## 4 Other Types of Diabetes

# **15** Monogenic Causes of Diabetes

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#### **Keypoints**

- Monogenic diabetes results from single-gene mutations that cause β-cell dysfunction or, less commonly, insulin resistance.
- Approximately 1–2% of diabetes is monogenic, but this is frequently misdiagnosed.
- Monogenic diabetes should be suspected where: presentation is atypical for type 1 or 2 diabetes; there is an autosomal dominant (or maternally inherited in mitochondrial disorders) family history; there are characteristic associated features such as deafness in mitochondrial diabetes or fat loss in lipodystrophy; or diabetes has been diagnosed within the first 6 months of life.
- Mutations in the glucokinase gene, which is important in "sensing" blood glucose levels in the pancreas, result in resetting of fasting glucose to a higher level (5.5–8.0 mmol/L). Patients have dominantly inherited mild fasting hyperglycemia with only modest changes in glycated hemoglobin. Complications are rare and no treatment is needed.
- Mutations in the transcription factor genes *HNF1A* and *HNF4A* result in dominantly inherited progressive hyperglycemia with symptomatic

diabetes in adolescence or young adulthood. Patients with *HNF1A* or *HNF4A* diabetes are very sensitive to sulfonylurea treatment and may not require insulin until middle or old age.

- Mitochondrial mutations can result in maternally inherited diabetes often with sensorineural hearing loss and a range of other disorders.
- Diabetes diagnosed before 6 months is unlikely to be type 1 diabetes and a genetic cause should be sought even where the patient is now an adult. High dose sulfonylurea treatment is often more effective than insulin where mutations affecting Kir6.2 and SUR1 subunits of the β-cell potassium channel are identified.
- Acanthosis nigricans is the key feature of insulin resistance and a genetic cause should be considered where this is seen in non-obese patients. Partial lipodystrophy results in thin muscular limbs with hypertriglyceridemia and insulin resistance and suggests a mutation in *LMNA* or *PPARG*. In the absence of lipodystrophy an insulin receptor mutation is the most common cause.

#### Introduction

Monogenic diabetes results from inheritance of one or more mutations in a single gene and accounts for 1-2% of diabetes cases. Mutations may be inherited in a dominant or recessive fashion. The majority (90%) of monogenic diabetes cases are initially misdiagnosed as type 1 (T1DM) or type 2 diabetes (T2DM).

Correct genetic diagnosis is important to predict clinical course, explain other associated clinical features, enable genetic counseling and diagnose family members, and most importantly guide appropriate treatment.

Monogenic diabetes where the primary disorder affects the  $\beta$ -cell has four main clinical presentations: familial mild fasting hyperglycemia (glucokinase maturity-onset diabetes of the young [MODY]), familial young-onset diabetes (transcription factor MODY), neonatal diabetes and diabetes with extrapancreatic fea-

tures. Clinical and biochemical features that help differentiate the common forms of monogenic diabetes that result in  $\beta$ -cell dysfunction from T1DM and T2DM are summarized in Table 15.1. Clinical features and management of monogenic diabetes without extrapancreatic features are further summarized in Figure 15.1. Single-gene mutations may also cause diabetes through insulin resistance as occurs in the inherited lipodystrophies and insulin receptor mutations. A number of monogenic multisystem diseases (e.g. hemochromatosis and cystic fibrosis) may cause diabetes; these are beyond the scope of this chapter and are discussed elsewhere (see Chapter 18).

#### Maturity-onset diabetes of the young

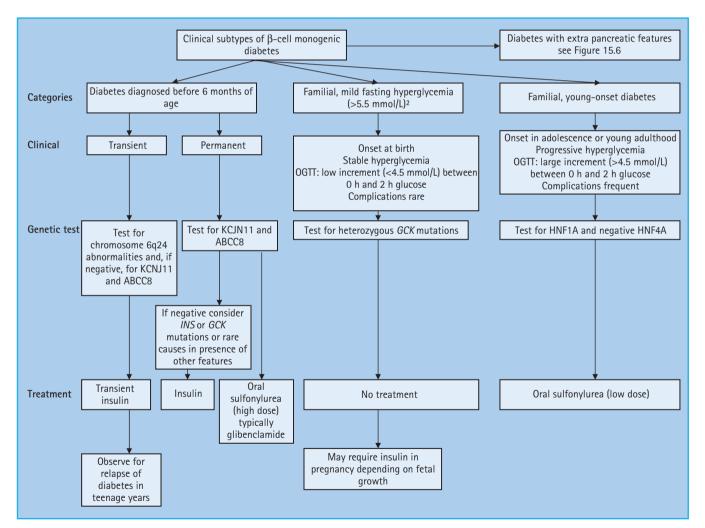
Maturity-onset diabetes of the young (MODY) is autosomal dominantly inherited diabetes that, despite a young age of onset, is not insulin dependent [1,2]. It results from  $\beta$ -cell dysfunction rather than insulin resistance [1]. The underlying genetic etiology has now been defined that allows MODY to be subclassified according to the gene involved [3,4]. Mutations in at least eight genes have been linked to MODY [5,6]. These include mutations

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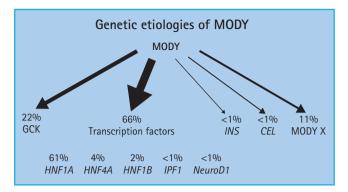
Features	Type 1 diabetes	Young type 2	GCK MODY	HNF1A MODY	MIDD	K <sub>atp</sub> PNDM
Insulin dependent	Yes	No	No	No	+/-	Yes
Parent affected	2–4%	Usually	Yes	Yes	Mother	15%
Typical age of onset	6 months –	Adolescent and	Birth (may be diagnosed	Teens – young	Young adult	Under
	young adult	young adult	at any age)	adult		6 months
Obesity	Pop freq	Yes	Pop freq	Pop freq	Rare	Pop freq
Acanthosis nigricans	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Glycemia	High	Variable	Mild	High	Variable	High
β-Cell autoantibodies	Usually	Sometimes	No	No	No	No
Typical C peptide (pmol/L)	<200 Outside honeymoon period	500->1000	100–900	100–700	<100–700	<200

**Table 15.1** Differentiating  $\beta$ -cell monogenic diabetes from type 1 and 2 diabetes.

DM, diabetes; GCK, glucokinase; *HNF1A*, hepatocyte nuclear factor 1A (*HNF4A* is similar); MIDD, maternally inherited diabetes and deafness; PNDM, permanent neonatal diabetes; Pop freq, population frequency (frequency of obesity seen in the general population).



**Figure 15.1** Clinical subtypes and management of monogenic β-cell diabetes without extrapancreatic features. To convert plasma glucose measurements to mg/dL multiple by 18. ABCC8, ATB binding cassette subfamily C; *GCK*, glucokinase gene; HNF, hepatocyte nuclear factor; *INS*, insulin gene; *KCNJ11*, potassium inwardly rectifying channel, subfamily J, member 11 gene; OGTT, oral glucose tolerance test.



**Figure 15.2** The different genetic etiology in a UK maturity-onset diabetes of the young (MODY) series. MODY X denotes dominantly inherited young-onset non-insulin dependent diabetes fitting clinical criteria for maturity-onset diabetes of the young where mutations in known MODY genes have not been identified. Adapted from McCarthy & Hattersley [6].

in the gene encoding the glucose sensing enzyme glucokinase (*GCK*) and mutations in several transcription factors that affect  $\beta$ -cell development and function, the frequencies of which are summarized in Figure 15.2. Clinical presentation varies greatly depending on the underlying genetic mutation. Table 15.2 summarizes the clinical features of glucokinase and transcription factor diabetes. The strikingly different subtypes of MODY mean it is important to define the underlying genetic etiology. We recommend the use of clinical categories based on underlying genetic cause – familial mild fasting hyperglycemia resulting from glucokinase gene mutations (*GCK* MODY), familial young-onset progressive diabetes resulting from *HNF1A* and *HNF4A* mutations (transcription factor MODY) and renal cysts and diabetes syndrome (RCAD) resulting from *HNF1B* mutations.

