Click to verify

Health Answers by Pfizer is currently only available in the US. We look forward to expanding into additional countries. An "anti-hunger" molecule produced after vigorous exercise is responsible for the moderate weight loss caused by the diabetes medication metformin, according to a new study in mice and humans. The molecule, lac-phe, was discovered by Stanford Medicine researchers in 2022. The finding, made jointly by researchers at Stanford Medicine and at Harvard Medical School, further cements the critical role the molecule, called lac-phe, plays in metabolism, exercise and appetite. It may pave the way to a new class of weight loss drugs. "Until now, the way metformin, which is prescribed to control blood sugar levels, also brings about weight loss has been unclear," said Jonathan Long, PhD, an assistant professor of pathology. "Now we know that it is acting through the same pathway as vigorous exercise to reduce hunger. Understanding how these pathways are controlled may lead to viable strategies to lower body mass and improve health in millions of people." Long, who is supported by the Knight Initiative for Brain Resilience, and Mark Benson, MD, PhD, an assistant professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, are co-senior authors of the study, which was published on March 18 in Nature Metabolism. Postdoctoral scholar Shuke Xiao, PhD, is the lead author of the study. Many people with diabetes who are prescribed metformin lose around 2% to 3% of their body weight within the first year of starting the drug. Although this amount of weight loss is modest when compared with the 15% or more often seen by people taking semaglutide drugs such as Ozempic and Wegovy, the discoveries that led to those drugs also grew from observations of relatively minor, but reproducible, weight loss in people taking first-generation versions of the medications. Post-workout appetite loss When Long and colleagues at Baylor University discovered lac-phe in 2022, they were on the hunt for small molecules responsible for curtailing hunger after vigorous exercise. What they found was a Frankenbaby of lactate - a byproduct of muscle fatigue - and an amino acid called phenylalanine. They dubbed the hybrid molecule lac-phe and went on to show that it's not only more abundant after exercise but it also causes people (as well as mice and even racehorses) to feel less hungry immediately after a hard workout. "There is an intimate connection between lac-phe production and lactate generation," Long said. "Once we understood this relationship, we started to think about other aspects of lactate metabolism." Metformin was an obvious candidate because as it stimulates the breakdown of glucose (thus reducing blood sugar levels) it can trigger the generation of lactate. The researchers found that obese laboratory mice given metformin had increased levels of lac-phe in their blood. They ate less than their peers and lost about 2 grams of body weight during the nine-day experiment. The fact that metformin and sprint exercise affect your body weight through the same pathway is both weird and interesting. Long and his colleagues also analyzed stored blood plasma samples from people with Type 2 diabetes before and 12 weeks after they had begun taking metformin to control their blood sugar. They saw significant increases in the levels of lac-phe in people after metformin compared with their levels before treatment. Finally, 79 participants in a large, multi-ethnic study of atherosclerosis who were also taking metformin had significantly higher levels of lac-phe circulating in their blood than those who were not taking the drug. "It was nice to confirm our hunch experimentally," Long said. "The magnitude of effect of metformin on lac-phe production in mice was as great as or greater than what we previously observed with exercise. If you give a mouse metformin at levels comparable to what we prescribe for humans, their lac-phe levels go through the roof and stay high for many hours." Further research revealed that lac-phe is made by intestinal epithelial cells in the animals; blocking the ability of mice to make lac-phe erased the appetite suppression and weight loss previously observed. Finally, a statistical analysis of the people in the atherosclerosis study who lost weight during the several-year study and follow-up period found a meaningful association between metformin use, lac-phe production and weight loss. "The fact that metformin and sprint exercise affect your body weight through the same pathway is both weird and interesting," Long said. "And the involvement of the intestinal epithelial cells suggests a layer of gut-to-brain communication that deserves further exploration. Are there other signals involved?" Long noted that, while semaglutide drugs are injected into the bloodstream, metformin is an oral drug that is already prescribed to millions of people. "These findings suggest there may be a way to optimize oral medications to affect these hunger and energy balance pathways to control body weight, cholesterol and blood pressure. I think what we're seeing now is just the beginning of new types of weight loss drugs." Researchers from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Baylor College of Medicine, the University of Colorado, the University of Virginia and the Broad Institute contributed to the work. The study was funded by the National Institutes of Health (grants GM113854, K08HL145095, DK124265, DK136526, HHSN2682015000031, HSN26800004, UM1DK078616 and 1R01HL151855), a Stanford School of Medicine's Dean's Fellowship, the American Heart Association, Wu Tsai Human Performance Alliance, Knight Initiative for Brain Resilience and Stanford Diabetes Research Center. Stop paying too much for your prescriptions Thanks for visiting! GoodRx is not available outside of the United States and therefore, access to the site is blocked. If you are trying to access this site from the United States, please try heading to our homepage or our drug directory. If those pages do not work and you believe you are receiving this message in error, please reach out to support@goodrx.com. Introduction: Obesity is frequently a comorbidity of type 2 diabetes. Even modest weight loss can significantly improve glucose homeostasis and lessen cardiometabolic risk factors in patients with type 2 diabetes, but lifestyle-based weight loss strategies are not long-term effective. There is an increasing need to consider pharmacological approaches to assist weight loss in the so called diabesity syndrome. Aim of this review is to analyze the weight-loss effect of non-insulin glucose lowering drugs in patients with type 2 diabetes. Material and methods: A systematic analysis of the literature on the effect of non-insulin glucose lowering drugs on weight loss in patients with type 2 diabetes was performed. For each class of drugs, the following parameters were analyzed: kilograms lost on average, effect on body mass index and body composition. Results: Our results suggested that anti-diabetic drugs can be stratified into 3 groups based on their efficacy in weight loss: metformin, acarbose, empagliflozin and exenatide resulted in a in a mild weight loss (less than 3.2% of initial weight); canagliflozin, ertugliflozin, dapagliflozin and dulaglutide induces a moderate weight loss (between 3.2% and 5%); liraglutide, semaglutide and tirzepatide resulted in a strong weight loss (greater than 5%). Conclusions: This study shows that new anti-diabetic drugs, particularly GLP1-RA and Tirzepatide, are the most effective in inducing weight loss in patients with type 2 diabetes. Interestingly, exenatide appears to be the only GLP1-RA that induces a mild weight loss. Keywords: Acarbose (PubChem CID: 41774); Anti-diabetic drugs; Body composition; Canagliflozin (PubChem CID: 24812758); Dapagliflozin (PubChem CID: 9887712); Diabesity; Empagliflozin (PubChem CID: 11949646); Ertugliflozin (PubChem CID: 44814423); Exenatide (PubChem CID: 45588096); Liraglutide (PubChem CID: 16134956); Metformin (PubChem CID: 4091); Semaglutide (PubChem CID: 56843331); Type 2 diabetes; Weight loss. Key takeaways:Diabetes medications can cause weight changes by affecting your body’s insulin levels and how your body uses glucose (sugar).Mounjaro (tirzepatide), Ozempic (semaglutide), and Trulicity (dulaglutide) are examples of diabetes medications that can cause significant weight loss. Metformin and Jardiance (empagliflozin) may also cause weight loss but not as much.Insulin and glipizide (Glucotrol XL) are common diabetes medications that can cause weight gain. But the amount of weight gained with these medications is unique for everyone.info_outlinedPromotional disclosureGlimepirideGlucotrolGlipizideGlyburidesimpson33/iStock via Getty ImagesMore than 1 in 10 people in the U.S. are living with diabetes. Diabetes is a condition that happens when your body can’t make or use insulin. Without insulin, the body’s blood glucose (blood sugar) rises to unsafe levels. The majority of people living with diabetes have Type 2 diabetes.Some diabetes medications can affect your body weight. This could mean either weight loss or weight gain. But not all diabetes medications cause weight changes. Some have little effect on body weight for most people who take them.GoodRx HealthWhich diabetes medications can cause weight loss?There are five types of diabetes medications that can cause weight loss. These medications each work differently from each other.1. GLP-1 agonists like OzempicGlucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) agonists are a group of medications growing in popularity when it comes to diabetes and weight loss. GLP-1 is a hormone in our bodies that tells our pancreas to release insulin after we eat. It also lowers the amount of new glucose your liver produces. And it helps us feel full in between meals. GLP-1 agonists act like GLP-1 does in the body.Some studies have shown that people with diabetes lost as much as 14 lbs when using a GLP-1 agonist. Other studies have suggested GLP-1 agonists cause more modest weight loss (about 2 lbs). The amount of weight loss can vary, depending on which medication and what dose is used. Many studies in people with diabetes that looked at weight loss from GLP-1 agonists ran for between 6 and 12 months.There are several GLP-1 agonists FDA-approved for Type 2 diabetes, including:Ozempic (semaglutide)Rybelsus (semaglutide)Trulicity (dulaglutide)Victoza (liraglutide)Good to know: Two GLP-1 agonists are also approved for chronic weight management: semaglutide (sold as Wegovy) and liraglutide (sold as Saxenda). These medications are administered at higher doses when they’re being used for weight loss. And they’re not interchangeable with the versions used to treat Type 2 diabetes. Using Ozempic or Victoza for weight loss is an off-label use of the medications.2. MounjaroMounjaro (tirzepatide) works like GLP-1 agonists — but with an added boost. It acts like GLP-1 and another hormone called glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP). This dual effect can help provide better blood glucose-lowering effects. It can also lead to greater weight loss than with GLP-1 agonists like Ozempic. In studies, people taking Mounjaro lost an average of 16 lbs to 25 lbs, depending on the dose.The active ingredient in Mounjaro — tirzepatide — is also approved for weight loss. But it’s approved under the brand name Zepbound. Similar to the GLP-1 agonists mentioned above, using Mounjaro for weight loss is an off-label use of the medication. Mounjaro is only approved for Type 2 diabetes.3. MetforminMetformin is another diabetes medication that can cause weight loss as a side effect for some people. It’s one of the most prescribed diabetes medications because it’s effective for lowering blood glucose and has lower-cost generic versions available. It mainly lowers the amount of glucose made and absorbed by the body, and it makes the body more sensitive to its natural insulin.Metformin’s weight loss is more modest than the medications listed above. And not everyone loses weight while taking it. But studies have shown some people may lose up to 6 lbs after taking metformin for a year.EXPERT PICKS: WHAT TO READ NEXTWhich diabetes injections cause weight loss? Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) agonists can lead to significant weight loss. Read more about the available GLP-1 agonists and how they compare.How does it feel to take Ozempic? Three people share their experiences with Ozempic, which can be beneficial for many people living with Type 2 diabetes.What else can cause weight gain? Insulin is only one type of medication that has this side effect. Read more about which medications can cause weight gain.4. SGLT2 inhibitors like JardianceAnother group of diabetes medications called sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors can cause weight loss. SGLT2 inhibitors remove glucose from the blood through urine. Less glucose in the blood means less glucose is available to be turned into fat cells. And this can lead to modest weight loss for some people. People taking SGLT2 inhibitors may lose about 4 lbs to 6 lbs while taking them.Examples of SGLT-2 inhibitors include:Jardiance (empagliflozin)Farxiga (dapagliflozin)Invokana (canagliflozin)5. SymlinSymlin (pramlintide) is a lab-made form of the hormone amylin. Amylin slows down food movement through the stomach and prevents your liver from making glucose. Symlin acts like amylin does in the body. This medication can cause most people with diabetes to lose up to 4 lbs. For people with diabetes who are also considered obese, they may lose up to 7 lbs with Symlin.Which diabetes medications can cause weight gain?There are four main groups of diabetes medications that can cause weight gain. They all work by affecting insulin in the body. And as we’ll discuss later, medications that affect insulin levels in your body can cause weight gain.1. InsulinInsulin is one of the most commonly used diabetes medications. Most forms of insulin can make people gain weight. People taking insulin for Type 2 diabetes gain an average of 4 lbs during the first year they’re using it. But some people can gain 11 lbs or more during this timeframe.2. Sulfonylureas like glipizideSulfonylureas are another common group of diabetes medications that can cause weight gain. They work by stimulating the pancreas to release insulin. On average, people taking sulfonylureas gain about 5 lbs.Examples of sulfonylureas include:Glimepiride (Amaryl)Glipizide (Glucotrol XL)Glyburide (Diabeta, Glynase)3. Thiazolidinediones like pioglitazoneAnother group of medication that causes diabetes weight gain is thiazolidinediones (TZDs or “glitazones”). They lower blood glucose by making the body more sensitive to insulin. They also affect genes that are involved in fat cell formation. People taking TZDs can gain about 6 lbs to 9 lbs during the first 6 months