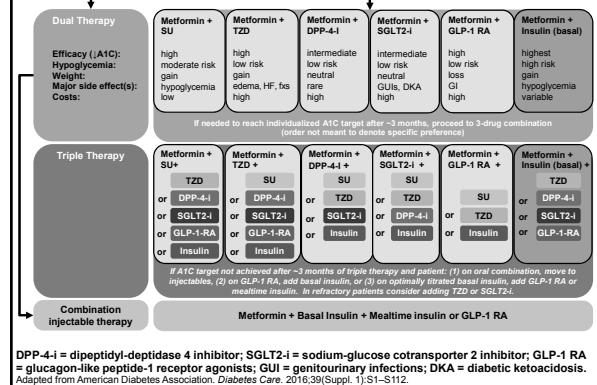
## Which Agent to Use? Do Guidelines Provide Direction?



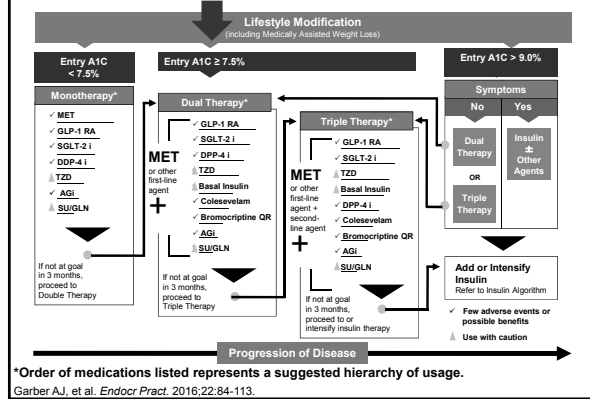
## ADA/EASD 2016 Guidelines



## ADA/EASD 2016 Guidelines cont'd



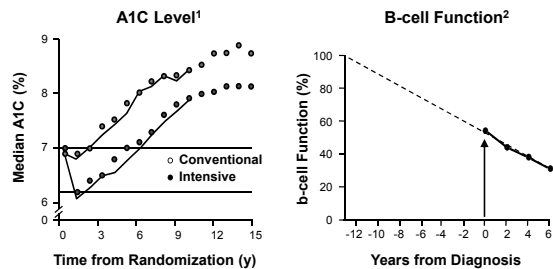
## AACE: Glycemic Control Algorithm for T2DM



## 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



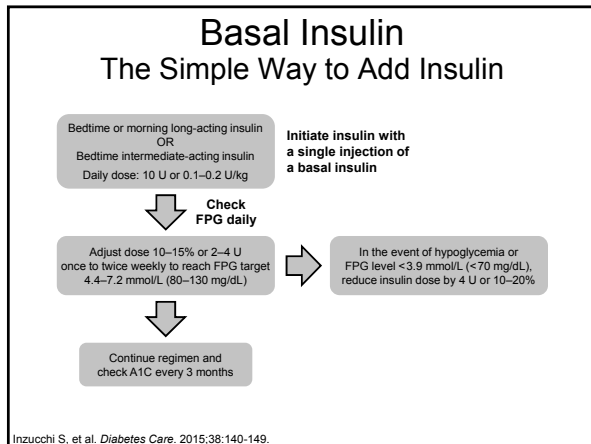
1. UKPDS Group. *Lancet*. 1998;352:837-853. 2. Holman RR. *Diabetes Res Clin Pract*. 1998;40(suppl):S21-S25.

## 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 (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.

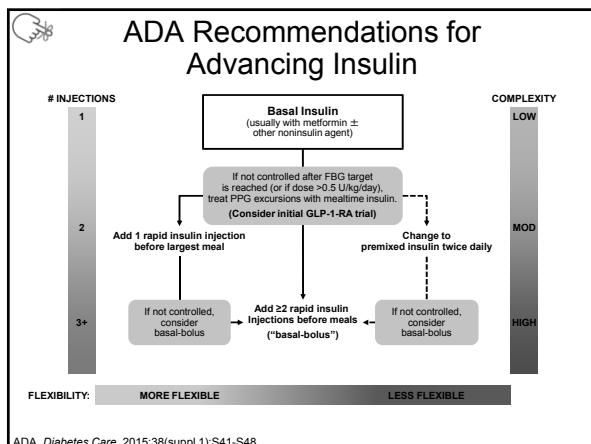
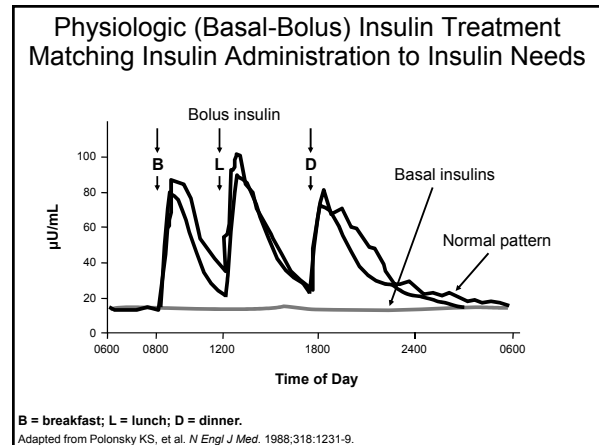


### Case 1 – Bruce Follow-up:

- 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%.



