PATIENTS HANDOUTS ON DIABETES MELLITUS

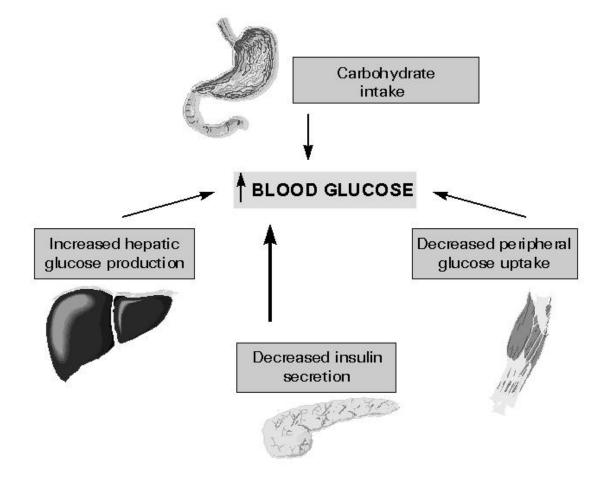
Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2 Introduction

Background

Type 2 diabetes mellitus is a group of disorders characterized by hyperglycemia and associated with microvascular (ie, retinal, renal, possibly neuropathic), macrovascular (ie, coronary, peripheral vascular), and neuropathic (ie, autonomic, peripheral) complications. Unlike patients with type-1 diabetes mellitus, patients with type 2 are not absolutely dependent upon insulin for life, even though many of them are ultimately treated with insulin.

Pathophysiology

Hyperglycemia results from lack of endogenous insulin, which is either absolute, as in type 1 diabetes mellitus, or relative, as in type 2 diabetes mellitus. Relative insulin deficiency usually occurs because of resistance to the actions of insulin in muscle, fat, and the liver and an inadequate response by the pancreatic beta



Diagnosis of Diabetes Mellitus

- Classic symptoms of diabetes mellitus (polyuria, polydipsia, polyphagia, and weight loss and random plasma glucose ≥200 mg/dL
- Fasting plasma glucose ≥126 mg/dL
- Two hour post glucose load (75 g) plasma glucose ≥200 mg/dL, and confirmed by repeat test

fasting: no caloric intake for at least 8 hr plasma glucose obtained in a sodium fluoride (gray top) tube

Laboratory Monitoring of Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

Test	HbA1c	FLP	Scr	Umab	ECG
Type 2 DM- insulin treated	Every 3 months	Yearly	Yearly	Yearly	Baseline
Type 2 DM- no insulin	Every 3-6 months	Yearly	Yearly	Yearly	Baseline

Diet

For most patients, the best diet is one consisting of the foods that they are currently eating.

Activity

Most patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus can benefit from increased activity. Aerobic exercise improves insulin sensitivity and may improve glycemia markedly in some patients.

Medication

Pharmacologic therapy has changed dramatically in the last 10 years. New drug classes and new drugs effectively treat type 2 diabetes mellitus, allowing glycemic control previously beyond the reach of medical therapy.

Traditionally, diet modification has been the cornerstone of diabetes management.

Weight loss is more likely to control glycemia in patients with recent onset of the disease than in patients who are significantly insulinopenic.

Complications

Coronary heart disease, Retinopathy, Neuropathy

Gastroparesis is usually less of a problem in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus than in those with type 1. Patients with cystopathy may benefit from cholinergic agents.

Erectile dysfunction is often neuropathic and vasculogenic.

Nephropathy, Peripheral vascular disease,

Prognosis

- Cardiovascular disease is the major source of mortality in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus.
- Recent studies suggest that broad-based focus in treatment (eg, glycemia, nutrition, exercise, lipids, hypertension, smoking cessation) is much more likely to reduce the burden of excess microvascular and macrovascular events.