

# **POST TRANSPLANT DIABETES MELLITUS [PTDM]**

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# INTRODUCTION

- 15-20% of non diabetic kidney transplant\_recipients develop PTDM by 6 months.
- **PTDM** - Includes all post transplant diabetes first recognised after transplant regardless of prediabetic pre transplant, but excludes transient post-transplant hyperglycemia in 1<sup>st</sup> 6 week post transplant.
- HbA1c should **not** be used for **3 month** post Tx (False low HbA1c levels due to anaemia (erythropoietin treatment or blood cell transfusions)).
- Fasting glucose has a low sensitivity for diagnosing PTDM.
- **OGTT** is considered **gold standard** for diagnosis of PTDM and for screening preTx (2024 international consensus).

Time posttransplantation (days)		
Day 0-45	Day 46-365	> 365 days
<b>ROUTINE BLOOD TESTS</b> Presence of hyperglycemia (Do not diagnose as PTDM)	<b>SCREENING TESTS</b> 1. OGTT 2. Fasting/random glucose 3. HbA1C <sup>2</sup>	<b>SCREENING TESTS</b> 1. OGTT 2. HbA1C 3. Fasting/random glucose
<i>Management of posttransplantation hyperglycemia</i>	<i>Management of Posttransplantation Diabetes Mellitus (PTDM)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day 0-7: insulin</li> <li>• Day 8-45: insulin, oral anti-hyperglycemic agents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lifestyle modification</li> <li>• Oral anti-hyperglycemic agents</li> <li>• Insulin</li> </ul>	

# Risk Factors

Non-modifiable	Potentially modifiable	Modifiable <sup>4</sup>	End-organ specific diagnosis
African American, Hispanic Age > 45 years Male recipient Family history of diabetes mellitus Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) mismatches HLA A30, B27, B42 Acute rejection history Deceased donor Male donor Genetic polymorphism (e.g. TCF7L2 rs7903146, PPAR- $\alpha$ rs4253728)	Hepatitis C virus <sup>1</sup> Cytomegalovirus <sup>2</sup> Pretransplant IGT/IFG Proteinuria Hypomagnesemia <sup>3</sup>	Obesity (body mass index $\geq 30$ ) LDL cholesterol Steroids, tacrolimus, cyclosporine, sirolimus Vitamin D deficiency	End stage kidney disease due to polycystic kidney disease End stage liver disease due to HCV infection or non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) End stage lung disease due to cystic fibrosis

# TRIALS/META ANALYSIS

- 2004 meta-analysis showed PTDM in **9.8%** with tac vs CsA (**DIRECT study**).
- In **ELITE study** at one year higher rates of PTDM in low dose tacrolimus (8.4%) compared to std. dose of CSA(6%), low dose CSA (4.2 %) and low dose sirolimus.
- **Recent meta-analysis** of 56 randomized controlled trials demonstrated less PTDM and better overall graft survival with CNI minimisation strategies using new agents such as belatacept or tofacitinib.

# IMMUNOSUPPRESSANTS -PTDM

## Cyclosporine vs tacrolimus

- Tacrolimus 2-3 times more diabetogenic.
- Marked beta cell toxicity , calcineurin inhibition, insulin hyposecretion.
- Trough level > 15 ng/ml first month high risk for PTDM.
- PTDM incidence with CNIs: **10–25%** in 36 months post-transplant.

## Prednisone

- >10mg/day dose -- **1.8 fold** increased risk (increases with further increase in dose).
- **5 percent per 0.01 mg/kg per day increase** in prednisolone dose - PTDM risk increases.

