



## Taking charge of your health: Understanding your diabetes medication

### Common medications used to treat diabetes

If you do experience any side effects or have any questions, always talk to your doctor or pharmacist. They're there to help you and they care about your health. To find out what drugs are covered by your plan, go to [bcbsm.com/pharmacy](http://bcbsm.com/pharmacy).

Drug name		How does my medication work?	How should I take my medication?
<b>Brand</b> Glucophage® Glucophage XR® Fortamet® Glumetza® Riomet®	<b>Generic</b> metformin	Metformin causes your liver to make less sugar; helps your gut absorb less sugar and helps your body use insulin more efficiently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take by mouth with meals.</li> <li>• You may have to take it once or twice per day depending on how your doctor prescribed it.</li> </ul>
<b>Brand</b> Glucotrol® Glucotrol XL® Amaryl® Diabeta®, Micronase®	<b>Generic</b> glipizide glipizide XL glimeperide glyburide	Works by increasing how much insulin is released from the pancreas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take by mouth with breakfast or your first main meal.</li> <li>• You can take it with or without food but don't skip meals and try to eat at regular intervals.</li> <li>• If you are taking glyburide and are older than 65, talk to your doctor about safer alternatives that are the same price and have less of a chance of making your blood sugar too low.</li> </ul>
<b>Brand</b> Nesina® Tradjenta® Onglyza® Januvia® Janumet®, Janumet XR® Oseni® Kombiglyze XR® Kazano® Jentadueto®	<b>Generic</b> alogliptin linagliptin saxagliptin sitagliptin metformin + sitagliptin alogliptin + pioglitazone saxagliptin + metformin alogliptin + metformin linagliptin + metformin	Helps control blood sugar levels by controlling the levels of insulin your body makes after you eat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take your medication by mouth around the same time each day.</li> <li>• You can take with or without food. But don't skip meals, and try to eat at regular intervals.</li> </ul>

Drug name		How does my medication work?	How should I take my medication?
<b>Brand</b> Tanzeum® Trulicity® Byetta®, Bydureon® Victoza®	<b>Generic</b> albiglutide dulaglutide exenatide liraglutide	Helps control your blood sugar levels by stimulating your body to produce more insulin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You must use Byetta 60 minutes before eating your morning and evening meals (or your two main meals, approximately six or more hours apart). Inject in the abdomen, thigh, or upper arm.</li> <li>Victoza can be taken any time of day, with or without food. It is used once per day. Inject in the abdomen, thigh, or upper arm. Don't skip meals and try to eat at regular intervals.</li> <li>Tanzeum, Bydureon, and Trulicity are used once weekly and injected in the abdomen, thigh, or upper arm. They can be taken any time of day, with or without food. Don't skip meals and try to eat at regular intervals.</li> </ul>
<b>Brand</b> Prandin® Prandimet® Starlix®	<b>Generic</b> repaglinide repaglinide + metformin nateglinide	Increases the release of insulin from the pancreas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take by mouth 15 to 30 minutes before each meal as directed by your physician.</li> <li>Don't skip meals and try to eat at regular intervals.</li> </ul>
<b>Brand</b> Jardiance® Glyxambi® Synjardy® Farxiga® Xigduo XR® Invokana® Invokamet®	<b>Generic</b> empagliflozin empagliflozin+ linagliptin empagliflozin + metformin dapagliflozin dapagliflozin + metformin canagliflozin canagliflozin + metformin	Increases the amount of sugar that is eliminated from your body in urine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take by mouth before the first meal of the day.</li> <li>Stay hydrated throughout the day.</li> </ul>
<b>Brand</b> Actos® Avandia®	<b>Generic</b> pioglitazone rosiglitazone	Increases your body's sensitivity to insulin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take by mouth with or without food.</li> <li>Don't skip meals and try to eat at regular intervals.</li> </ul>

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