Mutations in the genes associated with MODY should be sought in patients with diabetes diagnosed under 25 years of age, who do not fully fit the phenotypes of T1DM or T2DM and who have a strong family history of diabetes (Table 15.1). Differentiating from apparent T1DM is particularly important as these patients can often be most effectively treated without the use of injected insulin.

#### Glucokinase MODY

Glucokinase catalyzes the phosphorylation of glucose to glucose-6-phosphate, the first and rate-limiting step in intracellular glucose metabolism in both  $\beta$ -cells and hepatocytes (Figure 15.3). Owing to the unique catalytic properties of the enzyme, the rate of glucose phosphorylation is proportional to the glucose concentration, thus allowing  $\beta$ -cells and hepatocytes to respond to changes in glycemia. In the  $\beta$ -cell, glucokinase acts as a glucose sensor ensuring insulin release is appropriate to the glucose concentration [7]. Heterozygous loss-of-function mutations in *GCK* result in a shift of the dose–response curve to the right [8]. **Table 15.2** Comparison of the clinical characteristics of glucokinase and transcription factor maturity-onset diabetes of the young (MODY).

	Glucokinase MODY	Transcription factor MODY
Onset of hyperglycemia	Birth	Adolescence/early adulthood
Presentation	Usually asymptomatic, detected by screening or on routine testing	Usually symptomatic
Nature of hyperglycemia	Minimal increase in glycemia with age Mild (FPG usually 5.5–8 mmol/L)	Progressive deterioration of glycemia with age May be severe (FPG frequently >14 mmol/L off treatment)
	5.5–8 mmol/L) HbA <sub>1c</sub> usually close or just above upper limit of normal	HbA <sub>tc</sub> variable depending on age and treatment, may be high
Pattern in an oral glucose tolerance test	FPG >5.5 mmol/L (2 hour — FPG) usually <3.5 mmol/L	FPG often <5.5 mmol/L (2 hour – FPG) usually >3.5 mmol/L
Microvascular complications	Rare	Frequent
Pathophysiology	β-Cell defect (glucose sensing defect)	β-Cell defect (initially insulin secretion maintained at normal glucose values but not increased in hyperglycemia)
Extrapancreatic manifestations	Reduced birth weight	See Table 15.3
Treatment	Pharmacologic treatment rarely needed	Sensitive to sulfonylurea treatment May progress to require insulin

FPG, fasting plasma glucose.

Glycemia is therefore regulated at a higher setpoint but remains tightly controlled. Subjects are still able to stimulate their  $\beta$ -cells maximally [8]. Glucokinase is also present in the liver and as a result patients have reduced hepatic glycogen synthesis [9].

Over 200 loss-of-function mutations in *GCK* have been identified, all causing a similar clinical picture. Homozygous loss-offunction glucokinase mutations are a rare cause of insulin-requiring diabetes presenting in the neonatal period [10]. Gain-of-function mutations cause congenital hyperinsulinism [11].

#### **Clinical features**

Patients have mild fasting hyperglycemia from birth, usually 5.5-8.0 mmol/L. There is only minor deterioration in fasting glucose with age (Figure 15.4) [12]. Patients do not have symptoms of hyperglycemia. Post meal glucose values are only mildly raised and there is frequently only a small increase (<3 mmol/L in 70% of patients) seen at 2 hours on an oral glucose tolerance test [13] which may explain the near normal HbA<sub>1c</sub> and rarity of complications [14]. Glycated hemoglobin values above 7.5% would be suggestive of an alternative diagnosis. Marked worsen-

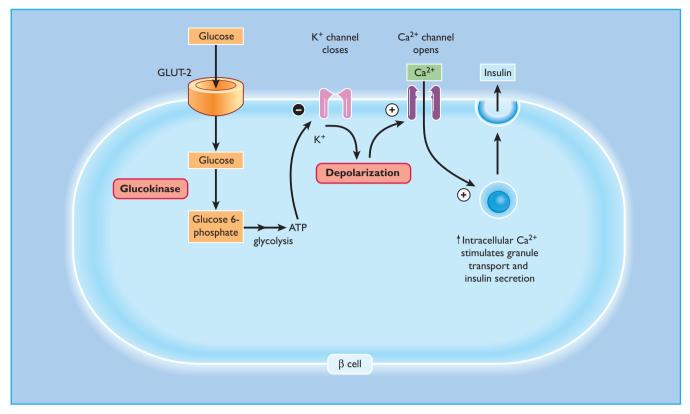
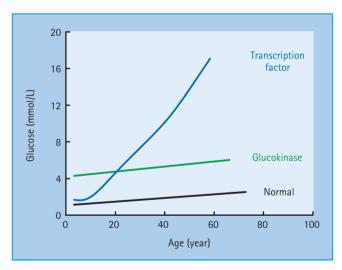


Figure 15.3 Glucokinase and its role within the  $\beta$ -cell. Glucokinase is the rate determining step in glucose metabolism, and therefore in the rate of production of ATP, which leads ultimately to insulin secretion.



**Figure 15.4** Variation of blood glucose concentration with age in patients with glucokinase and transcription factor MODY.

ing of the glycemia suggests that the patient has developed T1DM or T2DM in additon to their *GCK* mutation. Microvascular and macrovascular complications are rare even when no treatment is given [14]. Glucokinase MODY is asymptomatic and, although it is autosomal dominantly inherited, there may be no known family history of diabetes. Testing of apparently unaffected

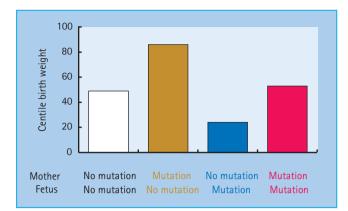
parents can reveal that one parent has mildly raised fasting plasma glucose.

#### Differentiating from type 1 and 2 diabetes

Diagnosis of glucokinase MODY is most important in young patients who may otherwise be thought to have T1DM and treated with insulin [15]. Unlike T1DM, hyperglycemia remains mild,  $\beta$ -cell antibodies are usually negative and (if tested) one parent is likely to have mild hyperglycemia. Fasting C-peptide will remain detectable and the post meal rise in glucose concentration will be far less than in T1DM. Differentiating glucokinase MODY from T2DM can be more difficult as both conditions can cause mild hyperglycemia with a strong family history. Lack of obesity and features of insulin resistance, a small increment on oral glucose tolerance testing and non-progression all suggest glucokinase MODY.

#### Management

Outside of pregnancy, hypoglycemic medication is not recommended as hyperglycemia is mild, complications are rare and medication appears to have minimal effect because the regulation of glycemia is preserved [16]. Once diagnosis is confirmed, treatment can usually be discontinued; however, this should be done with caution as it is possible for T1DM or T2DM to coexist with a *GCK* mutation.



**Figure 15.5** The centile birth weight of children in families with glucokinase mutations. The weight is increased by the presence of a maternal mutation and decreased by the presence of a fetal mutation. Data from Hattersley *et al.* [18].

