

# Diabetes and Pregnancy

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# Objectives

- Discuss and Review Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM) and Treatment
- Discuss and Review Pre-Existing Diabetes in Pregnancy and Treatment
- Learn management of common problems of Diabetes in Pregnancy

# Diabetes and Pregnancy

- Increased rate of GDM and pre-existing DM in pregnancy 1980-2008:
  - 0.95% to 1.81% (pre-existing) whites
  - 4.09% to 6.92% (GDM) whites
  - 1.66% to 3.17% (pre-existing) blacks
  - 3.98% to 6.58% (GDM) blacks

Increasing numbers- obesity, other DM risk

Hunt K, et al *Obesity Society* 2012

# Gestational Diabetes Mellitus

# Gestational Diabetes

- Reduced sensitivity to insulin in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> trimesters
- “Diabetogenic State” when insulin production doesn’t meet with increased insulin resistance

Hod and Yogev *Diabetes Care* 30:S180-S187, 2007

Crowther, et al *NEJM* 352:2477–2486, 2005

Langer, et al *Am J Obstet Gynecol* 192:989–997, 2005

# Gestational Diabetes

- Human placental lactogen, leptin, prolactin, and cortisol result in insulin resistance
- Lack of diagnosis and treatment-increased risk of perinatal morbidities

Hod and Yogev *Diabetes Care* 30:S180-S187, 2007

Crowther, et al *NEJM* 352:2477–2486, 2005

Langer, et al *Am J Obstet Gynecol* 192:989–997, 2005

# Gestational Diabetes

- Occurs in 2-9% of pregnancies
- ~135,000 cases in U.S. annually
- Lifestyle management
- **Insulin**  
(usually preferred, better efficacy)  
or **sulfonylureas** (in very select cases)

*Am J Obstet Gynecol* 192:1768-1776, 2005  
*Diabetes Care* 31(S1) 2008  
*Diabetes Care* 25:1862-1868, 2002

# Gestational Diabetes and Type 2 Diabetes Risk

- Gestational Diabetes should be considered a pre-diabetes condition
- Women with gestational diabetes have a 7-fold future risk of type 2 diabetes vs. women with normoglycemic pregnancy
- 35-60% go on to have DM

Lancet, 2009, 373(9677): 1773-9



# GDM Complications

- Macrosomia
- Fractures
- Shoulder dystocia
- Nerve palsies (Erb's C5-6)
- Pregnancy outcomes can be very poor with HTN/nephropathy
- Neonatal hypoglycemia

Gabbe, Obstetrics: Normal and Problem Pregnancies 2002

# Gestational Diabetes: Outcomes

- Hyperglycemia and Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes (HAPO) Study 28,000 women
- Good GDM management improves outcomes

NEJM (358) 2008  
Diabetes Care 2012

# Gestational Diabetes (GDM) Screening

- Screen for **type 2 diabetes** first prenatal visit if risk factors
- Not known to have diabetes, screen for GDM at 24 –28 weeks of gestation

Diabetes Care 34:Supplement 1, 2011

Lancet, 2009, 373(9677): 1773-9

**TABLE 2. Criteria for Testing for Diabetes or Prediabetes in Asymptomatic Adults**

1. Testing should be considered in overweight or obese (BMI  $\geq 25$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> or  $\geq 23$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> in Asian Americans) adults who have one or more of the following risk factors:
  - A1C  $\geq 5.7\%$  (39 mmol/mol), impaired glucose tolerance, or impaired fasting glucose on previous testing
  - First-degree relative with diabetes
  - High-risk race/ethnicity (e.g., African American, Latino, Native American, Asian American, Pacific Islander)
  - Women who were diagnosed with GDM
  - History of CVD
  - Hypertension ( $\geq 140/90$  mmHg or on therapy for hypertension)
  - HDL cholesterol level  $< 35$  mg/dL (0.90 mmol/L) and/or a triglyceride level  $> 250$  mg/dL (2.82 mmol/L)
  - Women with polycystic ovary syndrome
  - Physical inactivity
  - Other clinical conditions associated with insulin resistance (e.g., severe obesity, acanthosis nigricans)
2. For all patients, testing should begin at age 45 years.
3. If results are normal, testing should be repeated at a minimum of 3-year intervals, with consideration of more frequent testing depending on initial results (e.g., those with prediabetes should be tested yearly) and risk status.