### Basal Plus Mealtime Insulin

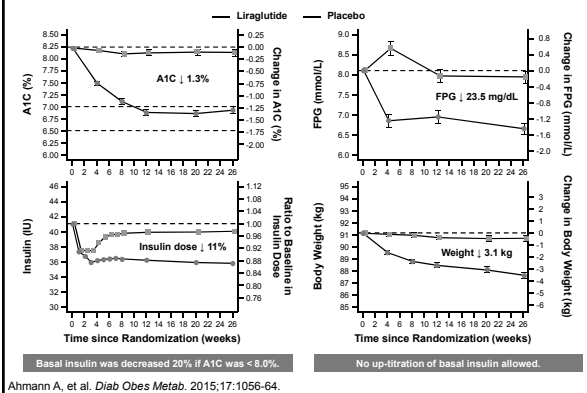
- Use rapid-acting analogs (Aspart, Lispro, Glulisine), not regular insulin
  - Easier timing, less postprandial hypoglycemia
- Start with 1 injection at largest meal:
  - 4 units and titrate, OR
  - By weight: 0.1 U/kg
- Titrate to:
  - <140 mg/dL 2 hours postprandial OR
  - <110 mg/dL next meal or 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.

## 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.

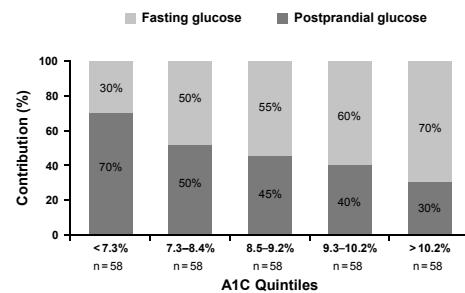
## Case 2 – Ann

- 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

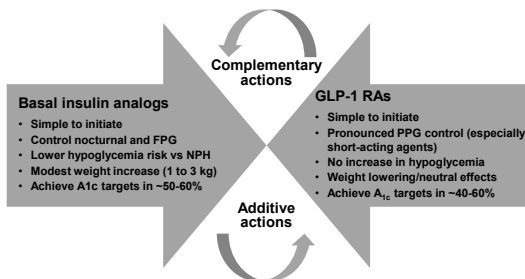
### Advantages

- 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

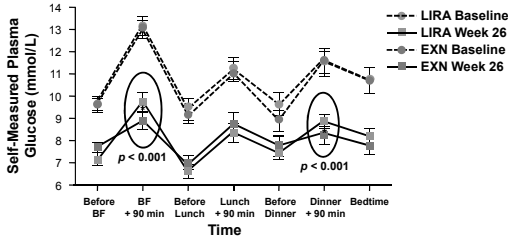
- **Renal impairment**
  - Reduced clearance of exenatide
  - Exenatide should not be used in patients with severe renal impairment or ESRD (CrCl < 30 mL/min)
  - Hypovolemia due to nausea and vomiting
- **Pancreatitis**
  - No causal relationship confirmed
  - Not for use in patients with history of 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.

Linnebjerg 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, 2016.

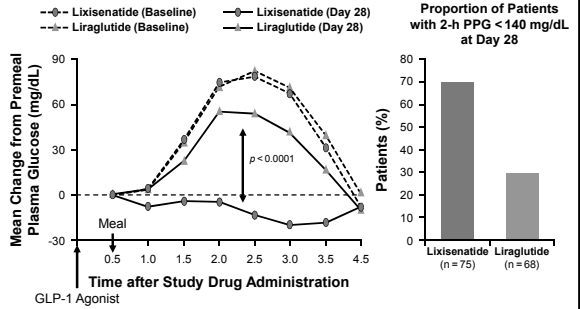
### Postprandial Glucose Effect of Short- and Long-Acting GLP-1 RAs: EXN vs. LIRA

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.

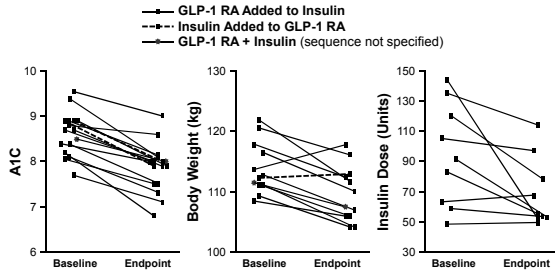
### PPG Effect of Short- and Long-Acting GLP-1 RAs: LIXI vs LIRA



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

### GLP-1 RAs in Combination with Basal Insulin in T2DM – Systematic Review

Results reported as available from 7 RCTs and 15 clinical practice or observational studies including at least 30 patients with T2DM\*



\*Each line in the graph represents a study.  
Balena R, et al. *Diabetes Obes Metab*. 2013;15(6):485-502.

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

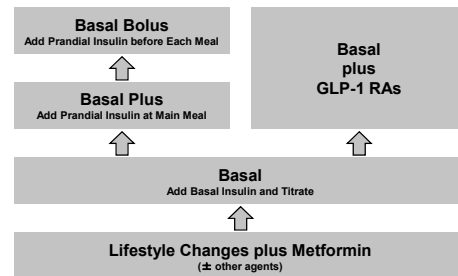
- Fewer injections
- Weight loss
- Lower hypoglycemic risk
- Reduce insulin doses
- Postprandial benefit, particularly with short-acting agents

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%.

### 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.