# ADJUSTING IMMUNOSUPPRESSION

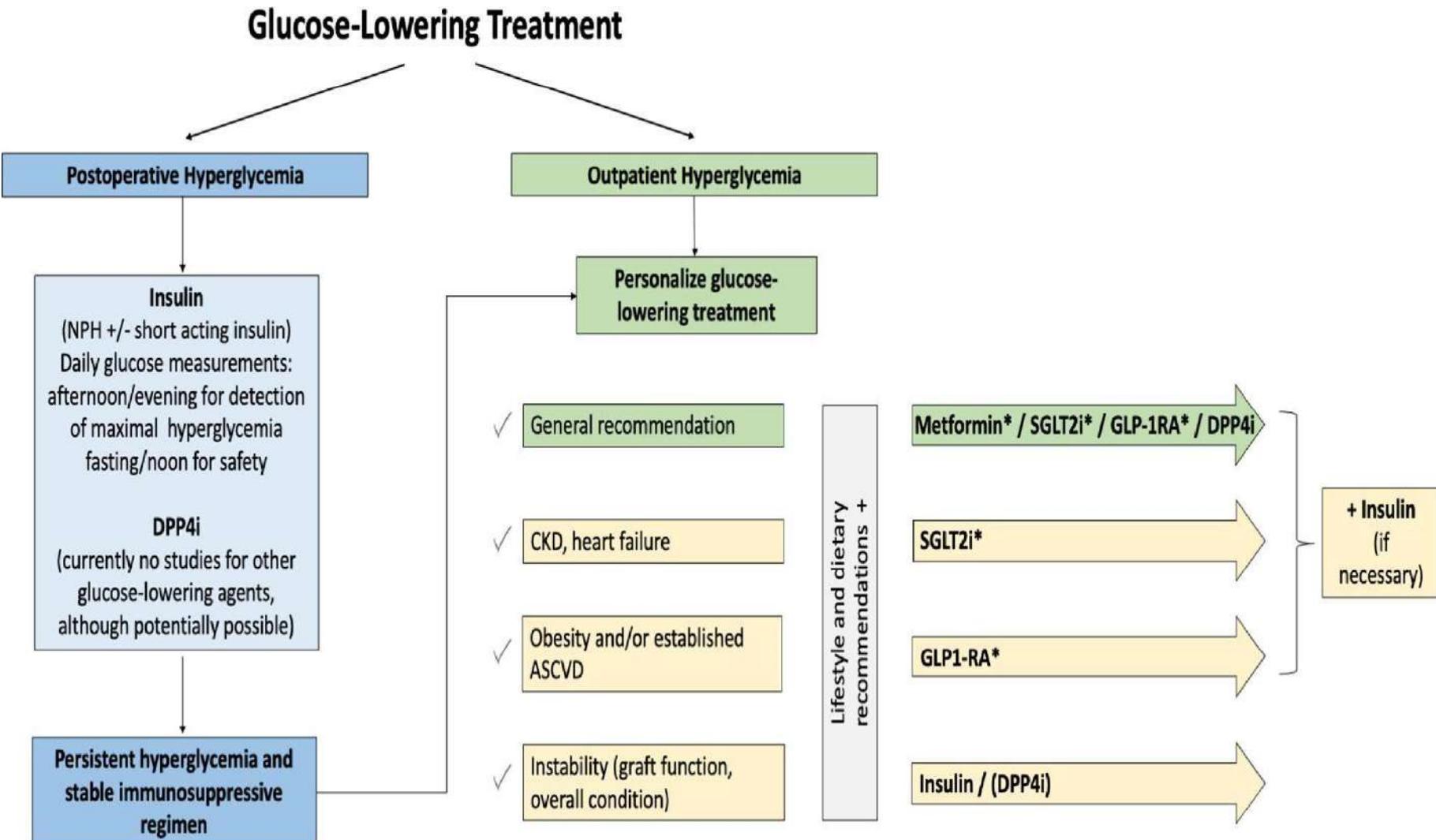
## **Steroids**

- Steroid minimisation as early as possible.
- Prednisolone dose reduction to **5 mg** at **one year** ( PTDM from 55 to 34%).
- Few study have found that there is no significant difference between 5mg prednisolone compared to complete steroid withdrawal at 5 years posttransplant (CSWD 22.5% vs. CCS 21.5%).
- No controlled data on the effect of late withdrawal of low dose steroids in patients with established PTDM.

## **CNI**

- Dose reduction without increasing risk for rejection.
- Change from tacrolimus to Cyclosporin for PTDM is not recommended
- Effect of tacrolimus on glucose may be reversible even if agent is not discontinued
- Conversion to sirolimus may worsen insulin resistance, not recommended

# Glucose-lowering treatment in KTRs: suggested algorithm



\*Standard 'sick day' rules apply: advise patients to temporarily stop therapy in acute intercurrent illness until medical consult