#### Glucokinase MODY and pregnancy

#### **Clinical features**

Patients with GCK mutations are frequently found to have hyperglycemia during screening in pregnancy and represent approximately 3% of Caucasian patients with gestational diabetes [17]. Their identification is important because they have a different clinical course, both within and outside pregnancy, than other subjects with gestational diabetes. The birth weight of the newborn infant will depend on the mutation status of both the mother and the fetus (Figure 15.5). Where only the mother carries the mutation, maternal hyperglycemia may result in increased fetal insulin secretion and growth causing the fetus to be large for gestational age [18]. If the fetus inherits the mutation from the father, however, birth weight is reduced by approximately 500g as a result of reduced fetal insulin secretion and insulin-mediated fetal growth [18]. If both mother and fetus have the GCK mutation the two opposing effects are cancelled out and the newborn infant is of normal weight.

#### Genetic testing for GCK mutations in pregnancy

We recommend testing for *GCK* mutations when a pregnant patient is found to have persistently raised fasting plasma glucose 5.5-8 mmol/L and an increment of <4.6 mmol/L on at least one oral glucose tolerance test (either during or outside pregnancy). An absence of family history should not exclude the diagnosis as asymptomatic hyperglycemia in a parent may not have been detected.

#### Management

Patients with hyperglycemia resulting from glucokinase mutations are often treated with insulin during pregnancy in an attempt to correct the fasting hyperglycemia. Fetal genotype, however, is a far greater determinant of fetal birth weight than treatment of the mother and insulin treatment appears to have little effect on fetal growth [19]. This probably reflects the difficulty in lowering the blood glucose in glucokinase patients because of increased counter-regulation [20]. Patients stop producing their own insulin and produce counter-regulatory hormones if blood glucose is reduced to normal levels, making successful control of blood glucose with insulin difficult. This results in frequent hypoglycemic symptoms at non-hypoglycemic blood sugar levels and means that large doses of insulin may be required to reduce fasting hyperglycemia to normal levels [20,21]. In some cases where the fetus has inherited the mutation, intensive insulin treatment has resulted in a low birth weight child [21]. This is to be expected as a small baby is seen when the fetus inherits a mutation from the father and is born to a normoglycemic mother [18,22]. Testing fetal genotype in utero is not without risk. Treatment decisions in glucokinase gestational diabetes should therefore be related to fetal growth as shown by scans rather than being made solely on maternal glycemia [21]. If the abdominal circumference is greater than the 75th centile insulin may be used but early delivery is the most successful strategy.

#### HNF1A and HNF4A (transcription factor MODY)

Transcription factors are proteins that bind to DNA and form part of a complex regulatory network controlling gene expression. The majority of patients with MODY have a heterozygous mutation in a transcription factor gene, by far the most common being mutations in the hepatic nuclear factors 1A and 4A (*HNF1A* and *HNF4A*). Diabetes resulting from mutations in other transcription factor encoding genes including *HNF1B*, insulin promoter factor 1 (IPF-1) and *NEUROD1* are discussed elsewhere in this chapter.

Transcription factor mutations alter insulin secretion in the mature  $\beta$ -cell as well as altering  $\beta$ -cell development, proliferation and cell death. Mutations in the hepatic nuclear factors appear to alter levels of proteins critical in metabolism including the GLUT-2 glucose transporter and key enzymes in the mitochondrial metabolism of glucose [23–25]. Reduced  $\beta$ -cell proliferation and preserved or increased apoptosis could explain the progressive deterioration in  $\beta$ -cell function seen in these patients [25–28].

Mutations in *HNF1A* account for up to 70% of cases of MODY with nearly 200 different mutations reported. *HNF4A*, the next most common, accounts for approximately 3% of cases [29].

#### **Clinical features**

Heterozygous transcription factor mutations cause autosomal dominant diabetes presenting in adolescence or early adulthood resulting from progressive failure of insulin secretion. While diabetes is similar in *HNF1A* and *HNF4A* mutation carriers as a result of a common pattern of  $\beta$ -cell dysfunction, a number of differences in extrapancreatic features occur (Table 15.3).

#### Diabetes

Patients are usually born with normal glucose tolerance and then show progressive  $\beta$ -cell dysfunction until they develop diabetes,

**Table 15.3** Extrapancreatic features assisting in the differential diagnosis oftranscription factor maturity-onset diabetes of the young (MODY).

Transcription factor	Extrapancreatic clinical features
HNF1A	Low renal glucose threshold (glycosuria) Raised HDL Raised cardiovascular risk (in excess of type 2 diabetes)
HNF4A	Increased birth weight/macrosomia Low HDL, low lipoprotein A1 and A2, raised LDL
HNF1B	Renal cysts and renal development disorders and multiple others. See Table 15.5
NeuroD1	None described

HDL, high density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDL, low density lipoprotein cholesterol.

usually between 10 and 30 years of age (Figure 15.4). Sixty-three percent of HNF1A carriers are diagnosed with diabetes by the age of 25 years and 79% by the age of 35 years; the age of diagnosis is partly related to the location of the underlying mutation within the gene [30-32]. Patients show deteriorating glycemia with age and require pharmacologic treatment. In the oral glucose tolerance test, in contrast to patients with glucokinase mutations, the fasting glucose is often normal initially but there is marked elevation of glycemia at 2 hours and consequently a large 2-hour increment (>5.0 mmol/L) [13]. This occurs because insulin secretion rates in early HNF1A MODY remain appropriate, with blood glucose values less than 8.0 mmol/L but are reduced significantly in comparison to non-diabetic non-mutation carriers above this level [33]. Microvascular complications are frequent particularly when hyperglycemia is inadequately treated [34]. Patients tend to be lean and insulin-sensitive. Obesity occurs at similar levels to the normal population.

#### **Extrapancreatic clinical features**

These are summarized in Table 15.3 and discussed in more detail below.

#### HNF1A

Patients with *HNF1A* mutations have elevated levels of high density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL) which contrasts with the reduced HDL levels seen in T2DM [35]. Despite this they appear to have a greater risk of coronary heart disease than patients with T1DM [34]. Frequency of microvascular complications is similar to that seen in T1DM and T2DM and relates to degree of glycemic control [34]. Patients have a reduced renal threshold for glucose. Mutation carriers without diabetes may develop glycosuria after a glucose challenge even if glycemia remains within normal limits [36].

#### HNF4A

*HNF4A* mutations are associated with an 800 g increase in birth weight compared with non-mutation carrying siblings [37]. This

means the offspring of *HNF4A* mutation carrying fathers, as well as the offspring of *HNF4A* mothers, are at risk of marked macrosomia. There is also an increased risk of hypoglycemia in affected neonates. These features appear to relate to increased insulin secretion *in utero* and in early infancy which evolves into reduced insulin secretion and diabetes in later life [37]. *HNF4A* mutation carriers have reduced levels of HDL (and lipoprotein A1 and A2) and frequently have raised LDL, while triglyceride levels are similar to population norms [38].

#### Differentiating from type 1 diabetes

These patients are usually diagnosed as having T1DM as they have symptomatic diabetes occurring in adolescence or young adulthood. We recommend genetic testing for HNF1A mutations in any young adult with apparent T1DM, a parent with diabetes, and who is antibody-negative at diagnosis. Evidence of non-insulin dependence increases the likelihood of a positive result; this would include no ketosis in the absence of insulin treatment, good glycemic control on low doses of insulin, or detectable C peptide with plasma glucose >8 mmol/L 3–5 years after diagnosis (outside the honeymoon period) [39]. While glutamine acid decarboxylase (GAD) antibodies are usually negative, positive GAD antibodies may be expected in up to 1-2% of the nondiabetic normal population, and therefore positive antibodies (particularly at low titer) may not exclude monogenic diabetes; testing should be considered where clinical suspicion is high [40,41]. HNF4A testing should be performed in any patient with a high suspicion of having HNF1A who tests negative for HNF1A mutations, particularly where there is evidence of increased birth weight and/or neonatal hypoglycemia.

