# "Smart Pumping" with Insulin Pumps



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# During this discussion we will:

- \* Review the DCCT recommendations;
- \* Define "smart pumping";
- \* Discuss "basal" and "bolus" insulin
- \* List the advantages, disadvantages, and needed skills for starting insulin pump therapy;
- \* Explain the use of glucose sensors now and in the future.



### Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT)

Multi-center, randomized 10 year trial Funded by NIH 1441 participants Ended early in 1993



Conventional/Control Goal: clinical well-being

\*BG checks 1-2x/day \*quarterly visits and HbA1c measurements

#### Intensive

Goal: normalization of blood glucose

\*BG checks 4x/day minimum \*Multiple Daily Injections or pump \*Monthly visits and HbA1c measurements

# HbgA1c / Blood Glucose Comparison

<u>A1c</u>		<u>BG mg/dl</u>
4%		60
5%		90
6%		120
7%	Target Goal	150
8%		180
9%		210
10%		240
11%		270
12%		300
13%		330

# DCCT Study Results\*

#### **Reduced Risk**

Eye disease: 76% Kidney disease: 54% Nerve disease: 60% (Heart disease: 41%)

NEJM 1993











# What exactly is an insulin pump?



First Insulin Pump (early 1970s)!!!



The pump is "attached" to you by an "infusion set" with a thin catheter that is inserted into your skin.

#### **Infusion Sets**



# "Smart Pumping" defined:

#### Smart pumps have:

- Carb calculator
- Correction calculator
- Insulin on Board featur
- (tracks insulin used for 2-6 hours chosen by the pump wearer)

#### Bolus Wizard Calculator : meterentered



Monitor sends BG value to pump via radio waves : No transcribing error Enter carbohydrate intake into pump "Bolus Wizard" calculates suggested dose

#### Insulin Delivery



### The pump uses only rapid acting insulin. (USCO for insulin resistant type 2%)

It automatically <u>releases small</u> amounts of insulin continuously through the day/night (basal rate insulin)

The user enters the number of carbs to be eaten and current blood sugar. The pump calculates the insulin dose based on the carb ratio and correction factor in its programmed "brain". (bolus insulin).

The user pushes a button to deliver the calculated amount showing on the screen.

# Benefits of Advanced Pump Features

- \*Extended bolus
- \*Temporary basal

\*Separate basal programs







### Example

David notices every time he goes out for pizza with his family his blood sugars are always high 3 hrs after the meal even though he is using a lower carb ratio and thus giving more insulin for his food.

David decides to try a combination bolus.

He gives 50% of his bolus as a standard bolus and the remaining 50% over 4 hrs. He will reassess after the 4 hrs to see if he is still high and adjust as needed. Blood sugar 2 hrs after pizza

Blood sugar 4 hrs after pizza

Not enough extended.

40% bolus now and 60% over 4 hrs.

#### **Basal Options-Patterns**

Adjusting basals (patterns)

- \*Used for consistent changes from week to week \*Same pattern with dose adjustment

Examp	le			
Work Day		Honey Do Day		
12mn	1.0	12mn	0.8	
3am	1.1	3am	0.9	
10am	1.0	10am	0.8	
		Accounts for increased sensitivity due to exercise and prevents post activity		

hypoglycemia

# Temporary Basal Rates

Used for limited periods of time to increase/decrease the basal rate.

Unplanned activity

Sick days

Travel - when activity is decreased

May be set using dose or % for up to 24 hrs. in 30 minute increments

#### Hormones

Menstrual Cycles

Usually noted few days before menstrual period Decreased insulin sensitivity May need to increase basal rates by 20-50%

#### Steroids

Am prednisone - afternoon and evening rise Pm prednisone - morning into early afternoon rise

#### Example

Michele wakes up in the morning with a bad toothache. Her blood sugar is elevated and she has small ketones. After giving a correction and pushing fluids she calls her dentist for an appointment. He agrees to see her early afternoon.

Michele knows her blood sugars run high when she is not feeling well. She sets a temporary basal rate for 130% of her basal for 6 hrs. She will reassess with frequent checks and after her dentist appointment

Advantages of Insulin Pump Therapy

# Why health professionals recommend insulin pumps:



To improve blood sugar control. To reduce wide fluctuations in blood sugars. To reduce and manage severe hypoglycemia. To help deal with the "dawn phenomenon." To help improve control during life cycle changes. (examples: growth in children , pregnancy, menopau. To give insulin with better blood sugar control with gastroparesis

In a study done by the members of ADA and AADE, results showed diabetes specialists treat their own diabetes according to current standards of medical care, with insulin pumps being the preferred method of insulin therapy for type 1 diabetes. (52% were on pumps)

Graf, M; Rubin, R; & Walker, Elizabeth. "How Diabetes Specialists Treat Their Own Diabetes: Findings From a Study of the AADE and ADA Membership", The Diabetes Educator,Vol 26, No 3, May/June 2000

### Advantages

\*Improved absorption of insulin.

\*Ability to match insulin to food.



\*Ability to stabilize blood sugar between meals and snacks.

\* Increase, decrease, or stop insulin delivery as situations demand. (stress, illness or exercise)



# Advantages

#### \*Pumps deliver precisely.

One can accurately deliver 0.025-35 units of insulin for a bolus.

\*Bolus when you want to eat vs. chasing insulin with food to prevent low blood sugars.

