

Optimising Mealtime Insulin Dosing: Do Protein & Fat Matter?

Dr Kirstine Bell APD, CDE & PhD

"Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted"

Albert Einstein



Overview

- * Carbohydrate Counting
- * Effects of Protein & Fat
- * Clinical Application
- * Food Insulin Index (FII)



Estimating Mealtime Insulin Dose in Type 1 Diabetes



Carbohydrate Counting

Glycaemic Response





Bolus Insulin Dose

Limitations of Carb Counting

- Carbohydrates don't affect
 blood glucose levels equally
 (Glycemic Index)
- Evidence for the efficacy of carbohydrate counting is limited



Carbohydrate Counting Does Not Significantly Improve HbA1c

Study name





Favours Carb count Favours Control

Overall change in HbA1c -0.35% points (p = 0.096)

Bell et al, Lancet Diab & Endo 2014; 2(2): 133-140

Limitations of Carb Counting

- Carbohydrates don't affect
 blood glucose levels equally
 (Glycemic Index)
- Evidence for the efficacy of carbohydrate counting is limited
- * Treating Symptoms vs. Cause
- * Stimulation of insulin secretion is multifactorial





Do Protein and Fat Affect Blood Glucose Levels?

Healthy Subjects

- Insulin is an anabolic hormone, involved in the storage of glucose, amino acids and fatty acids
- * Minimal effect on BG in healthy subjects
- * Protein can cause a significant insulin response
- Fat in isolation does not initiate insulin release but amplifies glucose-stimulated insulin release
- * Fat also increases insulin resistance

Type 1 Diabetes



Increased hepatic glucose
 output

Fat and Protein Increase Insulin Requirements



Smart et al. Diabetes Care 2013; 36: 3897-3902

Pure Protein Increases BG



Dietary Fat Increases BGL and Insulin Requirements



High Fat vs Low Fat Dinner on postprandial BGL using closed loop insulin delivery



Time (Minutes)





Time (Minutes)

Dietary Fat

- * Seven RCT (103 patients)
- * All studies showed dietary fat influenced glycaemia
- Reduces early postprandial glucose rise (first 2-3h)
- * Delays peak glucose level
- Leads to late postprandial
 hyperglycaemia (≥ 3h)
- * High fat meals (≥ 35g of fat)
 requires insulin adjustment



Bell et al. Diabetes Care 2015; 38:1008-1015

Dietary Protein

- * Seven RCT (125 patients)
- * All studies showed dietary protein influenced glycaemia
- * Delayed effect on glycaemia (>100 mins)
- * Different effect with and without carbohydrate



- * Insulin adjustment needed for:
 - ≥ 30g protein with carbs
 - ≥ 75g protein alone

Bell et al. Diabetes Care 2015; 38:1008-1015

Adjusting Insulin for Protein & Fat

- Insulin doses need to be adjusted for high protein and fat meals
- Advanced tools for intensive therapy – not for all patients



- Not clear how insulin dose should be calculated, ideal timing for dosing and insulin delivery patterns
- Need to consider overall diet adjusting meal timing, routine and composition may be more effective



Can We Do Better?

Protein & Fat Counting

- Warsaw School of Insulin Pump Therapy have developed a novel algorithm to calculate the total insulin dose needed to cover carbohydrate plus protein & fat.
- * Fat and Protein is counted together as a 'Fat and Protein Unit (FPU)', where 1 FPU = 100kCal of fat and/or protein.
- * How to dose insulin:
 - 1. Normal wave bolus for carbohydrate using usual ICR
 - Dual or square wave bolus for FPU using same ICR and run over
 3-8hr depending on number of FPU

Estimating Mealtime Insulin Dose in Type 1 Diabetes

Current Thinking



Carbohydrate Counting

Glycaemic Response





Bolus Insulin Dose

Novel Thinking



Insulin Response in Healthy Individuals

Insulin Demand





Bolus Insulin Dose

Food Insulin Index (FII)

- * Relative measure of the normal insulin demand of a food
- * Insulin response measured in healthy adults
- * Foods measured in 1000kJ portions
- * Relative to a reference food

FII = <u>120min AUCInsulin</u> for 1000kJ of test food x 100 120min AUCInsulin for 1000kJ of ref. food

Calculating the AUC



Time

Food Insulin Index (FII)

- * Relative measure of the normal insulin demand of a food
- * Insulin response measured in healthy adults
- * Foods measured in 1000kJ portions
- * Relative to a reference food

 $FII = \underline{120min AUC}_{Insulin} for \underline{1000kJ of test food} \times 100$ $\underline{120min AUC}_{Insulin} for \underline{1000kJ of ref. food}$

- * Published FII represents the average of 10 subjects
- * Developed a FII database of 147 foods





Food Insulin Index (%)

Food Examples 1000kJ (240kcal) Portions



Food Examples 1000kJ (240kcal) Portions









Chicken Carbohydrate: og FII: 19

Bao et al. Am J Clin Nutr 2011; 93: 984-96

Can the Food Insulin Index be used to Predict Mealtime Insulin Requirements in Type 1 Diabetes?

