

Effects of antidiabetic drugs on the level of serum uric acid in patients who have type 2 diabetes

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ABSTRACT

إن فرط حمض يوريك الدم ومرض السكري من النوع الثاني (T2DM) مترابطان، حيث أن كل اضطراب يزيد من خطر الإصابة بالآخر. بعض الأدوية المضادة لمرض السكر قد تقلل من مستوى حمض اليوريك في الدم (SUA). تصف هذه المراجعة السريرية تأثيرات الأدوية المضادة لمرض السكر المتعددة على مستوى SUA وآليات عملها المحتملة في المرضى الذين يعانون من T2DM. أظهرت النتائج أن مثبطات ناقل جلوكوز الصوديوم 2- (SGLT2is)، والثيازوليديين ديون، والميتفورمين، والليناجليبتين قللت من مستوى الـ SUA؛ أدى الأنسولين وسيتاجليبتين والألوجليبتين إلى زيادة الـ SUA؛ ولم يكن لمبهاث مستقبلات الببتيد 1- الشبيهة بالجلوكاجون (GLP-1) والـ RA (RAS) والسلفونيل يوريا ومثبطات ألفا جلوكوزيداز تأثير يذكر على SUA. يبدو أن SGLT2is له التأثير الأكبر على خفض SUA، ربما لأنه يقلل من استقلاب مسار فوسفات البننتوز ويزيد من إفراز الكلى لليورات عن طريق تغيير ناقلات حمض اليوريك الأنوبي الكلي. من بين جميع الأدوية المضادة لمرض السكر المستخدمة حالياً، يبدو أن SGLT2is هو الخيار العلاجي الواعد لمرضى T2DM الذين يعانون من فرط حمض يوريك الدم.

Hyperuricemia and type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) are interconnected, in that each disorder increases risk for the other. Some antidiabetic drugs may decrease the level of serum uric acid (SUA). This narrative review describes the effects of multiple antidiabetic drugs on the SUA level and their possible mechanisms of action in patients with T2DM. The results showed that sodium glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors (SGLT2is), thiazolidinediones, metformin, and linagliptin decreased the SUA; insulin, sitagliptin, and alogliptin increased the SUA; and glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1 RAs), sulfonylureas, and alpha-glucosidase inhibitors had little effect on the SUA. Sodium glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors appeared to have the greatest effect on lowering SUA, possibly because they reduce pentose phosphate pathway metabolism and increase the renal excretion of urate by altering renal tubular uric acid transporters. Among all antidiabetic drugs currently used, SGLT2is appeared to be the most promising therapeutic option for T2DM patients with hyperuricemia.

Keywords: serum uric acid, hyperuricemia, type 2 diabetes mellitus, antidiabetic drugs, cardiovascular disease

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The ultimate step of purine catabolism is the xanthine oxidoreductase-mediated oxidation of hypoxanthine to uric acid (UA). The kidneys clear approximately 60-70% of serum UA from the body, and intestinal enterocytes clear the other 30-40%.¹ Hyperuricemia, which is conventionally considered to be a serum UA (SUA) level over 420 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (the solubility limit of monosodium urate [MSU] crystals in plasma) can be caused by the decreased excretion of UA, and less commonly by the increased production of UA.² Specific polymorphisms in genes that control UA production and the urinary or intestinal elimination of UA can cause hyperuricemia.^{3,4} Obesity, metabolic syndrome, and consumption of excessive sugars or purines can also cause hyperuricemia.⁵

Numerous large epidemiological studies and meta-analyses have consistently shown a strong association between serum urate level and several cardiovascular and metabolic disorders and risk factors.^{6,7} For example, hyperuricemia increases the risk for hypertension, diabetes, heart disease, atrial fibrillation, myocardial infarction, heart failure, cerebrovascular events, and chronic kidney disease (CKD).^{8,9} The 2021 CARDIA study demonstrated that males and females whose SUA levels increased the most over a 10-year period had a 2.89-fold increased risk of heart disease, heart failure, or a cerebrovascular event relative to a group whose UA level remained stable.¹⁰

The prevalences of hyperuricemia and type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) have increased globally during recent

decades, and many studies have shown that these 2 metabolic diseases are interconnected. Thus, diabetes and obesity increase the risk for hyperuricemia, because they can cause renal lesions and the overproduction of UA due to the increased activity of xanthine oxidase and increased lipid peroxidation.^{11,12} On the other hand, hyperuricemia is accompanied by decreased glucose tolerance, and this increases the risk for diabetes.¹³ A meta-analysis by Kodama et al¹⁴ examined genetic studies that assessed the association between SUA level and diabetes, and identified several genetic variants that were associated with increased UA level, thus establishing a possible causal link of an increased UA level and diabetes. Hyperuricemia in patients who have T2DM also increases the risk of major heart failure and nephropathy.^{15,16}

A 2024 meta-analysis examined 31,535 patients (76% with T2DM) and evaluated the effect of a decreased SUA level on cardiovascular outcomes and mortality in patients receiving a sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitor (SGLT2i). The results showed that a 1 mg/dL decrease of SUA was significantly associated with a decreased risk of the composite of cardiovascular death and hospitalization for heart failure (hazard ratio [HR]=0.64, 95% confidence interval [95% CI]: [0.46-0.88]).¹⁷ Thus, because hyperuricemia is associated with multiple detrimental complications, lowering the SUA is considered essential for T2DM patients because of their increased risk of microvascular and macrovascular diseases.

A healthy lifestyle, with an emphasis on diet, exercise, and weight control, is also beneficial to patients with hyperuricemia and T2DM. For example, SGLT2is, a relatively new class of oral antidiabetics, can also increase weight loss, decrease blood pressure, and possibly lower the serum level of UA.¹⁸ Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1 RAs) can also regulate hyperglycemia, increase weight loss, and decrease the risk of cardiovascular disease.¹⁹ Antidiabetic drugs that also decrease the level of SUA can be especially advantageous for patients with T2DM and hyperuricemia, because these drugs may eliminate the need for or decrease the necessary dose of traditional UA-lowering drugs and these traditional UA-lowering

drugs can cause adverse reactions. It must also be considered that some antidiabetic drugs may increase the level of SUA. Overall, an increased understanding of the effects of antidiabetic drugs on the SUA level in patients with T2DM may help physicians to improve their selection of medications and allow the more effective prevention and treatment of these 2 conditions.

