

# Pregnancy and Diabetes

Diabetes Symposium, 2019

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## Conflicts

I have no relevant disclosures or conflict of interest with the material I'm presenting today.

## Objectives

- Explain diabetes management in pregnancy.
- Describe the metabolism of normal pregnancy and the alterations that occur in overt and gestational diabetes.
- Describe the diagnostic criteria and screening recommended by the ADA.
- Describe potential maternal and fetal complications.
- Summarize treatment options in GDM.

## Diabetes and Pregnancy

- Preconception
  - Effects of diabetes on maternal/fetal outcomes
    - Glycemic Control
    - Diabetes self-care
    - Comorbidities
    - Congenital Malformations
    - Macrosomia
    - Stillbirth
  - Effects of medications on outcomes

## Risk factors for pregestational DM II

- Prepregnancy BMI >25 and at least one of the following (ADA 2017 guidelines):
  - Prior history of GDM
  - Prior infant weighing >4000g at birth
  - Chronic hypertension or cardiovascular disease
  - PCOS
  - Non-caucasian race
  - First degree relative with DM
  - A1C  $\geq$  5.7%
  - Hypercholesterolemia
  - Age >45
  - Physical inactivity

## First trimester screening for women at risk for DM II

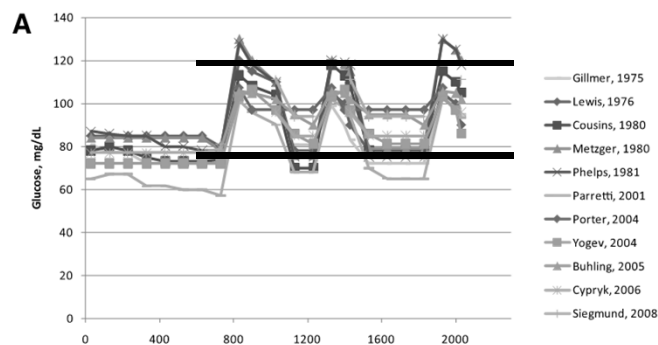
- American Diabetic Association Criteria for 2017 :
  - A1C  $\geq$  6.5%
  - Fasting glucose of  $\geq$  126mg/dl
  - Random glucose  $\geq$  200 mg/dl and hyperglycemia symptoms
  - 2 hour glucose tolerance test (GTT)
    - 75g glucose load
    - 2 hour glucose  $\geq$  200 mg/dl
- 1 hour screening GTT followed by 3 hour diagnostic GTT
- *If a patient passes early GTT, it still must be repeated at 24-28 weeks*

## Glucose Thresholds & Complications

# NORMOGLYCEMIA OF PREGNANCY

## Glycemia in Normal Pregnancy

*Patterns of glycemia in normal pregnancy*

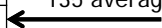


Hernandez. Diabetes Care. 2011

# Glycemic Patterns

Median Results	
Fasting	71
1 hr	109
2 hr	99
24 hr	88

135 average = 2 SD above



Recommended	
1 hr	< 122
2 hr	< 110

140  
120



Diabetes During Pregnancy

## MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS

## Maternal Complications- Diabetes

**Table 4**

UK Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health (CEMACH) Survey. Pregnancy in women with type 1 and type 2 diabetes in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, 2002–2003.<sup>1</sup>

	IDDM	UK	Rate Ratio
Birth weight > 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	52%	10%	5.2
Shoulder dystocia	7.9%	3%	2.6
Erb's Palsy	4.5/1000	0.42/1000	11
Preterm Delivery	37%	7.3%	5
Caesarean Section	67%	24%	2.8
Congenital Malformations	5.5%	2.1%	2.6
Neonatal Death	9.3/1000	3.6/1000	2.6
Perinatal Mortality	31.8/1000	8.5/1000	3.7

IDDM (baby of mothers with pregestational diabetes mellitus); UK (rate for general UK population). Perinatal mortality: fetal death between 24 weeks and one week after delivery

McCance, Best Practice & Research Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism, 2011

