

SUMMARY

Importance of metformin in the treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus

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Metformin is biguanid which, during its therapeutic use, has undergone a period of perdition and fall followed by again rising up to the imaginary pharmacological-therapeutic summit when it became a “gold standard” in the treatment of patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Currently, it is recommended by the professional authorities abroad and in the Czech Republic as a first choice drug after determination of diagnosis together with diet and physical exercise.

How these recommendations follow and reflect the diabetological prescription situation? What prevents the physicians-prescriptors from implementation of the recommendations into their daily practice?

The aim and subject of this thesis is the issue of therapy of type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM) by means of oral antidiabetics (PADs) with a special focus on the decision mechanisms of selected prescription groups of physicians. A historical development of metformin must be reminded in the theoretical part of this thesis in order to better understand and substantiate these prescription habits, and furthermore a development and changes of its position in the professional recommendations (guidelines) as well as a development regarding the growth of its consumption on the Czech pharmaceutical market which reflects the real use of this drug in the medical practice.

Therefore, the practical part of this thesis is aimed at the analysis of postures and motivations of prescriptors-diabetologists and general practitioners for selection and indication of PADs in a patient with type 2 DM. This analysis reflects in detail the results obtained in June 2006.

The issue of initiation of therapy of a diabetic patient with type 2 DM with a PAD is very complex and cannot be elucidated by one or several sentences. It has to be viewed within the overall patient - physician - professional society - health-care insurance company - pharmaceutical company/manufacturer context.

This thesis does not take into account the issue of the costs of a physician-prescriptor for the therapy with PADs.