The aim of this review was to describe recent research and developments in the use of antidiabetic drugs, especially SGLT2is and GLP-1 RAs, on the SUA level of T2DM patients, and to describe the possible mechanisms of different treatments. We therefore searched PubMed using the terms “uric acid”, “hyperuricemia”, and “diabetes”, along with specific drugs and drug classes. We examined all clinical studies (prospective clinical trials, observational studies, post-hoc analyses, and meta-analyses) that were published prior to April 2024. We ultimately included original studies whose primary or secondary purpose was to examine the effects of different antidiabetic drugs on the SUA level in T2DM patients.

We summarized the clinical responses to different antidiabetic drugs on the SUA levels in patients with T2DM (Table 1) and also described the main features of the major studies that examined this effect (Table 2). The text below provides more detailed information regarding the effects of specific drugs and drug classes.

Metformin. Metformin is the most commonly administered anti-diabetic drug, although very few studies have examined its effects on the SUA level in patients with T2DM. However, there is some evidence that metformin decreases the SUA level of these patients. For example, Gregorio et al²⁰ assessed the effect of the addition of metformin to 76 elderly patients with T2DM (31 men, 45 women; mean age: 76.44±1.03 years) that was poorly controlled by sulfonylurea for a one-year period. Their results showed that metformin decreased the SUA level from 5.88±0.25 to 5.02±0.28 mg/dL ($p<0.05$). Another controlled study examined the effect of metformin in patients with gout and insulin resistance (IR; 28 men and 2 women; mean age: 51 years). Their results showed that it lowered the SUA concentration from 9.57±1.84 to 7.44±1.81 mg/dL ($p<0.01$), and that 11 patients developed normouricemia (<6.0 mg/dL) after 12 months of metformin therapy.²¹ Notably, the authors of this study found that the normouricemic effect of metformin was unrelated to the renal excretion of UA or decreased body weight, and they hypothesized that metformin decreased UA production in these patients due to metformin-mediated decrease in the synthesis of free fatty acids.²¹ Another study that examined 50 obese females (mean age: 43.58±1.40 years)

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reported that the SUA level decreased from 5.52 ± 0.20 to 4.78 ± 0.12 mg/dL ($p < 0.0001$) after 6 months of metformin treatment.²² Krzystek-Korpacka et al²³ implemented a one-year weight reduction program for children and adolescents who were overweight or obese, and examined its effect on the SUA level. They reported that the efficacy of metformin in decreasing the SUA level was apparently independent of weight loss.

There is also evidence that a high SUA level is linked with IR. For example, the decreased renal clearance of UA in patients with hyperinsulinemia is related to IR, and other evidence suggested that IR led to increased synthesis of free fatty acids, and that these were eventually metabolized into UA.²⁴⁻²⁶ Metformin treatment of patients with T2DM leads to decreased IR and hyperinsulinemia, and this may lead to increased urinary clearance of UA, decreased synthesis of free fatty acids, and a decreased level of SUA.²⁷ There is also evidence that metformin can lead to weight

reduction and appetite suppression. Taken together, normouricemia appears to be one of the many beneficial effects of metformin.

Sulfonylureas. The sulfonylureas have uricosuric effects, but they differ in the strength of this effect.²⁸ However, none of the sulfonylureas have known normouricemic effects.²⁹⁻³¹ A study of 29 patients with T2DM (19 men, 10 women; mean age: 56.1 years) showed that 12 months of gliclazide treatment did not alter the SUA level.³⁰ Another study of T2DM patients (17 men, 3 women; mean age: 65 years) showed that a 12-week regimen of gliclazide led to a slightly increased level of plasma UA in the fasting state (5.2 ± 0.9 to 5.6 ± 0.9 mg/dL; $p = 0.02$), but the UA level was unchanged during hyperglycemic conditions.³² Hussain et al³¹ carried out a case-control study of 40 patients with T2DM and showed that glibenclamide did not have normouricemic effects. Kitazawa et al³³ carried out a prospective randomized controlled trial (RCT)

Table 1 - Effects of different antidiabetic drugs on the serum uric acid level in patients with type-2 diabetes mellitus.

Drugs class	Serum UA levels	Mechanisms
Metformin	↓	Ameliorates insulin resistance and hyperinsulinemia, which increases urinary clearance of UA and reduces UA production.
Sulfonylureas		
Glibenclamide	NS	NA
Gliclazide	NS	
Glimepiride	NS	
Dipeptidyl peptidase 4 inhibitors		
Sitagliptin	↑	Unknown
Alogliptin	↑	
Linagliptin	↓	Decreases UA production by suppressing xanthine oxidase activity
Vildagliptin	↓	
Alpha-glucosidase inhibitors		
Acarbose	No data	NA
Voglibose	NS	NA
Thiazolidinediones		
Troglitazone	↓	Ameliorates insulin resistance and hyperinsulinemia; increases urine pH, which enhances urinary excretion of UA
Rosiglitazone	↓	
Pioglitazone	↓	
Insulin	↑	Increases urate reabsorption via URAT1 or sodium-dependent anion cotransporter in renal proximal tubules
Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists		
Exenatide	NS	NA
Liraglutide	NS	
Lixisenatide	NS	
Dulaglutide	NS	
Sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors		
Empagliflozin	↓	Increases renal excretion of urate by altering renal tubular UA transporters (GLUT9 and URAT1); decreases flux through the pentose phosphate pathway via indirect activation of sirtuin-1, which can inhibit xanthine oxidase
Dapagliflozin	↓	
Canagliflozin	↓	
Luseogliflozin	↓	
Tofogliflozin	↓	
Ipragliflozin	↓	

GLUT9: glucose transporter 9, NA: not applicable, NS: not significant, UA: uric acid, URAT1: urate transporter 1

Table 2 - Studies that evaluated the effects of different antidiabetic drugs on the serum level of uric acid in patients with type-2 diabetes.