## Diabetic Ketoacidosis

Study	Time Interval	n	Incidence (%)	Fetal loss (%)
Lufkin, et al	1950-1979	228	7.9%	?
Cousins, et al	1965-1985	1508	9.3%	?
Kilvert, et al	1971-1990	635	1.7%	14% (2-3 <sup>rd</sup> tri)
Rogers and Rogers	1980-1990	~3000	1%	?
Cullen, et al	1985-1995	520	2%	9%
Schneider, et al	1991-2001	2025	1.2%	27%

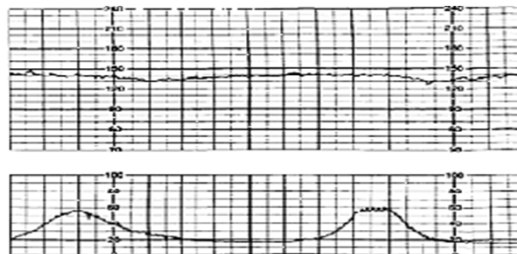
## How pregnancy affects the disease

- Accelerated starvation
- Insulin antagonistic state
- Lowered buffering capacity
  - pH 7.4/PCo<sub>2</sub> 30mm Hg/Bicarb 20 mEq/L.
- Emesis
- Infection

Can lower  
threshold

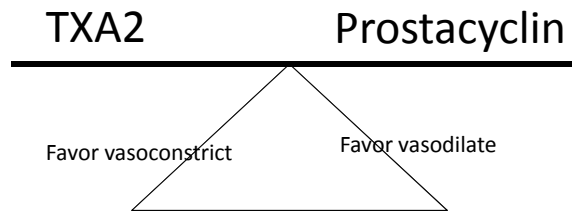
## How the disease affects pregnancy

- Fetal Loss (9-27%)

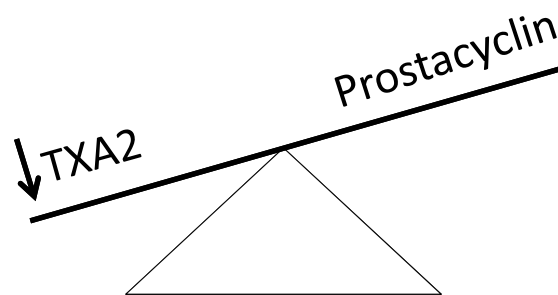


Creasy (p963, 6<sup>th</sup> ed) "...even when fetal status is questionable during the phase of therapeutic volume and plasma glucose correction, emergency cesarean section should be avoided"

# Aspirin



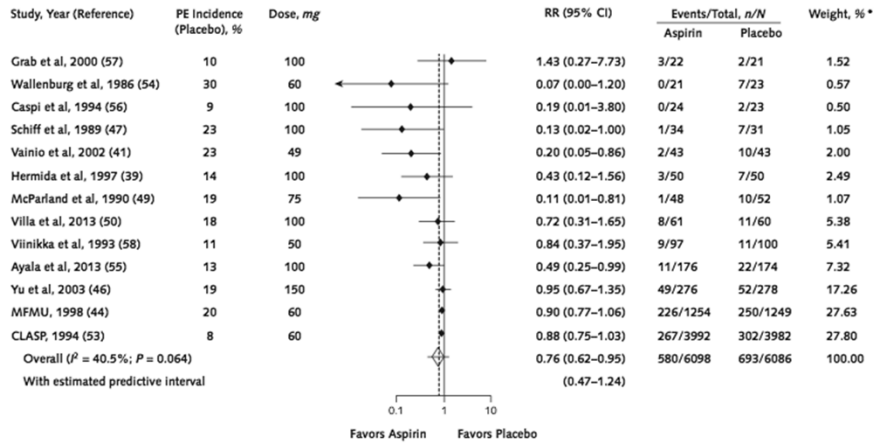
# Aspirin



LDA inhibits TXA2 > Prostacyclin production = vasodilate



Figure 3. Pooled analysis of preeclampsia from trials of women at risk for preeclampsia, sorted by sample size.