#### Differentiating from type 2 diabetes

*HNF1A* should be suspected and mutation screening performed in patients otherwise suspected to be have T2DM where the following features are present ([39] and www.diabetesgenes. org):

1 Young-onset diabetes – typically before 25 years old in at least one family member;

2 Family history of diabetes – at least two generations and ideally two individuals diagnosed in their twenties or thirties), particularly where affected individuals are non-obese;

**3** Absence of obesity, acanthosis nigricans or other evidence of insulin resistance.

In addition, a large increment in the glucose tolerance test (>5 mmol/L), presence of glycosuria with blood glucose less than 10 mmol/L, marked sensitivity to sulfonylureas and a lipid profile showing normal or raised HDL and normal or low triglycerides (atypical for T2DM) would all be supportive of a diagnosis of *HNF1A* instead of T2DM [35]. *HNF4A* should be suspected and tested in those patients who are suspected to have *HNF1A* mutations but test negative on *HNF1A* screening. These patients have a normal renal glucose threshold and frequently have a personal and/or family history of high birth weights and/or neonatal hypoglycemia.

#### Management

Patients with both *HNF1A* and *HNF4A* mutations are sensitive to sulfonylurea therapy which we recommend as first line treatment [38,42]. Glycemic control with sulfonylureas is often better than with insulin and the fasting glucose lowering effect is 4 times greater than that seen in T2DM [42,43]. Transfer to sulfonylurea treatment is successful in the majority of patients although insulin therapy may be required as diabetes progresses [44]. Even very low sulfonylurea doses may cause hypoglycemia. The starting dose should therefore be low – we use a starting dose of 40 mg/ day gliclazide or 2.5 mg/day glibenclamide in adults. If there is hypoglycemia with low doses of standard agents, a short-acting agent such as nateglinide may be appropriate [45]. Because of the apparent increased risk of cardiovascular disease in *HNF1A*, statin therapy should be considered and we suggest it for all patients aged over 40 years.

#### Management in pregnancy

Table 15.4 Causes of neonatal diabetes.

Evidence to support management strategies for *HNF1A* and *HNF4A* in pregnancy is very limited. Our current practice is to continue sulfonylureas if glycemic control is good before pregnancybut otherwise institute treatment with insulin. Consideration should be given to switching to glibenclamide in the prepregnancy period as this sulfonylurea has the most evidence for safety in pregnancy [46,47]. If a fetus carries *HNF4A*, the risk of macrosomia and neonatal hypoglycemia is high whether the mutation comes from the mother or father [37]. If either parent is known to carry a *HNF4A* mutation, we recommend:

**1** Very tight glucose control in mothers with diabetes to attempt to minimize macrosomia;

**2** Serial antenatal ultrasound scans to look for macrosomia with early delivery if this is marked; and

**3** Early measurement of neonatal glucose and consideration of diazoxide treatment if hypoglycemia persists.

#### **Other transcription factor MODY**

Other transcription factor mutations causing autosomal dominant  $\beta$ -cell diabetes have been identified in the genes *IPF1*, *NEUROD1*, *KLF11* and *PAX 4* but all are very rare [48–53].

### Neonatal diabetes and diabetes diagnosed within 6 months of life

Children diagnosed with diabetes within the first 6 months of life (referred to as neonatal diabetes) are likely to have monogenic diabetes and not T1DM [54–57]. These patients commonly present with ketoacidosis and absent C-peptide. Neonatal diabetes is rare, affecting 1 in 100000–200000 live births [58]. Approximately half of cases remit spontaneously and are therefore termed transient neonatal diabetes mellitus (TNDM) as opposed to permanent neonatal diabetes mellitus (PNDM) where diabetes persists. TNDM often recurs in later life [59]. Neonatal diabetes results from mutations of key genes involved in  $\beta$ -cell development or function. Table 15.4 summarizes the known genetic causes of neonatal diabetes.

Pancreatic pathophysiology	Protein, chromosome or gene affected	Prevalence	Inheritance	Features in addition to neonatal diabetes and low birth weight
Reduced β-cell function	K <sub>ATP</sub> channel ( <i>KCNJ11</i> and <i>ABCC8</i> )	50% of permanent neonatal diabetes, 25% of transient neonatal diabetes	85% spontaneous. Remainder autosomal dominant or recessive	Developmental delay and epilepsy. Sulfonylurea responsive
	Chromosome 6q24	70% of transient neonatal diabetes	Variable	Macroglossia and umbilical hernia
	Glucokinase (homozygous for mutation)	Rare	Autosomal recessive	Both parents have heterozygous glucokinase associated hyperglycemia
	SLC2A2	Rare	Autosomal dominant	Hypergalactosemia, hepatic failure
	GLIS3	Rare	Autosomal recessive	Congenital hypothyroidism, glaucoma, liver fibrosis and cystic kidney disease
Reduced	PTF1A	Rare	Autosomal recessive	Pancreatic and cerebellar agenesis
pancreatic mass	PDX1	Rare	Autosomal recessive	Pancreatic agenesis
	HNF1B	Rare	Autosomal dominant	Exocrine pancreas insufficiency and renal cyst
Increased β-cell destruction	EIF2AK3	Rare	Autosomal recessive	Spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia, renal failure, recurrent hepatitis and mental retardation
	FOXP3	Rare	X-linked	Immune dysregulation, intractable diarrhoea, eczematous skin rash and elevated IgE
	INS	12% of permanent neonatal diabetes	Autosomal dominant	None

#### Permanent neonatal diabetes

Approximately half of PNDM is caused by mutations in the genes KCNJ11 and ABCC8 which encode the Kir6.2 and SUR1 subunits, respectively, of the  $\beta$ -cell ATP-sensitive potassium channel (K<sub>ATP</sub> channel) [60-63]. This channel is constitutively open and regulates insulin secretion by closing in response to the raised intracellular ATP levels that occur as a consequence of hyperglycemia. Channel closure triggers depolarization of the  $\beta$ -cell membrane which leads to insulin secretion. Activating mutations in KCNJ11 and ABCC8 prevent closure of the potassium channel in response to increased ATP so the  $\beta$ -cell remains hyperpolarized and unable to secrete insulin [64]. Sulfonylureas close the β-cell K<sub>ATP</sub> channel by an ATP independent route and they have been used successfully in the management of the majority of patients with neonatal diabetes resulting from KCNJ11 and ABCC8 mutations [65]. The KATP channel is also present in the brain, nerves and muscles. Reflecting this distribution of channels, 20% of patients with KCNI11 mutations (and occasional patients with ABCC8 mutations) have associated neurologic features [57,60,61,64].

Heterozygous mutations in the insulin gene (*INS*) have been identified in 12% of cases of isolated PNDM and insulin treatment is required [66,67]. A number of other genetic causes have been found which all appear to be relatively rare [58] as outlined in Table 15.4.

The majority (85%) of PNDM resulting from  $K_{ATP}$  channel mutations arise spontaneously from *de novo* heterozygous mutations, with the remainder being familial and inherited mainly in an autosomal dominant pattern. About 40% of neonatal diabetes resulting from *ABCC8* mutations, however, are inherited in an autosomal recessive fashion [63].