Drug classification	References	Study location	Study design	Patients (N)	Age (years)	Gender (M/F)
Metformin ⁻	Gregorio et al ²⁰	Italy	Before-after study	76	76.44±1.03	31/45
Gliclazide (sulfonylurea)	Kilo et al ³⁰	USA	Before-after study	29	56.1	19/10
	Suijk et al ³²	Netherlands	Randomized, double-blind, comparator-controlled, intervention trial	44 (gliclazide, n=20; dapagliflozin, n=24)	65 (8)	17/3
Glimepiride (sulfonylurea)	Kitazawa et al ³³	Japan	Multicenter, randomized, open-label, parallel-group trial	64 (glimepiride, n=31; tofogliflozin, n=33)	57.6±9.3	19/12
	Matsushima et al ³⁴	Japan	Multicenter, randomized, open-label, parallel-group trial	241 (sitagliptin, n=120; voglibose, n=121)	63.2±13.8	72/48
Sitagliptin (DDP4i)	Kutoh et al ³⁵	Japan	Prospective, nonrandomized, observational study	64	56.0±12.3	50/14
	Tojikubo et al ³⁶	Japan	Before-after study	73	66±13	41/32
	Fuchigami et al ³⁷	Japan	Prospective, randomized, open-label, blinded-endpoint, parallel-group trial	331 (sitagliptin, n=163; dapagliflozin, n=168)	57.9±12.1	95/68
Alogliptin (DDP4i)	Kutoh et al ³⁵	Japan	Prospective, nonrandomized, observational study	55	52.4±13.2	46/9
Linagliptin ⁻ (DDP4i)	Tojikubo et al ³⁶	Japan	Before-after study	73	66±13	41/32
	Yamagishi et al ³⁸	Japan	Prospective trial	26	69.4±12.4	18/8
Vildagliptin ⁻ (DDP4i)	Shimodaira et al ³⁹	Japan	Retrospective study	62	67.2±12.2	42/20
Voglibose (alpha-glucosidase inhibitor)	Matsushima et al ³⁴	Japan	Multicenter, randomized, open-label, parallel-group trial	241 (voglibose, n=121; sitagliptin, n=120)	63.2±11.6	71/50
Troglitazone ⁻ (thiazolidinedione)	Iwatani et al ⁴²	Japan	Before-after study	95	61.1±10.3	61/34
	Seber et al ⁴³	Turkey	Prospective trial	40	NR	NR
Rosiglitazone ⁻ (thiazolidinedione)	Macić-Dzanković et al ⁴⁴	Sarajevo	Before-after study	21	NR	NR
	Kutoh et al ⁴⁵	Japan	Cohort study	19	53.6±12.6	NR
Insulin (-)	MacFarlane et al ⁴⁷	USA	Matched cohort study	23	57 (47,64)	11/12
	Dutour et al ⁵¹	France	Prospective randomized clinical trial	44 (exenatide, n=22; reference, n=22)	51±2	13/9
	Muskiet et al ⁵²	Sweden, Finland, Netherlands	Post-hoc analysis of a randomized, open-label, active-comparator, parallel-group trial	54 (exenatide, n=26; insulin glargine, n=28)	59.7±8.1	16/10
Liraglutide (GLP-1 RA)	Tonnejck et al ⁵³	Netherlands	Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial	36 (liraglutide, n=19; placebo, n=17)	63.0±7.0	27/9
	Nakaguchi et al ⁵⁴	Japan	Open-label, parallel-group, randomized controlled trial	61 (liraglutide, n=30; empagliflozin, n=31)	67.2±9.0	21/9
	Kurir et al ⁵⁵	Croatia	Non-randomized, controlled, interventional study	15	60 (55,68)	all male
Lixisenatide (GLP-1 RA)	Liakos et al ⁵⁶	Greece	Randomized, double blind, placebo-controlled trial	62 (liraglutide, n=31; placebo, n=31)	60.5±12.0	19/12
	Tonnejck et al ⁵³	Netherlands	Randomized, open-label, comparator-controlled trial	35 (lixisenatide, n=17; insulin glulisine, n=18)	61.7±6.6	23/12
	Kuchay et al ⁵⁷	India	Open-label, parallel-group, randomized controlled trial	64 (dulaglutide, n=32; control, n=32)	46.6±9.1	23/9
Dulaglutide (GLP-1 RA)	Hirai et al ⁵⁸	Japan	Retrospective comparative study	20 (dulaglutide, n=10; liraglutide, n=10)	67.6±9.9	6/4
	Iwasaki et al ⁵⁹	Japan	Single-center, open-label, single-arm, pilot study	36	66.7±11.1	15/21
	You Y et al ⁶¹	NA	Meta-analysis	7801	51–78.4	NR
Empagliflozin ⁻ (SGLT2i)	Hao Z et al ⁶²	China	Randomized controlled trial	59 (dapagliflozin, n=29; control, n=30)	57.77±12.29	20/9
	Fuchigami et al ³⁷	Japan	Prospective, randomized, open-label, blinded-endpoint, parallel-group trial	331 (dapagliflozin, n=168; sitagliptin, n=163)	58.3±12.4	104/64
	Suijk et al ³²	Netherlands	Randomized, double-blind, comparator-controlled intervention trial	44 (dapagliflozin, n=24; gliclazide, n=20)	63±7	17/7
Canagliflozin ⁻ (SGLT2i)	Davies et al ⁶³	NR	Post-hoc analysis of pooled data from four randomized placebo-controlled phase III multinational studies	2313 (canagliflozin, n=1667; placebo, n=646)	59.1±9.6	812/855
	Scino et al ⁶⁴	Japan	Phase II, randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, parallel-group study	236 (luseogliflozin, n=182; placebo, n=54)	58.3±9.4	35/26
Luseogliflozin ⁻ (SGLT2i)	Chino et al ⁶⁵	Japan	Retrospective study	480 (luseogliflozin, n=297; placebo, n=183)	58±10	207/90
	Terauchi et al ⁶⁶	Japan	Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled multicentre trial	211 (tofogliflozin, n=141; placebo, n=70)	59.1±10.8	90/51
Ipragliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Tanaka et al ⁶⁷	Japan	Randomized, open-label, active-controlled, blinded-endpoint trial	30 (ipragliflozin, n=15; control, n=15)	59.1±11.2	8/7
	Tsukagoshi-Yamaguchi et al ⁶⁸	Japan	Prospective, multicenter, open-label, blinded-end point, randomized, controlled study	30 (ipragliflozin, n=15; metformin, n=15)	57.8±13.3	9/6
	Nagao et al ⁶⁹	Japan	Multicenter, open-label, randomized controlled trial	160 (ipragliflozin, n=77; sitagliptin, n=83)	62(53–67)	44/33

*Drugs that decreased serum uric acid. NA: not applicable, NR: not reported, SMD: standardized mean difference, F: female, M: male, N: number, SGLT2i: sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors, GLP-1 RA: glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists, DDP4i: dipeptidyl peptidase 4 inhibitor

Table 2 - Studies that evaluated the effects of different antidiabetic drugs on the serum level of uric acid in patients with type-2 diabetes (continuation).