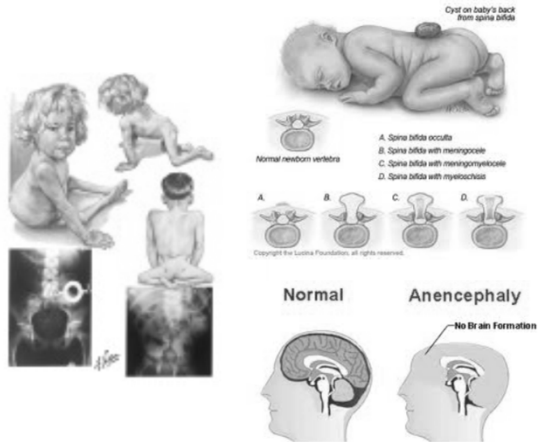


Henderson, Ann Int Med 2014

## FETAL COMPLICATIONS

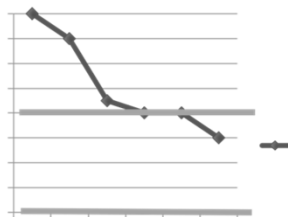
# Congenital Anomalies

- Sacral Agenesis
- Spina Bifida
- Anencephaly
- Heart Defects



# Fetal Complications

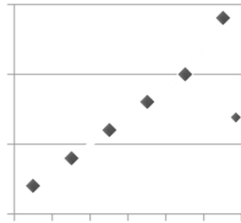
## Glucose Thresholds



## Fetal Complications

Anomalies	140
Fetal Death	110
Respiratory Dis	110
Macrosomia	100
Growth Restriction	
Hypoglycemia	

## Anomalies



	Anomaly Risk
Non-diabetic	2%
HbA1c 7%	3%
HbA1c 9%	6%
HbA1c 11%	10%

Guerin. Diabetes Care. 2007

## STILLBIRTH

	Age	Years of DM	Smoke	Pre HbA1c	Early HbA1c	Late HbA1c	EGA
Stillbirth	27	11 yrs	64%	7.9%	7.9%	8.0%	35 wks
Reference	30	14 yrs	29%	7.4%	7.0%	6.3%	37 wks

Women who experienced stillbirth were characterized by a high incidence of suboptimal glycemic control, diabetic nephropathy, smoking and low socioeconomic status.

## Respiratory Distress

### Etiologies:

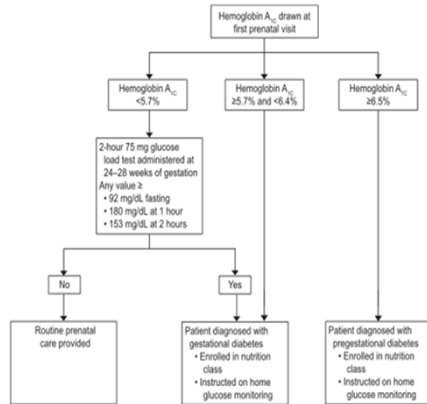
1. Increased premature delivery
2. Hyperglycemia and Hyperinsulinemia delay glucocorticoid production and lung maturation

The risk of RDS among preterm infants of well-controlled diabetic mothers approaches that of infants born to non-diabetic mothers at similar gestational ages.

## GESTATIONAL DIABETES

# Gestational Diabetes Screening

*The International Association of the Diabetes and Pregnancy Study Groups Compared With Carpenter-Coustan Screening*