and up to 11 lbs over 3 to 5 years.The two FDA-approved TZDs are:Pioglitazone (Actos)Rosiglitazone4. Meglitinides like repaglinideMeglitinides (“glinides”) are another group of diabetes medications. Similar to sulfonylureas, they cause the pancreas to release more insulin. People can gain up to 7 lbs during the first 3 months of starting glinides.The two available glinides are:Why do diabetes medications cause weight changes for some people?Diabetes medications can cause weight changes by affecting how glucose is used by the body. Insulin is a hormone that helps your body to turn glucose from food into energy for your cells. Insulin helps glucose move from your blood into your cells. This movement lowers your blood glucose.But when there’s too much glucose in the blood, insulin tells your liver to turn that glucose into fat cells. These extra fat cells can lead to weight gain over time.When people use insulin as a medication, it acts like natural insulin. Until your blood glucose is better balanced, this glucose-into-fat process can keep happening. This is why insulin’s weight gain side effect is most expected when you first start it. This side effect also applies to medications that tell your body to make more insulin.On the flip side, some diabetes medications can cause weight loss by getting rid of extra glucose in your body or lowering how much glucose your liver makes. Less glucose in the blood means there’s less glucose available to change into fat. So if a medication works by removing glucose from the blood or lowering how much glucose is made, weight loss is a possible side effect.Which diabetes medications are likely to have little or no effect on your weight?Some diabetes medications have little to no effect on weight for most people. Healthcare professionals sometimes call these “weight-neutral” diabetes medications.Dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitors like JanuviaDipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitors (“gliptins”) are a commonly-used group of diabetes medications. Sitagliptin (Januvia, Zituvio) is the most well-known DPP-4 inhibitor. These medications lower blood glucose by helping to raise natural levels of GLP-1 in the body.Studies have shown DPP-4 inhibitors have little effect on body weight. So while medications such as sitagliptin likely won’t cause weight loss, they shouldn’t cause weight gain either.Other DPP-4 inhibitors include:Alogliptin (Nesina)Linagliptin (Tradjenta)SaxagliptinWhich side effect is more common with diabetes medications: Weight gain or weight loss?Neither weight gain nor weight loss is a more common side effect when comparing all diabetes medications. And not everyone experiences body weight changes from diabetes medications. There are several different types of medications available. They work in different ways to help lower blood glucose. The risk of weight gain or weight loss depends on the medication and lifestyle factors, like diet and exercise.Weight gain can discourage people from continuing their medications. And when people stop taking their diabetes medications, their risks of diabetes complications go up. Make sure to let your healthcare team know if you notice any changes to your weight that you’re uncomfortable with. They may recommend changes to your medications to help with this side effect.How long does it take for diabetes medications to cause weight loss? Body weight changes may become noticeable within the first few months of starting a diabetes medication. But you may not notice significant weight loss for closer to a year (or longer) with GLP-1 agonists or Mounjaro.For example, people taking Ozempic lost an average of 8 lbs after 30 weeks (about 7 months) with the 0.5 mg per week dosage. At higher doses (1 mg to 2 mg per week), people lost around 13 lbs to 15 lbs after 40 weeks (about 9 months). With Mounjaro, people lost between 15% and 20% of their starting body weight after taking the medication for 72 weeks (more than 16 months).Can weight gain from diabetes medication be prevented?Weight gain from diabetes medications may be preventable. A diabetes-friendly diet and regular exercise play an important role in managing diabetes. These healthy lifestyle changes can help lower blood glucose and lower or maintain weight. But in some cases, these aren’t enough for everyone.It’s best to discuss with your healthcare team what changes would be best for you. They may suggest changing your current diabetes medication regimen. Adding or switching to a diabetes medication that causes weight loss may also be an option. But you shouldn’t try to adjust your medications or dosages without your prescriber’s OK.Frequently asked questionsHow do you qualify for Ozempic?expand_moreYou may qualify for Ozempic if you’re an adult living with Type 2 diabetes. This is one of the medication’s FDA-approved uses. Ozempic is also approved to help lower the risk of serious cardiovascular issues in adults who have both Type 2 diabetes and heart disease. There are no body weight requirements to qualify for Ozempic.Can a healthcare professional prescribe Ozempic if you don’t have diabetes?expand_moreYes, healthcare professionals can prescribe Ozempic to people without diabetes. This is called off-label prescribing, and it’s not illegal to do this. Just keep in mind that your insurance may not cover Ozempic if you don’t have Type 2 diabetes.Written by:Kevin Le, PharmD, BCPS, BCPPSKevin Le, PharmD, BCPS, BCPPS is a clinical pharmacy specialist in solid organ transplant at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago. He has been working as a pediatric pharmacist since 2016.Edited by:Christina Aungst, PharmDChristina Aungst, PharmD, is a pharmacy editor for GoodRx. She began writing for GoodRx Health in 2019, transitioning from freelance writer to editor in 2021.Reviewed by:Stacia Woodcock, PharmDStacia Woodcock, PharmD, is a pharmacy editor for GoodRx. She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Kentucky and is licensed in New York and Massachusetts.Our editorial standardsMeet our expertsexpand_moreBalkau, B., et al. (2014). Factors associated with weight gain in people with type 2 diabetes starting on insulin. Diabetes Care.Black, C., et al. (2007). Meglitinide analogues for type 2 diabetes mellitus. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews.Collins, L., et al. (2024). Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists. StatPearls.Diabetes Prevention Program Research Group. (2012). Long-term safety, tolerability, and weight loss associated with metformin in the Diabetes Prevention Program Outcomes Study. Diabetes Care.Dicker, D. (2011). DPP-4 Inhibitors: Impact on glycemic control and cardiovascular risk factors. Diabetes Care.Eggleton, J. S., et al. (2023). Thiazolidinediones. StatPearls.Fisman, E. Z., et al. (2021). The dual glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist tirzepatide: A novel cardiometabolic therapeutic prospect. Cardiovascular Diabetology.Hirst, J. A., et al. (2013). Estimating the effect of sulfonylurea on HbA1c in diabetes: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Diabetologia.Hoogwerf, B. J., et al. (2008). Pramlintide, the synthetic analogue of amylin: Physiology, pathophysiology, and effects on glycemic control, body weight, and selected biomarkers of vascular risk. Vascular Health and Risk Management.Kasina, S. V. S. K., et al. (2023). Dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DPP IV) inhibitors. StatPearls.Ko, K. D., et al. (2017). Does weight gain associated with thiazolidinedione use negatively affect cardiometabolic health? Journal of Obesity and Metabolic Syndrome.Lee, N. J., et al. (2010). Efficacy and harms of the hypoglycemic agent pramlintide in diabetes mellitus. Annals of Family Medicine.MacFarlane, S. I. (2009). Insulin therapy and type 2 diabetes: Management of weight gain. Journal of Clinical Hypertension.Novo Nordisk. (2023). Ozempic - semaglutide injection, solution [package insert].Ribola, F. A., et al. (2017). Effects of SGLT2 inhibitors on weight loss in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. European Review for Medical and Pharmacological Sciences.Schmitz, O., et al. (2004). Amylin agonists: A novel approach in the treatment of diabetes. Diabetes.Trujillo, J. M., et al. (2021). GLP-1 receptor agonists: an updated review of head-to-head clinical studies. Therapeutic Advances in Endocrinology and Metabolism.U.S. Food and Drug Administration. (2018). Sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 (SGLT2) inhibitors.GoodRx Health has strict sourcing policies and relies on primary sources such as medical organizations, governmental agencies, academic institutions, and peer-reviewed scientific journals. Learn more about how we ensure our content is accurate, thorough, and unbiased by reading our editorial guidelines.Simple Tips to Eat HealthierSign up for our GoodRx Diet and Nutrition Newsletter to receive the latest healthy eating advice, recipes, and savings that are most relevant to you.By providing your email, you consent to receive marketing communications from GoodRx, which may include content and/or data related to men’s health, women's health, reproductive care, or sexual health. You agree to the GoodRx Terms of Use and acknowledge the Privacy Policy. You can unsubscribe at any time. Our easy-to-read fact sheets provide clinicians with reliable information to share with patients and their caregivers. A predominant risk factor for type 2 diabetes is being overweight or obese, so weight loss goals while maintaining normal blood sugar levels are very important for some patients. In addition to lifestyle modifications, medications for type 2 diabetes may aid in losing weight.1,2 Obesity is defined as a body mass index (BMI) of 30 kg/m2 or higher and is associated with many major health issues including cardiovascular disease, osteoarthritis, and type 2 diabetes. A weight loss of 5% to 15% can improve obesity-related complications.1,2 There are approved medications to help treat obesity, including phentermine (Lomaira®), orlistat (Alli®), topiramate (Trokendi XR®), and naltrexone/bupropion (Contrave®). However, these are not indicated to treat type 2 diabetes.3 Type 2 diabetes is a chronic disease due to a progressive loss of insulin secretion and/or increased insulin resistance. As a result, the body’s naturally produced insulin becomes less effective in reducing the amount of sugar in your blood. Excess weight or excess percentage of body fat can cause some degree of insulin resistance. Most, but not all, patients with type 2 diabetes have overweight or obesity. Different antidiabetic medications work through different mechanisms to help lower blood sugar. Some of these medications also provide additional benefits for patients, including weight loss. The medications with weight loss benefits include metformin, sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 (SGLT2) inhibitors, and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists.2 The following is a list of FDA-approved medications for the management of type 2 diabetes that may also result in weight loss. It is important to note that the amount of weight loss can vary depending on the medication, dose, duration of therapy, and lifestyle changes. Speak with your provider to know additional information. Drug ClassHow It Works Side EffectsBiguanideMetformin Decreases glucose production by the liver and improves insulin sensitivity4Nausea Vomiting Diarrhea Constipation Stomach pain Bloating Altered taste,7,8SGLT2 Inhibitors Canagliflozin (Invokana®) Dapagliflozin (Farxiga®) Empagliflozin (Jardiance®)Reduces reabsorption of filtered sugar and increases urinary glucose excretion9Increased urination Urinary tract infection (UTI) Female genital infection13GLP-1 Receptor Agonists Dulaglutide (Trulicity®) Exenatide(Byetta®; BYDUREON BCise®) Liraglutide (Victoza®) Semaglutide (Rybelsus®; Ozempic®) Tirzepatide (Mounjaro®)Simulates GLP-1 receptors to increase insulin secretion and decrease glucagon secretion14Nausea Vomiting Diarrhea Acute kidney injury Injection site reactions24 In a long-term study, patients who took metformin maintained an average weight loss of 6.2% between 6 and 15 years of treatment. Patients who experienced greater long-term weight loss were those who (1) lost more weight during their first year of treatment, and (2) were older in age.5,6 Various studies demonstrate long-term weight loss effects among patients taking SGLT2 inhibitors. In an analysis of multiple studies, patients had an average weight loss of between 1.5 kg and 2 kg after 4 years of treatment. These effects increased with increasing doses of these medications. Other studies have revealed average weight loss percentages between 2.2% and 3.3% of patients’ starting weight.5, 10-12 Other studies show improved weight loss among patients combining SGLT2 inhibitors with other drugs, such as metformin or GLP-1 receptor agonists. SGLT2 inhibitors may therefore be the drug of choice for patients also with heart and kidney disease.22,23 However, low blood sugar is more likely to occur when they are used as add-ons rather than used alone.30 Studies report a wide range of weight loss effects associated with GLP-1 receptor agonists, from 1 kg to 15 kg depending on the medication.15-21 Weight loss effects depend on dose and treatment durations.5 Like SLGT2 inhibitors, GLP-1 receptor agonists can be used as add-on therapies for patients with heart and kidney disease, but low blood sugar is more likely to occur. 