Drug classification	References	Study location	BMI (kg/m ²)	eGFR (mL/min/ 1.73 m ²)	Baseline Serum UA (mg/dL)	HbA1c (%)	Duration of diabetes (years)
Metformin* (-)	Gregorio et al ²⁰	Italy	NR	NR	5.88±0.25	>9	15.08±1.27
Gliclazide (Sulfonylurea)	Kilo et al ³⁰	USA	42.8% overweight	NR	NR	10.1±0.44	8.03
	Suijk et al ³²	Netherlands	32±4	89 (22)	5.2±0.9	7.4±0.6	NR
Glimepiride (Sulfonylurea)	Kitazawa et al ³³	Japan	25.4±3.8	88.5±16.2	5.5±1.6	7.5±0.4	7.7±6.7
Sitagliptin (DDP4i)	Matsushima et al ³⁴	Japan	25.0±4.5	88.0±23.3	5.08±1.14	7.9±1.0	NR
	Kutoh et al ³⁵	Japan	24.58±4.35	NR	4.91±1.28	10.14±2.19	NR
	Tojikubo et al ³⁶	Japan	24.6±5.0	78.0±24.4	5.10±1.13	8.19±1.07	15.3±7.8
	Fuchigami et al ³⁷	Japan	27.9±4.2	78.9±16.9	5.4±1.4	7.8±0.8	5.6±5.8
Alogliptin (DDP4i)	Kutoh et al ³⁵	Japan	25.69±5.21	NR	4.69±1.60	10.60±2.24	NR
Linagliptin* (DDP4i)	Tojikubo et al ³⁶	Japan	24.6±4.1	71.8±23.3	5.63±1.24	7.32±1.05	15.3±7.8
	Yamagishi et al ³⁸	Japan	24.7±3.6	NR	5.5±1.2	7.4±1.4	NR
Vildagliptin* (DDP4i)	Shimodaira et al ³⁹	Japan	24.7±3.8	71.7±26.8	6.0±1.6	7.7±1.0	NR
Voglibose (alpha-glucosidase inhibitor)	Matsushima et al ³⁴	Japan	25.1±4.5	83.7±22.2	5.13±1.40	7.8±0.8	NR
Troglitazone* (Thiazolidinedione)	Iwatani et al ⁴²	Japan	25.4±3.0	NR	5.5±1.2	8.4±1.3	NR
Rosiglitazone* (Thiazolidinedione)	Seber et al ⁴³	Turkey	30.31±5.3	NR	4.78±1.1	9.95±9.7	NR
	Macić-Dzanković et al ⁴⁴	Sarajevo	NR	NR	6.22±1.31	8.55±1.9	NR
Pioglitazone* (Thiazolidinedione)	Kutoh et al ⁴⁵	Japan	27.82±6.32	NR	6.87±0.73	8.63±1.74	Newly Diagnosed
Insulin (-)	MacFarlane et al ⁴⁷	USA	38.1 (32.8,39.1)	NR	6.4 (4.6, 8.2)	8.9 (7.5, 10.9)	NR
	Dutour et al ⁵¹	France	37.2±1.8	NR	6.3±1.5	NR	4 (2, 8)
	Muskiet et al ⁵²	Sweden, Finland, Netherlands	30.4±4.1	84.7±17.0	NR	7.53±0.98	NR
Liraglutide (GLP-1 RA)	Tonneijck et al ⁵³	Netherlands	31.2 (29.2,33.3)	79±3	5.39±1.07	7.4±0.7	8 (4–12)
	Nakaguchi et al ⁵⁴	Japan	26.4±4.6	63.3±18.9	5.3±1.3	8.04±0.75	18.8±9.9
	Kurir et al ⁵⁵	Croatia	40.9±7.3	NR	6.69±1.21	7.98±0.70	NR
	Liakos et al ⁵⁶	Greece	33.6 (7.9)	82.3 (30.3)	NR	7.8 (1.7)	8.0 (6.0)
Lixisenatide (GLP-1 RA)	Tonneijck et al ⁵³	Netherlands	31.5±4.0	93±3	5.68±1.19	8.0±0.9	13±7
Dulaglutide (GLP-1 RA)	Kuchay et al ⁵⁷	India	29.6±3.6	NR	5.0±1.7	8.4±1.0	4.9±3.1
	Hirai et al ⁵⁸	Japan	25.7±3.2	20.3±10.4	6.3±0.8	7.2±0.8	NR
	Iwasaki et al ⁵⁹	Japan	28.7±5.3	NR	4.93±1.35	7.80±0.99	17.9±9.1
Empagliflozin* (SGLT2i)	You Y et al ⁶¹	NA	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Dapagliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Hao Z et al ⁶²	China	27.34±3.88	NR	5.86±1.72	9.89±1.24	12.20±6.59
	Fuchigami et al ³⁷	Japan	27.8±4.0	79.0±18.5	5.4±1.3	7.8±0.8	6.0±6.4
	Suijk et al ³²	Netherlands	31±4	84 (24)	5.5±1.2	7.3 (0.8)	NR
Canagliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Davies et al ⁶³	NR	32.0±6.5	88.8±18.9	5.3–5.4	8.0±0.9	NR
Luseogliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Seino et al ⁶⁴	Japan	24.8±3.56	NR	5.09±1.49	8.07±0.90	6.15±6.50
	Chino et al ⁶⁵	Japan	NR	85±18	5.1±1.3	8.1±0.9	NR
Tofogliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Terauchi et al ⁶⁶	Japan	25.8±3.5	79.7±19.8	5.05±1.25	8.53±0.75	15.02±9.36
Ipragliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Tanaka et al ⁶⁷	Japan	30.5±7.0	67.3±18.2	5.7±1.4	7.0±0.5	NR
	Tsukagoshi-Yamaguchi et al ⁶⁸	Japan	29.0±5.7	NR	5.1±1.4	8.1±0.7	4.4±4.9
	Nagao et al ⁶⁹	Japan	NR	NR	5.5 (4.5–6.2)	7.5 (7.1–7.9)	NR

*Drugs that decreased serum uric acid. NA: not applicable, NR: not reported, SMD: standardized mean difference, F: female, M: male, N: number, SGLT2i: sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors, GLP-RA: glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists, DDP4i: dipeptidyl peptidase 4 inhibitor

Table 2 - Studies that evaluated the effects of different antidiabetic drugs on the serum level of uric acid in patients with type-2 diabetes (continuation).

