Diabetes Medication
Guidelines for adults
having a procedure that
requires a short fasting
period (less than 12 hours)



Morning Procedure

This guideline is recommended for those people who have been asked to fast from 12 midnight before their procedure.

Insulin Recommendations

Day before Procedure

You should be able to take your insulin the day before your procedure, however If you are concerned that your glucose levels may drop due to fasting then consider reducing your insulin by 20% the evening / night before the test.

Day of Procedure

Type of Insulin	What to do
Once daily (long acting insulin) morning injection	Reduce dose by 20%.
e.g. Lantus Levemir Humulin I Insulatard Abasaglar Toujeo Tresiba 100 Tresiba 200	Your glucose level should be checked before your procedure. Remember to take your glucose monitoring equipment with you.

Type of Insulin	What to do
Once daily (long acting insulin) Evening / night time injection e.g. Lantus Levemir Humulin I	Do not need to do anything – you will be able to have usual evening insulin after the procedure when you are eating and drinking. Your glucose level should be
Insulatard	checked before your procedure.
Abasaglar Toujeo Tresiba 100 Tresiba 200	Remember to take your glucose monitoring equipment with you.
Twice daily insulin	Halve usual morning dose.
e.g. Humulin M3 Novomix 30 Humalog Mix 25 Humalog Mix 50 Levemir or Lantus given twice a day	You can take usual evening dose after the procedure as normal, when eating and drinking.
	Your glucose level should be checked before your procedure.
	Remember to take your glucose monitoring equipment with you.
Short / Rapid acting insulin Usually given before meals	Omit morning dose of short acting insulin.
e.g. Novorapid Humalog Apidra Fiasp Lyumjev	Reduce morning long acting insulin dose if taken in morning by 20%.
	Your glucose level should be checked before your procedure.
	Remember to take your glucose monitoring equipment with you.

Non-Insulin medication recommendations

Day before the procedure

Omit your SGLT2 inhibitor medication

Day of the procedure

Medication	What to do	
Metformin	Take as normal in morning - if a dose is taken at lunchtime – omit this dose.	
Sulfonylureas (e.g. gliclazide, glipizide, glimepiride)	Omit the morning dose.	
	Take usual evening dose if taken twice a day following procedure when eating and drinking.	
Meglitinides (e.g. repaglinide or nateglinide)	Omit morning dose.	
	Take usual evening dose if taken twice a day following procedure when eating and drinking.	
Pioglitazone	Take as normal.	
DPP4 inhibitors (e.g. sitagliptin, linagliptin, alogliptin, saxagliptin)	Take as normal.	
SGLT2 inhibitors (e.g. dapagliflozin, canagliflozin, empagliflozin)	Omit.	
GLP1 injections (e.g. exenatide, liraglutide lixisenatide, dulaglutide)	Take as normal.	

Remember to test blood glucose more regularly if you usually test, and that your glucose level may be a little erratic for a few days after the procedure.

Keep hypo treatment with you in case of low blood glucose levels (glucose level under 4 mmol/L)

For further advice contact the Diabetes Team: York (01904) 725789 Scarborough (01723) 342274 yhs-tr.diabetesnursespatienttriage@nhs.net

Tell us what you think of this leaflet

We hope that you found this leaflet helpful. If you would like to tell us what you think, please contact Tara Kadis, Diabetes and Endocrine Unit, York Hospital, telephone 01904 725789 or email tara.kadis@nhs.net.

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Telephone: 01904 725566

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