22, 23, 30 No, food choices still play a significant role in diabetes management. Different types of diets for patients with diabetes include Mediterranean, low-fat, low-carb, vegetarian, and vegan diets. Additionally, the Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) approach could prevent more serious complications such as heart or kidney disease among those who have or are at risk for high blood pressure and high cholesterol.22,23 Diet modifications can also enhance natural GLP-1 and insulin production/sensitivity and prevent escalation of antidiabetic therapies while satisfying nutritional needs.24 Yes, it is recommended to engage in physical activity regularly, even if on medications that can result in weight loss, to prevent development and progression of heart- and kidney-related complications. Patients with type 2 diabetes are advised to do 150 minutes per week of moderate to vigorous exercise or 75 minutes per week of high intensity exercise over a course of 3 or more days per week.25 Studies report that physical activity can contribute to increased effectiveness of certain medications, including GLP-1 receptor agonists and metformin.25-27 Metformin can cause an upset stomach on initial treatment so it should be taken with food. Note that these side effects should go away over time, so do not skip doses or stop taking metformin without speaking with your provider.7,8 The initial dose of a GLP-1 receptor agonist or SGLT2 inhibitor is typically low to prevent stomach issues but not high enough to help manage your blood sugar. For this reason, your provider may start you on a higher dose, but you should let them know if the stomach side effects become unmanageable for you.28,29 Yes, GLP-1 receptor agonists and/or SGLT2 inhibitors are preferred over other drug classes as add-on treatments to metformin, especially for patients at risk for heart or kidney disease, according to the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology and American Diabetes Association guidelines. Before adding these medications, your doctor may consider factors such as heart and kidney disease, potential weight loss, and potential adverse effects.22,23 The use of GLP-1 receptor agonists with metformin may also exacerbate diarrhea.29 Click here for PDF What if you don’t have type 2 diabetes? Can you take metformin for weight loss? This is an excellent question, and the short answer is yes.Sood explains that metformin has been used off-label, or outside its intended purpose as approved by the FDA, for weight management in people without type 2 diabetes.Some evidence suggests metformin may benefit these individuals: A 2018 review examining the efficacy of metformin for weight loss in people who were overweight and had obesity without diabetes concluded that the drug significantly decreased body mass index (BMI) in adolescents and adults.But keep in mind that this drug is available only by prescription and is not FDA approved for people without type 2 diabetes. Your doctor will likely first recommend some of these traditional strategies for weight loss:Get support for your emotional health.Avoid sugary drinks.Drink water before meals to fill your stomach so that you eat less.Exercise for 30 minutes most days of the week.Prepare whole foods, such as fruits, vegetables, and grains.Limit your intake of processed foods.Eat a high-protein, low-carb, low-fat diet.Practice portion control.If you don’t have type 2 diabetes, your doctor may sign off on this drug if you have obesity and are struggling to lose weight. But again, metformin isn’t a substitute for healthy eating and regular exercise, which are keys to sustainable weight loss. These habits also encourage weight loss if you have type 2 diabetes but can’t take metformin.“Some people may not tolerate metformin, so it’s important to discuss options with your healthcare provider — medication is one tool to help manage blood sugars, but diet and lifestyle changes should be discussed first, because they can significantly lower blood sugars,” says Al Bochi.As for what diet and lifestyle changes you should consider? “Diet modifications can include being mindful of your carbohydrate intake, eating enough protein and fat at meals, choosing high fiber foods, and decreasing intake of sugar-sweetened beverages,” says Al Bochi. She also recommends consulting with a registered dietitian for tailored nutrition recommendations. “Incorporating some type of movement, such as walking, weight training, or yoga on most days is also important for blood sugar management,” Al Bochi adds. As a library, NLM provides access to scientific literature. Inclusion in an NLM database does not imply endorsement of, or agreement with, the contents by NLM or the National Institutes of Health. Learn more: PMC Disclaimer | PMC Copyright Notice . 2023 Apr 14;13(4):1012. doi: 10.3390/life13041012 Obesity is a complex metabolic condition that can have a negative impact on one’s health and even result in mortality. The management of obesity has been addressed in a number of ways, including lifestyle changes, medication using appetite suppressants and thermogenics, and bariatric surgery for individuals who are severely obese. Liraglutide and semaglutide are two of the five Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved anti-obesity drugs that are FDA-approved agents for the treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) patients. In order to highlight the positive effects of these drugs as anti-obesity treatments, we analyzed the weight loss effects of T2DM agents that have demonstrated weight loss effects in this study by evaluating clinical studies that were published for each agent. Many clinical studies have revealed that some antihyperglycemic medications can help people lose weight, while others either cause weight gain or neutral results. Acarbose has mild weight loss effects and metformin and sodium-dependent glucose cotransporter proteins-2 (SGLT-2) inhibitors have modest weight loss effects; however, some glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists had the greatest impact on weight loss. Dipeptidyl peptidase 4 (DPP-4) inhibitors showed a neutral or mild weight loss effect. To sum up, some of the GLP-1 agonist drugs show promise as weight-loss treatments. Keywords: obesity, T2DM, GLP-1 agonist, weight, loss According to the World Health Organization (WHO), diabetes mellitus is a long-term metabolic condition marked by hyperglycemia that over time can harm the heart, blood vessels, eyes, kidneys, and nerves [1,2]. Type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) affects more than 90% of individuals living with diabetes mellitus [1]. T2DM is a heterogeneous, progressive metabolic condition defined by tissue insulin resistance, insufficient compensatory insulin production, and faulty insulin secretion by pancreatic beta-cells [1]. Due to an increase in sedentary behaviors, obesity, and poor dietary choices around the world between 1980 and 2004, the incidence and prevalence of T2DM quadrupled [3]. The principal treatments for T2DM patients include insulin secretagogues, biguanides, insulin sensitizers, alpha-glucosidase inhibitors, incretin mimetics, amylin antagonists, and sodium-dependent glucose cotransporter proteins-2 (SGLT-2) inhibitors [4]. Pharmacological agents may be used either as monotherapy or with other hypoglycemic drugs [5]. Adapting the present medicines to produce optimal and balanced glucose levels and reducing long-term complications related to diabetes are the major obstacles to effective diabetes control, despite the introduction of promising anti-hyperglycemic drugs [5,6]. The term “diabesity” captures the intimate connection between the twin epidemics of diabetes and obesity [7]. Obesity is a multifactorial metabolic syndrome that raises the risk of several illnesses, including T2DM, cardiometabolic disorders, dementia, depression, and malignancies, which can lower quality of life and result in death [8,9]. Over the past 50 years, the prevalence of obesity has increased to epidemic levels worldwide [8]. Improvements in lifestyle habits, including strategies to improve diet and exercise quality, pharmacotherapy, such as appetite suppressants and thermogenic agents, and bariatric surgery in patients who are extremely obese have all been proposed as ways to control obesity [10,11]. Currently, orlistat, phentermine-topiramate, naltrexone-bupropion, liraglutide, and semaglutide have all been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for long-term use in the treatment of obesity [12]. Liraglutide and semaglutide are two of the antihyperglycemic medications that are utilized and have FDA approval for the treatment of people with type 2 diabetes [13,14]. Several studies have demonstrated that some antihyperglycemic medications can help T2DM patients lose weight, whereas other antihyperglycemic medications are weight-neutral [15]. Sulfonylureas, thiazolidinediones, and insulin, on the other hand, caused weight gain [15]. In order to highlight the promising effects of these medications as anti-obesity treatments, this study analyzed T2DM medications that have the potential to reduce weight by examining clinical trials that were published on each agent involving weight reduction effects. An electronic search of the literature was conducted using the following databases: Google Scholar; PubMed; Scopus; and Science Direct, and the following keywords: anti-diabetic medications; T2DM agents; obesity; anti-obesity treatments; weight; loss; BMI; biguanide; metformin; alpha-glucosidase inhibitors; acarbose; T2DM; DPP-4; SGLT-2; GLP-1 agonist; sitagliptin; vildagliptin; alogliptin; saxagliptin; linagliptin; canagliflozin; dapagliflozin; empagliflozin; ertugliflozin; exenatide; liraglutide; dulaglutide; lixisenatide; semaglutide; and tirzepatide. The most recent research that met the following selection criteria were included in this review: (1) written in English; (2) reported weight change associated with anti-diabetic medications either as primary or secondary endpoint; (3) analyzed T2DM agents that can potentially reduce weight; and (4) examined the effects on subjects with or without diabetes or with or without obesity. Studies that have not explored the weight effect of T2DM agents on subjects were excluded. Moreover, studies that have examined T2DM agents which cause weight gain such as sulfonylureas, thiazolidinediones, and insulin were also excluded [1]. According to this study, weight loss that was less than about 3% of the starting weight was deemed mild, between about 3% and 5% was deemed moderate, and more than 5% reduction was deemed strong, as was the case in the Lazzaroni et al. study [2]. Biguanide belongs to the family of guanidine, which is derived from Galega officinalis, a French lilac that has been used for its anti-diabetic, anti-hypertensive, and anti-aging properties since the Middle Ages [16,17]. Its anti-cancer activities were also demonstrated by preclinical and clinical investigations [18]. With the discovery of galegine at the beginning of the 20th century, many biguanides (such as synthelin A and B, biguanide, metformin, phenformin, and buformin) were developed and investigated as antidiabetic medications [18]. Metformin (1,1 dimethylbiguanide) is arguably the most well-known biguanide [17], while other biguanides were abandoned because of toxicity issues or a perception of low potency [18]. Because of its exceptional effectiveness, safety profile, tolerance, and lack of hypoglycemia, metformin (Figure 1a), an antihyperglycemic biguanide, is well-known as a cornerstone and first-line treatment of T2DM that decrease hepatic glucose production (Figure 2) [19,20]. Current research has demonstrated that metformin offers additional therapeutic advantages than lowering glycemia, such as extending life, reducing body weight, and decreasing the risk of developing cancer [21]. Moreover, the only biguanide medication that has received FDA approval for the treatment of hyperglycemia in T2DM patients is metformin [17]. Metformin mostly causes weight loss by lowering hunger and resulting in consuming less calories [21]. Both the medication’s direct cerebral action and its gastrointestinal side effects, such as nausea, bloating, diarrhea, and dysgeusia, indirectly affect how well it controls appetite [21]. The chemical structures of: (a) Metformin, (b) Acarbose, (c) Sitagliptin, (d) Vildagliptin, (e) Saxagliptin, (f) Linagliptin, (g) Alogliptin, (h) Canagliflozin, (i) Dapagliflozin, (j) Empagliflozin, and (k) Ertugliflozin. The primary mechanism of action of the biguanide, alpha-glucosidase inhibitors, dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitors, sodium-dependent glucose cotransporter proteins-2 (SGLT-2) inhibitors, and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) agonists.The Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) is the largest program examining the advantages of metformin for weight loss [22]. The DPP was a randomized controlled trial that compared weight loss with metformin, intensive lifestyle treatments, or placebo and evaluated the preventative effects of the drug on metabolic parameters in individuals at high risk for T2DM [22,23]. A total of 3234 people participated in the program at random. Those who lost at least 5% of their starting body weight underwent surveillance for more than 15 years, according to the DPP observational study [23]. After 15 years, the metformin group’s average weight loss was 6.2% as opposed to the lifestyle group’s 3.7% [23]. Moreover, 56% of patients in the metformin group kept their weight loss at least at 5%, as opposed to 43% of patients in the lifestyle group [23]. In total, 86 people with newly diagnosed T2DM were randomly assigned to receive either gliclazide, metformin, or acarbose for 6 months by Wang et al. [24]. According to the study, a patient’s body fat mass (3.51 kg) and body fat percentage (4.45%) decreased statistically significantly after 6 months of treatment [24]. When compared to other patients, those using metformin had significant weight loss, going from 71.6 kg to 68.4 kg [24]. From 6.45 kg to 6.12 kg, the metformin group’s total body fat decreased by 4.5% [24]. Additionally, given that the majority of antipsychotic medications produce weight gain, metformin’s impact on weight gain brought on by these medications has been studied in numerous randomized trials [25]. When metformin was combined with atypical antipsychotics, there was a significant reduction in body mass index (BMI) and insulin resistance without changing fasting blood sugar, according to a recent meta-analysis of 12 studies that included a total of 743 individuals [25]. The average weight change was 3.27 kg, and metformin significantly decreased BMI [25]. Metformin’s ability to prevent weight gain brought on by antipsychotics in individuals with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder was supported by the meta-analysis [25]. A systematic review also gave an overview of the impact of metformin treatment for 6 months on weight, insulin resistance, and progression to T2DM in 14 adult trials and 15 pediatric studies [26]. Children experience lesser weight/BMI reductions on metformin than adults do [26]. Variations in adherence, dose, and insulin state could cause this [26]. Metformin significantly reduced the progression of T2DM in adults by 7–31%, but no average weight loss of more than 5% was found [26]. A total of 85 T2DM patients with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease participated in a 24-week randomized experiment to evaluate the effects of gliclazide, liraglutide, and metformin on body composition [27]. Compared to gliclazide, liraglutide and metformin monotherapies result in greater weight loss, lower body fat percentages, and better blood glucose management in T2DM patients [27]. The only groups who saw significant weight loss were those using liraglutide and metformin (from 81.1 ± 2.3 kg to 75.5 ± 2.0 kg, $p < 0.01$) and from 74.8 ± 2.5 kg to 71.2 ± 2.6 kg, $p < 0.01$, respectively) [27]. Metformin’s impact on weight loss was assessed in a recent meta-analysis of 21 trials including a total of 1004 participants [28]. In obese people with a BMI greater than 35 kg/m2, the experiment found