# Gestational Diabetes (GDM)

## ADA

- Overnight fast, 75g OGTT
- Fasting  $\geq 92$  mg/dl
- 1 h  $\geq 180$  mg/dl
- 2 h  $\geq 153$  mg/dl

Diabetes Care 35:Supplement 1, 2012  
Diabetes Care 2010; 33: 676–682

# Gestational Diabetes (GDM)

## ACOG/Others

- 2 Step approach
- 1 hour 50gm OGT (screening) **>135-140**

Then proceed to 3 hour OGTT

# Carpenter Coustan 3 hour OGTT

- Fasting  $\geq 95$
- 1 hour  $\geq 180$
- 2 hours  $\geq 155$
- 3 hours  $\geq 140$
- 2 or more of the above values

Can follow 1 hour screen, or as initial diagnostic test

# GDM Screening

- A1C not ideal for GDM screening, but may be good for type 2 screening
- Fructosamine not good for screening

Gynecol Obstet Invest 2011;71:207-212  
Diabetes Care 34:Supplement 1, 2011  
Lancet, 2009, 373(9677): 1773-9



# Gestational Diabetes Management

- Dietician
- Diabetes Educator
- Consider referral to Diabetologist or Endocrinologist
- Moderate Physical Activity ~30 minutes daily if appropriate

Summary and Recommendations of the Fifth International Workshop-Conference on Gestational Diabetes Mellitus

*Diabetes Care* 30:S251-S260, 2007

*Diabetes Care* 2010; 33: 676–682

# Glucose Control in GDM

- Preprandial: <95 mg/dl, and either:  
1-h postmeal: <140 mg/dl  
or  
2-h postmeal: <120 mg/dl  
and Urine ketones negative

Diabetes Care 21(2):B161–B167, 1998  
Diabetes Care 2010; 33: 676–682

# Gestational Diabetes-Medications

- Patients who do not meet metabolic goals within one week or show signs of excessive fetal growth
- **Insulin** has been the usual first choice
- Sulfonylureas (glyburide) or metformin- select cases? Long term safety lacking (metformin-prematurity?)
- Other diabetes medications not recommended in GDM
- Metformin for PCOS need not continue in pregnancy

Summary and Recommendations of the Fifth International Workshop-Conference on **Gestational** Diabetes Mellitus

**Diabetes Care** 30:S251-S260, 2007

Langer et al *N Engl J Med* 343:1134–1138, 2000

*Diabetes Care* 40 (S1) 2017

# Insulin Safety in Pregnancy

- All insulins are pregnancy category B except for glargine, glulisine, and degludec, which are labeled category C
- Human Insulins-Least Immunogenic
- **Breastfeed-All insulins considered safe**

Data from Package Inserts

# Gestational Diabetes-Management

- Fasting, pre-meal, 2-hour post-prandial blood glucose probably all important
- Mean blood glucose >105-115, greater perinatal mortality
- A1C in GDM probably not important except for type 2 screening

*Am J Obstet Gynecol* 192:1768–1776, 2005

ADA Position Statement

Pettit, et al *Diabetes Care* 3:458–464, 1980

Karlsson, Kjellmer *Am J Obstet Gynecol* 112:213–220, 1972

Langer, et al *Am J Obstet Gynecol* 159:1478–1483, 1988

# Insulin Dosing-GDM

- Insulin dosing:
- Can use usual weight based dosing (i.e., 0.5 u/kg)
- Practical dosing can be to start 10 units NPH or detemir with evening meal
- Most NPH will titrate to BID, with eventual addition of Regular or Rapid Acting BID

# Alternate Insulin Dosing in GDM

- Regular or rapid acting (lispro or aspart) with meals, NPH or detemir at bedtime
- NPH + Regular or rapid acting in AM, regular or rapid acting at supper, NPH at bedtime

# Insulin Titration in GDM

Titrate insulin based on SMBG values:

- Fasting 60-90
- Pre-meal  $\leq 95$
- 2 hour post-meal  $< 120$
- Bedtime  $< 120$
- Occasional 3 AM



# Gestational Diabetes: Post-natal

- Blood glucose testing first few days after delivery
- Fasting glucose rechecked 4-12 weeks following delivery
- Screen at least every 3 years thereafter to be screened for Type 2 Diabetes-high risk of developing Type 2 Diabetes (7x higher) and/or CVD

Kitzmilller, et al Diabetes Care 30:S225-S235, 2007

Diabetes Care 34:Supplement 1, 2011

Lancet, 2009, 373(9677): 1773-9

# Pre-existing Type 1 or Type 2 Diabetes in Pregnancy

# Preconception Counseling

Also need to evaluate/treat

- Nephropathy
- Neuropathy
- Retinopathy
- Cardiovascular disease (CVD)
- Hypertension
- Dyslipidemia
- Psych
- Thyroid disease/Celiac disease
- Tobacco

Lawrence, et al *Diabetes Care* 31:899-904, 2008

Kitzmilller, et al *Diabetes Care* 31:1060-1079, 2008

# Preconception Counseling

## Meds to be evaluated

- Statins, many BP meds, many DM meds not used in pregnancy
- Continue multidiscipline patient-centered team care throughout pregnancy and postpartum.

Lawrence, et al *Diabetes Care* 31:899-904, 2008

Kitzmilller, et al *Diabetes Care* 31:1060-1079, 2008



# Preconception Counseling

- Educate pregnant diabetic women about the strong benefits of
- Long-term CVD risk factor reduction
- Effective family planning with good glycemic control before the next pregnancy

**Lawrence, et al Diabetes Care 31:899-904, 2008**

**Kitzmilller, et al Diabetes Care 31:1060-1079, 2008**

# Diabetes: Pregnancy Complications

- Cardiac: VSD, transposition of great vessels
- Anencephaly, Spina Bifida
- Sacral agenesis or caudal dysplasia
- Complications associated with polyhydramnios, oligohydramnios (i.e. growth retardation)
- Others as per GDM

Gabbe, Obstetrics: Normal and Problem Pregnancies 2002  
Kitzmilller, et al **Diabetes Care** 31:1060-1079, 2008

# Pre-Existing Diabetes and Pregnancy

- Pre-conception counseling  
(includes diabetes educator and dietician)
- Recommended pre-conception  
**A1C as close to normal (6.0%)**
- More Type 2 patients in child bearing  
years (diagnosed at younger age)

Kitzmilller, et al Diabetes Care 31:1060-1079, 2008

# Lab Testing Pre-existing DM

Initial Evaluation (in addition to routine prenatal testing)

A1C	Every 1-3 months
Fasting Lipid Profile	Initial, f/u as indicated
TSH and thyroid anti-bodies	Initial, f/u as indicated
CBC, serum ferritin	Initial, f/u as indicated
LFT's, consider liver U/S	Initial, f/u as indicated
Urine microalbumin/protein	If positive, 24 hour urine for total protein, creatinine clearance
Serum creatinine,	Initial, f/u as indicated
Creatinine clearance	
Serum B12? Celiac?	
Dilated retinal exam	Every 1-6 months as indicated

Kitzmilller, et al *Diabetes Care* 31:1060-1079, 2008



# Lab Testing Pre-existing DM

## Initial Evaluation

Assess risk factors for CHD

- Resting ECG\* in asymptomatic patients age 35 years or older
- Other studies, i.e., stress testing, echocardiography if suspect for heart disease

Kitzmilller, et al *Diabetes Care* 31:1060-1079, 2008

# Lab Testing in Pre-existing DM

## Special Considerations in type 1 DM

- Celiac Screening: anti-tissue transglutaminase or anti-endomysial antibody plus IgA level or TTG IgA and TTG IgG
- Thyroid testing