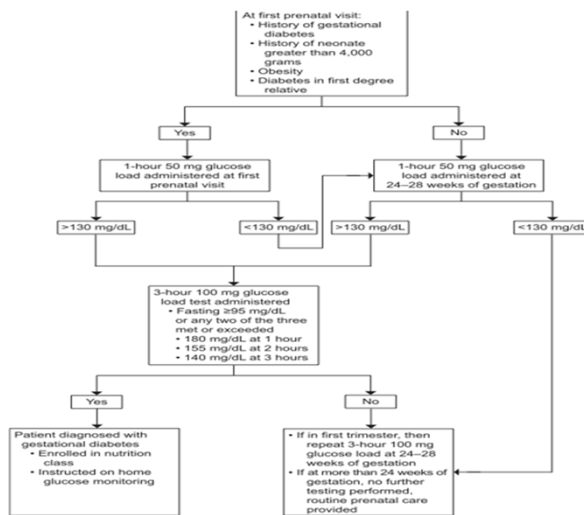
- n=6,066
  - 2,972 (standard)
  - 3,095 (protocol)

- Rate of GDM
  - Standard 17%
  - Protocol 27%

p < 0.001

Feldman et al, Obstet Gynecol 2016

# Diagnosis of GDM



## Diagnosis of GDM

**Table 3. Unadjusted and Adjusted Odds Ratios With the Before Group as the Referent Group**

Pregnancy Outcomes, Before vs After	OR (95% CI)	Adjusted OR (95% CI)
LGA	0.9 (0.76–1.07)	0.84 (0.68–1.03)
Macrosomia	0.83 (0.69–1)	0.81 (0.65–1.01)
NICU admissions	1.37 (1.08–1.74)*	1.24 (0.94–1.65)
Preterm births	1.08 (0.89–1.3)	1.03 (0.82–1.3)
Total cesarean deliveries	1.27 (1.13–1.42) <sup>‡</sup>	1.22 (1.06–1.4)*
Primary cesarean deliveries	1.3 (1.13–1.5) <sup>‡</sup>	1.2 (1.01–1.42) <sup>§</sup>
Cesarean deliveries as a result of arrest disorders	1.27 (1.06–1.52)	1.12 (0.9–1.39)
Preeclampsia	1.47 (1.12–1.93)*	1.73 (0.87–3.51)
Hyperbilirubinemia	1.16 (0.98–1.38) <sup>‡</sup>	1.13 (0.92–1.38)
Shoulder dystocia	0.64 (0.25–1.55)	0.69 (0.25–1.76)

OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval; LGA, large for gestational age; NICU, neonatal intensive care unit.

Adjusted odds ratios account for maternal age, race-ethnicity, parity, prenatal body mass index measured at first prenatal care visit, and hypertension status.

**Table 4. Unadjusted and Adjusted Odds Ratios for Events by Body Mass Index at First Prenatal Care Visit**

Pregnancy Outcomes, Before vs After	OR (95% CI)	Adjusted OR (95% CI)
LGA	1.08 (1.06–1.09)*	1.07 (1.06–1.09)*
Macrosomia	1.07 (1.05–1.09)*	1.06 (1.04–1.08)*
NICU admissions	1.01 (0.99–1.03)	0.99 (0.97–1.02)
Preterm births	1.04 (1.02–1.05)*	1.02 (1–1.03)
Total cesarean deliveries	1.05 (1.03–1.06)*	1.04 (1.03–1.05)*
Primary cesarean deliveries <sup>§</sup>	1.03 (1.02–1.05)*	1.03 (1.02–1.05) <sup>‡</sup>
Cesarean deliveries as a result of arrest disorders	1.02 (1.01–1.04) <sup>‡</sup>	1.03 (1.01–1.05) <sup>‡</sup>
Preeclampsia	1.07 (1.04–1.09)*	0.97 (0.93–1.01)
Hyperbilirubinemia	1.01 (0.99–1.03)	1.01 (0.99–1.03)
Shoulder dystocia	1.08 (1.02–1.15) <sup>‡</sup>	1.06 (0.99–1.13)*

OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence interval; LGA, large for gestational age; NICU, neonatal intensive care unit.

Adjusted odds ratios account for maternal age, race-ethnicity, parity, and hypertension status. Body mass index was treated as a continuous variable.

