

Drug Class	Metformin (MF) GLUCOPHAGE	Sulfonylureas		TZDs		Acarbose GLUCOBAY	Meglitinides	DPP4 Inhibitors	GLP1 Agonists ***	SGLT2 Inhibitors ***	Insulin in T2DM	
Generic → BRAND	Metformin (MF) GLUCOPHAGE	Gliclazide DIAMICRON	Glyburide DIABETA	Pioglitazone ACTOS, g	Rosiglitazone AVANDIA	Acarbose GLUCOBAY	Repaglinide GLUCONORM	Saxagliptin ONGLYZA Sitagliptin JANUVIA Alogliptin NESINA Linagliptin TRAJENTA	Liraglutide VICTOZA Exenatide BYETTA, BYDUREON Dulaglutide TRULICITY Semaglutide OZEMPIC, RYBELSUS (PO) Lixisenatide ADLYXINE; ALBIGLUTIDE D/C	Empagliflozin JARDIANCE Canagliflozin INVOKANA Dapagliflozin FORXIGA, FARXIGA Ertugliflozin D/C STEGLATRO	Intensity: Less (NPH HS + MF)	Intensity: More (Multiple daily doses)
Major trials to support findings/Outcomes*	UKPDS-33,34,80 (ADOPT; some use in ADVANCE)	ADVANCE	UKPDS-33,80 (ADOPT)	ProACTIVE Ferwana M. Meta-analysis 2013. SR-Liao 2017; IRIS	Meta-analysis. RECORD interim, ADOPT, DREAM	ACE (Prevention trial: Stop-NIDDM)	-	SAVOR-TIMI 53, TECOS, EXAMINE PROLOGUE, CARMELINA, CAROLINA	LEADER, EXSCEL, FREEDOM CVO, REWIND, SUSTAIN-6, PIONEER-6, ELIXA, HARMONY	EMPA-REG, CANVAS, CREDENCE, DECLARE, VERTIS-CV (2020), DAPA-HF, DAPA-CKD (2020), EMPEROR-Reduced & -Preserved (2020), EMPA-Kidney (2022)	T2DM: UKPDS-33,80; ADVANCE, ACCORD, VADT, ORIGIN, DEVOTE T1DM: DCCT/EDIC (Also Boussageon et al. Meta-analysis. BMJ 2011;343:d4169)	
↓ Risk of Death / Major CV ¹	✓✓ ² in obese, ↓ mortality NNT=14/10yr ↓ MI NNT=14/10yr (UKPDS-34, UKPDS-80)	3,4,5 X ^{25,6} glipizide ↑ MACE vs MF NNH=10/5yr (SPREAD-DIMCAD)	4,5	✓ ⁷ ↓ MACE NNT=50/2.9yr, but 1 ⁰ composite NS (ProACTIVE) ↓ MACE (IRIS) (pts with insulin resistance & recent CVA/TIA)	X? ⁸	✓ ⁹ in IFG, ↓ MACE NNT=40/3.3yr; in established CVD (Chinese) NS	?	10,11 saxagliptin, alogliptin, sitagliptin, linagliptin ↔ non-inferior to placebo for MACE, But see ?HF below. 11 linagliptin vs glimepiride (CAROLINA) ↔ non-inferior for MACE	✓✓ ¹² liraglutide ↓ MACE NNT=53/3.8yr & ↓ mortality NNT=72/3.8yr LEADER, semaglutide subcut w/ly ↓ MACE NNT=44/2.1yr SUSTAIN-6, dulaglutide ↓ MACE NNT=72/5.4yr REWIND albiglutide ↓ MACE NNT=50/1.6yr (HARMONY) 13,14 lixisenatide, exenatide extended release, semaglutide po ↔ non-inferior to placebo for MACE (ELIXA, EXSCEL, PIONEER-6); semaglutide po ? ↓ mortality NNT=72/1.3yrs PIONEER-6	✓✓ ¹⁵ empagliflozin ↓ MACE NNT=63/3.1yr, ↓ mortality NNT=39/3.1yr (EMPA-REG) canagliflozin ↓ MACE NNT=220/yr (CANVAS) but mortality NS dapagliflozin ↔ MACE (DECLARE)	17,18	18,19,20 X? ²¹ > insulin use with intensive target vs standard therapy, ↑ all-cause death NNH=95/3.5yr, & CV death NNH=125/3.5yr (ACCORD)
Effect on A1c**	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓
Weight (loss vs neutral vs gain)	✓ A1	X A2	X A2	XX A3	XX A4	✓ A5	X A6	A7	✓✓ A8	✓ A9	A10	XX A10
Risk of Hypoglycemia	✓✓	? less risk with MR formulation	X Severe, occurs at 1.4%/yr	✓ Low risk with monotherapy		✓✓	✓✓	✓?	✓?	✓		XX Severe, occurs at 1.8%/yr
