

# The Medical Letter®

## On Drugs and Therapeutics

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**Addendum:**  
**What Comes After Metformin for Type 2 Diabetes?**  
**(Med Lett Drugs Ther 2012; 54:58)**

Several readers have raised questions about the statement in our recent article that long-acting insulins, like metformin and sulfonylureas, have been shown to decrease long-term cardiovascular risk. Our statement was based on the extension of the UKPDS (RR Holman et al, N Engl J Med 2008; 359:1577), which is the longest prospective trial of drug therapy in patients with type 2 diabetes. Shorter studies in older patients with long-standing diabetes did not find a reduction in cardiovascular risk with these and other drugs (The Action to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes Study Group. N Engl J Med 2008; 358:2545; The ADVANCE Collaborative Group. N Engl J Med 2008; 358:2560; W Duckworth et al. N Engl J Med 2009; 360:129).

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