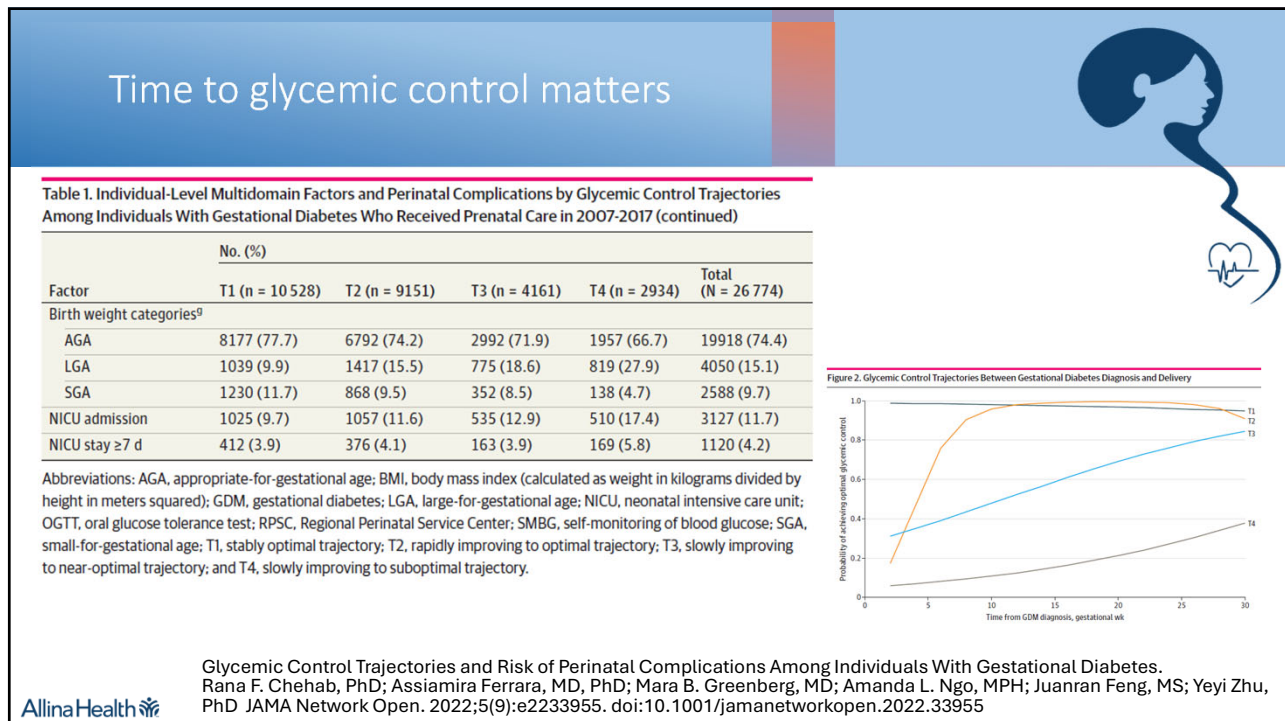
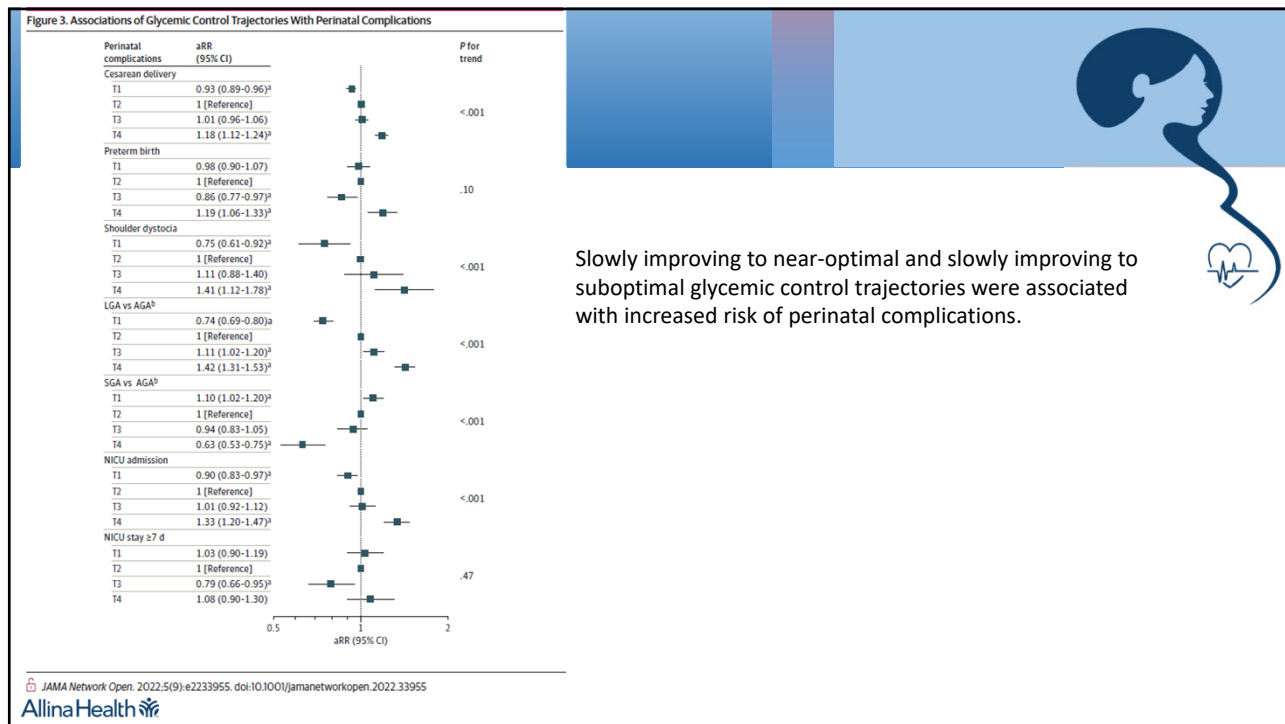