↓ Risk of HF /Edema	✓ ^{22,23} 1st line in HF with eGFR >30 mL/min (DC18)	23,24	23,25	XX ²⁶ ↑ HF NNH=50/2.9yr, edema NNH=8/2.9yr	XX ^{25,27} ↑ HF NNH=69/5.9yr (RECORD), ↑ HF NNH=250/3yr (DREAM)	28	29	X? ³⁰ ↑ HF saxagliptin NNH=143/2.1yr (SAVOR), alogliptin (EXAMINE posthoc) Sitagliptin & linagliptin = HF neutral	31 Entire class of GLP1 agonists neutral for HF hospitalizations.	✓ ³² ↓ HF hospitalizations empagliflozin (EMPA-REG) & canagliflozin (CANVAS) exploratory dapagliflozin ↓ worsening HF or CV Death NNT=21/1.5yr DAPA-HF NNT=19/1.3yr Emperor-Reduced	33,34 (? ↑ HF risk)	34 (↑ HF risk)
Effect on GI tolerability	X Start low & titrate	✓	✓ rate of 1.8%/yr	✓	✓	XX flatulence 74% diarrhea 31%	✓	✓	X Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea Titrate as tolerated (as per product monograph); often improves with time	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
Cost	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	XX	X		XX
Other	May have to hold or ↓ dose in acute illness/HF/renal dysfunction (? lactic acidosis); may ↓ B12. 1 st line for T2DM (UKPDS-34)	Used in combination with metformin (ADVANCE)	Caution: accumulation if ↓ renal function (& in older adults)	X FDA +/- HC warnings: ³⁵ ? ↑ HF (see above), ? ↑ fractures (NNH=30/~3.5 y) ? ↑ macular edema (conflicting data) Pio: ? ↑ bladder ca >12 mos (27.5 excess /100,000 person yrs), avoid co-admin with dapagliflozin ³⁶ Rosi: Restricted access in CDN (SK-EDS; not covered on NIHB) (↑ CV risk concerns) ³⁷	PPBG, Possible benefit of laxative effect in some	✓ PPBG, Possible benefit of laxative effect in some	✓ PPBG, flexibility with meals	✓ PPBG FDA +/- HC warning: ³⁸ HF (saxa- & alogliptin); arthralgia, hypersensitivity rx, ? ↑ pancreatitis (ARI 0.13%). ³⁹ pancreatic cancer ⁴⁰ Linagliptin: no renal dose adjustment X new agents – outcome & safety data still limited	✓ PPBG injection site irritation ? ↑ pancreatitis, ³⁹ pancreatic cancer, ⁴⁰ ? ↑ thyroid cancer (liraglutide) ⁴¹ (once weekly agents may have ↓ GI adverse events) ⁴² gallbladder disease (liraglutide) ⁴⁶ X new agents – outcome & safety data still limited	✓✓ ⁴⁶ canagliflozin ↓ ESRD, doubled Scr & renal/CV death NNT=23/2.6 yr CREDENCE; DAPA-CKD X outcome & safety data limited FDA +/- HC warning: ↑ DKA, ↑ AKI (caution: ↓ intravascular volume & ↓ renal function), ↓ BP; ↑ (HR ~2) limb amputations ⁴³ , ↑ UTI/urosepsis/pyelonephritis; genital tract skin infection (OR 3.5 vs placebo); ⁴⁴ ↑ fracture (HR 1.3)/↓ BMD ⁴⁵ ; dapagliflozin ? ↑ bladder/ breast cancer (avoid with pioglitazone); ⁴⁵ Fournier's gangrene ⁴⁷	Fear/perception of insulin injections	✓ PPBG Fear/perception of insulin injections
Overall	✓✓?	✓		?	X?				? ✓ liraglutide (CV + mortality benefit), semaglutide SC (CV benefit, SKH, NIHB coverage ✓)	? ✓ empagliflozin (CV + mortality benefit, SKH, NIHB coverage ✓)	✓	X?