#### **Clinical features**

Diabetes caused by KCNI11 mutations typically present in the first 26 weeks of life (median 4-6 weeks) with marked hyperglycemia often accompanied by ketosis. C-peptide is usually undetectable and islet cell antibodies negative [60]. As with all neonatal diabetes subtypes, infants are often small for gestational age as a result of reduced fetal insulin secretion with consequent decreased insulin mediated growth. About 20% of patients with PNDM and KCNI11 mutations have neurologic features, the most common being developmental delay, sometimes with muscle weakness and/or epilepsy. The most severe form where neonatal diabetes is accompanied by developmental delay and epilepsy has been named developmental delay, epilepsy and neonatal diabetes (DEND). "Intermediate DEND" refers to neonatal diabetes with less severe developmental delay and no epilepsy. The severity of the clinical condition relates closely to the underlying mutation and its effect on K<sub>ATP</sub> channel ATP sensitivity [64,68].

Neonatal diabetes caused by *ABCC8* mutation has a similar phenotype but leads to transient neonatal diabetes more commonly than PNDM and has associated neurologic features only rarely [61–63]. Patients with neonatal diabetes and *INS* mutations present at a median age of 9 weeks and are also often small for gestational age but do not have extrapancreatic features [66].

#### Management

Although insulin therapy is commonly used in the initial period after diagnosis, the majority of patients with KCNJ11 and ABCC8 mutations can successfully transfer from insulin to sulfonylurea therapy, usually with significant improvements in glycemic control [62,65]. Ninety percent of those with KCNJ11 mutations are able to discontinue insulin, while HbA1c appears to improve in all patients with a mean drop from 65 to 46 mmol/mol (8.1 to 6.4%) after 12 weeks [65]. Glibenclamide was initially selected as it is non-selective and widely available; it has been used in the majority of cases and may be more effective than other sulfonylurea agents [69]. The doses needed are often higher than those needed for the treatment of T2DM: a median dose of 0.45 mg/kg/ day is required with doses up to 1.5 mg/kg/day needed in some cases [65,70]. Diarrhoea is a possible side effect but this usually only lasts 1-3 days [71]. Sulfonylurea therapy may result in some improvement in neurologic features even where they are commenced in adulthood [69,72,73]. Further information on transferring patients from insulin to sulfonylureas can be found at www.diabetesgenes.org.

Neonatal diabetes resulting from *INS* mutations requires insulin treatment [66]. Affected individuals with a heterozygous *KCNJ11* mutation contemplating parenthood should be counseled that they have a 50% chance of passing on the mutation to their offspring. Where unaffected parents whose child is affected by a heterozygous mutation are planning further pregnancies, the risk of further affected children is low because of the possibility of a germline mutation is approximately 5–10% [74]. Where parents have a child with neonatal diabetes caused by a recessive *ABCC8* mutation, there is a 25% chance of each further offspring being affected but the risk is low for subsequent generations.

#### **Transient neonatal diabetes**

The genetic etiology of more than 90% of transient neonatal diabetes has been established. The majority (70%) of cases result from abnormalities the q24 region of chromosome 6 (6q24) affecting imprinted genes [58,75]. Genetic imprinting occurs when only the maternal or paternally inherited allele of a gene is expressed. In TNDM paternal uniparental disomy, paternal duplication of 6q24 or abnormal methylation of the maternal copy of the chromosome causes overexpression of the paternal copies of the genes PLAGL1 (also known as ZAC) and HYMAI [75,76]. Paternal duplication of 6q24 can be inherited, therefore this abnormality causes the majority of inherited TNDM cases. Uniparental disomy causes sporadic TNDM; cases resulting from abnormal methylation of the maternal copy of chromosome 6 may be sporadic or inherited [75,76]. The majority (90%) of TNDM not associated with 6q24 abnormalities are caused by mutations in KCNJ11 and ABCC8 [57,59,62,77-81].

#### **Clinical features**

6q24 diabetes usually presents in the first week of life often with severe hyperglycemia and dehydration but usually without ketosis

[75]. Islet cell antibodies are usually negative and C-peptide is low or negligible [75]. Low birth weight is common (mean birth weight 2.1 kg), and there may be associated macroglossia and/or umbilical hernia. Insulin treatment is required for a median of 12 weeks before the patient goes into remission. Diabetes recurs later in life in 50–60% of patients as a result of  $\beta$ -cell dysfunction. The average age of recurrence is 14 years. In some cases hyperglycemia may be intermittent and seen only at times of stress [75,82]. Where TNDM is caused by *KCNJ11* and *ABCC8* mutations, diabetes tends to present later (median 4 weeks), takes longer to remit and is associated with less intrauterine growth restriction (median birth weight 2.6 kg) [59].

#### Management

Insulin is required in the neonatal period whereas treatment requirements following relapse vary from diet to oral hypoglycemics or insulin [82]. In TNDM cases resulting from *KCNJ11* and *ABCC8* mutations, diabetes may be successfully managed with sulfonylureas [59,62].

Genetic counseling depends on the underlying genetic etiology. Cases caused by uniparental disomy are sporadic and therefore have low risk of occurrence in either siblings or offspring of the affected child. Methylation defects often result from homozygous mutations in the transcription factor gene *ZFP57* and therefore may be inherited in an autosomal recessive manner [76]. Offspring of males with 6q24 duplication have a 50% chance of developing TNDM whereas if the abnormality is inherited from the mother they will not be affected but the TNDM may occur in the following generation [82].

#### Genetic testing in neonatal diabetes

At the time of diagnosis of neonatal diabetes it is not known whether the diabetes will be transient or permanent. We recommend testing for 6q24 abnormalities, *KCNJ11*, *ABCC8* and *INS* mutations at diagnosis in all diabetes diagnosed before 6 months. Identifying mutations in these genes is important as it will influence treatment. An early diagnosis and very low birth weight make 6q24 most likely. A genetic cause (*KCNJ11* or *INS*) can be established in approximately 7% of diabetes diagnosed between 6 months and 1 year of age so consideration should be given to testing this age group, especially where autoantibody tests are negative [56].

#### **Diabetes with extrapancreatic features**

A number of monogenic causes of diabetes are associated with distinct features occurring outside the pancreas. In many cases extrapancreatic disease may be the presenting feature, for example in cystic fibrosis and hemochromatosis (see Chapter 18). Clinical subtypes and management of monogenic  $\beta$ -cell diabetes that have extrapancreatic features are summarized in Figure 15.6.

#### Maternally inherited diabetes and deafness

Maternally inherited diabetes and deafness (MIDD) results from a mutation in mitochondrial DNA and causes maternally inherited diabetes with sensorineural deafness that may be accompanied by a wide range of other features. It affects up to 1% of patients with diabetes but is frequently undiagnosed [83].

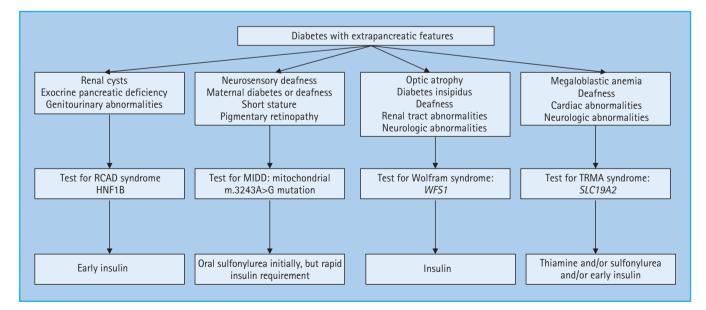


Figure 15.6 Clinical subtypes and management of monogenic β-cell diabetes that has extrapancreatic features. *HNF1B*, hepatocyte nuclear factor 1B; MIDD, maternally inherited diabetes and deafness; RCAD, renal cysts and diabetes; *SLC19A2*, solute carrier family 19, member 2 gene; TRMA, thiamine responsive megaloblastic anemia; *WFS1*, Wolfram syndrome 1 gene.