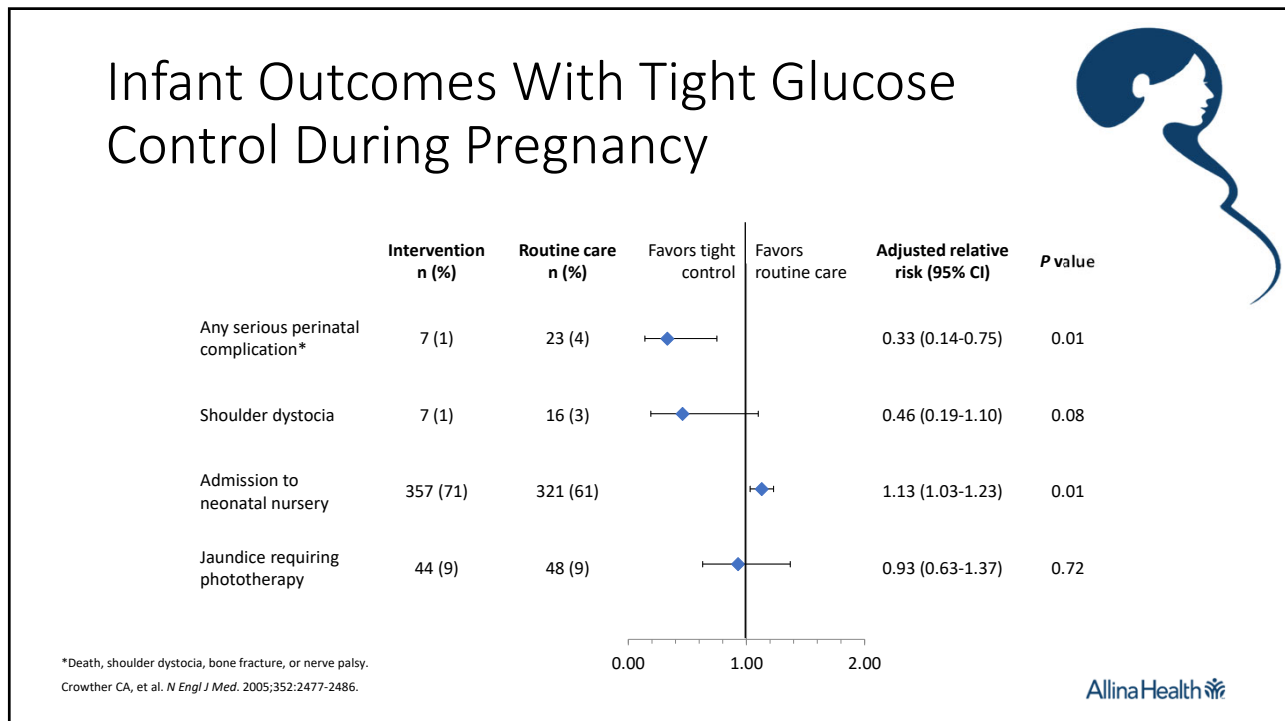
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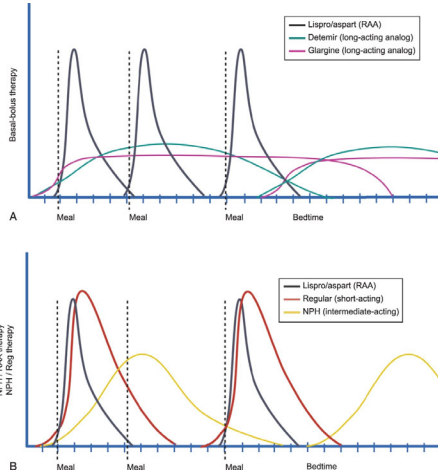