Kitzmilller, et al *Diabetes Care* 31:1060-1079, 2008

# Glucose Targets in Pregnancy with Pre-existing Diabetes

- Premeal, hs, overnight glucose 60–99 mg/dl
- Peak postprandial glucose 100–129 mg/dl
- Mean daily glucose <110 mg/dl
- A1C ~6.5 or less with **little or no hypoglycemia**
- Higher glucose targets may be used in patients with hypoglycemia unawareness or the inability to cope with intensified management
- Control ‘too tight’ (avg <80-90 mg/dl)

fetal growth restriction

Kitzmilller, et al *Diabetes Care* 31:1060-1079, 2008  
*Management of Preexisting Diabetes and Pregnancy*. Alexandria, Virginia,  
American Diabetes Association, 2008

# Pre-existing Type 2 Diabetes Pregnancy

- Metformin and insulin are only recommended drugs
- Many will fail metformin

Diabetes Care January 2016 39(S1)

# Pre-existing Type 2 Diabetes Pregnancy

- If already on insulin, continue
- Insulin needs increase as pregnancy progresses
- Controversy: Switch glargine to detemir or NPH?
- Continue lispro, aspart, or R if already using

Kitzmilller, et al Diabetes Care 31:1060-1079, 2008

# Pre-existing Type 1 Diabetes and Pregnancy

- All continue on insulin
- Controversy: continue glargine or converted to detemir or NPH?
- Continue Regular/Rapid Acting
- If on pump, continue

Kitzmilller, et al Diabetes Care 31:1060-1079, 2008

# Pre-Existing DM: Insulin

- In type 1 patients, may have a period of increased insulin **sensitivity** at 10-14 weeks
- Type 1 and type 2 patients usually have marked increase in insulin requirements as pregnancy progresses
- Converting type 2 patients to insulin as per discussion in GDM, may need larger doses initially (0.7-1.0 unit/kg)

Kitzmilller, et al *Diabetes Care* 31:1060-1079, 2008

# Hypertension and Lipid Management

- Medications for Cholesterol discontinued
- BP: Same recommendations as GDM (i.e., methyldopa)
- Dietician consult (already in place, but to account for dyslipidemia if pre-existing or newly diagnosed)
- CHD present in 1 in 10,000 pregnancies, but 1 in 350 women with DM
- Stroke 4-8 times more common in women with type 1 or type 2 DM

Klein, et al Arch Intern Med 164:1917–1924, 2004

**Kitzmilller, et al Diabetes Care** 31:1060-1079, 2008



# Case #1

- 30 y/o white female
- Known Type 2 DM on Metformin 500mg BID
- Previous successful pregnancy 2 years ago on insulin, male infant 7lbs 11 oz. (3.5 kg)
- No known infertility history
- Now at 11 weeks, referred by primary provider
- A1C 3 weeks prior to consult 5.8, but some AM glucose elevations prior into 130's

# Case #1

- Metformin continued (but could consider stopping)
- Patient started on NPH 10 units at HS, and was told to titrate upwards 2-3 units every 3 or 4 nights until fastings <90 with no significant hypoglycemia
- Patient required BID NPH by 16 weeks
- R was started in evening with largest meal (along with NPH), eventually on BID NPH/R, although evening NPH moved to HS at approx week 25 to improve fasting glucose
- A1C not over 6.2 during pregnancy (checked q 8 weeks)

## Case #2

- 25 y/o with Type 1 Diabetes of 12 years duration
- Had been on pump 5 years ago, now on MDI with detemir and aspart
- No previous pregnancies
- A1C at first visit (21 weeks gest) 7.8
- Went on **sensor augmented pump** (records blood sugar every 5 minutes 24 hours a day)