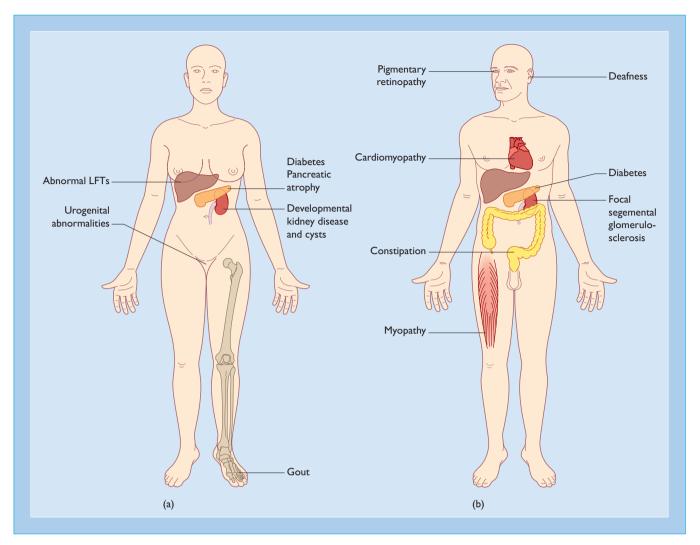


Figure 15.7 Phenotypes of: (a) renal cysts and diabetes syndrome due to *HNF1B* mutation or deletion; (b) maternally inherited diabetes and deafness caused by mitochondrial m.3243A>G mutation. Adapted from Murphy *et al.* [181].

#### Pathogenesis

The vast majority of mitochondrial diabetes results from the m.3243A>G point mutation in mitochondrial DNA. Other mitochondrial DNA mutations have been implicated but are rare [84].

The m.3243A>G mutation affects the mitochondrial respiratory chain and therefore may result in cellular energy deficiency. Organs that are most affected are those with high metabolic activity which include the endocrine pancreas, cochlea and in some cases the retina, muscle, kidney and brain. Mitochondrial dysfunction in pancreatic islets results in abnormal  $\beta$ -cell function, loss of  $\beta$ -cell mass and insulin deficiency while insulin sensitivity is usually normal although can be reduced (reviewed in [83]). As mitochondria are only inherited from the mother, the maternal line in a family is affected, and children of a male patient are not at risk. Although all children of an affected female are likely to carry the mutation, phenotype can vary widely in the same family because of heteroplasmy. Offspring inherit a mix of mutant and wild-type mitochondrial DNA – the proportion of mitochondria carrying the mutation will vary in offspring of an affected mother as will subsequent segregation of mitochondria to different tissues.

#### **Clinical features**

The characteristic clinical features of MIDD are summarized in Figure 15.7. The majority of mutation carriers develop diabetes (over 85%) and sensorineural hearing loss (over 75%) [85–88]. There is usually a family history of diabetes and/or hearing loss in maternal relatives but clinical features can vary greatly even within the same pedigree [89]. Diabetes is progressive and usually presents with insidious onset similar to T2DM but may present acutely, with ketoacidosis occurring in approximately 8% of cases [85,86,90]. Mean age at diagnosis of diabetes is 37 years but age of diagnosis can range from early adolescence to old age [86,90,91].

Hearing loss typically develops in early adulthood but again may occur in children as well as the elderly; it is more common and often more severe in men [86,88]. Patients with the m.3243A>G mutation have a high prevalence of renal failure with focal segmental glomerular sclerosis (FSGS) found more frequently than diabetic nephropathy on renal biopsy [86,92]. Diabetic retinopathy may be less prevalent than in other forms of diabetes; macular retinal dystrophy is frequent but rarely causes visual symptoms [83,86,92]. Cardiac abnormalities include left ventricular hypertrophy, heart failure (which can progress rapidly), cardiac autonomic neuropathy and cardiac arrhythmias [93–97]. Other possible clinical manifestations of the m.3243A>G mutation include short stature, MELAS (mitochondrial encephalomyopathy, lactic acidosis and stroke-like episodes), psychiatric disorders, proximal myopathy and gastrointestinal symptoms [83].

#### Differentiating from type 1 and 2 diabetes

Diabetes caused by the m.3243A>G mutation may present like T1DM or T2DM [85,86,90]. GAD antibodies are usually but not always negative [98–100]. The presence of deafness in the patient or clustering of diabetes and/or deafness in maternal relatives should prompt investigation for the m.3243A>G mutation. Short stature, early-onset cardiomyopathy, myopathy, early-onset stroke or macular retinal dystrophy on retinal screening may all raise suspicion of MIDD [83].

If there is clinical suspicion of MIDD, the diagnosis can be confirmed by testing for the m.3243A>G mutation, usually in blood leukocytes. In rare cases the result may be negative on blood-derived DNA testing despite the presence of the mutation in other tissues as a result of heteroplasmy. Testing of other samples (e.g. urine or mouthwash) may be more appropriate than blood [83].

#### Management

Diabetes usually requires early insulin treatment (mean 2 years post diagnosis) [85,86,90,100]. There is a theoretical basis for avoiding metformin in view of the risk of lactic acidosis [83,85]. There may be some benefit in co-enzyme Q10 supplementation although randomized double-blind control trials have yet to be performed [101,102]. Monitoring for cardiac manifestations should be considered from a young age, particularly if there are clinical features or family history of early cardiomyopathy. Aggressive blood pressure management and early angiotensinconverting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor treatment may be appropriate in view of the high risk of renal complications. Renal biopsy to exclude FSGS may be necessary in those who develop renal failure [83]. Management of hearing loss involves avoidance of exacerbating factors, prompt treatment of ear infections, hearing aids if necessary and consideration of cochlear implants where there is profound hearing loss [83,103,104].

Maternal relatives of affected patients and children of female patients should be assumed to carry the m.3243A>G mutation. Therefore, periodic screening for the features and complications of MIDD may be advisable. In contrast, paternal relatives and children of an affected male are not at risk of carrying the mutation.

#### Renal cysts and diabetes (HNF1B MODY)

*HNF1B* is a transcription factor with a role in regulating gene expression in a number of tissues including the pancreas, kidneys, liver genital tract and gut [105]. Heterozygous deletions or mutations in *HNF1B* can cause developmental abnormalities in all these organs although the most common phenotypes are renal abnormalities and diabetes. *HNF1B* abnormalities may show autosomal dominant inheritance, although 32–58% of cases arise spontaneously and there is a wide variation in phenotype even with identical mutations [106–110].

#### **Clinical features**

The clinical features are summarized in Table 15.5 and Figure 15.7. Developmental renal disease is the most consistent feature with renal cysts being the most common manifestation [106]. Other possible renal abnormalities include glomerulocystic kidney disease, cystic renal dysplasia and morphologic abnormalities such as horseshoe kidney. Renal function can range from

**Table 15.5** Features of patients with *HNF1B* mutations causing RCAD (renal cysts and diabetes) in a UK cohort. Adapted from Bingham & Hattersley [108].