of glucose is carried out by SGLT-2, which are found in the early proximal renal tubule of the kidney [76]. The SGLT-1 transporter in the late proximal tubule reabsorbs the final 10% of the glucose [76]. SGLT-2 inhibitors are drugs that offer a means of managing hyperglycemia in T2DM patients using insulin-independent mechanism [77]. By blocking up to around 50% of the glucose reabsorption from the proximal tubule in the nephron, these therapeutic medicines increase urine glucose excretion and cause glucosuria (Figure 2) [77]. Even in people without diabetes, SGLT-2 inhibitors were shown to be effective in lowering body weight and had good effects on avoiding cardiovascular and renal illnesses [78,79]. Despite the fact that SGLT-2 inhibitors have been demonstrated to reduce body weight, this effect is relatively moderate due to compensatory mechanisms that work to keep the body weight constant [79]. As a result, researchers have hypothesized that SGLT-2 inhibitor co-administration with medicines that reduce food intake will be a more successful weight loss therapy than SGLT-2 inhibitor monotherapy [79]. Canagliflozin (Figure 1h) is SGLT 2 inhibitor that has received FDA approval to treat hyperglycemia in T2DM patients with diet and exercise [80]. Moreover, it has been demonstrated to lower systolic blood pressure (BP), HbA1c, and body weight [81]. A once-daily dose of 100 mg or 300 mg of canagliflozin or a placebo was randomly assigned to participants (n = 584) in a double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 research [82]. Use of canagliflozin at doses of 100 mg and 300 mg resulted in considerable weight loss of 2.2% and 3.3% of the starting weight, respectively [82]. Another double-blind, randomized trial investigated the effects of glimepiride 6 mg or 8 mg daily for 104 weeks with canagliflozin 100 mg and 300 mg in 1450 T2DM patients [83]. With a reduction in baseline weight of 4.1% and 4.2% for canagliflozin doses of 100 mg and 300 mg, respectively, both canagliflozin doses significantly reduced body weight [83]. Whereas glimepiride was linked to a 0.9% increase in body weight [83]. A comprehensive systemic review and meta-analysis of 1904 studies examined the drug canagliflozin. In this study, 13,158 T2DM patients were examined, with 7859 being given canagliflozin and 5478 being placed in the control group [84]. They came to the conclusion that canagliflozin had demonstrated a significant reduction in body weight with both 100 mg and 300 mg when compared to the control (weighted mean difference: −3.32 kg). However, there was no dose dependence for this effect [84]. In total, 1.2 mg of liraglutide, 100 mg of canagliflozin, or a combination of liraglutide and canagliflozin were given to a total of 45 T2DM patients using metformin with or without sulfonylurea in 2020 for 16 weeks [85]. Each of the three groups demonstrated a discernible weight loss impact [85]. The combination of liraglutide 1.2 mg with canagliflozin 100 mg showed an additive effect on weight loss, but not on HbA1c [85]. According to the study's findings, subjects receiving liraglutide, canagliflozin, or the combination of liraglutide and canagliflozin, showed a body weight reduction of 1.9 ± 0.8 kg, 3.5 ± 0.5 kg, and 6.0 ± 0.8 kg, respectively [85]. Hence, it is believed that canagliflozin has a fairly favorable impact on weight loss. Dapagliflozin (Figure 1i) selectively and reversibly inhibits the SGLT-2 transporter [86]. The FDA has approved dapagliflozin for the treatment of hyperglycemia in adult T2DM patients as an adjunct to diet and exercise [87]. By enhancing renal glucose excretion and resulting in calorie loss, dapagliflozin has had a beneficial effect on glycamic management, systolic BP, and weight loss [88]. Dapagliflozin 10 mg daily was compared to a placebo and added to open-label metformin for approximately 6 months in a multicenter, multinational, randomized trial with 182 T2DM patients [89]. Over the course of the study, dapagliflozin 10 mg daily added to metformin resulted in significantly greater weight loss (−2.96 kg in the dapagliflozin 10 mg group vs. −0.88 kg in the placebo group) and better glycemic control than placebo added to metformin [89]. Whole body fat loss and a decrease in the volumes of visceral adipose tissue and subcutaneous adipose tissue were found to be responsible for the effect on body weight [89]. In another double-blind, randomized research, 50 obese adults with prediabetes were compared to placebo for 24 weeks to see how oral dapagliflozin 10 mg once daily and subcutaneous long-acting exenatide 2 mg once weekly affected their body weight [90]. In comparison to the placebo group, the average weight was significantly lowered by the combined therapy of dapagliflozin/exenatide (4.13 kg after 24 weeks), and it was well tolerated [90]. In 17,160 T2DM patients who were monitored for a median of 4.2 years, dapagliflozin was compared to a placebo in a phase 3 double-blind, international, randomized study named DECLARE-TIMI 58 [91]. When compared to a placebo, dapagliflozin significantly reduced cardiovascular death, heart failure hospitalizations, and body weight, with a difference of 1.8 kg [91]. Using 100 T2DM patients on metformin monotherapy, a recent randomized, double-blind trial examined the impact of dapagliflozin 10 mg daily on epicardial fat thickness as a primary result and body weight as a secondary outcome [92]. The participants were randomized to receiving metformin up to 1000 mg twice daily or receiving dapagliflozin 10 mg/day [92]. The thickness of the epicardial fat was immediately and considerably reduced by dapagliflozin, which also caused a 3.5 kg weight loss in the body. However, it is possible that weight loss is not necessary for the decrease in epicardial fat thickness [92]. Generally, dapagliflozin has modest effects on weight loss. One inhibitor of the SGLT-2 transporter is empagliflozin (Figure 1j) [93]. In August 2014, it gained FDA approval to enhance glycemic management add on to diet and exercise [93]. In order to assess the impact of empagliflozin on body weight and adiposity in individuals with T2DM, a study evaluated two cohorts of patients from five randomized trials [94]. There were 3300 patients in total between the 2 cohorts [94]. In 1 of these studies, 823 T2DM patients (cohort 1) were randomly assigned to receive either empagliflozin 10 mg, empagliflozin 25 mg, or a placebo every day for 12 weeks [95]. In total, 2477 T2DM patients from 4 studies made up cohort 2 [96,97,98,99]. In these studies, patients were randomly assigned to receive either monotherapy (empagliflozin 10 mg/day, empagliflozin 25 mg/day, or placebo/day) [96], or add-on medications to metformin, metformin with sulfonylurea, or pioglitazone with or without metformin for 24 weeks [97,98,99]. This study's findings showed that empagliflozin significantly decreased weight, waist circumference, and adiposity in both cohorts of T2DM patients as compared to placebo [94]. The placebo-adjusted average change in body weight with empagliflozin was −1.7 kg in cohort 1 and −1.9 kg in cohort 2 [94]. In a recent randomized trial, empagliflozin 10 and 25 mg were combined to metformin and tested on 637 adult patients with T2DM [100]. Empagliflozin 10 mg (n = 217), empagliflozin 25 mg (n = 213), or a placebo (n = 207) were given to the participants [100]. According to the trial's findings, both dosages of empagliflozin significantly lowered HbA1C, body weight, and systolic BP over the course of both the short-term (24 weeks) and long-term (76 weeks) [100]. Body weight loss was strongly correlated with patients' initial weight [100]. They came to the conclusion that empagliflozin can help people lose about 4–5 kg of weight over time [100]. A total of 545 subjects with T2DM participated in a recent observational, retrospective, cohort trial that assessed the effects of empagliflozin and liraglutide on weight loss outcomes [101]. With an average weight loss of 2.81 kg in the empagliflozin group (n = 247) and 2.17 kg in the liraglutide group (n = 298) after one year [101], both the empagliflozin (n = 247) and liraglutide (n = 298) groups have demonstrated a weight loss impact. However, there was no discernible difference between the groups treated with empagliflozin and liraglutide after a year [101]. Thus, empagliflozin has demonstrated clinically significant effects on weight loss. The newest SGLT-2 transporter inhibitor FDA-approved for the treatment of T2DM is ertugliflozin (Figure 1k), which is thought to be similarly safe to other SGLT-2 inhibitors [102]. Ertugliflozin has been linked to weight loss in several studies [103,104,105]. For instance, ertugliflozin's ability to cause weight loss in 461 individuals with T2DM was examined as a secondary endpoint in a phase 3, double-blind, multicenter, randomized trial [104]. Ertugliflozin 5 mg, ertugliflozin 15 mg, or a placebo were given to participants at random (1:1:1) once daily [104]. After 26 weeks of treatment, both ertugliflozin doses significantly decreased body weight as compared to the placebo [104]. The placebo-adjusted average body weight differences from baseline were −1.76 kg for ertugliflozin 5 mg and −2.16 kg for ertugliflozin 15 mg [104]. Ertugliflozin's impact on body weight after 26 weeks was examined in another randomized, phase 3, double-blind, multicenter trial with 621 T2DM individuals [103]. As a supplement to metformin, participants had been randomly assigned (1:1:1) to receive either ertugliflozin 5 mg once day, ertugliflozin 10 mg once daily, or a placebo [103]. The mean body weight changes from baseline were −1.3 kg for placebo, −3 kg for ertugliflozin 5 mg, and −2.9 kg for ertugliflozin 15 mg [103]. When combined with metformin, ertugliflozin considerably reduced weight when compared to placebo, and both doses had a similar, significant impact on body weight [103]. The phase 3 VERTIS SITA2 trial randomly assigned 464 T2DM patients managed with metformin and sitagliptin to receive ertugliflozin 5 mg, 15 mg, or placebo [105]. The addition of ertugliflozin to metformin and sitagliptin in this trial resulted in a significant decrease in participant body weight, with an average weight loss of 3.4 kg in the ertugliflozin group compared to 1.3 kg in the placebo group [105]. In a randomized research that lasted 52 weeks and included T2DM patients being treated with metformin, the effects of co-administration of ertugliflozin and sitagliptin compared to the individual medicines had been assessed [106]. A total of 1233 individuals were randomly assigned to receive sitagliptin 100 mg, ertugliflozin 5 mg, ertugliflozin 15 mg, or a combination of ertugliflozin 5 mg and sitagliptin 100 mg, or ertugliflozin 15 mg with sitagliptin 100 mg [106]. Ertugliflozin 5 mg/sitagliptin 100 mg and ertugliflozin 15 mg/sitagliptin 100 mg were compared to only sitagliptin 100 mg alone for the body weight endpoint [106]. When compared to sitagliptin 100 mg alone, ertugliflozin 5 mg/sitagliptin 100, and ertugliflozin 15 mg/sitagliptin 100 both reduced body weight clinically meaningfully [106]. The average initial weight loss for these 2 dosages was 3% and 4.2%, respectively. Moreover, ertugliflozin's effect on body weight persisted through week 52 [106]. As a result, ertugliflozin has significant weight loss effects. GLP-1 receptor agonists resemble endogenous GLP-1 (Figure 2), but with longer half-lives [107]; they boost-cell proliferation, slowing stomach emptying, secrete more insulin, and suppress appetite [107]. As a result, they enhance glycemic management and aid in weight loss [107]. Exendin-4, a 39 amino acid with 53% similarity to human GLP-1, was isolated from the glia monster, which sparked the discovery of GLP-1 receptor agonists [107,108]. A synthetic peptide of Exendin-4, called exenatide, was introduced as the first GLP-1 in 2005 under the trade name Byetta® because of its high degree of stability [107,108]. The most often reported side effects of these therapeutic drugs that force patients to stop receiving treatment are gastrointestinal [109,110]. In this analysis, we emphasize the six GLP-1 receptor agonists' remarkable weight loss outcomes across a range of clinical research programs. Exenatide, a synthetic peptide identical to exendin-4, was the first GLP-1 agonist receptor to receive FDA approval [107,108,111]. The homology to human GLP is 53% [111]. It was authorized to assist T2DM patients in achieving better glycemic control [111]. It was initially given as a 10 µg twice-daily subcutaneous injection under the brand name Byetta [111,112]. However, a long-acting new formulation using the 2 mg injectable microsphere technology was authorized in 2012 under the brand name Bydureon™ [111]. For the two doses, the glycemic control was remarkably identical. However, there were fewer gastrointestinal side effects and higher patient compliance with the long-acting formulation [113]. This review describes exenatide's effectiveness in reducing weight in people with uncontrolled T2DM who participated in the Diabetes therapy Utilization: Researching changes in A1C, weight and other factors (DURATION) clinical trials [114]. In DURATION-1 [114], once-weekly exenatide and twice-daily exenatide were compared [114]. In this 30-week, multicenter, open-labeled, comparator-controlled phase 3 trial, 295 patients with uncontrolled type 2 diabetes who were taking oral medications or were drug-naïve were randomly assigned to receive either 2 mg of subcutaneous exenatide once a week or 10 µg of subcutaneous exenatide twice a day [114]. For the once-weekly and twice-daily doses of exenatide, the average weight loss at week 30 was 3.7 kg and 3.6 kg, respectively. The daily dose, however, was associated with more gastrointestinal adverse effects [114]. In DURATION-2, a 26-week, randomized, double-blinded, parallel-group trial, 491 T2DM patients on metformin were randomized at 1:1:1 to receive 2 mg of once-weekly subcutaneous exenatide, sitagliptin, or pioglitazone [115]. The efficacy and safety of once-weekly exenatide were compared to those of sitagliptin and pioglitazone. For the exenatide and sitagliptin groups, the average weight loss was 2.3 kg and 0.8 kg, respectively. As opposed to a gain of 2.8 kg on average in the pioglitazone group [115]. In DURATION-3, a 26-week, randomized, open-labeled, parallel research, 456 T2DM patients using metformin with/without sulfonylurea were compared to once-weekly exenatide and insulin glargine [116]. Exenatide 2 mg once weekly or insulin glargine were given to patients in a 1:1 randomization scheme [116]. In comparison to the glargine group, which experienced an average gain of 1.4 kg, the exenatide group experienced an average weight reduction of 2.6 kg [116]. In the 26-week, randomized, double-blind, phase 3 trial DURATION-4, the safety and effectiveness of once-weekly exenatide were compared to those of metformin, sitagliptin, and pioglitazone in drug-naïve T2DM patients [117]. A total of 820 patients were