Drug classification	Reference, year	Study location	Drug dose	Drug duration	Serum urate change (mg/dL)	P-value
Metformin* (-)	Gregorio et al ²⁰	Italy	1000 mg/day progressively increased to 1500 mg/day	1 year	From 5.88±0.25 to 5.02±0.28	<i>p</i> <0.05 vs. baseline
Gliclazide (Sulfonylurea)	Kilo et al ³⁰	USA	80-320 mg/day	1 year	No significant change	<i>p</i> >0.05 vs. baseline
	Suijk et al ³²	Netherlands	30 mg/day	12 weeks	No significant change during hyperglycemic conditions	<i>p</i> =0.07 vs. baseline
Glimepiride (Sulfonylurea)	Kitazawa et al ³³	Japan	0.5 mg/day	24 weeks	No significant change	<i>p</i> =0.773 vs. baseline
Sitagliptin (DDP4i)	Matsushima et al ³⁴	Japan	50 mg/day	12 weeks	From 5.08±1.14 to 5.30±1.24	<i>p</i> =0.001 vs. baseline
	Kutoh et al ³⁵	Japan	25 mg/day for females (n=14), 50 mg/day for males (n=50)	3 months	From 4.91±1.28 to 5.42±1.43	<i>p</i> <0.00001 vs. baseline
	Tojikubo et al ³⁶	Japan	50 mg/day	at least 1 year	From 5.10±1.13 to 5.63±1.24	<i>p</i> <0.001 vs. baseline
	Fuchigami et al ³⁷	Japan	50-100 mg/day	24 weeks	From 5.4±1.4 to 5.6±1.3	<i>p</i> =0.004 vs. baseline
Alogliptin (DDP4i)	Kutoh et al ³⁵	Japan	12.5 mg/day for females (n=9), 5 mg/day for males (n=46)	3 months	From 4.69±1.60 to 5.24±1.61	<i>p</i> <0.00001 vs. baseline
	Tojikubo et al ³⁶	Japan	5 mg/day	1 year	From 5.63±1.24 to 5.24±1.10	<i>p</i> <0.001 vs. baseline
Linagliptin* (DDP4i)	Yamagishi et al ³⁸	Japan	5 mg/day	24 weeks	From 5.5±1.2 to 5.1±1.2	<i>p</i> <0.05 vs. baseline
Vildagliptin* (DDP4i)	Shimodaira et al ³⁹	Japan	100 mg/day	1 year	From 6.0 ± 1.6 to 5.3±1.3	<i>p</i> <0.05 vs. baseline
Voglibose (alpha-glucosidase inhibitor)	Matsushima et al ³⁴	Japan	0.6 mg/day	12 weeks	No significant change	<i>p</i> =0.073 vs. baseline
Troglitazone* (Thiazolidinedione)	Iwatani et al ⁴²	Japan	400 mg/day	9.7±7.6 months	From 5.5±1.2 to 5.0±1.2	<i>p</i> <0.0001 vs. baseline
Rosiglitazone* (Thiazolidinedione)	Seber et al ⁴³	Turkey	4 mg/day	12weeks	From 4.78±1.1 to 4.41±1.1	<i>p</i> =0.001 vs. baseline
	Macić-Dzanković et al ⁴⁴	Sarajevo	4 mg/day	12 weeks	From 6.22±1.31 to 6.02±1.27	<i>p</i> <0.015 vs. baseline
Pioglitazone* (Thiazolidinedione)	Kutoh et al ⁴⁵	Japan	7.5-30 mg/day	12 weeks	From 6.87±0.73 to 5.90±0.77	<i>p</i> <0.00001 vs. baseline
Insulin (-)	MacFarlane et al ⁴⁷	USA	NA	Mean of 2.9 years	+1.25	<i>p</i> =0.02
Exenatide (GLP-1 RA)	Dutour et al ⁵¹	France	10-20 µg/day	26 weeks	No significant change	<i>p</i> =0.79 vs. reference
	Muskiet et al ⁵²	Sweden, Finland, Netherlands	20 µg/day	52 weeks	No significant change	<i>p</i> >0.05 vs. baseline
Liraglutide (GLP-1 RA)	Tonneijck et al ⁵³	Netherlands	1.8 mg/day	12 weeks	No significant change	<i>p</i> =0.8 vs. placebo
	Nakaguchi et al ⁵⁴	Japan	0.9 mg/day	24 weeks	No significant change	NR
	Kurir et al ⁵⁵	Croatia	1.2 mg/day	3 months	No significant change	<i>p</i> =0.104 vs. baseline
	Liakos et al ⁵⁶	Greece	1.2 mg/day	5 weeks	No significant change	<i>p</i> =0.23 vs. placebo
Lixisenatide (GLP-1 RA)	Tonneijck et al ⁵³	Netherlands	20 µg/day	8 weeks	No significant change	<i>p</i> >0.1 vs. baseline
Dulaglutide (GLP-1 RA)	Kuchay et al ⁵⁷	India	1.5 mg/week	24 weeks	No significant change	<i>p</i> =0.11 vs. control
	Hirai et al ⁵⁸	Japan	0.75 mg/week	1 year	No significant change	<i>p</i> >0.05 vs. baseline
	Iwasaki et al ⁵⁹	Japan	0.75 mg/week	24 weeks	No significant change	<i>p</i> =0.0818 vs. baseline
Empagliflozin* (SGLT2i)	You Y et al ⁶¹	NA	10 or 25 mg/day	5 days to 164 weeks	SMD: -1.34	<i>p</i> <0.001 vs. placebo
Dapagliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Hao Z et al ⁶²	China	10 mg/day	NR	From 5.86±1.72 to 4.71±1.20	<i>p</i> <0.001 vs. baseline
	Fuchigami et al ³⁷	Japan	5-10 mg/day	24 weeks	From 5.4±1.3 to 4.9 ± 1.1	<i>p</i> <0.001 vs. baseline
	Suijk et al ³²	Netherlands	10 mg/day	12 weeks	From 5.5±1.1 to 4.6±1.0	<i>p</i> <0.001 vs. baseline
Canagliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Davies et al ⁶³	NR	100 or 300 mg/day	26 weeks	-0.7	NR
Luseogliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Seino et al ⁶⁴	Japan	2.5 mg/day	12 weeks	-0.63	<i>p</i> <0.05 vs. placebo
	Chino et al ⁶⁵	Japan	2.5 or 5 mg/day	12 weeks	-0.6	<i>p</i> <0.05 vs. baseline
Tofogliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Terauchi et al ⁶⁶	Japan	20 mg/day	16 weeks	-0.18	<i>p</i> =0.0062 vs. placebo
Ipragliflozin* (SGLT2i)	Tanaka et al ⁶⁷	Japan	50 mg/day	12 weeks	From 5.7±1.4 to 5.0±1.3	<i>p</i> <0.05 vs. baseline
	Tsukagoshi-Yamaguchi et al ⁶⁸	Japan	50 mg/day	24 weeks	-11.3%	<i>p</i> =0.012 vs. control
	Nagao et al ⁶⁹	Japan	50 mg/day	6 months	-0.41	<i>p</i> <0.05 vs. baseline