*Drugs that lower blood glucose come with various levels of evidence regarding their balance of benefits & harms. This chart relies on current evidence, especially from randomized controlled trials that have evaluated patient oriented outcomes. Direct comparisons between agents have not been done so one is left to evaluate each drug for its relative advantages & disadvantages. **A1c will vary depending on dose, combinations & initial A1c. See full version of this ANTI-HYPERGLYCEMIC DIABETES AGENTS: Outcomes Comparison Summary Table online for additional notes: <http://www.rxfiles.ca/rxfiles/uploads/documents/Diabetes-Agents-Outcomes-Comparison-Summary-Table.pdf>

AKI=acute kidney injury DKA=diabetic ketoacidosis IFG=impaired fasting glucose MACE=major adverse cardiovascular events PPBG=postprandial blood glucose

✓✓ An Advantage
 ✓
 Neutral
 X
 XX A Disadvantage
 ? Unknown/Ongoing

***See next page for GLP1 & SGLT2 color comparison chart

Drug Class	GLP1 Agonists *				SGLT2 Inhibitors		
Generic → BRAND	Dulaglutide SC TRULICITY (SC WEEKLY)	Liraglutide SC VICTOZA (SC DAILY)	Semaglutide SC OZEMPIC (SC WEEKLY)	Semaglutide PO 1.4mg RYBELSUS (PO DAILY) FDA; new Canada	Canagliflozin INVOKANA	Dapagliflozin FORXIGA / FARXIGA FDA	Empagliflozin JARDIANCE
Major trial(s) to support findings/Outcomes*	REWIND n=9901 / 5.4 yr	LEADER n=9340 / 3.8 yr vs placebo (but ↑ insulin use)	SUSTAIN-6 n=3297 / 2 yr vs placebo (but ↑ insulin use)	PIONEER-6 n=3183 / 1.3 yr	CANVAS n=10142 / 3.6 yr CREDESCENCE n=4401 / 2.6 yr renal dx pts	DECLARE-TIMI n=17160 / 4.2 yr DAPA-HF n=4744 / 1.5 yr heart failure pts	EMPA-REG n=7020 / 3.1 yr Emperor-Reduced n=3730 / 1.3 yr in heart failure pts
↓ Risk of Major CV - MACE	✓✓ ↓ MACE NNT=72/5.4yrs ? N. America - neutral HR: 1.14 (0.89-1.47)	✓✓ ↓ MACE NNT=53/3.8yr ? N. America - neutral HR: 1.01 (0.84-1.22)	✓✓ ↓ MACE NNT=44/2.1yr ? N. America - marginal HR: 0.87 (0.57-1.34)	Neutral for MACE: non-inferior to placebo 3.8% vs 4.8% HR: 0.79 (0.57-1.11) Many trial limitations, e.g. short	✓✓ ↓ MACE NNT=220/yr (=NNT of 62 / 3.6yrs)	✓? Non-inferior to Placebo HR 0.93 (0.84-1.03) Superiority (NS) over 4.2yr	✓✓ ↓ MACE NNT=63/3.1yrs 10mg as good as 25mg
↓ Risk of All-Death	HR 0.9 (0.80-1.01) 10.8% vs 12%/5.4 yrs (NS)	✓✓ NNT=72/3.8yrs	HR 1.05 (0.74-1.50) 3.8% vs 3.6%/2.1yrs (NS)	✓? 2° endpoint NNT=72/1.3yrs	HR 0.87 (0.74-1.01) HR 0.83 (0.68-1.02)	HR 0.93 (0.82-1.04) NNT=44/1.5yr	✓✓ 2° endpoint NNT=39/3.1yr
Less Renal Disease (composite/surrogates)	✓ NNT=40/5.4yrs 17.1 vs 19.6%/5.4 yrs	✓ NNT=67/3.8yr 5.7% vs 7.2%/3.8yrs	✓ NNT=44/2.1yr 3.8% vs 6.1%/3.8yr	?	✓✓ HR 0.66 (0.53-0.81) NNT= 23/2.6 yrs	✓?class effect HR 0.76 (0.67-0.87) NNT= 19/2.4 yrs	✓?class effect ↓acute renal failure NNT=71
Effect on A1c**	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓
Weight (loss vs neutral vs gain)	✓✓ ↓ 1.3-3 kg/5-52 wks	✓✓ ↓ 2.3 kg/3.8 yrs	✓✓ ↓ 3-4kg/2.1yrs	✓✓ ↓ 3.4kg/1.3 yrs	↓ 2.8-4 kg/4-52 wks CANTATA-M	↓ 2 kg/12-52 wks	↓ ~1.5-2 kg/3.1 yrs
Less Risk of Hypoglycemia	✓?	Severe: 2.4% vs 3.3% p=0.02 (placebo group had more insulin)	✓?	Severe: 1.4% vs 0.8%	Risk when given with sulfonylurea or insulin		
Less Risk of HF /Edema	HR: 0.93 (0.77-1.22)	HR: 0.87 (0.73-1.05)	HR: 1.11 (0.77-1.61)	HR: 0.86 (0.48-1.55)	2° endpoint ↓ HF hospitalizations	↓ worsening HF or CV death NNT=21/1.5yr	↓ worsening HF or CV death NNT=19/1.3yr
Effect on GI & D/C due to Tolerability	X GI D/C due to AE 9% vs 6% NNH=36/5.4yrs	X GI D/C due to AE 9.5% vs 7.3% NNH=46/3.8yrs	X GI D/C due to AE 11.5-14.5% vs 5.7-7.6% NNH=14/2yrs	X D/C due to GI: 6.8% vs 1.6% D/C due to AE 11.6% vs 6.5%; NNH=20/1.3yrs	D/C due to AE 12% vs 13%; NNH=700/2.6yrs	D/C due to AE 8.1% vs 6.9%; NNH=84/4.2yrs	D/C due to AE 17.3 vs 19.4%; NNH= 48/3.1yrs
? AE Concerns Associated with Class	Adverse Events: injection site irritations if subcut. Rare/? : ?↑ pancreatitis, ?pancreatic cancer; ?↑ thyroid cancer (liraglutide); ⁴¹ gallbladder disease ⁴⁶ ; ?diabetic retinopathy complications. ^{SUSTAIN-6} See infographic pg 16. Once weekly agents may have ↓ GI adverse events. ⁴²				FDA +/- HC warning: ↑DKA; ↑AKI (caution: ↓ intravascular volume & ↓renal fx); genital mycotic infections. Rare: Fournier's gangrene; ? ↑UTI/urosepsis/pyelonephritis. See infographic page 17.		
Cost – 1 month (Some cost programs may be available)	XX \$225 x ⊗	XX \$90-\$235 x ⊗	XX \$120-\$220 ⊕, ▼ NIHB	XX \$260 x ⊗	X \$110 ⊕ ⊗	X \$110 ⊕ ▼ NIHB	X \$110 ⊕ ▼ NIHB
Other	Well tolerated, except GI. ↓BP 1.7/0.5 mmHg. Environmental impact - single use disposable pen	Gallbladder AE: NNH=84	NIHB open benefit	Smaller, shorter trial. SAE lower in tx group.	↑(HR ~2) limb amputations ?↑fracture (HR 1.3)/↑BMD ^{HIP}	↑bladder/ breast cancer (avoid with pioglitazone). HF benefit similar in DM & non-DM patients. NIHB open benefit.	NIHB open benefit
Practical / Clinical Considerations	Upper GI effects often worse than lower GI effects; a low fat diet is better (small, frequent meals, gradual dose titration; patients may struggle with AEs in first ~2 weeks, but many will gain tolerability and do OK. Often insulin dose can be reduced 20% initially, and possibly more after that.				Uncertain multi-mechanism of action e.g. lower BP. Monitor BP and assess for postural hypotension, especially in older adults.		
Time Tested	X new agent – outcome & safety data still limited	X >10yr history, but... limited real world use	X new agent – outcome & safety data still limited	X new agent – outcome & safety data still limited	X new agents – outcome & safety data still limited		
Convenience	✓ Single Use Pen subcut once weekly	subcut once daily	✓ subcut once weekly	✓ 30min pre-am meal; ≤120mL H ₂ O oral once daily	✓✓ Oral once daily		
Overall	?	?	?	?	? Safety	?	?