randomly assigned to receive either 2 mg of subcutaneous exenatide once a week and an oral placebo (n = 248), or 2000 mg of metformin every day and a subcutaneous placebo (n = 246), or 45 mg of pioglitazone every day and a subcutaneous placebo (n = 163), or 100 mg of sitagliptin every day and a subcutaneous placebo (n = 163) [117]. At 26 weeks, the exenatide and sitagliptin groups had average weight losses of 2 kg and 0.8 kg, respectively. While the pioglitazone group experienced an average gain of 1.5 kg [117]. The DURATION-5 trial, an open-label, randomized, multicenter, parallel-Group trial, had a similar goal to the DURATION-1 trial: to compare the efficacy and safety of 2 mg of exenatide once per week to that of 10 µg of exenatide twice daily [118]. However, the primary outcomes were evaluated at 24 weeks rather than 30 weeks [118]. In total, 252 T2DM patients were randomly assigned to receive either 10 µg subcutaneous exenatide twice daily or 2 mg exenatide once per week [118]. Weekly exenatide was linked to better glycemic control and fewer adverse effects after 24 weeks [118]. Both led to weight loss, with the twice-daily and once weekly exenatide causing weight loss of an average of 1.4 kg and 2.3 kg, respectively [118]. The DURATION-6 trial, a 26-week, randomized, open-label, parallel-group experiment in which 912 T2DM patients on one or more oral medications were randomized at 1:1 to receive either 2 mg of exenatide once weekly or 1.8 mg of liraglutide once daily, compared exenatide to liraglutide [119]. The liraglutide group has demonstrated greater results on weight loss [119]. For the exenatide and liraglutide groups, the average weight loss was 2.68 kg and 3.57 kg, respectively [119]. In DURATION-7, a randomized, double-blind, multicenter, placebo-controlled, parallel group, phase 3 trial [120], exenatide was introduced to insulin-treated T2DM patients once weekly. A 2:1 randomization of 2 mg of exenatide once weekly or a placebo was performed in 464 uncontrolled T2DM patients on insulin glargine [120]. The exenatide group had better glycemic control and had lost an average of 1.5 kg more weight than the placebo group, according to the data [120]. In the long-term, randomized, open-label, parallel-group, comparator-controlled, phase 3 trial DURATION-Neoadjuvant-1 (DURATION-NEO-1), the effectiveness and tolerability of the new formulation of the long-acting exenatide were investigated [121]. A total of 375 T2DM patients who were taking oral medications or were drug-naïve were randomly assigned to receive either the novel formulation of exenatide once per week or twice daily for 28 weeks [121]. The weekly version was inferior to the glycemic control profile [121]. No discernible difference was seen between the two groups' average weight loss, which was 1.49 kg for the once-weekly exenatide group and 1.89 kg for the twice-daily exenatide arm [121]. In DURATION-NEO-2, an open-label, randomized, multicenter trial [122], the novel formulation of exenatide was compared to sitagliptin and a placebo for effectiveness, safety, and tolerability. Exenatide 2 mg once weekly, sitagliptin 100 mg, or placebo were randomly administered to 365 patients with uncontrolled T2DM who were taking metformin [122]. Exenatide outperformed the other groups in terms of glycemic control [122]. In comparison to the placebo group, which experienced an average gain of 0.15 kg, the exenatide and sitagliptin groups experienced average weight reductions of 1.12 kg and 1.19 kg, respectively [122]. A meta-analysis of six randomized clinical trials of exenatide effects on weight loss was conducted on a total number of 362 obese non-diabetic participants [123]. It was shown that exenatide was superior to control groups in weight loss with a mean difference of 4.47 kg ($p < 0.0001$) [123]. Moreover, greater BMI and waist circumference reductions were also reported in the exenatide groups with a mean difference of 0.86 kg/m2 ($p = 0.001$) and 1.78 cm ($p = 0.009$) for the BMI and waist circumferences, respectively [123]. After 12 weeks, patients who lost ≥ 5% of their weight were classified as high responders while who had lost ≥ 10% were classified as super-responders, and those who failed to achieve a 5% loss of their weight were classified as low responders [124]. The average weight loss for the exenatide group was 6.2 kg and 1.9 for high and low responders, respectively. While average weight loss for the hypocaloric diet was 7.2 kg and +0.6 kg for high and low responders, respectively [124]. Overall, exenatide has mild to moderate weight loss effect. The only significant difference between the daily and once-weekly doses was that the long-acting version had fewer side effects. With 97% amino acid sequence identical to human GLP-1, liraglutide was the second GLP-1 receptor agonist to be licensed [125,126]. In 2010, the FDA gave it the go-ahead for the treatment of T2DM [125]. The FDA approved a new dose of liraglutide 3 mg in 2014 for the treatment of obesity in patients without diabetes under the brand name Saxenda® [125]. This approval was made possible by the impressive results of weight loss brought on by 3 mg liraglutide in clinical trials in T2DM patients (an average of 5% weight loss) [125,126,127]. Daily subcutaneous injections of liraglutide are given [127]. The most frequent adverse effects are gastrointestinal, which often go away over time [127]. Liraglutide has been the subject of numerous clinical trials; the first of these was the Liraglutide Effect and Action in Diabetes (LEAD) program for diabetics, which enrolled more than 4000 T2DM patients from 40 different nations [128,129]. The program's goal was to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of liraglutide in T2DM patients when used alone or in combination with other antidiabetic medications [128,129]. Significant weight loss had been seen with liraglutide [128]. According to dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry and computed tomography results from a sub-study of LEAD 2, the bulk of weight loss originates from adipose tissue [130]. In LEAD 3; A double-blind, randomized phase 3 trial, 746 T2DM patients were randomly assigned to receive 1.2 mg of liraglutide (n = 251), 1.8 mg of liraglutide (n = 247), or 8 mg of glimepiride (n = 248) [131]. Liraglutide as a monotherapy for T2DM was the subject of this study, which sought to assess its efficacy and safety [131]. The liraglutide group experienced an average weight loss of 2 kg, whereas the glimepiride group experienced an average weight gain of 1 kg [131]. Liraglutide was observed to cause weight reduction that was proportionate to dose [132]. For instance, 533 T2DM patients taking 1000 mg of metformin and 4 mg of rosiglitazone twice daily were randomized at a 1:1:1 ratio to once daily doses of 1.2 mg or 1.8 mg of liraglutide or placebo in the 26-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group experiment known as LEAD 4 [132]. Liraglutide dosages of 1.2 mg and 1.8 mg resulted in average weight loss of 1 kg and 2 kg, respectively, while the placebo group experienced an average gain of 0.6 kg [132]. In total, 581 T2DM patients were randomly assigned to receive either 1.8 mg of liraglutide, a placebo, or insulin glargine in a 2:1:2 ratio as part of the 26-week LEAD 5 research, a randomized phase 3 study [133]. The liraglutide and placebo groups' average weight loss was 1.80 kg and 0.42 kg, respectively, while the glargine group's average weight gain was 1.60 kg [133]. Moreover, liraglutide and sitagliptin were compared in a 26-week open-label, parallel-group trial for individuals with uncontrolled T2DM [134]. In total, 665 patients were randomly assigned to receive either 100 mg of oral sitagliptin once daily, 1.2 mg, or 1.8 mg of liraglutide once daily [134]. With 1.2 mg, 1.8 mg, and 100 mg of liraglutide and sitagliptin, respectively, weight reductions of 2.86 kg, 3.38 kg, and 0.96 kg were reported [134]. In LEAD 6, a 26-week open-label phase 3 trial, 467 T2DM patients using metformin or a sulfonylurea were randomly assigned to receive either 1.8 mg of liraglutide once a day (n = 233) or 10 µg of exenatide twice a day (n = 231) [135]. With liraglutide and exenatide, the average weight loss was 3.24 kg and 2.87 kg, respectively [135]. In a 26-week, double-blind research, liraglutide was also assessed as an add-on therapy with insulin glargine with or without metformin [136]. A 1:1 randomization was used to assign 451 participants to receive either 1.2 mg, 1.8 mg liraglutide, or a placebo [136]. In comparison to the placebo group, the liraglutide group saw a weight loss of 3.5 kg on average [136]. In a global, double-blind research, 202 T2DM patients stabilized on SGLT-2 inhibitor received 1.8 mg of liraglutide as an add-on medication and were compared to the placebo group (n = 101) [137]. Liraglutide did not statistically differ from the placebo in terms of weight loss (2.81 kg in the liraglutide group versus 1.99 kg in the placebo group) [137]. The SCALE clinical studies on liraglutide were done in order to demonstrate its anti-obesity impact [138,139]. A randomized, double-blind, international, phase 3 trial is called SCALE DIABETES [138]. With a 2:1:1 ratio of liraglutide 3.0 mg, 1.8 mg, and placebo, a total of 846 patients were enrolled [138]. Only 21.4% of those who got placebo saw weight loss of 5% or more, compared to 54.3% of those who received 3mg of liraglutide and 40.4% of those who received 1.8 mg of liraglutide [138]. With 3 mg, 1.8 mg, and placebo, respectively, an average decrease of 6.4 kg, 5 kg, and 2.2 kg was seen at week 56 [138]. In total, 396 individuals were randomly assigned to receive 3 mg of liraglutide or a placebo at a 1:1 ratio in a global, 56-week-long phase 3 experiment termed the SCALE INSULIN trial [139]. At 56 weeks, liraglutide 3.0 mg had a mean weight reduction of 5.8% compared to placebo's 1.5%, and 51.8% of patients in the liraglutide group lost 5% of their body weight as opposed to 24.0% in the placebo group [139]. A critical review assessed the effectiveness and safety of liraglutide for weight loss in non-diabetic patients [140]. Their analysis comprised a total of 5 randomized, placebo-controlled studies [140,141]. When used in conjunction with lifestyle changes, liraglutide caused weight loss of 4–6 kg on average [140,141]. Although it was less effective than the phentermine/topiramate combination, liraglutide showed superior weight loss results versus orlistat and lorcaserin [140,141]. However, due to gastrointestinal side effects, it had significant withdrawal rates [140,141]. Liraglutide has an advantage over other anti-obesity medications in that it produces superior glycemic results [140,141]. In addition, five randomized clinical studies with 1758 people randomly assigned to placebo and 2996 participants receiving liraglutide were included in a systemic review and meta-analysis [141]. A statistically significant average weight loss of 5.52 kg with liraglutide in overweight persons was found to be effective and safe [141]. Another meta-analysis that looked at 31 studies involving 8060 overweight adults revealed that liraglutide had a weight-loss impact, with an average difference of 4.19 kg between liraglutide and placebo in body weight loss [142]. The mean differences in waist circumference and BMI were, respectively, 3.11 cm and 1.55 kg/m2. Indicating cardioprotective qualities, liraglutide also decreased low-density lipoprotein cholesterol and diastolic blood pressure [142]. We came to the conclusion that liraglutide significantly reduced body weight, which resulted in the FDA approving the 3 mg dose as an anti-obesity medication. Nonetheless, gastrointestinal side effects continue to be the main reason for discontinuation. Under the trade name Trulicity®, dulaglutide, a GLP-1 receptor agonist, was authorized by the FDA in 2014 [143]. It is composed of a DPP-IV-protected GLP-1 analogue covalently attached to a human IgG4-Fc heavy chain via a small peptide linker [143]. A 1.5 mg subcutaneous injection is given once each week [143]. As an adjunctive therapy to other oral antihyperglycemic medications or/and insulins, clinical trials have demonstrated its efficacy and typically good tolerability [144]. In high-risk individuals, such as those with obesity-related cardiovascular and chronic renal illnesses, it exhibits positive outcomes [144,145]. Similar to other GLP-1 agonists, adverse effects are typically gastrointestinal [144,146]. We present the effectiveness of dulaglutide in weight loss from the AWARD clinical trials on uncontrolled T2DM in this review [147,148]. In AWARD-1, a multicenter, parallel-arm, phase 3 clinical research, 978 patients stabilized on metformin and pioglitazone were randomly assigned at 2:2:2:1 into 4 arms: 1.5 mg or 0.75 mg dulaglutide, 10 µg exenatide, or placebo, [147]. Exenatide and 1.5 mg dulaglutide both caused weight loss at 26 weeks, with average losses of 1.07 kg and 1.3 kg, respectively [147]. However, patients on 0.75 mg dulaglutide and placebo gained an average weight of 0.20 kg and 1.24 kg, respectively [147]. In AWARD-2, an open-label clinical trial, 810 metformin-taking patients with type 2 diabetes were randomly assigned at a ratio 1:1:1 to receive either 1.5 mg, 0.75 mg of dulaglutide once a week or daily insulin glargine [148]. In comparison to insulin glargine, dulaglutide induced an average weight loss of 1.87 kg and 1.33 kg for the 1.5 mg and 0.75 mg doses, respectively, after 52 weeks [148]. Dulaglutide and metformin were compared in AWARD-3, a double-blind, randomized clinical trial on 807 T2DM patients receiving just one oral antidiabetic medication [149]. In a 1:1:1 ratio, patients were randomly assigned into three groups: metformin; 1.5 mg dulaglutide; or 0.75 mg dulaglutide [149]. Weight loss at week 26 was 1.36 kg for the 0.75 mg dose of dulaglutide, compared to 2.29 kg for the high dose of dulaglutide and 2.22 kg for the high dose of metformin [149]. Moreover, AWARD-4, a phase 3 randomized, double-blind trial in which all participants were taking prandial insulin lispro, was conducted on T2DM patients. In total, 884 patients in total were randomly assigned to receive daily doses of 1.5 mg, 0.75 mg dulaglutide once per week, or daily doses of insulin glargine at bedtime [150]. With dulaglutide 1.5 mg, the average weight was lowered by roughly 0.9 kg compared to a 2.3 kg rise with glargine [150]. A weight recovery was seen in the dulaglutide 0.75 mg group after an initial weight loss in the group. The rise, however, was considerably less than in the glargine group [150]. In the AWARD-5, a randomized, double-blind, multicenter, parallel-arm clinical trial in which 1098 metformin-treated T2DM subjects were randomly assigned to two doses of dulaglutide, sitagliptin, or placebo [151], sitagliptin and dulaglutide were contrasted Average weight losses of 2.88 kg, 2.39 kg, and 1.75 kg were seen after 104 weeks for 1.5 