

## DIABETES MEDICATIONS

CLASS	NAMES	HOW IT WORKS	SIDE EFFECTS
Sulfonylureas	Chlorpropamide (Diabinese ®), Glipizide (Glucotrol ® - XL), Glyburide (Glynase ®, Micronase ®, Diabeta ®), Glimepiride (Amaryl ®)	Causes the pancreas to make more insulin -Taken 1 or 2 times a day	Low blood glucose, weight gain, rash, or nausea
Meglitinides	Repaglinide (Prandin ®), Nateglinide (Starlix ®)	Causes the pancreas to make more insulin and act very quickly -Taken 5-30 minutes before meals	Low blood glucose
Biguanide	Metformin (Glucophage ® - XR)	Reduces the amount of glucose that is made by the liver and helps the body's cells use insulin better -Taken 2-3 times/day; XR taken once/day	Nausea, gas, or loss of appetite
Alpha-Glucosidase Inhibitors	Acarbose (Precose ®), Miglitol (Glyset ®)	Delays the absorption of glucose after a meal -Taken before each meal	Gas, bloating, diarrhea, or stomach pain
Thiazolidinediones (Glitazones or TZDs)	Rosiglitazone (Avandia ®), Pioglitazone (Actos ®)	Helps the body's cells use insulin better and reduces the amount of glucose that is made by the liver -Taken once daily with or without food	Fluid retention/swelling or liver damage (nausea, vomiting, fatigue, dark urine, abdominal pain)
DPP-4 Inhibitors	Sitagliptin (Januvia ®)	Sends a message to a substance called DPP-4, which signals the pancreas to make insulin when your blood glucose level is high and signals the liver to make less glucose -100 mg tablet taken once daily	Upper respiratory tract infections or headaches
Amylin Analogs	Pramlintide (Symlin)	A synthetic form of the hormone amylin, which works with insulin and glucagon to maintain normal blood glucose levels -15 mcg. injection before major meals	Nausea
Incretin Mimetics	Exenatide (Byetta)	A form of the hormone GLP-1, which works to lower blood glucose levels mainly by increasing insulin output -10 mcg. injection before (within 1 hour) AM & PM meals	Nausea