✓✓ An Advantage	✓	Neutral	X	XX A Disadvantage	? Unknown/Ongoing
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Note: the "Neutral" designation indicates little or no disadvantage; however, there is also little or no advantage.

* Lixisenatide not included in this GLP1 agonist chart due to neutral cardiovascular outcome data from the ELIXA trial, but coverage is ⊕ ▼. See <https://www.rxfiles.ca/RxFiles/uploads/documents/Lixisenatide-ELIXA%20Trial%20Summary.pdf>

GLP1 Agonists	SGLT2 Inhibitors
<p>REWIND Lower risk group; e.g. 21% had past CVD; others higher risk. Renal: macroalbuminuria, eGFR decline 30+%, chronic renal replacement tx</p> <p>LEADER High risk group</p> <p>SUSTAIN-6 High risk group: 83% had established CVD, CKD or both</p> <p>PIONEER-6 MF: 77%, insulin 60%; Smaller, shorter trial; SAE leading to lower discontinuation rate in tx group, 2.6% vs 3%. Higher risk group: CVD or CKD 84.7%</p>	<p>CREDESCENCE Patients with albuminuric CKD, eGFR 30-90 mL/min, & albuminuria; High risk group: 50% had CVD Renal: canagliflozin – composite primary endpoint: ↓ESRD, doubled SCr & renal/CV death</p> <p>CANVAS High risk group: 66% had established/hx of CVD [1° outcome if no CV disease history, HR= 0.98 (0.74-1.3)]</p> <p>DECLARE-TIMI High risk group: >40% had atherosclerotic CVD; 33% CAD, 6% PAD, 7.6% cerebrovascular dx, 10% HF</p> <p>DAPA-HF Both patients with and without diabetes studied; similar benefit in both groups.</p> <p>EMPA-REG High risk group: 100% had established CVD. Patients had not received glucose-lowering agents for >12 weeks</p>