FII Improves Postprandial Glycaemic Control



Conclusion

FII improved acute postprandial glycaemia compared to carbohydrate counting without increasing the risk of hypo's

But this study only looked at mixed meals, what about single protein foods?



How Would We Use The

Fll in Practice?

(Type 1 Diabetes)

FII vs FID

Food Insulin Index (FII) is a measure of a food's relative insulin demand compared with other foods

 I.e. The FII is a fixed value that doesn't change as the food portion size changes.

Food Insulin Demand (FID) combines a food's FII with the kJ in the portion size

 I.e. The FID changes as the food portion size changes and can therefore be used to determine the mealtime insulin dose.



Apple FII: 43



White Bread, 1 Slice FII: 73 FID: 26

Food Insulin Demand

FID = Energy (kJ) x Food Insulin Index (FII) 1,000 e.g. 200g low-fat strawberry yoghurt (FII = 84) FID = <u>770kJ x 84</u> 1,000 FID = 65

Using FID in Practice

- * Jane eats 200g of her low-fat strawberry yoghurt
- * Insulin Demand (FID) = 65
- * Jane's 'Insulin: FID' ratio is 1:16
- Therefore, Jane needs 4 units of insulin to cover her yoghurt



Pictorial Resources

FOOD INSULIN DEMAND (FID) COUNTING

FOOD REFERENCE GUIDE FOR PEOPLE WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES





1 Medium (170g)

FID: 23

Grapes

12 Grapes (120g)

FID: 18



Breads

Soy & Linseed Bread

1 Slice (41g)

FID: 22

FID: 27





1 Medium (50g) 1 Tortilla (40g) FID: 44 FID: 14

Meats & Chicken







Beef Steak Panfried Chicken 150g Raw, 130g Cooked 150g Raw, 130g Cooked FID: 30 FID: 26

Roast Chicken 130g Cooked FID: 20



Short-Cut Bacon 2 Rashers (72g) FID: 6



Frankfurter (Hot Dog) 1 Thin FID: 12

Fruit



Orange

1 Medium (230g)

FID: 11

Apple 1 Medium (150g) FID: 14





Honeydew Melor 1 Slice (100g) FID: 7



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P NEL 2-		
Skim Milk	Full Cream Milk	Low Fat Fruit Yoghurt
250mL (1 Cup)	250mL (1 Cup)	175g Tub
FID: 23	FID: 17	FID: 57
Original	Light 05	
(*)	()	
Vanilla Ice-Cream	Low Fat Vanilla Ice-Cream	Fruit Frozen Yoghurt
1 Scoop (50g)	1 Scoop (50g)	1 Scoop (50g)

Dairy Products

rozen Yoghur 1 Scoop (50g) 1 Scoop (50g) FID: 19 FID: 18

17



Does the FII work in Practice?

The FOODII Study

- * 26 Adults with type 1 diabetes, using insulin pumps
- * 3 months, parallel, randomised controlled trial
- Carbohydrate counting vs FID Counting
- Receive dietary education at baseline (1 x group workshop and 1 x individual appt.)
- * HbA1c and Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) for 6 days at baseline and at 3 months

FII as Effective As Carb Counting for Glycaemic Control



Bell et al. Diabetes 2014; 43 (S1): A189

FII May Lower Risk of Hypo



	Baseline	12 Weeks	P Value
FID Counting	7.1%	4.0%	0.058
Carbohydrate Counting	8.5%	9.4%	0.682

Bell et al. Diabetes 2014; 43 (S1): A189

Participant Feedback

- * All agreed the method was easy to use
- All agreed they were able to enjoy a wide range of foods



- About half of both groups felt their blood
 glucose levels were better managed during the study
 - * None felt their glycaemic control had deteriorated
- * 46% of FID Counters would continue using the FII if able to

Bell et al. Diabetes 2014; 43 (S1): A189

Conclusion

Changes in HbA1c and postprandial glycaemia were similar using FII counting or carbohydrate counting in a 12-week pilot study.

The near-significant trend to reduced risk of hypoglycaemia in FII counters warrants further study.

Summary

- Fat, protein and carbohydrate all influence postprandial glycaemia in T1D – consider adjusting insulin for advanced patients
- The Food Insulin Index ranks foods based on their insulin demand in healthy subjects relative to an isoenergetic reference food (fixed value)
- * May be a useful tool for estimating mealtime insulin doses
- * Research continuing watch this space!
- * Currently carbohydrate counting is the gold standard