

## α-Glucosidase Inhibitors

Adapted from How Sweet It Is! Management of Diabetes: Oral Medications

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Characteristic		
Class	α-glucosidase inhibitors	
Compound(s)	Acarbose, Miglitol	
Cellular mechanism(s)	Inhibit intestinal α-glucosidase	
Primary physiological action(s)	Slows intestinal carbohydrate digestion/absorption	
Advantages	Rare hypoglycemia Reduced postprandial glucose excursions	? Reduced CVD events in prediabetes (STOP-NIDDM) Nonsystemic
Disadvantages	Generally modest A1c efficacy Frequent dosing schedule	GI side effects (flatulence, diarrhea)
Cost	Low to moderate	

Resources:

- Diabetes Care 2017;40(Supp 1):S64-S74