

## TYPE 2 DIABETES MEDICATIONS

ORAL MEDICATIONS USED TO TREAT DIABETES	
Medication Class	How it works to lower blood sugar
Biguanides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduces the amount of glucose made and released by the liver</li> <li>Increases the body's sensitivity to insulin, so the body can respond better to its own insulin</li> </ul>
Sulfonylureas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stimulates the pancreas to produce insulin throughout the entire day</li> </ul>
Meglitinides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stimulates the pancreas to produce insulin after meals only</li> </ul>
Thiazolidinediones (TZDs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increases the body's sensitivity to insulin, so it can act more efficiently</li> <li>Reduces glucose production in liver</li> </ul>
Alpha-glucosidase inhibitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slows the digestion of carbohydrates in the gut so that sugar is absorbed more slowly into the blood</li> </ul>
DPP-4 inhibitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acts when sugars are high after a meal to cause your body to increase insulin levels which helps lower blood sugar, and decrease glucagon from the liver (<i>a hormone that raises blood sugar</i>)</li> </ul>
SGLT2 inhibitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduces sugar levels in the body by decreasing reabsorption in the kidneys and increasing the amount of sugar you pass in your urine</li> </ul>

INJECTABLE MEDICATIONS USED TO TREAT DIABETES	
Medication Class	How it works to lower blood sugar
GLP-1 agonists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acts when sugars are high after a meal to increase insulin levels which helps lower blood sugar, and decrease glucagon (<i>a hormone that raises blood sugar</i>)</li> </ul>

**BASAL (LONG ACTING) INSULINS:**

Types of basal insulins	How it works	Onset: how quickly it starts lowering your blood sugar	Duration: how long it lowers your blood sugar
Intermediate insulin	Taken usually once a day, basal insulin works in the background to keep your blood sugar under control throughout the entire day	<b>1-3 hours</b>	<b>Up to 18 hours</b>
Long acting insulin		<b>1.5 hours</b>	<b>16 up to 42 hours</b> product depending

**BOLUS (MEAL-TIME) INSULINS:**

Types of bolus insulins	How it works	Onset: how quickly it starts lowering your blood sugar	Duration: how long it lowers your blood sugar
Rapid acting insulin	Taken at meal-time, rapid acting insulin lowers blood sugar levels that get elevated after meals	<b>5-15 minutes</b>	<b>3-5 hours</b>
Short acting insulin		<b>15-30 minutes</b>	<b>6.5 hours</b> newer products can act longer

**PRE-MIXED (COMBINATION OF BASAL AND BOLUS INSULINS):**

Types of bolus insulins	How it works	Onset: how quickly it starts lowering your blood sugar	Duration: how long it lowers your blood sugar
Pre-mixed insulin	Taken usually twice a day, pre-mixed insulin lowers blood sugar from meals, and controls blood sugar throughout the entire day	<b>10-15 minutes;</b> <b>or 30-60 minutes</b>	<b>Up to 18 hours</b>