# Sensor Data

HbA1c: No Data

Pump: Paradigm 522  
Sensor: In use

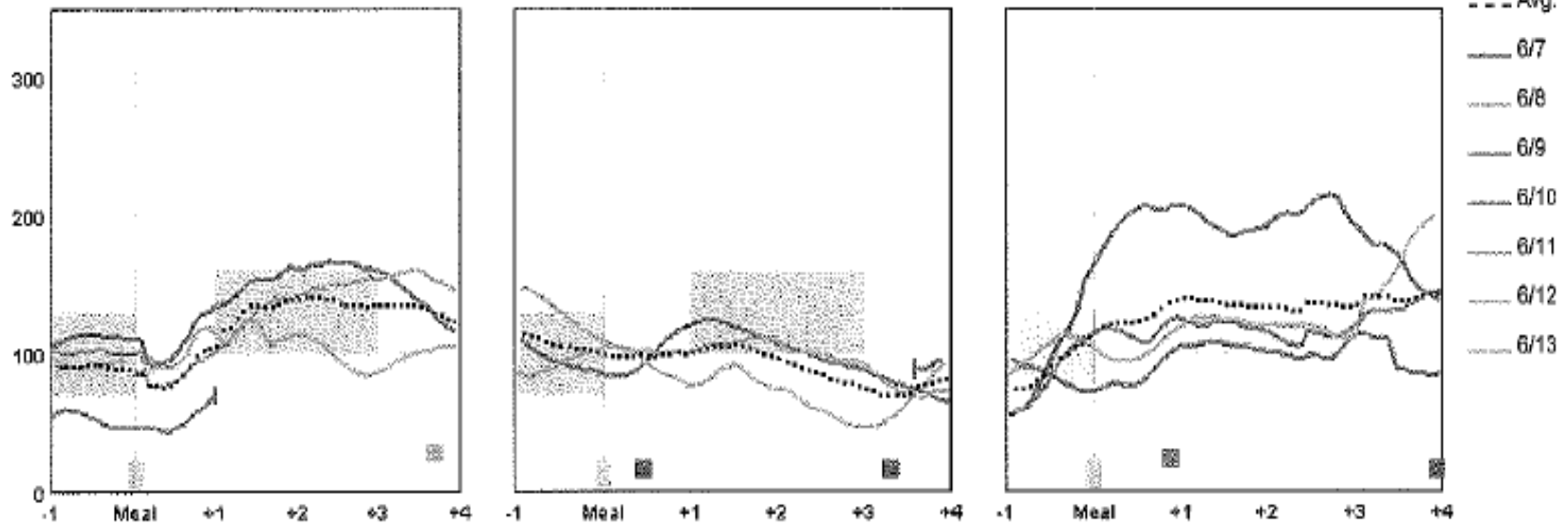
#411667

Overlay by Meal Event (mg/dL)

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner



# Case #2

- A1C's after pump restart 5.4-5.6 for remaining pregnancy
- C-section for failure to progress at 39 weeks, stayed on pump entire hospitalization
- Mom, baby no complications

## Case #3

- 24 y/o, first pregnancy, 28 weeks
- Difficulty gaining weight
- Fatigue for last month
- “urinating a lot, don’t you do that in pregnancy?”

# Case #3

- OGTT
- Fasting 342
- 1 hour 460
- 2 hour 420
- What now?

## Case #3

- Urine showed 3+ ketones
- This patient has type 1 diabetes
- Pregnancy is coincidental
- Started on MDI insulin immediately



# Inpatient Diabetes Management

- Diabetes Educator and Dietician consult-  
Diabetes needs/program changes within hours of delivery of infant.
- Need to account for breast feeding (giving away calories)
- Continued pump or insulin drip most appropriate for patients on insulin, particularly more than one injection daily.
- Supplemental subcutaneous may be appropriate for well controlled GDM for a short period of time (24 hours or less)
- Often return to previous pre-pregnancy program within hours or days of delivery

# Summary

- GDM: Start insulin if not meeting goals after one week
- Pre-existing type 2: Convert to insulin
- Pre-existing type : Continue insulin
- Meet targets, avoid hypoglycemia
- Continued comprehensive approach

# Contact Info/Slide Decks/Media

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Facebook

Search “North Dakota Diabetes” on Facebook

Slide Decks (Diabetes, Tobacco, other)

<http://www.med.und.edu/familymedicine/slidedecks.html>

iTunes Podcasts (Diabetes) (**Free downloads**)

<http://www.med.und.edu/podcasts/> or search North Dakota Diabetes Podcasts

WebMD Page: (under construction)

<http://www.webmd.com/eric-l-johnson>

Diabetes e-columns (archived):

<http://www.diabetesnd.org/>



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