*Drugs that decreased serum uric acid. NA: not applicable, NR: not reported, SMD: standardized mean difference, SGLT2i: sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors, GLP-1 RA: glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists, DDP4i: dipeptidyl peptidase 4 inhibitor

of Japanese patients with T2DM (19 men, 12 women; mean age: 57.6±9.3 years) to compare glimepiride with tofogliflozin as the third oral agent added to a regimen consisting of metformin with a dipeptidyl peptidase 4 inhibitor (DPP4i). They found that the 24-week glimepiride regimen did not significantly alter the SUA level. Skillman et al²⁹ hypothesized that sulfonylureas did not have uricosuric or normouricemic effects because these agents simply lacked this activity or because the serum concentrations were too low. It is also possible sulfonylureas may initially decrease the SUA level, but that this effect decreases over time.

Dipeptidyl peptidase 4 inhibitors. A study of 120 patients with T2DM (72 men, 48 women; mean age: 63.2±13.8 years) reported that sitagliptin significantly increased the SUA level after 12 weeks (5.08±1.14 to 5.30±1.24 mg/dL; $p=0.001$).³⁴ Another study of 64 drug-naïve patients with T2DM (50 men; 14 women; mean age: 56.0±12.3 years) found that 3 months of sitagliptin increased the SUA level 4.91±1.28 to 5.42±1.43 mg/dL ($p<0.00001$).³⁵ Tojikubo et al³⁶ studied the effect of sitagliptin in 73 patients with T2DM and found that it led to a significant increase in the SUA level (5.10±1.13 to 5.63±1.24 mg/dL; $p<0.001$) and significant decrease in the estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR: 78.0±24.4 to 71.8±23.3 mL/min/1.73 m²; $p<0.001$) after at least one year of treatment. A RCT of 163 patients with T2DM found that the SUA increased 5.4±1.4 to 5.6±1.3 mg/dL ($p=0.004$) after 24 weeks.³⁷ Another study of alogliptin therapy in 55 drug-naïve individuals with T2DM (46 men, 9 women; mean age: 52.4±13.2 years) reported an increased SUA level from 4.69±1.60 to 5.24±1.61 mg/dL ($p<0.00001$) after 3 months of treatment.³⁵

In contrast, a study that assessed the effect of changing from sitagliptin to linagliptin in 73 subjects who had T2DM (41 men, 32 women; mean age: 66±13 years) showed that linagliptin lowered the SUA concentration after one year (5.63±1.24 to 5.24±1.10 mg/dL; $p<0.001$) and led to no significant decrease in the eGFR.³⁶ Yamagishi et al³⁸ examined 26 patients with T2DM (18 men, 8 women; mean age: 69.4±12.4 years) and reported that linagliptin decreased the SUA level after 24 weeks (5.5±1.2 to 5.1±1.2 mg/dL; $p<0.05$). These same researchers also confirmed that linagliptin inhibited xanthine oxidase activity in vitro, and suggested that this effect was partly responsible for the UA-lowering effect of linagliptin.³⁸ Another retrospective study of T2DM patients found that switching from sitagliptin to vildagliptin led to a decreased serum level of UA.³⁹

The precise mechanism by which DPP4is alter the SUA level remains unknown, and it is also unknown why some of these drugs increase the UA level but others decrease the UA level. One suggestion is that the inconsistent effects of different DPP4is may be attributed to their different chemical structures and pharmacological properties.^{36,38} Regardless of the mechanisms of the different drugs and the reasons for their differences, it seems that linagliptin is more effective than other DPP4is for controlling hyperuricemia in patients with T2DM.

Alpha-glucosidase inhibitors. Moriwaki et al⁴⁰ provided evidence that acarbose can attenuate the increase of plasma UA induced by sucrose ingestion. More specifically, these authors examined 6 healthy subjects and reported that the pre-administration of acarbose attenuated the increase of plasma UA that occurred after sucrose ingestion, although this treatment did not alter the urinary excretion or fractional clearance of UA. These authors hypothesized that this effect may be due to the inhibition of intestinal sucrose absorption, which delayed its conversion into fructos.⁴⁰ One study of 121 T2DM patients reported that voglibose had no effect on the SUA level.³⁴ Based on the mechanism and site of action of these drugs, we speculate that they probably do not have a clinically significant impact on the SUA concentration. However, further studies of the mechanisms of these drugs and their effects on the SUA level are warranted.

Thiazolidinediones. A review article that analyzed the pleiotropic effects of thiazolidinediones reported that these drugs had urate-lowering effects.⁴¹ More specifically, a study of 95 T2DM patients (61 men, 34 women; mean age: 61.1±10.3 years) found that troglitazone significantly decreased the SUA level (5.5±1.2 to 5.0±1.2 mg/dL; $p<0.0001$) after 9.7±7.6 months of treatment.⁴² Similarly, a study of 40 T2DM patients reported that a 12 week regimen of rosiglitazone decreased the SUA level from 4.78±1.1 to 4.41±1.1 mg/dL ($p=0.001$).⁴³ Another study of 21 T2DM patients with metabolic syndrome found that a 12-week regimen of rosiglitazone decreased the SUA level from 6.22±1.31 to 6.02±1.27 mg/dL ($p<0.015$).⁴⁴ Kutoh et al⁴⁵ examined 19 drug-naïve patients with newly diagnosed T2DM whose baseline SUA levels were above 6.0 mg/dL. They reported that a 12-week regimen of pioglitazone significantly lowered the UA level (6.87±0.73 to 5.90±0.77 mg/dL; $p<0.00001$).⁴⁵

It is possible that thiazolidinediones decrease the SUA level due to their attenuation of IR, because IR is associated with an elevated level of SUA.⁴⁵ An alternative mechanism was suggested in a study of UA

stone formers.⁴⁶ This study showed that pioglitazone therapy increased urine pH, and the authors suggested that the resulting increased solubility of UA led to enhanced urinary excretion of UA and a lower serum level of UA.