mg, 0.75 mg dulaglutide, and sitagliptin, respectively [151]. A double-blind, randomized, parallel-arm clinical trial called AWARD-6 compared dulaglutide to another GLP-1 agonist, liraglutide [152]. In total, 599 T2DM patients using metformin were randomly assigned to receive either 1.8 mg per day of liraglutide or 1.5 mg per week of dulaglutide [152]. When compared to dulaglutide, liraglutide produced better weight loss results, with an average loss of 3.61 kg as opposed to 2.90 kg in the dulaglutide group [152]. Dulaglutide's renal protective properties were investigated in AWARD-7, because they are not dependent on renal clearance [146]. In a multicenter, open-label clinical research, 577 T2DM patients with moderate to severe chronic renal disease were randomly assigned to receive either insulin or insulin plus an oral drug in a 1:1:1 ratio of 0.75 mg, 1.5 mg dulaglutide once weekly, and insulin glargine [146]. The dulaglutide group showed more kidney-protective outcomes. Those receiving glargine experienced weight gain, while those using dulaglutide experienced weight decrease [146]. Despite the fact that the mean weight in the dulaglutide group decreased considerably from baseline in AWARD-8, no clinically significant weight loss was seen when 239 T2DM patients taking glimepiride were compared to a placebo group [153]. According to the AWARD-9 clinical study, 1.5 mg of dulaglutide caused a 1.91 kg loss in 300 T2DM patients receiving insulin glargine with or without metformin, while individuals on a placebo gained an average of 0.50 kg [154]. In AWARD-10, a global, double-blind, randomized phase 3 trial, 424 T2DM patients receiving SGLT-2 inhibitors with or without metformin were randomized into groups receiving 1.5 mg, 0.75 mg dulaglutide, or placebo in a 1:1:1 ratio [155]. For doses of 1.5 mg and 0.75 mg dulaglutide and placebo, the weight decreases after 24 weeks were 3.1 kg, 2.6 kg, and 2.1 kg, respectively [155]. A randomized, double-blind, parallel-arm phase 3 clinical trial called AWARD-11 was presented to examine the effectiveness and safety of large dosages of dulaglutide [156]. Patients on metformin for uncontrolled T2DM made up the trial population [156]. Dulaglutide dosages of 4.5 mg, 3 mg, or 1.5 mg were given once weekly for 52 weeks to 1842 patients [156]. The dose of dulaglutide was inversely correlated with changes in HbA1c and weight [156]. When compared to patients who were kept on 1.5 mg of dulaglutide, patients who utilized higher dosages of the drug experienced greater weight reduction effects [156]. With the dosages of 3 mg and 4.5 mg dulaglutide, the weight loss was 0.9 kg ($p = 0.001$) and 1.6 kg ($p < 0.001$), respectively [156]. For all doses, the safety profile and side effects were essentially the same [156]. Dulaglutide was tested in children aged 10 to 17 years old treated with metformin or insulin in a clinical trial known as AWARD-PEDS as T2DM rates are rising in the young population [157]. A 26-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial had 154 participants [157]. The patients were randomly assigned to receive 0.75 mg, 1.5 mg dulaglutide, or placebo [157]. The two dulaglutide-treated groups' glycated hemoglobin levels were found to be lower [157]. BMI, however, showed no difference [157]. In conclusion, dulaglutide had demonstrated a considerable reduction in weight that was proportional to the dose employed. The weight loss benefits of the 1.5 mg dulaglutide were superior to those of exenatide and were essentially identical to those of metformin. However, it was not as good as liraglutide. The most frequent side effects were gastrointestinal. A once-daily prandial GLP-1 agonist, lixisenatide is marketed under the trade name Lyxumia® and received approval in the European Union, Mexico, Japan, and other nations in 2013 [158]. It consists of 44 amino acids and is based on the exendin-4 structure with some modifications [158]. Eventually, it was granted approval by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) in 2016 under the trade name AdlyxineTM [159]. In T2DM patients, it is utilized as an adjunct to lifestyle therapies. Moreover, in the case of uncontrolled T2DM, it can be used with additional oral medications or basal insulin therapy [158]. A 20 µg subcutaneous injection once daily maintenance dose of lixisenatide is administered after two weeks of gradually increase of the dose [160]. The most frequent adverse effects, nausea and vomiting, usually subside with time [160]. Low incidence of hypoglycemia is also linked to lixisenatide [161]. We summarize the lixisenatide weight reduction results from the GetGoal clinical trials in this review. In GetGoal-Mono, a 12-week, randomized, double-blinded trial in which 361 participants were randomized into a 2-step titration, lixisenatide was compared to a placebo in drug-naïve T2DM patients [162]. Lixisenatide was given in the following dosages: 10 µg for 1 week, 15 µg for 1 week, and then 20 µg (for n = 120), or one-step titration; 10 µg for 2 weeks and then 20 µg (for n = 119); or a placebo group (for n = 122) [162]. In all groups, weight losses were on average 2 kg. In the lixisenatide group, nausea was more prevalent [162]. In the GetGoal-M study, which was a 24-week, double-blinded, randomized, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial [163], lixisenatide was examined as an addition to metformin in individuals with uncontrolled T2DM. In total, 680 participants in all were randomly assigned to receive 20 µg of lixisenatide in the morning, evening, or a placebo [163]. Between the lixisenatide and placebo groups, there was a discernible difference in glycemic control [163]. Nonetheless, the average weight loss across all groups was 2 kg, with no statistically significant difference [163]. In GetGoal-X, a 24-week, randomized, open-label research, 634 metformin-using T2DM patients were randomly assigned to receive either 20 µg of lixisenatide once daily or 10 µg of exenatide twice daily [164]. With lixisenatide and exenatide, the average weight decreases were 2.96 kg and 3.98 kg, respectively [164]. The exenatide group had improved glycemic control. However, lixisenatide group members experienced less hypoglycemia and gastrointestinal adverse effects ($p < 0.05$) [164]. GetGoal-F1, a randomized, parallel-group, double-blinded, multicenter, phase 3 trial, evaluated the impact of 2 titration regimens on the tolerance of lixisenatide [165]. In total, 484 T2DM patients using metformin were randomized to receive lixisenatide in a one-step dose titration, two-step dose titration, or placebo [165]. Average weight loss was 2.6 kg, 2.7 kg, and 1.6 kg for the one-step lixisenatide group, two-step lixisenatide, and the combined placebo group, respectively [165]. GetGoal-S clarified the effectiveness and safety of lixisenatide in T2DM patients on metformin and a sulfonylurea [166]. In this 24-week, parallel-group, double-blinded experiment, 855 T2DM patients were randomly assigned to receive either placebo or 20 µg of lixisenatide subcutaneously once daily (following the 2-step titration method) [166]. In the lixisenatide group, there was an average weight loss of 1.76 kg compared to 0.93 kg in the placebo group [166]. Moreover, GetGoal-P clarified the effectiveness and safety of lixisenatide in T2DM patients using metformin and pioglitazone [167]. In total, 484 individuals were randomly assigned to receive either a placebo or 20 µg of lixisenatide once a day in this multicenter, randomized, double-blinded research [167]. The lixisenatide group had superior glycemic control [167]. However, the average weight reduction was 0.2 kg in lixisenatide group and 0.2 kg gain in the placebo group without any significant differences [167]. In GetGoal-L, a global, double-blinded, randomized, phase 3-trial, 495 T2DM patients on basal insulin therapy were randomly assigned to receive either placebo or 20 µg of lixisenatide once day (following the 2-step titration approach) [168]. For lixisenatide and the placebo, the average weight loss was 1.8 kg and 0.5 kg, respectively [168]. The lixisenatide group experienced gastrointestinal side effects and a few instances of hypoglycemia (4 from 328) [168]. In GetGoal-Duo 1, a global, randomized, double-blind, parallel-group, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial where HbA1c levels are still high despite the addition of insulin glargine upon 12 weeks, the effectiveness of lixisenatide in uncontrolled T2DM patients on oral medicines was studied [169]. The 2-step titration approach was used to randomly assign 446 T2DM patients to either placebo or 20 µg of lixisenatide once daily [169]. With superior glycemic control than a placebo ($p < 0.0001$), lixisenatide has the potential to replace prandial insulin [169]. A statistically significant difference ($p = 0.0012$) between the average weight gain of 1.2 kg in the placebo group and a weight gain of 0.3 kg in the lixisenatide group [169]. However, the therapy group experienced greater gastrointestinal side effects and hypoglycemia [169]. In GetGoal-Duo 2, the effectiveness of lixisenatide was compared to prandial insulin administered once or three times each day [170]. A 26-week, open-label, three-parallel-arm, randomized trial in which 298 uncontrolled T2DM patients on oral medications and insulin glargine are randomly assigned at a ratio of 1 to 1 to 20 mg of lixisenatide or prandial insulin once, twice, or three times daily [170]. The lixisenatide group saw an average weight loss of 0.6 kg, whereas the insulin glulisine once-daily and three-times-daily groups experienced average weight gains of 1 kg and 1.4 kg, respectively [170]. GetGoal-O, a global, randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, phase 3 trial in which 350 patients were allocated at random to receive lixisenatide or a placebo, evaluated the efficacy and safety of lixisenatide in T2DM patients aged 70 years or older [171]. For the lixisenatide group and placebo, the average weight loss was 1.47 kg and 0.16 kg, respectively [171]. In a randomized, double-blind, parallel-group trial, 319 obese T2DM patients under 50 years old on metformin were randomly assigned at 1:1 to receive either 20 µg of lixisenatide once daily or 100 mg of sitagliptin once daily [172]. With lixisenatide and sitagliptin, the average weight loss at 24 weeks was 2.5 kg and 1.2 kg, respectively [172]. A 12-week, multicenter, randomized, open-labeled, controlled trial with T2DM patients compared lixisenatide and basal insulin to numerous insulin injections [173]. A 1:1 allocation of lixisenatide, insulin glargine, and multiple daily insulin was given to 31 Japanese patients with T2DM [173]. In comparison to the multiple daily insulin group, which experienced an average gain of 0.8 kg, the lixisenatide/basal insulin combination group experienced a mean body weight reduction from baseline of 2.5 kg [173]. In a 10-week, randomized, parallel-group, investigator-blinded experiment, the effects of Lixisenatide and liraglutide were contrasted with regard to macronutrient intake, gastrointestinal side effects, and pancreatic function [174]. In total, 50 T2DM patients with a BMI of 18 to 40 kg/m2 were randomly assigned to receive either 1.8 mg

Metformin: Historical overview. Diabetologia. 2017;60:1566–1576. doi: 10.1007/s00125-017-4318-z. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 18.Di Magno L., Di Pastena F., Bordone R., Coni S., Canettieri G. The mechanism of action of biguanides: New answers to a complex question. Cancers. 2022;14:3220. doi: 10.3390/cancers14133220. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 19.Scarpello J.H., Howlett H.C. Metformin therapy and clinical uses. Diabetes Vasc. Dis. Res. 2008;5:157–167. doi: 10.3132/dvdr.2008.027. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 20.Association A.D. Standards of medical care in diabetes—2019 abridged for primary care providers. Clin. Diabetes Publ. Am. Diabetes Assoc. 2019;37:11. doi: 10.2337/cd18-0105. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 21.Yerevanian A., Soukas A.A. Metformin: Mechanisms in human obesity and weight loss. Curr. Obes. Rep. 2019;8:156–164. doi: 10.1007/s13679-019-00335-3. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 22.Association A.D. The Diabetes Prevention Program. Design and methods for a clinical trial in the prevention of type 2 diabetes. Diabetes Care. 1999;22:623–634. doi: 10.2337/diacare.22.4.623. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 23.Apolzan J.W., Venditti E.M., Edelstein S.L., Knowler W.C., Dabelea D., Boyko E.J., Pi-Sunyer X., Kalyani R.R., Franks P.W., Srikanthan P. Long-term weight loss with metformin or lifestyle intervention in the diabetes prevention program outcomes study. Ann. Intern. Med. 2019;170:682–690. doi: 10.7326/M18-1605. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 24.Wang H., Ni Y., Yang S., Li H., Li X., Feng B. The effects of ziclazide, metformin, and acarbose on body composition in patients with newly diagnosed type 2 diabetes mellitus. Curr. Ther. Res. 2013;75:88–92. doi: 10.1016/j.curtheres.2013.10.002. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 25.De Silva V.A., Suraweera C., Ratnatunga S.S., Dayabandara M., Wanniarachchi N., Hanwella R. Metformin in prevention and treatment of antipsychotic induced weight gain: A systematic review and meta-analysis. BMC Psychiatry. 2016;16:341. doi: 10.1186/s12888-016-1049-5. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 26.Lentferink Y., Knibbe C., Van Der Vorst M. Efficacy of metformin treatment with respect to weight reduction in children and adults with obesity: A systematic review. Drugs. 2018;78:1887–1901. doi: 10.1007/s40265-018-1025-0. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 27.Feng W.H., Bi Y., Li P., Yin T.T., Gao C.X., Shen S.M., Gao L.J., Yang D.H., Zhu D.L. Effects of liraglutide, metformin and gliclazide on body composition in patients with both type 2 diabetes and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease: A randomized trial. J. Diabetes Investig. 2019;10:399–407. doi: 10.1111/jdi.12888. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 28.Pu R., Shi D., Gan T., Ren X., Ba Y., Huo Y., Bai Y., Zheng T., Cheng N. Effects of metformin in obesity treatment in different populations: A meta-analysis. Ther. Adv. Endocrinol. Metab. 2020;11:2042018820926000. doi: 10.1177/2042018820926000. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 29.Chukir T., Mandel L., Tchang B.G., Al-Mulla N.A., Igel L.I., Kumar R.B., Waitman J., Aronne L.J., Shukla A.P. Metformin-induced weight loss in patients with or without type 2 diabetes/prediabetes: A retrospective cohort study. Obes. Res. Clin. Pract. 2021;15:64–68. doi: 10.1016/j.orcp.2020.12.005. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 30.Akmal M., Wadhwa R. StatPearls. StatPearls Publishing; Tampa, FL, USA: 2022. Alpha glucosidase inhibitors. [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 31.Lazzaroni E., Nasr M.B., Loretelli C., Pastore I., Plebani L., Lunati M.E., Vallone L., Bolla A.M., Rossi A., Montefusco L. Anti-diabetic drugs and weight loss in patients with type 2 diabetes. Pharmacol. Res. 2021;171:105782. doi: 10.1016/j.phrs.2021.105782. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 32.Gao X., Cai X., Yang W., Chen Y., Han X., Ji L. Meta-analysis and critical review on the efficacy and safety of alpha-glucosidase inhibitors in Asian and non-Asian populations. J. Diabetes Investig. 2018;9:321–331. doi: 10.1111/jdi.12711. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 33.Zheng M.-Y., Yang J.-H., Shan C.-Y., Zhou H.-T., Xu Y.-G., Wang Y., Ren H.-Z., Chang B.-C., Chen L.-M. Effects of 24-week treatment with acarbose on glucagon-like peptide 1 in newly diagnosed type 2 diabetic patients: A preliminary report. Cardiovasc. Diabetol. 2013;12:73. doi: 10.1186/1475-2840-12-73. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 34.Fernandez E., Ross C., Liang H., Javors M., Tardif S., Salmon A.B. Evaluation of the pharmacokinetics of metformin and acarbose in the common marmoset. Pathobiol. Aging Age-Relat. Dis. 2019;9:1657756. doi: 10.1080/20010001.2019.1657756. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 35.DiNicolantonio J.J., Bhutani J., O'Keefe J.H. Acarbose: Safe and effective for lowering postprandial hyperglycaemia and improving cardiovascular outcomes. Open Heart. 2015;2:e000327. doi: 10.1136/openhrt-2015-000327. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 36.Yang H.K., Lee S.-H., Shin J., Choi Y.-H., Ahn Y.-B., Lee B.-W., Rhee E.J., Min K.W., Yoon K.-H. Acarbose add-on therapy in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus with metformin and sitagliptin failure: A multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study. Diabetes Metab. J. 2019;43:287–301. doi: 10.4093/dmj.2018.0054. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 37.Schnell O., Weng J., Sheu W.H.-H., Watada H., Kalra S., Soegondo S., Yamamoto N., Rathod R., Zhang C., Grzeszczak W. Acarbose reduces body weight irrespective of glycemic control in patients with diabetes: Results of a worldwide, non-interventional, observational study data pool. J. Diabetes Its Complicat. 2016;30:628–637. doi: 10.1016/j.jdiacomp.2016.01.023. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 38.Yang W., Liu J., Shan Z., Tian H., Zhou Z., Ji Q., Weng J., Jia W., Lu J., Liu J. Acarbose compared with metformin as initial therapy in patients with newly diagnosed type 2 diabetes: An open-label, non-inferiority randomised trial. Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol. 2014;2:46–55. doi: 10.1016/S2213-8587(13)70021-4. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 39.Song L.-L., Wang X., Yang Z.-J., Kong X.-M., Chen X.-P., Zhang B., Yang W.-Y. Factors associated with improvement in waist-to-height ratio among newly diagnosed type 2 diabetes patients treated with acarbose or metformin: A randomized clinical trial study. World J. Diabetes. 2020;11:514. doi: 10.4239/wjd.v11.i11.514. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 40.Yu A.-Q., Le J., Huang W.-T., Li B., Liang H.-X., Wang Q., Liu Y.-T., Young C.-A., Zhang M.-Y., Qin S.-L. The effects of acarbose on non-diabetic overweight and obese patients: A meta-analysis. Adv. Ther. 2021;38:1275–1289. doi: 10.1007/s12325-020-01602-9. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 41.Zhang F., Xu S., Tang L., Pan X., Tong N. Acarbose with comparable glucose-lowering but superior weight-loss efficacy to dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors: A systematic review and network meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. Front. Endocrinol. 2020;11:288. doi: 10.3389/fendo.2020.00288. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 42.Holmbäck U., Grudén S., Litorp H., Willhems D., Kuusk S., Alderborn G., Söderhäll A., Forslund A. Effects of a novel weight-loss combination product containing orlistat and acarbose on obesity: A randomized, placebo-controlled trial. Obesity. 2022;30:2222–2232. doi: 10.1002/oby.23557. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 43.Gallwitz B. Clinical use of DPP-4 inhibitors. Front. Endocrinol. 2019;10:389. doi: 10.3389/fendo.2019.00389. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 44.Ahrén B. DPP-4 inhibition and the path to clinical proof. Front. Endocrinol. 2019;10:376. doi: 10.3389/fendo.2019.00376. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 45.Tomovic K., Lazarevic J., Kocic G., Deljanin-Ilic M., Anderluh M., Smelcerovic A. Mechanisms and pathways of anti-inflammatory activity of DPP-4 inhibitors in cardiovascular and renal protection. Med. Res. Rev. 2019;39:404–422. doi: 10.1002/med.21513. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 46.Lim S.W., Jin J.Z., Jin L., Jin J., Li C. Role of dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors in new-onset diabetes after transplantation. Korean J. Intern. Med. 2015;30:759. doi: 10.3904/kjim.2015.30.6.759. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 47.Subbarayan S., Kipnes M. Sitagliptin: A review. Expert Opin. Pharmacother. 2011;12:1613–1622. doi: 10.1517/14656566.2011.580738. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 48.Shankar R., Xu L., Golm G., O'Neill E., Goldstein B., Kaufman K., Engel S. A comparison of glycaemic effects of sitagliptin and sulfonylureas in elderly patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Int. J. Clin. Pract. 2015;69:626–631. doi: 10.1111/ijcp.12607. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 49.Sharma M., Beckley N., Nazareth I., Petersen I. Effectiveness of sitagliptin compared to sulfonylureas for type 2 diabetes mellitus inadequately controlled on metformin: A systematic review and meta-analysis. BMJ Open. 2017;7:e017260. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2017-017260. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 50.Yan J., Yao B., Kuang H., Yang X., Huang Q., Hong T., Li Y., Dou J., Yang W., Qin G. Liraglutide, sitagliptin, and insulin glargine added to metformin: The effect on body weight and intrahepatic lipid in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease. Hepatology. 2019;69:2414–2426. doi: 10.1002/hep.30320. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 51.Janani L., Bamehr H., Tanha K., Mirzabeigi P., Montazeri H., Tarighi P. Effects of Sitagliptin as Monotherapy and Add-On to Metformin on Weight Loss among Overweight and Obese Patients with Type 2 Diabetes: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Drug Res. 2021;71:477–488. doi: 10.1055/a-1555-2797. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 52.Ahmed I., Raja U.Y., Wahab M.U., Rehman T., Ishtiaq O., Aamir A., Ghaffar T., Raza A., Kumar S., Sherin A. Efficacy and safety of combination of empagliflozin and metformin with combination of sitagliptin and metformin during Ramadan: An observational study. BMC Endocr. Disord. 2022;22:247. doi: 10.1186/s12902-022-01168-3. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 53.Mathieu C., Kozlovski P., Paldánius P.M., Foley J.E., Modgill V., Evans M., Serban C. Clinical safety and tolerability of vildagliptin—Insights from randomised trials, observational studies and post-marketing surveillance. Eur. Endocrinol. 2017;13:68. doi: 10.17925/EE.2017.13.02.68. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 54.Dejager S., Schweizer A., Foley J.E. Evidence to support the use of vildagliptin monotherapy in the treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus. Vasc. Health Risk Manag. 2012;8:339. doi: 10.2147/VHRM.S31758. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 55.Keating G.M. Vildagliptin: A review of its use in type 2 diabetes mellitus. Drugs. 2014;74:587–610. doi: 10.1007/s40265-014-0199-3. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 56.Strózik A., Stęposz A., Basiak M., Drożdż M., Okopień B. Multifactorial effects of vildagliptin added to ongoing metformin therapy in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Pharmacol. Rep. 2015;67:24–31. doi: 10.1016/j.pharep.2014.07.016. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 57.Blüher M., Schweizer A., Bader G., Foley J.E. Changes in body weight after 24 weeks of vildagliptin therapy as a function of fasting glucose levels in patients with type 2 diabetes. Vasc. Health Risk Manag. 2014;10:661. doi: 10.2147/VHRM.S73608. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 58.Saputra R.C., Mahmuda I.N.N. The Differences in Efficacy of Vildagliptin as a Single Drug with Vildagliptin as a Combination with Metformin in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: A Systematic Review. Malays J. Med. Health Sci. 2021;17:105–112. [Google Scholar] 59.Ding Y., Liu Y., Qu Y., Lin M., Dong F., Li Y., Cao L., Lin S. Efficacy and safety of combination therapy with vildagliptin and metformin vs. metformin monotherapy for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus therapy: A meta-analysis. Eur. Rev. Med. Pharm. Sci. 2022;26:2802–2817. doi: 10.26355/eurrev_202204_28611. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 60.Boulton D.W. Clinical pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of saxagliptin, a dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitor. Clin. Pharmacokinet. 2017;56:11–24. doi: 10.1007/s40262-016-0421-4. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 61.Rosenstock J., Hansen L., Zee P., Li Y., Cook W., Hirshberg B., Iqbal N. Dual add-on therapy in type 2 diabetes poorly controlled with metformin monotherapy: A randomized double-blind trial of saxagliptin plus dapagliflozin addition versus single addition of saxagliptin or dapagliflozin to metformin. Diabetes Care. 2015;38:376–383. doi: 10.2337/dc14-1142. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 62.Johansson L., Hockings P.D., Johnsson E., Dronamraju N., Maaske J., Garcia-Sanchez R., Wilding J.P. Dapagliflozin plus saxagliptin add-on to metformin reduces liver fat and adipose tissue volume in patients with type 2 diabetes. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2020;22:1094–1101. doi: 10.1111/dom.14004. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 63.Rezki A., Fysekidis M., Chiheb S., Vicaut E., Cosson E., Valensi P. Acute and long-term effects of saxagliptin on post-prandial glycemic response in obese patients with impaired glucose tolerance. Nutr. Metab. Cardiovasc. Dis. 2021;31:1257–1266. doi: 10.1016/j.numecd.2020.12.025. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 64.Chen X., Jiang H., Li H., Kuang H., Chen L., Ma J., Zhang Q., Pan T., Yang W., on behalf of SUCCESS Study Investigators Saxagliptin combined with additional oral antihyperglycaemic agents in drug-naive diabetic patients with high glycosylated haemoglobin: A 24-week, multicentre, randomized, open-label, active parallel-controlled group clinical trial in China (SUCCESS) Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2023;25:272–281. doi: 10.1111/dom.14873. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 65.Barnett A.H. Linagliptin: A novel dipeptidyl peptidase 4 inhibitor with a unique place in therapy. Adv. Ther. 2011;28:447–459. doi: 10.1007/s12325-011-0028-y. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 66.Rosenstock J., Perkovic V., Johansen O.E., Cooper M.E., Kahn S.E., Marx N., Alexander J.H., Pencina M., Toto R.D., Wanner C. Effect of linagliptin vs placebo on major cardiovascular events in adults with type 2 diabetes and high cardiovascular and renal risk: The CARMELINA randomized clinical trial. JAMA. 2019;321:69–79. doi: 10.1001/jama.2018.18269. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 67.Guardado-Mendoza R., Salazar-López S.S., Álvarez-Canales M., Farfán-Vázquez D., Martínez-López Y.E., Jiménez-Ceja L.M., Suárez-Pérez E.L., Angulo-Romero F., Evia-Viscarra M.L., de Oca-Loyola M.L.M. The combination of linagliptin, metformin and lifestyle modification to prevent type 2 diabetes (PRELLIM). A randomized clinical trial. Metabolism. 2020;104:154054. doi: 10.1016/j.metabol.2019.154054. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 68.Yang W., Xu X., Lei T., Ma J., Li L., Shen J., Ye B., Zhu S., Meinicke T. Efficacy and safety of linagliptin as add-on therapy to insulin in Chinese patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus: A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2021;23:642–647. doi: 10.1111/dom.14231. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 69.Alvarez-Canales M.F.d.l.L., Salazar-Lopez S.S., Farfán-Vázquez D., Martinez-Lopez Y.E., González-Mena J.N., Jiménez-Ceja L.M., Vargas-Ortiz K., Evia-Viscarra M.L., Montes de Oca-Loyola M.L., Folli F. Effect of linagliptin on glucose metabolism and pancreatic beta cell function in patients with persistent prediabetes after metformin and lifestyle. Sci. Rep. 2021;11:8750. doi: 10.1038/s41598-021-88108-8. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 70.Zeng Y.-H., Liu S.-C., Lee C.-C., Sun F.-J., Liu J.J. Effect of empagliflozin versus linagliptin on body composition in Asian patients with type 2 diabetes treated with premixed insulin. Sci. Rep. 2022;12:17065. doi: 10.1038/s41598-022-21486-9. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 71.Kaku K., Kisanuki K., Shibata M., Oohira T. Benefit-risk assessment of alogliptin for the treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus. Drug Saf. 2019;42:1311–1327. doi: 10.1007/s40264-019-00857-8. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 72.Del Prato S., Camisasca R., Wilson C., Fleck P. Durability of the efficacy and safety of alogliptin compared with glipizide in type 2 diabetes mellitus: A 2-year study. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2014;16:1239–1246. doi: 10.1111/dom.12377. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 73.Takeshita Y., Kita Y., Kato K.i., Kanamori T., Misu H., Kaneko S., Takamura T. Effects of metformin and alogliptin on body composition in people with type 2 diabetes. J. Diabetes Investig. 2019;10:723–730. doi: 10.1111/jdi.12920. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 74.Kim H.J., Jeong I.K., Hur K.Y., Kim S.-K., Noh J.H., Chun S.W., Kang E.S., Rhee E.-J., Choi S.H. Comparison of Efficacy of Glimepiride, Alogliptin, and Alogliptin-Pioglitazone as the Initial Periods of Therapy in Patients with Poorly Controlled Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: An Open-Label, Multicenter, Randomized, Controlled Study. Diabetes Metab. J. 2022;46:689–700. doi: 10.4093/dmj.2021.0183. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 75.Kay S., Strickson A., Puelles J., Selby R., Benson E., Tolley K. Comparative effectiveness of adding alogliptin to metformin plus sulfonylurea with other DPP-4 inhibitors in type 2 diabetes: A systematic review and network meta-analysis. Diabetes Ther. 2017;8:251–273. doi: 10.1007/s13300-017-0245-8. