

## Anti-diabetic drugs & cancer risk challenge

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### Abstract

Increasing evidences of cancer development in diabetic patients were reported. Many studies demonstrated a correlation between some anti-diabetic drugs and a better risk of cancer incidence. The highest incidence was shown in cancer of the liver and carcinoma then kidney, endometrial, colorectal, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, bladder, and breast cancers. Meta-analysis of cohort studies calculating the Relative Risk (RR) of all-site or site-specific cancers in diabetic patients were accomplished notifying a special RR according to sex. Mechanisms suggested by authors were associated with diabetes itself whether being complicated or a nonadherence to anti-diabetic medications. Obesity-related hyperinsulinemia acts as a critical link to the increased cancer risk through mitogen pathway activation and thus the improved cellular growth and survival. On the opposite hand, the influence of anti-diabetic medications itself on cancer has recently gained attention. Studies reported evidences that using metformin, as an insulin sensitizer, may decrease cancer development, progression, and mortality.

However, treatment with insulin secretagogues, insulin analogues, thiazolidinediones, and a couple of incretin based therapies are related to increased incidence of development and mortality related to cancer. Currently there's no sufficient evidence to force withholding of certain antidiabetic drugs use on the idea of cancer concern. So cancer risk assessment may be a useful primary prevention tool in selecting an appropriate antidiabetic drug(s). Identification of the individuals at increased genetic or environmental risks of cancer by diabetes physicians should be done. Web-based tools for collecting and predicting individual risks of certain cancers and familial syndromes are easily accessible. Individuals with a high likelihood of getting an inherited syndrome should be seriously considered for referral to the cancer genetics professional for further workup. Special attention should even be paid to potentially modifiable cancer risk factors regarding a healthy lifestyle. Nevertheless, to scale back the cancer risk related to anti-diabetic medications use, treatment with metformin is suggested throughout the course of the

disease as long because it is medically acceptable. Also strong efforts to scale back more than weight should be taken. The selection of other anti-diabetic classes as an add-on treatment to metformin is predicated on cancer risk assessment and review of cohort studies and metaanalyses reports on their associated cancer RR..

Antidiabetic drugs are the foremost commonly used drugs among the 347 million individuals diagnosed with diabetes globally. The bulk of diabetics are between 40 and 59 years old, and the number is increasing day-by-day, especially those with type 2 diabetes. The World Health Organization estimated that the amount of diabetic people will increase by 55% by the year 2035. Similarly, the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) projects that the amount of diabetics will increase from 382 to 592 million by 2035, with 80% of cases being from low- and middle-income countries. Despite these predictions and therefore the incontrovertible fact that diabetes is the 4th leading explanation for death in developing countries, diabetes may be a treatable disease with variety of currently available medications.

Several studies have reported that the metformin, the foremost commonly prescribed antidiabetic, has anti-cancer properties. For example, metformin therapy has been related to reduced colorectal and carcinoma risk. On the contrary, a special antidiabetic, rosiglitazone, has been reported to extend the danger of myocardial infarction and death from cardiovascular conditions. Recent study, however, found that rosiglitazone doesn't appear to extend the danger of death.

Additional research suggests that insulin, which many diabetics take multiple times each day, can also increase cancer risk thanks to its mitogenic properties, which can promote certain sorts of cancers. The long-acting insulin, glargine, reportedly increased the danger of carcinoma in Swedish women. In contrary, another study reported that short-term use didn't carry any increased cancer risk, while long-term use was related to carcinoma. Insulin dose-related cancer incidence has also been reported with glargine, but not with human insulin. It's also been reported that patients who have solid tumors are more likely to possess been taking insulin or insulin secret

### *Extended Abstract*

agogues as compared to oral hypoglycemic drugs. It's still unclear whether diabetes itself or antidiabetic drugs are carcinogenic in nature.

Several pharmacologic classes of antidiabetic drugs are on the market, but it's unclear how safe they're in terms of their carcinogenicity. Different antidiabetic drugs have different pharmacokinetics and potencies, which further vary among individuals. The Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) preclinical studies are usually done before the drug is marketed, but further evaluation for long-term use studies normally not taken under consideration due to high costs of clinical trials and long-term follow-up. Fortunately, a pharmacoepidemiologic approach makes it possible to assess the carcinogenic profile of the long-term antidiabetic drugs use retrospectively.

The aim of our study was to gauge whether antidiabetic medication use in diabetic patients is said to cancer risk within the Taiwanese population. Specifically, we investigated whether the length of exposure (LOE) and defined daily dose (DDD) of the antidiabetic oral and injectable medications affected the danger for the foremost common cancers. We investigated the carcinogenic risk of individual drugs also as of pharmacologic classes of antidiabetic drugs.

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