Insulin. A matched cohort study reported that insulin significantly increased the SUA level by 1.25 mg/dL ($p=0.02$).⁴⁷ This effect is likely because insulin increases the renal reabsorption of urate due to its activation of urate transporter-1 (URAT-1) or the sodium-dependent organic anion co-transporter (SOAT) in the renal proximal tubules.⁴⁷ Another study of healthy individuals found that exogenous insulin led to an acute decrease of fractional renal urate excretion in a euglycemic clamp experiment.⁴⁸ Other studies reported that the insulin-induced increase of SUA may increase the risk of gout.^{49,50}

Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists. A study of T2DM patients with obesity (13 men, 9 women; mean age: 51 ± 2 years) showed that a 26-week regimen of exenatide had no significant effect on the SUA level.⁵¹ Similarly, Muskiet et al⁵² determined the effect of a 52-week regimen of twice-daily exenatide in T2DM patients (16 men and 10 women; mean age: 59.7 ± 8.1 years) and found no effect on the SUA level. Tonneijck et al⁵³ carried out a post-hoc analysis of 4 previous clinical trials and examined the short-term response to exenatide. The acute effect was a mild elevation of SUA in healthy individuals, although there was no effect in patients with T2DM.⁵³ This post-hoc analysis also examined the effect of a 12-week liraglutide regimen in T2DM subjects (27 men, 9 women; mean age: 63 ± 7 years) and found no significant changes relative to placebo.⁵³ A RCT by Nakaguchi et al⁵⁴ evaluated the effect of a 24-week liraglutide regimen on the SUA level of patients with T2DM (21 men, 9 women; mean age: 67.2 ± 9.0 years) and reported no significant effect. In agreement, Kurir et al⁵⁵ and Liakos et al⁵⁶ carried out before-after studies in populations of T2DM patients and reported that liraglutide had no significant effect on the SUA level.

A randomized, open-label, comparator-controlled trial of T2DM patients that examined an 8-week regimen of lixisenatide injections showed that this treatment had no effect on the SUA level.⁵³ Several before-after studies of patients with T2DM reported that dulaglutide had no effect on the SUA level. In particular, Kuchay et al⁵⁷ investigated the effect of dulaglutide on the SUA level of patients who had T2DM and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) and found it had no significant effect. Hirai et al⁵⁸ and Iwasaki et al⁵⁹ reported similar findings. However, an animal study that examined a rat model

of diabetes showed that rats receiving GLP-1 RAs had lower SUA levels than untreated rats.⁶⁰ Taken together, the current data provide no support for the view that GLP-1 RAs can lower the SUA level. However, very few studies were specifically designed to examine the effects of GLP-1 RAs on the SUA level, not all GLP-1 RAs have yet been studied, many of the available studies had limited durations, and different GLP-1 RAs may have different effects on SUA. Further studies that examine multiple variables, including different GLP-1 RAs, treatment duration, and dosage, are required to ascertain the impact of individual GLP-1 RAs on the SUA level.

Sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors. There is evidence that multiple drugs in the class of sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors (SGLT2is) can promote normouricemia. For example, a meta-analysis that examined 10 RCTs and 2 observational studies of T2DM patients ($n=7801$) found that empagliflozin significantly decreased the SUA level compared with placebo (standardized mean difference [SMD]: -1.34 mg/dL, 95% CI: $[-2.05, -0.63]$).⁶¹ A RCT that assessed the effect of dapagliflozin in patients with T2DM (20 men, 9 women; mean age: 57.77 ± 12.29 years) showed that this drug significantly lowered the SUA level (5.86 ± 1.72 to 4.71 ± 1.20 mg/dL; $p<0.001$).⁶² Similarly, Fuchigami et al³⁷ carried out a prospective randomized trial of 168 patients with T2DM and showed that a 24-week dapagliflozin regimen significantly decreased the SUA level (5.4 ± 1.3 to 4.9 ± 1.1 mg/dL; $p<0.001$). A 2022 RCT of 24 patients with T2DM measured the plasma UA level, fractional UA excretion, and hemodynamic function of the kidneys during fasting state and during clamped euglycemia or hyperglycemia before and after a 12-week dapagliflozin regimen.³² The results showed that dapagliflozin decreased the plasma UA level by 0.8 ± 0.8 mg/dL during fasting, by 1.0 ± 1.0 mg/dL during hyperinsulinemia-euglycemia, and by 0.8 ± 0.7 mg/dL during the hyperglycemia (all $p<0.001$). This study also showed that the fractional daily UA excretion increased by $3.0\pm 2.1\%$ ($p<0.001$) and by $2.6\pm 4.5\%$ during hyperinsulinemia-euglycemia ($p=0.003$).³²

A post-hoc study of data from 4 placebo-controlled phase III trials of 2313 patients with T2DM found that canagliflozin decreased the SUA level by $\sim 13\%$ (0.7 mg/dL) relative to placebo at week 26.⁶³ Similarly, Seino et al⁶⁴ reported decreases in the SUA after luseogliflozin administration in T2DM subjects. Chino et al⁶⁵ stratified T2DM patients into 3 groups according to baseline level of glycosylated hemoglobin (HbA1c) and into 4 groups according to baseline level

of SUA. Their multivariate analysis showed that the luseogliflozin-mediated decline of SUA was associated with a higher baseline SUA level and a lower HbA1c level.⁶⁵ One RCT of Japanese subjects who had T2DM showed that tofogliflozin decreased the SUA level.⁶⁶ Similarly, 3 other studies in Japan also found that ipragliflozin had significant SUA-lowering effects compared with controls.⁶⁷⁻⁶⁹

Several meta-analyses also examined the results of administering drugs in this class on the SUA level. For example, Zhao et al⁷⁰ reviewed 62 RCTs (34,941 patients) that examined patients with T2DM, and found that multiple SGLT2is (empagliflozin, canagliflozin, dapagliflozin, ipragliflozin, luseogliflozin, and tofogliflozin) significantly decreased the SUA level relative to controls (range: -0.29 to -0.77 mg/dL, total weighted mean difference [WMD]: -0.63 mg/dL). Among these many SGLT2is, Zhao et al⁷⁰ reported that empagliflozin had the strongest effect (WMD: -0.77 mg/dL). A different systematic review and meta-analysis that included 19 RCTs (4218 patients) examined the response to SGLT2is in Asian T2DM patients. This study showed that SGLT2is significantly decreased the SUA concentration compared with the control treatment (total SMD: -0.965; 95% CI: [-1.029, -0.901]; $p < 0.001$; $I^2 = 98.7\%$).⁷¹ Furthermore, a network meta-analysis by these researchers that compared different specific drugs with placebo showed that the UA-lowering effects of these drugs were as follows: luseogliflozin (SMD: -1.28, 95% credible interval [CrI]: [-1.70, -0.86]), dapagliflozin (SMD: -0.97, 95% CrI: [-1.40, -0.55]), empagliflozin (SMD: -0.67, 95% CrI: [-1.10, -0.24]), tofogliflozin (SMD: -0.59, 95% CrI: [-1.02, -0.16]), ipragliflozin (SMD: -0.57, 95% CrI: [-0.99, -0.14]), and canagliflozin (SMD: -0.51, 95% CrI: [-0.95, -0.07]). Their further analysis showed that luseogliflozin at 1 or 10 mg/day and dapagliflozin at 5 mg/day had superior effects.