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 76.Alicic R.Z., Neumiller J.J., Johnson E.J., Dieter B., Tuttle K.R. Sodium–glucose cotransporter 2 inhibition and diabetic kidney disease. Diabetes. 2019;68:248–257. doi: 10.2337/dbi18-0007. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 77.DeFronzo R.A., Hompesch M., Kasichayanula S., Liu X., Hong Y., Pfister M., Morrow L.A., Leslie B.R., Boulton D.W., Ching A. Characterization of renal glucose reabsorption in response to dapagliflozin in healthy subjects and subjects with type 2 diabetes. Diabetes Care. 2013;36:3169–3176. doi: 10.2337/dc13-0387. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 78.Butler J., Handelsman Y., Bakris G., Verma S. Use of sodium–glucose co-transporter-2 inhibitors in patients with and without type 2 diabetes: Implications for incident and prevalent heart failure. Eur. J. Heart Fail. 2020;22:604–617. doi: 10.1002/ejhf.1708. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 79.Pereira M.J., Eriksson J.W. Emerging role of SGLT-2 inhibitors for the treatment of obesity. Drugs. 2019;79:219–230. doi: 10.1007/s40265-019-1057-0. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 80.Rosenwasser R.F., Sultan S., Sutton D., Choksi R., Epstein B.J. SGLT-2 inhibitors and their potential in the treatment of diabetes. Diabetes Metab. Syndr. Obes. Targets Ther. 2013;6:453–467. doi: 10.2147/DMSO.S34416. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 81.Cefalu W.T., Stenlöf K., Leiter L.A., Wilding J.P., Blonde L., Polidori D., Xie J., Sullivan D., Usiskin K., Canovatchel W. Effects of canagliflozin on body weight and relationship to HbA1c and blood pressure changes in patients with type 2 diabetes. Diabetologia. 2015;58:1183–1187. doi: 10.1007/s00125-015-3547-2. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 82.Stenlöf K., Cefalu W., Kim K.A., Alba M., Usiskin K., Tong C., Canovatchel W., Meininger G. Efficacy and safety of canagliflozin monotherapy in subjects with type 2 diabetes mellitus inadequately controlled with diet and exercise. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2013;15:372–382. doi: 10.1111/dom.12054. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 83.Leiter L.A., Yoon K.-H., Arias P., Langslet G., Xie J., Balis D.A., Millington D., Vercruysse F., Canovatchel W., Meininger G. Canagliflozin provides durable glycemic improvements and body weight reduction over 104 weeks versus glimepiride in patients with type 2 diabetes on metformin: A randomized, double-blind, phase 3 study. Diabetes Care. 2015;38:355–364. doi: 10.2337/dc13-2762. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 84.Khan M.S., Usman M.S., Siddiqi T.J., Memon M.M., Shah S.J., Khan S.S. Effect of canagliflozin use on body weight and blood pressure at one-year follow-up: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Eur. J. Prev. Cardiol. 2019;26:1680–1682. doi: 10.1177/2047487319829940. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 85.Ali A.M., Martinez R., Al-Jobori H., Adams J., Triplitt C., DeFronzo R., Cersosimo E., Abdul-Ghani M. Combination therapy with canagliflozin plus liraglutide exerts additive effect on weight loss, but not on HbA1c, in patients with type 2 diabetes. Diabetes Care. 2020;43:1234–1241. doi: 10.2337/dc18-2460. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 86.Nicholson M.K., Ghazal Asswad R., Wilding J.P. Dapagliflozin for the treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus–an update. Expert Opin. Pharmacother. 2021;22:2303–2310. doi: 10.1080/14656566.2021.1953471. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 87.Balakumar P., Sundram K., Dhanaraj S.A. Dapagliflozin: Glucuretic action and beyond. Pharmacol. Res. 2014;82:34–39. doi: 10.1016/j.phrs.2014.03.008. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 88.Chen L., Leung P. Inhibition of the sodium glucose co-transporter-2: Its beneficial action and potential combination therapy for type 2 diabetes mellitus. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2013;15:392–402. doi: 10.1111/dom.12064. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 89.Bolinder J., Ljunggren Ö., Kullberg J., Johansson L., Wilding J., Langkilde A.M., Sugg J., Parikh S. Effects of dapagliflozin on body weight, total fat mass, and regional adipose tissue distribution in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus with inadequate glycemic control on metformin. J. Clin. Endocrinol. Metab. 2012;97:1020–1031. doi: 10.1210/jc.2011-2260. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 90.Lundkvist P., Sjöström C.D., Amini S., Pereira M.J., Johnsson E., Eriksson J.W. Dapagliflozin once-daily and exenatide once-weekly dual therapy: A 24-week randomized, placebo-controlled, phase II study examining effects on body weight and prediabetes in obese adults without diabetes. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2017;19:49–60. doi: 10.1111/dom.12779. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 91.Wiviott S.D., Raz I., Bonaca M.P., Mosenzon O., Kato E.T., Cahn A., Silverman M.G., Zelniker T.A., Kuder J.F., Murphy S.A. Dapagliflozin and cardiovascular outcomes in type 2 diabetes. N. Engl. J. Med. 2019;380:347–357. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa1812389. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 92.Iacobellis G., Gra-Menendez S. Effects of dapagliflozin on epicardial fat thickness in patients with type 2 diabetes and obesity. Obesity. 2020;28:1068–1074. doi: 10.1002/oby.22798. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 93.Fala L. Jardiance (empagliflozin), an SGLT2 inhibitor, receives FDA approval for the treatment of patients with type 2 diabetes. Am. Health Drug Benefits. 2015;8:92. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 94.Neeland I.J., McGuire D.K., Chilton R., Crowe S., Lund S.S., Woerle H.J., Broedl U.C., Johansen O.E. Empagliflozin reduces body weight and indices of adipose distribution in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Diabetes Vasc. Dis. Res. 2016;13:119–126. doi: 10.1177/1479164115616901. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 95.Tikkanen I., Narko K., Zeller C., Green A., Salsali A., Broedl U.C., Woerle H.J. Empagliflozin reduces blood pressure in patients with type 2 diabetes and hypertension. Diabetes Care. 2015;38:420–428. doi: 10.2337/dc14-1096. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 96.Roden M., Weng J., Eilbracht J., Delafont B., Kim G., Woerle H.J., Broedl U.C., EMPA-REG MONO Trial Investigators Empagliflozin monotherapy with sitagliptin as an active comparator in patients with type 2 diabetes: A randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial. Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol. 2013;1:208–219. doi: 10.1016/S2213-8587(13)70084-6. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 97.Kovacs C., Seshiah V., Swallow R., Jones R., Rattunde H., Woerle H., Broedl U., on behalf of the EMPA-REG PIO™ Trial Investigators Empagliflozin improves glycaemic and weight control as add-on therapy to pioglitazone or pioglitazone plus metformin in patients with type 2 diabetes: A 24-week, randomized, placebo-controlled trial. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2014;16:147–158. doi: 10.1111/dom.12188. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 98.Häring H.-U., Merker L., Seewaldt-Becker E., Weimer M., Meinicke T., Woerle H.J., Broedl U.C., EMPA-REG METSU Trial Investigators Empagliflozin as add-on to metformin plus sulfonylurea in patients with type 2 diabetes: A 24-week, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. Diabetes Care. 2013;36:3396–3404. doi: 10.2337/dc12-2673. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 99.Häring H.-U., Merker L., Seewaldt-Becker E., Weimer M., Meinicke T., Broedl U.C., Woerle H.J., EMPA-REG MET Trial Investigators Empagliflozin as add-on to metformin in patients with type 2 diabetes: A 24-week, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. Diabetes Care. 2014;37:1650–1659. doi: 10.2337/dc13-2105. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 100.Inzucchi S.E., Davies M.J., Khunti K., Trivedi P., George J.T., Zwiener I., Johansen O.E., Sattar N. Empagliflozin treatment effects across categories of baseline HbA1c, body weight and blood pressure as an add-on to metformin in patients with type 2 diabetes. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2021;23:425–433. doi: 10.1111/dom.14234. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 101.Grabarczyk T.R., Wissman N.K. Weight outcomes with empagliflozin as compared with Liraglutide in veterans with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Ann. Pharmacother. 2020;54:981–987. doi: 10.1177/1060028020915791. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 102.Powell J., Garland S.G. Ertugliflozin: A new option in the SGLT-2 inhibitor market for the treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus. Ann. Pharmacother. 2019;53:478–485. doi: 10.1177/1060028018818829. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 103.Rosenstock J., Frias J., Páll D., Charbonnel B., Pascu R., Saur D., Darekar A., Huyck S., Shi H., Lauring B. Effect of ertugliflozin on glucose control, body weight, blood pressure and bone density in type 2 diabetes mellitus inadequately controlled on metformin monotherapy (VERTIS MET) Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2018;20:520–529. doi: 10.1111/dom.13103. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 104.Terra S.G., Focht K., Davies M., Frias J., Derosa G., Darekar A., Golm G., Johnson J., Saur D., Lauring B. Phase III, efficacy and safety study of ertugliflozin monotherapy in people with type 2 diabetes mellitus inadequately controlled with diet and exercise alone. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2017;19:721–728. doi: 10.1111/dom.12888. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 105.Dagogo-Jack S., Liu J., Eldor R., Amorin G., Johnson J., Hille D., Liao Y., Huyck S., Golm G., Terra S.G. Efficacy and safety of the addition of ertugliflozin in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus inadequately controlled with metformin and sitagliptin: The VERTIS SITA2 placebo-controlled randomized study. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2018;20:530–540. doi: 10.1111/dom.13116. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 106.Pratley R.E., Eldor R., Raji A., Golm G., Huyck S.B., Qiu Y., Sunga S., Johnson J., Terra S.G., Mancuso J.P. Ertugliflozin plus sitagliptin versus either individual agent over 52 weeks in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus inadequately controlled with metformin: The VERTIS FACTORIAL randomized trial. Diabetes Obes. Metab. 2018;20:1111–1120. doi: 10.1111/dom.13194. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 107.Ard J., Fitch A., Fruh S., Herman L. Weight loss and maintenance related to the mechanism of action of glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor agonists. Adv. Ther. 2021;38:2821–2839. doi: 10.1007/s12325-021-01710-0. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 108.Furman B.L. The development of Byetta (exenatide) from the venom of the Gila monster as an anti-diabetic agent. Toxicon. 2012;59:464–471. doi: 10.1016/j.toxicon.2010.12.016. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 109.Wharton S., Davies M., Dicker D., Lingvay I., Mosenzon O., Rubino D.M., Pedersen S.D. Managing the gastrointestinal side effects of GLP-1 receptor agonists in obesity: Recommendations for clinical practice. Postgrad. Med. 2022;134:14–19. doi: 10.1080/00325481.2021.2002616. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 110.Nauck M.A., Quast D.R., Wefers J., Meier J.J. GLP-1 receptor agonists in the treatment of type 2 diabetes–state-of-the-art. Mol. Metab. 2021;46:101102. doi: 10.1016/j.molmet.2020.101102. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 111.Tucker T.A., Jr., Turley S., Bollinger K., Beck J., Hrometz S.L. Comparing the GLP-1 Receptor Agonists: Byetta®, Victoza® and once-weekly Bydureon™. Pharm. Wellness Rev. 2013;4:16–20. [Google Scholar] 112.Rotenstein L.S., Kozak B.M., Shivers J.P., Yarchoan M., Close J., Close K.L. The ideal diabetes therapy: What will it look like? How close are we? Clin. Diabetes. 2012;30:44–53. doi: 10.2337/diaclin.30.2.44. [DOI] [Google Scholar] 113.Painter N.A., Morello C.M., Singh R.F., McBane S.E. An evidence-based and practical approach to using Bydureon™ in patients with type 2 diabetes. J. Am. Board Fam. Med. 2013;26:203–210. doi: 10.3122/jabfm.2013.02.120174. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 114.Drucker D.J., Buse J.B., Taylor K., Kendall D.M., Trautmann M., Zhuang D., Porter L. Exenatide once weekly versus twice daily for the treatment of type 2 diabetes: A randomised, open-label, non-inferiority study. Lancet. 2008;372:1240–1250. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(08)61206-4. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 115.Bergenstal R.M., Wysham C., MacConell L., Malloy J., Walsh B., Yan P., Wilhelm K., Malone J., Porter L.E. Efficacy and safety of exenatide once weekly versus sitagliptin or pioglitazone as an adjunct to metformin for treatment of type 2 diabetes (DURATION-2): A randomised trial. Lancet. 2010;376:431–439. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(10)60590-9. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 116.Diamant M., Van Gaal L., Stranks S., Northrup J., Cao D., Taylor K., Trautmann M. Once weekly exenatide compared with insulin glargine titrated to target in patients with type 2 diabetes (DURATION-3): An open-label randomised trial. Lancet. 2010;375:2234–2243. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(10)60406-0. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 117.Russell-Jones D., Cuddihy R.M., Hanefeld M., Kumar A., González J.G., Chan M., Wolka A.M., Boardman M.K., Group D.-S. Efficacy and safety of exenatide once weekly versus metformin, pioglitazone, and sitagliptin used as monotherapy in drug-naïve patients with Type 2 diabetes (DURATION-4) a 26-week double-blind study. Diabetes Care. 2012;35:252–258. doi: 10.2337/dc11-1107. [DOI] [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 118.Blevins T., Pullman J., Malloy J., Yan P., Taylor K., Schulteis C., Trautmann M., Porter L. DURATION-5: Exenatide once weekly resulted in greater improvements in glycemic control compared with exenatide twice daily in patients with type 2 diabetes. J. Clin. Endocrinol. Metab. 2011;96:1301–1310. doi: 10.1210/jc.2010-2081. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 119.Buse J.B., Nauck M., Forst T., Sheu W.H., Shenouda S.K., Heilmann C.R., Hoogwerf B.J., Gao A., Boardman M.K., Fineman M. Exenatide once weekly versus liraglutide once daily in patients with type 2 diabetes (DURATION-6): A randomised, open-label study. Lancet. 2013;381:117–124. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(12)61267-7. [DOI] [PubMed] [Google Scholar] 120.Guja