Diabetes Medicines

Oral medicines (pills)

Glucophage® / Glucophage® XR

Generic name
Metformin HCL

How it works
Helps the liver make less sugar (glucose).

How to take it
Take with food to reduce bloating and diarrhea.

Possible side effects
- Diarrhea
- Nausea
- Metallic taste in mouth

Important
- If drinking alcohol, limit to one drink for women and two drinks for men.

Precautions
- If you have a test with contrast dye, ask your doctor when to stop taking this medicine.

Glucotrol® / Glucotrol XL®

Generic name
Glipizide

How it works
Helps the pancreas make more insulin.

How to take it
Take 15–30 minutes before a meal.

Possible side effects
- Low blood sugar
- Allergic reaction to sulfa

Starlix®

Generic name
Nateglinide

How it works
Helps the pancreas make more insulin.

How to take it
Take with each meal.

Possible side effects
- Low blood sugar

DiaBeta®

Generic name
Glyburide

How it works
Helps the pancreas make more insulin.

How to take it
Take before meals as directed by your doctor.

Possible side effects
- Low blood sugar
- Allergic reaction to sulfa

Amaryl®

Generic name
Glimepiride

How it works
Helps the pancreas make more insulin.

How to take it
Take before meals as directed by your doctor.

Possible side effects
- Low blood sugar
- Allergic reaction to sulfa

Actos®

Generic name
Pioglitazone HCL

How it works
Helps the body use insulin better.

How to take it
Take with or without food.

Possible side effects
- Swelling in the hands or feet
- Weight gain
- May worsen heart failure symptoms

Tradjenta® / Nesina®* / Januvia®*

Generic name
Linagliptin / alogliptin / sitagliptin

How it works
Helps the body release insulin after meals and lowers the sugar the liver makes.

How to take it
Take with or without food.

Possible side effects
- Cold-like symptoms
- Headache
- Stomach pain
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Joint pain

Jardiance®* / Invokana®* / Farxiga®*

Generic name
Empagliflozin / canagliflozin / dapagliflozin

How it works
Helps the body remove extra sugar through urine (pee).

How to take it
Take once a day with breakfast.

Possible side effects
- Dehydration
- Dizziness
- Yeast infections
- Urinary tract infections (UTIs)

Combination pills

Medicine name	What it contains
Glipizide-Metformin	Glipizide and metformin HCL
Jentadueto®	Linagliptin (Tradjenta®) and metformin HCL
Jentadueto® XR	Linagliptin (Tradjenta®) and metformin ER
Glucovance®	Glyburide and metformin HCL
Janumet®*	Sitagliptin (Januvia®) and metformin HCL
Janumet® XR*	Sitagliptin (Januvia®) and metformin ER
Invokamet®*	Canagliflozin (Invokana®) and metformin HCL
Invokamet® XR*	Canagliflozin (Invokana®) and metformin ER
Synjardy®*	Empagliflozin (Jardiance®) and metformin HCL
Xigduo®*	Dapagliflozin (Farxiga®) and metformin HCL
Glyxambi®*	Empagliflozin (Jardiance®) and linagliptin (Tradjenta®)

* Medicines not currently covered, non-formulary, or require PAP.