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# Insulin pharmacodynamics



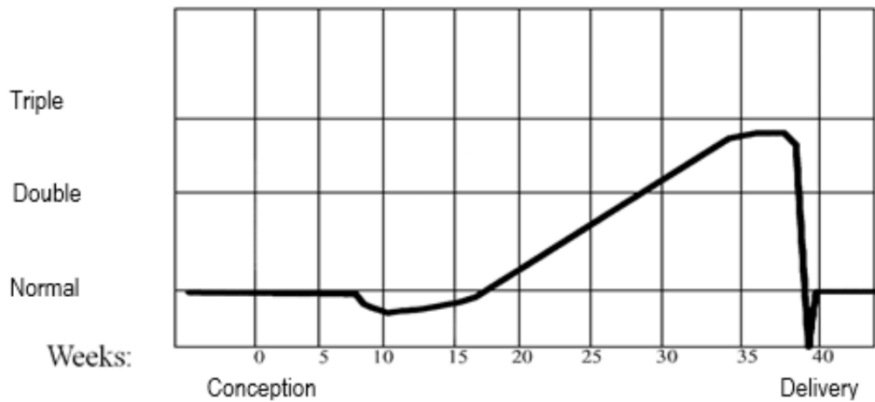
Pharmacodynamics of insulin-dosing strategies. Goals of insulin therapy are to individualize regimens to meet the glycemic needs and metabolic characteristics of the patient. The pharmacodynamics are different for the various insulin types, and the timing of delivery is critical to safely improve glycemia to achieve pregnancy-specific glucose targets. A. Basal-bolus therapy uses long-acting insulin analog (glargine or detemir) with rapid-acting insulin analogs (lispro or aspart) before meals. B. Intermediate-acting human insulin neutral protamine Hagedorn (NPH) can be used in combination with rapid-acting insulin analogs (RAAs) or regular insulin (Reg) before meals. To effectively administer regular insulin to cover postprandial hyperglycemia and reduce the risk for hypoglycemia 3–4 hours after the meal, it should be taken about 60 minutes before breakfast, dinner, or both. Figure created with BioRender.com.

[Insulin Management for Gestational and Type 2 Diabetes in Pregnancy](#)  
 Valent, Amy M.; Barbour, Linda A.  
 Obstetrics & Gynecology 144(5):633-647, November 2024.  
 doi: 10.1097/AOG.0000000000005640



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# Insulin requirements during pregnancy



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## Typical insulin dosing



Fasting hyperglycemia	Postprandial hyperglycemia	Fasting and postprandial elevations
Dose 0.1-0.2U/kg at bedtime NPH or Glargine/detemir	Dose 0.2-0.4 U/kg divided with meals Rapid acting insulins	Dose 0.5-1.0 U/kg TDD Divided 2/3 NPH (2/3 AM and 1/3 HS) and 1/3 rapid Div before Breakfast and Dinner  Or 40-50% Glargine/Detemir and 50-60% rapid divided with meals
Titrate as needed	Titrate as needed	Titrate as needed