Clinical features	Subjects with <i>HNF1B</i> mutations and details (%)
Renal phenotype	
Renal cysts	66%
Renal impairment	86% (15% dialysis/transplantation)
Morphologic renal abnormalities	Horseshoe kidney Single kidney
Renal histology (includes)	Glomerulocystic kidney disease Cystic renal dysplasia Oligomeganephronia
Diabetes	58% Mean age of diagnosis 26 years, range 10–61 years Insulin treatment common
Other features	
Hypomagnesemia	40%
Short stature	20% <2 SD below mean height
Hyperuricemia and gout	20% (clinical gout)
Uterine abnormalities	17%
Hypospadias	17%
Joint laxity	Rare
Hearing loss	Rare
Prognathism	Rare
Pyloric stenosis	Rare
Learning difficulties	Rare
Chromophobe renal cell carcinoma	Rare

normal to dialysis dependent [111,112]. Half of *HNF1B* mutations carriers have early-onset diabetes caused by both insulin deficiency as a result of reduced  $\beta$ -cell number and increased hepatic insulin resistance. The sensitivity to sulfonylureas found with *HNF1A* and *HNF4A* mutations is absent [113]. Diabetes is usually associated with pancreatic hypoplasia and may be associated with exocrine dysfunction although this is rarely symptomatic [114–116]. Low birth weight is common and transient neonatal diabetes may occur [115]. Other clinical manifestations include abnormal liver function tests, genital tract malformations, hypomagnesemia, hyperuricemia and familial hyperuricemic nephropathy [114,117]. An association with chromophobe renal cell carcinoma has been reported reflecting a probable role for *HNF1B* as a tumour suppressor gene [118,119].

#### Differentiating from type 1 and 2 diabetes

Approximately 50% of *HNF1B* mutations and deletions are spontaneous and so patients may not have a family history. Testing for *HNF1B* abnormalities should be considered where there is unexplained cystic renal disease, glomerulocystic disease or other renal developmental abnormalities with or without a past medical or family history of diabetes. It should also be considered in individuals with genital tract abnormalities associated with renal abnormalities. Both simple renal cysts and diabetes are common in the general population and should not lead to testing for *HNF1B* abnormalities. Testing for *HNF1B* should always include dosage analysis to detect gene deletions as these are common and will be missed if the laboratory performs sequencing only [120].

#### Management

Early insulin therapy is usually required for management of diabetes. The sulfonylurea sensitivity seen in other transcription factor diabetes is not seen in *HNF1B*. Renal management is similar to management of other chronic progressive renal diseases. Our recommendation is to repeat renal ultrasound imaging every 2 years in view of the possible increased risk of chromophobe renal carcinoma and to screen for diabetes yearly in nondiabetic mutation carriers.

### Other monogenic $\beta\mbox{-cell}$ diabetes with extrapancreatic features

#### Wolfram syndrome

Wolfram syndrome (also known as DIDMOAD [diabetes insipidus, diabetes mellitus, optic atrophy and deafness]) is a rare recessive neurodegenerative disorder characterized by diabetes insipidus, diabetes mellitus, optic atrophy deafness and a variety of central nervous system abnormalities. Consideration should be given to this diagnosis where there is a combination of diabetes and optic atrophy [121,122].

#### Thiamine responsive megaloblastic anemia

Thiamine responsive megaloblastic anemia is a rare autosomal recessive condition characterized by megaloblastic anemia (which may be mild), non-autoimmune diabetes mellitus and sensorineural hearing loss. Treatment with high dose thiamine can improve some features including diabetes [123].

#### Wolcott-Rallison syndrome

Wolcott–Rallison syndrome is a rare autosomal recessive condition characterized by early-onset diabetes, spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia, acute hepatic failure, renal impairment and developmental delay. Diabetes usually presents in infancy and requires insulin treatment [124].

#### Monogenic diabetes with pancreatic exocrine dysfunction

Mutations in the carboxyl ester lipase (*CEL*) gene have recently been identified as a rare cause of monogenic diabetes with pancreatic exocrine dysfunction [125].

#### **Insulin resistance**

Monogenic causes of diabetes resulting from insulin resistance include the inherited lipodystrophies, mutations affecting the insulin receptor or post receptor signaling and other monogenic syndromes associated with insulin resistance where abnormalities of insulin action are not the primary disorder. There can be considerable clinical overlap in clinical presentation between these conditions [126]. The presence of acanthosis (Figure 15.8) in a thin patient with diabetes should prompt consideration of underlying monogenic causes of insulin resistance.

#### Insulin receptor gene mutations

Insulin exerts its effects through binding to a transmembrane receptor, consisting of two alfa and two beta subunits, present on the surface of target cells. Binding of insulin to the alfa subunit activates beta subunit tyrosine kinase activity triggering protein



**Figure 15.8** Acanthosis nigricans affecting the neck of a 26-year-old woman with severe insulin resistance. Reproduced from Moller & O'Rahilly [182] with permission.

activation cascades which lead to insulin's intracellular effects [127,128]. Mutations in the insulin receptor gene lead to inherited insulin resistance syndromes. The severity of the resulting clinical phenotype depends on the extent of impairment of signal transduction resulting from the underlying mutation [129].

#### **Clinical features**

Individuals with severe insulin resistance resulting from insulin receptor mutations may have a number of common features including hyperinsulinemia, acanthosis nigricans, ovarian hyperandrogenism and disturbances of glucose homeostasis which can include hypoglycemia as well as impaired glucose tolerance and diabetes [129]. Three main syndromes resulting from insulin receptor mutations resulting in severe insulin resistance have been described: Type A insulin resistance syndrome, Rabson– Mendenhall syndrome and leprechaunism (Donohue syndrome). There may be considerable clinical overlap and these syndromes may simply represent varying clinical features from a continuum of severity of receptor dysfunction rather than completely distinct syndromes [129]. Many patients with insulin receptor defects and severe insulin resistance (adult males in particular) may not fit into the syndromic descriptions below.

Features of the Type A insulin resistance syndrome include severe insulin resistance, acanthosis nigricans, polycystic ovarian disease, hirsutism and signs of virilization occurring in young females (often termed HAIR-AN syndrome). The patients with an underlying insulin receptor mutation are usually slim [130,131]. The most severe syndrome seen with insulin receptor mutations is leprechaunism (Donohue syndrome), a rare autosomal recessive disorder in which patients have low birth weight, growth restriction, disordered glucose homeostasis, characteristic dysmorphic features and usually do not survive infancy [131,132].

Rabson–Mendenhall syndrome is an autosomal recessive disorder that is between leprechaunism and Type A insulin resistance in terms of the severity of insulin resistance. Patients present in childhood with acanthosis nigricans, extreme growth retardation, dysplastic dentition, coarse facial features, lack of subcutaneous fat and pineal hyperplasia [131,133,135]. Reported renal abnormalities include medullary sponge kidney and nephrocalcinosis [133,135]. Patients may have paradoxical fasting hypoglycemia at diagnosis but develop frank diabetes (occasionally with ketoacidosis) in later years [134]. Life expectancy is markedly reduced, early death often occurring from complications of diabetes or intractable ketoacidosis.

#### Differentiating from type 1 and 2 diabetes

The presence of features of insulin resistance in a thin but not an obese individual is suggestive of an underlying insulin receptor gene mutation. Serum adiponectin levels are typically high in patients with insulin receptor mutations whereas they are low in other forms of insulin resistance. It has been suggested that adiponectin levels could be used as a screening test with sequencing of the insulin receptor gene reserved for those case where adiponectin levels are raised [126,136,137].

Unlike T2DM and the lipodystrophies, triglyceride levels in patients with insulin resistance caused by insulin receptor mutations are typically normal [131].