Feldman et al, Obstet Gynecol 2016

## Incidence

- 3.5-12% in pregnancy
- 30-50% recurrence risk
- 7x increase risk developing DM2

## Risks Associated with GDM

- Maternal
  - Preeclampsia
  - C-section
  - Type II DM
- Neonatal
  - Birth weight >4000g
  - Shoulder dystocia
  - Hypoglycemia
  - Stillbirth
  - Increased risk of childhood obesity

## Maternal Complications

### **Gestational**

- Gestational HTN/Preeclampsia
- LGA infant
- Traumatic vaginal delivery
- Cesarean delivery
- Type 2 DM

### **Pre-Gestational**

- Gestational HTN/Preeclampsia
- SGA or LGA
- Cesarean delivery
- Worsening end-organ disease
  - Eyes, Kidneys

## Management

- Dietary Modification
  - CDE
- Monitoring of Blood Glucose
- Medication
- Other
  - Exercise
    - Blood Glucose
    - Insulin requirements

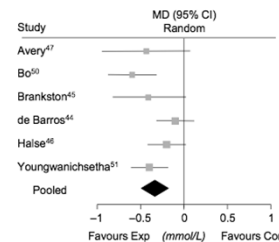


Figure 4. Mean difference (95% CI) in effect of exercise plus usual care versus usual care only on postprandial blood glucose (mmol/L) in women with gestational diabetes mellitus, in a sensitivity analysis excluding the study by Jovanovic-Petersen et al<sup>19</sup> due to heterogeneity.

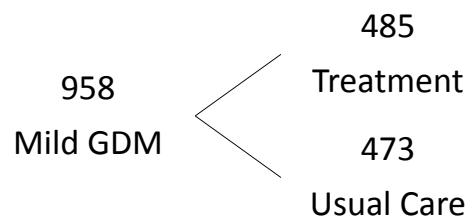
Harrison, et al JPHYS, 2016

## GDM Diagnostic Options (24-28 weeks)

- **Two step:**
  - 50g glucose load
    - Glucose threshold of 135 or 140 mg/dl
    - Consider diagnostic if  $\geq 200$  mg/dl
  - 100g glucose load (one or two abnormal values)
    - Fasting  $>95$
    - 1 hr  $>180$
    - 2 hr  $>155$
    - 3 hr  $>140$
- **One step:**
  - 75g glucose load (one abnormal value)
    - Fasting  $\geq 92$
    - 1hr  $\geq 180$
    - 2hr  $\geq 153$



## A Multicenter, Randomized Trial of Treatment for Mild Gestational Diabetes



Landon. 2009

## Treatment of Mild GDM

Outcome Variable	Treatment Group (N=485)	Control Group (N=473)	Relative Risk (97% CI)	P Value
Birth weight — g	3302±502.4	3408±589.4		<0.001
Birth weight >4000 g — no./total no. (%)	28/477 (5.9)	65/454 (14.3)	0.41 (0.26–0.66)	<0.001
Large for gestational age — no./total no. (%) <sup>†</sup>	34/477 (7.1)	66/454 (14.5)	0.49 (0.32–0.76)	<0.001
Fat mass — g	427.0±197.9	464.3±222.3		0.003
Preterm delivery — no./total no. (%) <sup>‡</sup>	45/477 (9.4)	53/455 (11.6)	0.81 (0.53–1.23)	0.27
Small for gestational age — no./total no. (%) <sup>§</sup>	36/477 (7.5)	29/455 (6.4)	1.18 (0.70–1.99)	0.49
Admission to NICU — no./total no. (%)	43/477 (9.0)	53/455 (11.6)	0.77 (0.51–1.18)	0.19
Intravenous glucose treatment — no./total no. (%)	25/475 (5.3)	31/455 (6.8)	0.77 (0.44–1.36)	0.32
Respiratory distress syndrome — no./total no. (%)	9/477 (1.9)	13/455 (2.9)	0.66 (0.26–1.67)	0.33