### Advantages: Alarms

Bolus reminder BG reminder Lockout features Low reservoir

### Disadvantages of Pump Therapy

\*Hypoglycemia

- life-threatening
- fever, infection, unusual stress pump malfunction or absorption problem
- no long-acting insulin
- \*Catheter-site infection

# Cost and Insurance

\*A pump typically lists for close to \$6500.



\*Pump supplies average \$2,000/yr

\*Many insurance companies cover all or most of this cost.

\*Medicare and Medicaid cover pump costs

The Best Candidates

Self-motivated Accept their diabetes Ability to problem solve Good common sense



- \*They realize there is a learning curve
- \*Frequent BG checks
- \*Detailed record keeping



#### **Poor candidates**

Do not like 'being attached'. Do not like others to know they have diabetes. Not willing to check blood sugars at least 4 times each day. Do not want the responsibility of problem solving and making adjustments. Afraid of gaining weight. Costl

#### Myths About Pump/Sensor Therapy

\*Injections will never be needed again.

\*You can have anything you want to eat, at any time, and in any amount.

\*A pump causes weigh gain.

\*You must be admitted to a hospital to start pump therapy .

constant, visible reminder of having diabetes.

\*You are too young or too old to get a pump.

### Expectations of Pump Therapy

#### Realistic

I will feel better on pump or sensor therapy.

It will take several months to adjust.

#### Not Realistic

A pump/sensor wi cure my diabetes.

I will be "fine tuned" within a week of starting.

### Expectations of Pump Therapy

#### Realistic

I will have better glucose control.

#### Not Realistic

I will have perfect glucose control.

I will need to check blood sugars at least 4 times/day.

I will have more flexibility with what I eat. I will rarely have to check blood sugars.

I can eat whatever I want.

#### Current typical diabetes routines

#### Type 1

\*4-6 BG checks per day \*2 - 4 shots per day \*Scheduled meals Planned exercise

#### Type 2 on insulin

\*3-4 checks per day \*1-4 shots per day \*Scheduled meals \*Planned exercise

# Insulin Pump Routine

- \*One injection every 2-3 days
- \*4-8 BG checks per da
- \*Meals and snacks using carb counting
- \*Spontaneous Exercise/Activity





#### Needed Skills: Carbohydrate Counting

Carbohydrates are found in starches and sugars

Carbohydrate is the macronutrient with the greatest impact on postprandial blood glucose

Information on carbohydrates can be found on food labels (total carbohydrates) and other published sources

Carbohydrate counting is an option for all people with diabetes

### Definitions

The carb : insulin ratio assists in determining what insulin is needed for the meal.

#### Carbohydraite: Insulin Ratio – An Example

If a carbohydrate : insulin ratio is:

carbs 10 grams : 1 uni

For a 60 gram carbohydrate meal, the insulin need would be 6 units of Humalog, Novolog or Apidra (if pre-prandial blood glucose is in target range)

#### Example continued

If the carbohydrate is increased to 80 grams, using a 10:1 ratio what would you take for insulin?

Then....

If the pre-prandial blood glucose is not within target range, an insulin increase or decrease is necessary.

# Supplementing

The supplement is what is needed to correct for a high or low blood sugar.

#### Supplement/ Correction Factor

One must determine how much glucose is lowered by 1 unit of short- or rapid-acting insulin

This number is known as the correction factor (CF)

Use the 1700 rule to estimate the CF

CF = 1700 divided by the total daily dose (TDD) example: if TDD = 36 units, then CF = 1700/36 = ~50 meaning 1 unit will lower the BG ~50 mg/dl



### Sensors: The future is now

\*Continuous glucose monitors are medical devices that measure a person's interstitial (fluid under the skin) glucose every 5 minutes and send this information to a receiver that displays the information.

#### CGMS® Continuous Glucose Sensor



A tiny, sterile, flexible electrode inserted just under the skin Measures glucose by way of interstitial fluid



# Guardian RT sensor/receiver



Display real-time glucose every 5 min. High and low alerts

Indicated for T1 and T2 18 an older Controlled market release

























#### New 12 / 2011





# mySentry

\*It transmits up to 50 feet a visual readout of the Real Time Sensor values coming from the REVEL pump.

alarms are set or interstitial glucose is below the low target or above the high target.

# Pump + Sensor Programs at DHMC

and educator

# Pump + Sensor Programs at DHMC

Follow-up:

Daily phone contact over next 6-9 days to review blood glucose and make initial adjustments in doses. Visit in 2-10 days ( sensor trial if

needed)

Follow up appointment in 1-2 months. Follow-up appointment in 3 months.

# The future

\*Patch pumps are the future \*Smaller, sensor driven to a receiving computer that will infuse insulin

Accu-Chek to release their first patch pump this summer.









#### Resources

\*Buckingham,B, Chase, HP, et al<u>. Diabetes</u> <u>Technology and Therapy</u>. 11:93, 2009

\*Chase, Peter & Messer, Laurel. <u>Understanding</u> <u>Insulin Pumps & Continuous Glucose Monitors</u>. 2011 Children's Diabetes Foundation at Denver, Colorado

\*Walsh, John & Roberts, Ruth. <u>Pumping Insulin 4<sup>th</sup></u> <u>Edition</u>, 2006, Torrey Pines Press.

\*mySentry.com