

Metformin usually adequate for control of gestational diabetes

18 August 2013



Among women with gestational diabetes mellitus, those receiving metformin achieve lower mean glucose levels compared with those receiving insulin, but some require supplemental insulin therapy, according to research published in the July issue of the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

(HealthDay)—Among women with gestational diabetes mellitus, those receiving metformin achieve lower mean glucose levels compared with those receiving insulin, but some require supplemental insulin therapy, according to research published in the July issue of the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

Cristiane Pavão Spaulonci, M.D., of the University of São Paulo in Brazil, and colleagues randomly assigned women with gestational diabetes who failed to achieve glycemic control with diet and exercise to therapy with either metformin (47 patients) or insulin (47 patients).

The researchers found that mean [glucose levels](#), amount of weight gain, and rate of neonatal hypoglycemia were all significantly lower in women receiving metformin compared with those receiving insulin. About 26 percent of the women receiving metformin needed supplemental [insulin therapy](#) to achieve glycemic control. Logistic regression analysis showed that earlier gestational age at diagnosis and higher mean pretreatment glucose level increased the probability of need for

supplemental insulin.

"We believe that a long-term follow-up is needed, but a discussion by specialist teams on the use of metformin as a first-line drug in the treatment of patients with [gestational diabetes](#) would be of great usefulness for patients and doctors," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract](#)
[Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

Copyright © 2013 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

APA citation: Metformin usually adequate for control of gestational diabetes (2013, August 18) retrieved 3 May 2021 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2013-08-metformin-adequate-gestational-diabetes.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.