Landon. NEJM. 2009

## Treatment of Mild GDM

Table 4. Maternal Outcomes.\*

Outcome Variable	Treatment Group (N=476)	Control Group (N=455)	Relative Risk (97% CI)	P Value
Induction of labor — no. (%)	130 (27.3)	122 (26.8)	1.02 (0.81–1.29)	0.86
Cesarean delivery — no. (%)	128 (26.9)	154 (33.8)	0.79 (0.64–0.99)	0.02
Shoulder dystocia — no. (%)	7 (1.5)	18 (4.0)	0.37 (0.14–0.97)	0.02
Preeclampsia — no. (%)	12 (2.5)	25 (5.5)	0.46 (0.22–0.97)	0.02
Preeclampsia or gestational hypertension — no. (%)	41 (8.6)	62 (13.6)	0.63 (0.42–0.96)	0.01
Body-mass index at delivery†	31.3±5.2	32.3±5.2		<0.001
Weight gain — kg‡	2.8±4.5	5.0±3.3		<0.001

Landon. NEJM. 2009

Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2016 Sep;215(3):287-97. doi: 10.1016/j.ajog.2016.04.040. Epub 2016 Apr 29.

**Single abnormal value on 3-hour oral glucose tolerance test during pregnancy is associated with adverse maternal and neonatal outcomes: a systematic review and metaanalysis.**

Roeckner JT<sup>1</sup>, Sanchez-Ramos L<sup>2</sup>, Jijon-Knupp R<sup>3</sup>, Kaunitz AM<sup>3</sup>.

- 2016 metaanalysis of 25 studies with 4466 women total
- Women with 1 abnormal on 3 hour GTT vs no abnormal values
- Significant increased risk of:
  - Macrosomia
  - Neonatal hypoglycemia
  - C-section
  - Gestational hypertension
  - NICU admission
  - Neonatal respiratory distress

**AJOG** American  
Journal of  
Obstetrics &  
Gynecology

[Ann Intern Med.](#) 2013 Jul 16;159(2):123-9. doi: 10.7326/0003-4819-159-2-201307160-00661.

**Benefits and harms of treating gestational diabetes mellitus: a systematic review and meta-analysis for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the National Institutes of Health Office of Medical Applications of Research.**

[Hartling L](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Dryden DM](#), [Guthrie A](#), [Muisse M](#), [Vandermeer B](#), [Donovan L](#).

- Metaanalysis of RCTs and cohort studies
- Compared diet modification, glucose monitoring, and insulin with no treatment
- Treatment group with fewer cases of:
  - Preeclampsia
  - Macrosomia
  - Shoulder dystocia
- Treatment group had more office visits



## Glycemic control targets

- ADA and ACOG:
  - Fasting <95
  - 1 hour postprandial <140
- MUSC targets:
  - Fasting <90
  - 1 hour postprandial <130
  - A1C under 6%

## Treatment Goals

- Achieve euglycemia
- Decrease risk of adverse perinatal outcome
  
- Insulin only FDA approved treatment

## TREATMENT OF GDM

Insulin  
Metformin  
Glyburide

# Long Acting Insulin

## Long acting Insulins in Pregnancy

- Avoid peak action
- Less symptomatic hypoglycemia
- Less nocturnal hypoglycemia
- Result in tighter control

# Comparison of All agents

## **Comparative Efficacy and Safety of OADs in Management of GDM: Network Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials**

Yun-Fa Jiang,\* Xue-Yan Chen,\* Tao Ding, Xiao-Feng Wang, Zhong-Ning Zhu, and Su-Wen Su

- 18 RCT's comparing efficacy and safety between different OADs or OAD vs Insulin in GDM
- 30-733 pts (10 had < 100 pts and 13 <150 pts)

J Clin Endocrinol Metab, May 2015, 100(5):2071-2080

## Comparison of All agents

- No significant difference in
  - Fasting blood glucose
  - Hb A1C
- Metformin
  - Lower maternal weight gain
- Glyburide
  - Higher neonatal birth weight
  - Increased incidence of neonatal hypoglycemia
  - Increased incidence macrosomia

