

# GLP-1 Receptor Agonist

<b>Type of drug</b>	Incretin
<b>How does it work?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acting when sugars are higher than normal, increases insulin levels (help lower blood sugar) and decreases glucagon (a hormone that raises blood sugar)</li> <li>Slows the emptying of the stomach</li> </ul>
<b>Typical names</b>	Liraglutide (Victoza®), Exenatide (Byetta®)
<b>Usual doses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liraglutide 0.6 - 1.8 mg administered once daily by subcutaneous injection</li> <li>Exenatide 5-10 ug administered by subcutaneous injection twice a day</li> </ul>
<b>Dosing instructions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liraglutide usually started at 0.6 mg once daily for 1 week then increase to 1.2 mg once daily</li> <li>Exenatide usually started at 5 ug taken twice daily within 60 minutes of a meal for 1 month and then may be increased to 10 ug taken twice daily within 60 minutes of a meal</li> </ul>
<b>What if I forget a dose?</b>	Ask your healthcare provider
<b>A1C lowering</b> (↓ = least, ↓↓↓ = most)	↓↓ to ↓↓↓
<b>Effect on weight</b>	↓↓
<b>Risk of low blood sugar</b> (hypoglycemia)	Rare
<b>Medication considerations and/or side effects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very low rates of hypoglycemia and possible weight loss</li> <li>Side effects are mainly related to stomach and intestines: (e.g. nausea: may be more with Extenatide) which can be improved by proper dose adjustment of the medication and should improve with time</li> </ul>
<b>When to call your doctor</b>	You develop any severe side effects and any negative changes in your overall health talk to your health care provider
<b>When you are sick</b>	Take this medication as directed, unless otherwise directed by your healthcare provider
<b>Cost</b> (\$ = lowest, \$\$\$\$ = highest)	\$\$\$\$