Akbari et al⁷² carried out a meta-analysis of 55 placebo-controlled clinical trials of 36,215 patients who received SGLT2is ($n = 23,494$) or placebo ($n = 12,721$). In agreement with the other studies, they found that all examined SGLT2is significantly decreased the SUA level compared with placebo. They reported the UA-lowering effects were as follows: empagliflozin (mean difference [MD]: -0.69 mg/dL, 95% CI: [-0.80, -0.58]), dapagliflozin (MD: -0.59 mg/dL, 95% CI: [-0.67, -0.52]), canagliflozin (MD: -0.61 mg/dL, 95% CI: [-0.70, -0.52]), luseogliflozin (MD: -0.41 mg/dL, 95% CI: [-0.56, -0.26]), tofogliflozin (MD: -0.33 mg/dL, 95% CI: [-0.46, -0.19]), and ipragliflozin (MD: -0.32 mg/dL, 95% CI: [-0.46, -0.18]).⁷²

A meta-analysis by Yip et al⁷³ examined 43 RCTs (31,921 subjects) to compare the effect of SGLT2is relative to placebo on the SUA level in patients who did or did not have T2DM. They identified decreases in the SUA level in subjects with diabetes (-0.53 mg/dL; 95% CI: [-0.63, -0.43]) and in those without diabetes (-1.54 mg/dL; 95% CI: [-2.13, -0.95]). Furthermore, a 2024 meta-analysis of 5 trials that had a median follow-up time of 2.2 years examined the effect of SGLT2is in 31,535 patients, 76% with T2DM and 54% with heart failure. Overall, the mean change of SUA was -0.79 mg/dL (95% CI: [-1.03, -0.54]) and each 1 mg/dL decrease of SUA was linked to a lower composite risk of cardiovascular death and hospitalization for heart failure (HR=0.64; 95% CI: [0.46-0.88]).¹⁷ Two recent studies of canagliflozin and erugliflozin found that the magnitude of the decrease in the SUA level had a negative relationship with adverse kidney outcomes.^{74,75} Three other large-scale clinical trials of patients who had diabetes and heart failure reported that SGLT2is decreased the risk for gout by 30-50%.⁷⁶⁻⁷⁸

Several studies have examined the possible mechanism by which SGLT2is decrease the SUA level. One study suggested that this effect may be attributable to the induction of decreased flux through the pentose phosphate pathway and increased renal excretion of urate.⁷⁹ In particular, because drugs in this class block the reabsorption of glucose by SGLT-2, which has high expression in the apical membranes of renal segments S1 and S2 (regions of the proximal convoluted tubules), this leads to a decreased level of glucose, activation of sirtuin-1, inhibition of xanthine oxidase, and decreased synthesis of UA.⁸⁰ Sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors may also increase the urinary excretion of urate by altering the function of UA transporters in the renal tubules, such as glucose transporter 9 (GLUT9) and URAT-1. A study of healthy male volunteers in Japan and *Xenopus* oocytes suggested that the SGLT2i-mediated increase in tubular glucose leads to trans-activation of a GLUT9 isoform, and then to urate efflux in the renal proximal tubules.⁸¹ In addition, the results from clinical trials and animal studies suggest that SGLT2is may increase the excretion of UA due to their blockade of URAT1, which is located on the apical surface of the renal proximal tubules and functions in urate reabsorption after glomerular filtration.³² Finally, SGLT2is may also upregulate the ATP-binding cassette transporter G-2 (ABCG-2), thus promoting urate secretion.⁸² Further studies are needed to examine other potential mechanisms by which drugs in this class decrease the SUA level and compare the effects of different specific drugs.

Conclusion. The pathological processes of T2DM and hyperuricemia are interconnected, and each disorder increases risk for many other diseases, including cardiovascular disease and kidney diseases. Because so many other diseases are associated with hyperuricemia, it is likely that patients with T2DM will benefit by maintaining normouricemia. Fortunately, many of the available antidiabetic drugs also decrease the serum level of UA. Among the various types of antidiabetic drugs, SGLT2is have the best-documented effects on SUA in patients with T2DM. The many studies that support the use of SGLT2is for these patients include well-designed before-after studies, large RCTs, and several meta-analyses. However, for some other classes of antidiabetic drugs, there are relatively few clinical studies that examined SUA as a primary outcome; instead, these studies examined SUA levels as a secondary research objective or using a secondary analysis. Therefore, more well-designed studies are required to assess the effects of these other classes of antidiabetic drugs on the serum level of UA. Moreover, further investigations are needed to examine the underlying mechanisms by which the different antidiabetic drugs decrease SUA.

This review provides strong evidence that administration of SGLT2is to patients with T2DM has an added benefit of decreasing SUA levels. This indicates a significant advantage for this class of drugs when considering treatments for T2DM patients, especially for patients who also have hyperuricemia. Studies of the mechanism of SGLT2is suggest they may lower the SUA by inhibiting the pentose phosphate pathway, and by increasing the excretion of urate by the kidneys due to alteration of renal tubular UA transporters (GLUT9 and URAT1). Overall, the GLP-1 RAs had no significant impact on the SUA level; however, further studies are required to examine the effects of individual GLP-1 RAs on SUA. In addition, thiazolidinediones, metformin, and linagliptin potentially decrease the SUA, whereas insulin, sitagliptin, and alogliptin all appear to increase the SUA. Sulfonylureas and alpha-glucosidase inhibitors appear to have no significant impact on the SUA. We suggest that the results presented here be considered when developing future therapeutic guidelines for patients who have T2DM with hyperuricemia.

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