#### Management

While insulin sensitizers such as metformin and the thiazolidinediones may have a role in management their effect is often limited and insulin therapy is required as  $\beta$ -cell function declines [131]. Glycemic control is often poor despite very high doses of insulin (doses in excess of 500 units/kg/day have been reported). U500 insulin has a role in reducing the insulin volumes required [131,138]. Insulin-like growth factor I (IGF-I) is capable of stimulating glucose uptake and glycogen storage *in vivo* and has therefore been used in treatment of diabetes caused by insulin receptor mutations. Side effects were frequent in early studies but tolerability may be increased by combining IGF-I with its principal binding protein IGFBP-3 [139].

#### **Inherited lipodystrophies**

Lipodystrophies are clinically heterogenous disorders that are characterized by the selective loss of adipose tissue. They are associated with insulin resistance and other features such as diabetes mellitus, acanthosis, dyslipidemia, hepatic steatosis and (in female patients) hyperandrogenism, oligomenorrhoea and polycystic ovaries [140]. Lipodystrophies may be inherited or acquired. The inherited subtypes (all of which are rare) are described below.

#### Famililial partial lipodystrophy

Familial partial lipodystrophies are autosomal dominant disorders associated with the loss of peripheral subcutaneous fat. The two main subtypes result from mutations in *LMNA* and *PPARG*.

Familial partial lipodystrophy associated with *LMNA* mutations (also known as Dunnigan lipodystrophy) results in gradual peripheral subcutaneous fat loss from puberty. This, and the associated muscle hypertrophy, gives a muscular appearance of the arms and legs (Figure 15.9). There may be fat loss from the anterior abdomen and chest and excess fat deposition in the face, neck and intrabdominally [141,142]. Diabetes is common, particularly in female patients [143]. Hypertriglyceridemia may be marked and associated with pancreatitis. Acanthosis and polycystic ovarian syndrome are relatively uncommon. Although hepatic steatosis may develop cirrhosis appears rare [144,145]. Cardiovascular mortality is high.

Familial partial lipodystrophy associated with *PPARG* mutations appears to be phenotypically similar to that caused by *LMNA* mutations although hypertension is more common [146–155].

Diagnosis may be obvious in women but more difficult in males where a muscular appearance of limbs is more common. Early-onset diabetes in a non-obese patient with hypertriglyceridemia should raise suspicion of lipodystrophy particularly if there is marked peripheral fat loss [156].



**Figure 15.9** Familial partial lipodystrophy in a 46-year-old woman. There is truncal and limb lipodystrophy, preserved facial and neck adipose tissue, muscle hypertrophy and acanthosis apparent in the groin regions.

#### Congenital generalized lipodystrophy (Berardinelli–Seip syndrome)

This is a rare (estimated prevalence 1 in 10 million) autosomal recessive disorder characterized by a near complete absence of subcutaneous fat from birth, giving a muscular appearance [140]. Because of the absence of functioning adipocytes, lipids are stored in metabolically active tissues. Those affected have features of severe insulin resistance including often widespread acanthosis, hypertriglyceridemia and low HDL cholesterol [157]. Hepatic steatosis occurs early and may lead to cirrhosis; hepatomegaly is

seen frequently [158–160]. Childhood growth is accelerated and bone age advanced. Diabetes commonly develops during adolescence [160]. Other associated features include acromegaloid features, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, skeletal muscle hypertrophy, bone cysts and intellectual impairment [160]. Serum leptin and adiponectin levels are markedly reduced [161].

Three molecularly distinct forms have been identified: congenital generalized lipodystrophy types 1, 2 and 3 resulting from mutations in 1-acylglycerol 3-phosphate-O-acyltransferase 2 (*AGPAT2*), Berardinelli–Seip congenital lipodystrophy 2 (*BSCL2*) and Caveolin-1 (*CAV1*). *AGPAT2* and *BSCL2* account for the majority of cases and have some difference in phenotype. Some patients with this phenotype do not have mutations in any of these genes and so it is likely there are further genetic etiologies to be discovered [140,162,163].

#### Other inherited forms of lipodystrophy

Rare subtypes of lipodystrophy associated with dysmorphic features include mandibuloacral dysplasia (lipodystrophy with characteristic skeletal abnormalities), SHORT syndrome (short stature, hyperextensibility of joints, ocular depression, Reiger anomaly, teething delay) and neonatal progeroid syndrome [156].

#### Management of lipodystrophy

Management should address insulin resistance and the main causes of morbidity and mortality in lipodystrophy which include diabetes and its complications, cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease, recurrent pancreatitis (as a result of severe hypertriglyceridemia), cirrhosis and psychologic distress related to appearance [140].

Lifestyle changes are important and should include an extremely low fat diet (<15% total energy from fat) and increased physical activity [140]. Hypertriglyceridemia that does not respond to lifestyle changes and control of hyperglycemia may require treatment with fibrates and high doses of fish oils. Estrogen replacement including contraceptive pills may exacerbate hypertriglyceridemia and is best avoided.

Glycemic control requires a combination of oral treatments and high dose insulin in the majority of patients. Metformin is commonly used to improve insulin sensitivity although there are no available trial data in inherited lipodystrophies [156]. Response to thiazolidinediones appears to vary with significant improvements in glycemic control and insulin resistance in some but not in all reported cases [155,164–169]. Where insulin is required dose requirements may be very high and U500 insulin appropriate [138,140]. Where proteinuric renal disease develops the threshold for renal biopsy should be low as non-diabetic renal disease (e.g. membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis and focal segmental glomerulosclerosis) appears to be more common than diabetic nephropathy [170].

Levels of the adipocytokine leptin are markedly reduced in severe lipodystrophies. Leptin replacement has been associated with marked improvements in glycemic control and hypertriglyceridemia in a number of cases of both generalized and partial inherited lipodystrophy [171–177] and may also improve hepatic steatosis [178,179].

### Other monogenic conditions associated with insulin resistance

Other monogenic conditions associated with insulin resistance either have marked obesity (e.g. Alström and Bardet–Biedl syndromes); neurologic disease including myotonic dystrophy and Friedreich ataxia or rapid aging (e.g. Werner syndrome) [180].

### Use of diagnostic and predictive molecular testing in monogenic diabetes

Diagnostic testing for the major causes of monogenic diabetes is now widely available. Specific recommendations for the different forms of monogenic diabetes are discussed in the relevant sections of this chapter. As molecular testing remains relatively expensive and time-consuming it is recommended that testing is restricted to those individuals with a moderate to high possibility of a positive result. The molecular genetic testing performed should be guided by the clinical phenotype and also the relative prevalence of mutations within that population. As many of these conditions are familial, the characteristics of other family members should also be considered. There should be some caution, however, as monogenic diabetes can occur in families that also have T1DM or T2DM. For similar reasons the results of molecular testing should be interpreted in the context of the clinical findings. For example, a patient with glucokinase diabetes could also develop T1DM or T2DM.

Where a family member has a confirmed genetic diagnosis, phenotypically unaffected relatives should be tested to assess whether they will be at risk of developing diabetes in the future. Where the main mutation phenotype is diabetes, regular urine or blood testing may be preferable as there is little clear extra benefit from prospective testing. Where families do request predictive testing, they should receive full counseling on the potential benefits and disadvantages and be allowed to make their own decisions on this.

#### Conclusions

Monogenic diabetes results from single gene changes that affect  $\beta$ -cell function or insulin sensitivity. Correct diagnosis can help define prognosis and the best treatment and allow screening of family members. Diagnostic testing is now widely available and should be considered where presentation is atypical for T1DM or T2DM, where there is an autosomal dominant family history, where there are characteristic associated features and in all cases where diabetes has been diagnosed within the first 6 months of life.

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