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## Glycemic Targets

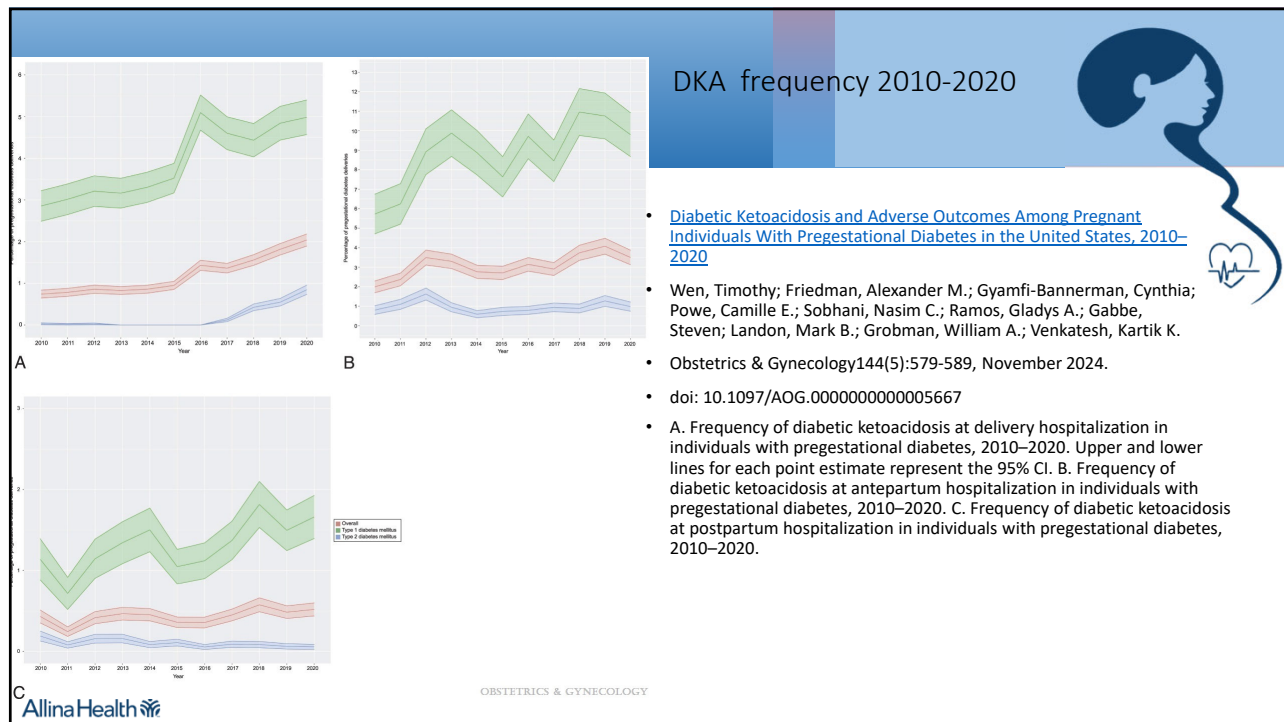


- ADA
- Fasting 70-95
- 1 hour PP 140
- 2 hour PP 140
- Our Practice
- Fasting 60-90
- 1 or 2 hour PP 120

Optimal CGMS parameters are not well established. Our practice targets 95-100 with review of individual daily patterns. Time in range as noted in the previous study may be another means of assessing optimal control.

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# DKA

- ICU management is recommended- consider transfer if team not able to care for both patient and fetus/neonate
- EFM will be flat (maternal acidemia=fetal acidemia)
- Delivery is rarely needed and can worsen maternal condition.
- Correct maternal condition (Fluids, insulin, electrolytes)
- Even single doses of terbutaline and betamethasone can precipitate DKA. Check sugars before giving.
- Threshold for DKA in pregnancy as low as 180 (Typically >200), can occur in type 2 DM

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## Overcome the barriers to success

- Look for social barriers to obtaining quality foods or medications.
- Are the foods recommended culturally appropriate?
- Look for mental health concerns.
- Assess for misinformation about treatments.
- Establish rapport.
- Meet patients where they are. (Plan B, C?)

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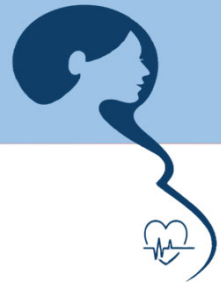
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## Conclusions



- Diabetes in pregnancy is increasing (GDM and pregestational). We likely still underdiagnose.
- New technologies may provide additional means of assessing GDM and have changed the management for pregestational DM.
- Don't wait. Treat aggressively to get rapid control.
- Even mild hyperglycemia may have worse outcomes.
- Watch out for DKA.
- Take a holistic approach.

## Questions?



Thank you!