

Diabetes Medication Guide

Oral Hypoglycemic Medications:				
Brand Name	Generic Name	Drug Category/ Class	Purposes	
Diabeta, Glynase, Micronase	Glyburide	Sulfonylureas 2nd generation	Increases insulin production in the pancreas	
Glucotrol	Glipizide	Sulfonylureas 2nd generation	Increases insulin production in the pancreas	
Amaryl	Glimepiride	Sulfonylureas 2nd generation	Increases insulin production in the pancreas	
Orinase	Tolbutamide	Sulfonylureas 1st generation	Increases insulin production in the pancreas	
Diabinese	Chlorpropamide	Sulfonylureas 1st generation	Increases insulin production in the pancreas	
Tolinase	Tolazamide	Sulfonylureas 1st generation	Increases insulin production in the pancreas	
Prandin	Repaglinide	Meglitinides	Stimulates the pancreas to release more insulin but more rapidly after eating than sulfonyureas.	
Starlix	Nateglinide	Meglitinides	Stimulates the pancreas to release more insulin but more rapidly after eating than sulfonyureas.	
Actos	Pioglitazone	Thiazolidinediones	Increases insulin sensitivity and helps improve some levels of blood fat.	
Avandia	Rosiglitazone	Thiazolidinediones	Increases insulin sensitivity and helps improve some levels of blood fat.	
Glucophage	Metformin	Biguanides	Increases insulin sensitivity, keeps liver from releasing too much glucose, and improves some levels of blood fat.	
Insulins:				
Brand Name	Generic Name	Drug Category/ Class	Starts Working	Works Best
Novolin R., Humulin R	Regular	Rapid Acting Insulin	0.5-1 Hour	2-5 Hours
Humalog	Lispro	Rapid Acting Insulin	15-20 Minutes	0.5-2.5 Hours
Novolog	Aspart	Rapid Acting Insulin	10-20 Minutes	1-3 Hours
Novolin N, Humulin N	NPH	Intermediate Acting Insulin	1-1.5 Hours	4-15 Hours
Novolin L, Humulin L	Lente	Intermediate Acting Insulin	1-1.5 Hours	4-15 Hours
Lantus	Glargine	Long Acting Insulin	1 Hour	2-20 Hours
Humulin U	Ultralente	Long Acting Insulin	4-6 Hours	8-20 Hours

Source: [DoD/VA Clinical Practice Guidelines](#)
[American Diabetes Association](#)
[National Institutes of Health](#)