J Clin Endocrinol Metab, May 2015, 100(5):2071–2080

## ACOG Practice Bulletin #180, July 2017

- Recommendation for insulin as first line therapy
- Treatment with glyburide compared with insulin demonstrated worse neonatal outcomes:
  - Respiratory distress syndrome
  - Hypoglycemia
  - Macrosomia
  - Birth injury
- Treatment with metformin compared with insulin:
  - Lower rate of gestational hypertension
  - Less maternal weight gain
- 20-40% of women will fail therapy with metformin or glyburide alone:
  - Both cross placenta
  - Lack of long term follow up of exposed neonates
- Metformin is second line therapy if the patient is unable to comply with insulin

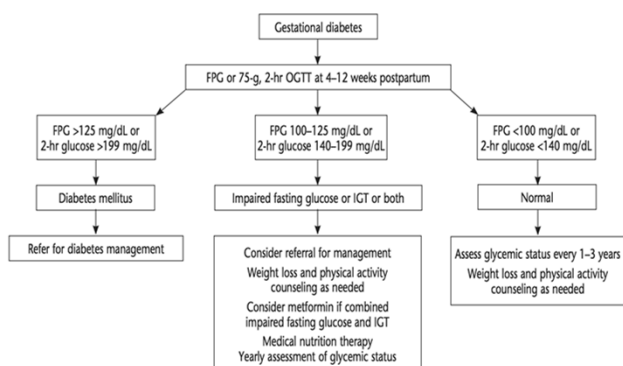
## First line GDMA2 treatment: Insulin

- NPH (Novalin, Humalin): **Cloudy**
  - Intermediate acting insulin
  - To control fasting glucose, begin bedtime NPH at 0.2 unit/kg
  - Onset of action 1-3 hours
  - Peak 5-7 hours
  - Duration 13-18 hours
- Novolog(aspart)/Humalog (lispro): **Clear**
  - Short acting insulin for meal coverage
  - Can be targeted for abnormal values at single time of day
  - Onset of action 1-15 minutes
  - Peak 1-2 hours
  - Duration 4-5 hours

## GDMA2

- Antenatal testing beginning at 32 weeks
- EFW every 4 weeks
- Recommend A1C q4-6 weeks to confirm compliance
- Serial assessment of amniotic fluid
- Well controlled: delivery between 39 0/7-39 6/7
- Consideration of primary c-section if EFW > 4500g

## Postpartum 2 hour GTT



**ACOG**  
THE AMERICAN CONGRESS OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS

## Take home points:

- Preconception counseling- Goal A1C <6%
- DM 1 – must take basal insulin
- Screen all women at risk diabetes at the initial Ob visit or in the first trimester
- The risk of recurrent GDM in a subsequent pregnancy is 40%
- Insulin is the first line treatment to achieve glucose targets
  - To control fasting glucose, begin bedtime NPH at 0.2 unit/kg
  - If insulin is not an option, the first line oral treatment is metformin
  - Extended release metformin such as 1000mg ER qday is preferred to decrease GI side effects
- Patients with GDM need postpartum screening for DMII



## Learning Assessment Question #1

Which of the following does **NOT** describe a physiologic change that occurs during pregnancy which can have a negative impact on diabetes?

- a) Fetal and placental use of maternal glucose
- b) Impaired action of maternal insulin
- c) Compensated maternal respiratory acidosis
- d) Dehydration caused by emesis

## Learning Assessment Question #2

- True/False: A pregnant woman passes the first trimester early glucose tolerance test. She is no longer required to undergo a glucose tolerance test at 24-28 weeks gestation.

**FALSE**

### Learning Assessment Question #3

- True/False: The risk of fetal anomalies increases with increasing maternal HbA1C.

**TRUE**

### Learning Assessment Question #4

The first-line treatment option for gestational diabetes is:

- a) Glyburide
- b) Metformin
- c) Insulin
- d) Exenatide

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ACOG Practice Bulletin #180, July 2017