Injectable Medicines: Part of the Diabetes Journey

If you’re living with diabetes, the medicine(s) your doctor prescribes will depend on the type of diabetes you have and where you are in your treatment journey. All diabetes medicines work best alongside a healthy diet and exercise, and your doctor’s recommendations may change over time.

**Diabetes pills**

There are many types of diabetes pills, and they’re often the first prescribed treatment for type 2 diabetes. Over time, you may need to try more than one or even add or switch to another type of treatment, such as an injectable medicine.

**Diabetes medicines you inject**

Your doctor may recommend one of these therapies depending on the type of diabetes you have, other medical conditions you may have, or how far your diabetes has progressed.

**Non-insulin injections**

**GLP-1 receptor agonists** work to:
- Help the pancreas release more insulin when blood glucose is high
- Keep the liver from making too much glucose
- Slow movement of food leaving the stomach

**Amylin analogs** work to:
- Inhibit glucagon secretion and keep the liver from making too much glucose
- Slow movement of food leaving the stomach
- Possibly suppress appetite

**Insulin injections**

Injectable insulin works like your body’s own insulin, lowering blood glucose by helping it move from the blood into your cells.

**There are many types of insulin,** with differences in:
- How quickly they start to work
- When they peak
- How long they last

Still have questions about the different types of diabetes medications? Find more information on NovoCare.com.