

Chapter 5

Prevalence and Incidence of Secondary and Other Types of Diabetes

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SUMMARY

Other types or secondary forms of diabetes include diabetes or glucose intolerance that develops in association with disorders (or factors) other than insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM), non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM), or gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM). The prevalence is about 1%-2% of all diabetes. The extent of glucose intolerance in patients with secondary forms of diabetes can vary widely, presenting as overt diabetes that is insulin-requiring or non-insulin-requiring, simulating IDDM or NIDDM, or as milder forms such as impaired glucose tolerance (IGT) or minimally abnormal glucose tolerance. Another complexity in the evolution of secondary diabetes is that an underlying co-existing predisposition to primary diabetes might be unmasked, a

not uncommon occurrence considering the relatively high prevalence of diabetes in various populations. Since diabetes, particularly NIDDM, is a heterogeneous disorder, the revelation of a specific genetic basis for diabetes in many families continues to delineate many subclasses of NIDDM. Numerous mutations thus far identified include those involving the insulin gene, the insulin-receptor gene and other candidate genes such as glucokinase, insulin-receptor substrate-1 (IRS-1), and mitochondrial DNA. Although all mutations identified thus far account for a small fraction of the diabetic population, the identification of other candidate genes in the future will surely explain the basis underlying the heterogeneity of diabetes and its long-term complications.

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INTRODUCTION

According to the classification system developed by the National Diabetes Data Group¹, the subclass secondary diabetes contains "a variety of types of diabetes, in some of which the etiologic relationship is known (e.g., diabetes secondary to pancreatic disease, endocrine disease, or administration of certain drugs); whereas in others, an etiologic relationship is suspected because of higher frequency of association of diabetes with a syndrome or a condition (e.g., a number of genetic syndromes)."

Table 5.1 presents a classification of various forms of secondary diabetes. When diabetes is secondary to pancreatic disorders, particularly when β -cell mass is

greatly reduced as in malignancy or pancreatectomy, or when diabetes is due to chemical agents toxic to the β -cell, such as pentamidine or vacor, overt diabetes with or without ketoacidosis will often result depending on the extent of β -cell loss. In contrast, when diabetes is secondary to endocrinopathies leading to counterregulatory hormone production (e.g., acromegaly, Cushing's syndrome, hyperthyroidism), overt diabetes or ketoacidosis is unusual, mainly owing to the compensatory responsiveness of the normal β -cell mass. The net metabolic outcome in patients with secondary diabetes thus depends on the direct or indirect impact of the underlying disorders on insulin secretion (i.e., inhibition or compensatory hyperinsulinemia), insulin-sensitivity (i.e., glucose utilization), and/or unmasking of genetic diabetes.

Table 5. 1

A Classification of Secondary Forms of Diabetes or Impaired Glucose Tolerance

<p>A. Pancreatic disorders</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pancreatectomy b. Pancreatitis, pancreatic malignancy c. Malnutrition-related diabetes d. Hemochromatosis <p>B. Endocrinopathies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Growth hormone excess (acromegaly) and deficiency states b. Glucocorticoid excess (Cushing's syndrome) c. Catecholamine excess (pheochromocytoma) d. Primary hyperaldosteronism e. Hyperthyroidism f. Tumors of endocrine pancreas or gut <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Glucagonoma, somatostatinoma, pancreatic cholera syndrome, carcinoid syndrome, multiple endocrine neoplasia syndromes g. Polyendocrine autoimmunity syndromes h. Polyneuropathy, organomegaly, endocrinopathy, monoclonal gammopathy, skin changes (POEMS) syndrome <p>C. Drugs, chemical agents, and toxins</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Diuretics and antihypertensive agents <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Thiazides, chlorthalidone, loop-diuretics (furosemide, ethacrynic acid, metolazone), diazoxide, clonidine, β-adrenergic antagonists b. Hormones <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Glucocorticoids, ACTH, α-adrenergic agonists, growth hormone, glucagon, oral contraceptives, progestational agents c. Psychoactive agents <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lithium, opiates, ethanol, phenothiazines d. Anticonvulsants <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Diphenylhydantoin (Dilantin) e. Antineoplastic agents <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Streptozotocin, L-asparaginase, mithramycin f. Antiprotozoal <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pentamidine g. Rodenticides <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pyriminil (Vacor) h. Miscellaneous <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Nicotinic acid, cyclosporine, N-nitrosamines, theophylline <p>D. Genetic syndromes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pancreatic deficiencies <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Congenital absence of pancreatic islets 2. Cystic fibrosis 3. Hereditary relapsing pancreatitis 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> b. Mutant insulin syndromes c. Severe to extreme insulin resistance syndromes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Type A syndrome—classic and variants 2. Type B syndrome—associated with autoantibodies to insulin-receptor 3. Leprechaunism 4. Lipodystrophic syndromes 5. Rabson-Mendenhall syndrome (precocious puberty, dental dysplasia, dystrophic nails) 6. Ataxia-telangiectasia 7. Alström syndrome (obesity, retinitis pigmentosa, deafness) 8. Dystrophia myotonica d. Glucokinase gene mutations e. Mitochondrial tRNA gene mutation f. Obesity-associated insulin resistance <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Laurence-Moon-Biedl syndrome 2. Bardet-Biedl syndrome 3. Prader-Willi syndrome 4. Achondroplasia g. Progeroid syndromes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Werner's syndrome 2. Cockayne's syndrome (microcephaly, dwarfism, deafness, nephropathy) h. Chromosomal defects <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Down's syndrome (Trisomy 21) 2. Klinefelter's syndrome (47, XXY) 3. Turner's syndrome (45, XO) i. Hereditary neuromuscular disorders <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Muscular dystrophy 2. Huntington's chorea 3. Friedreich's ataxia (spinocerebellar ataxia) 4. Machado disease (ataxia, dysarthria, nystagmus) 5. Herrmann's syndrome (photomyoclonus, dementia, deafness, nephropathy) 6. Stiff-man syndrome 7. DIDMOAD syndrome (diabetes insipidus, diabetes mellitus, optic atrophy, deafness) and variants 8. Kearns-Sayre syndrome (ophthalmoplegia, retinitis pigmentosa, mitochondrial myopathy, heart block)
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PANCREATIC DIABETES

PANCREATECTOMY

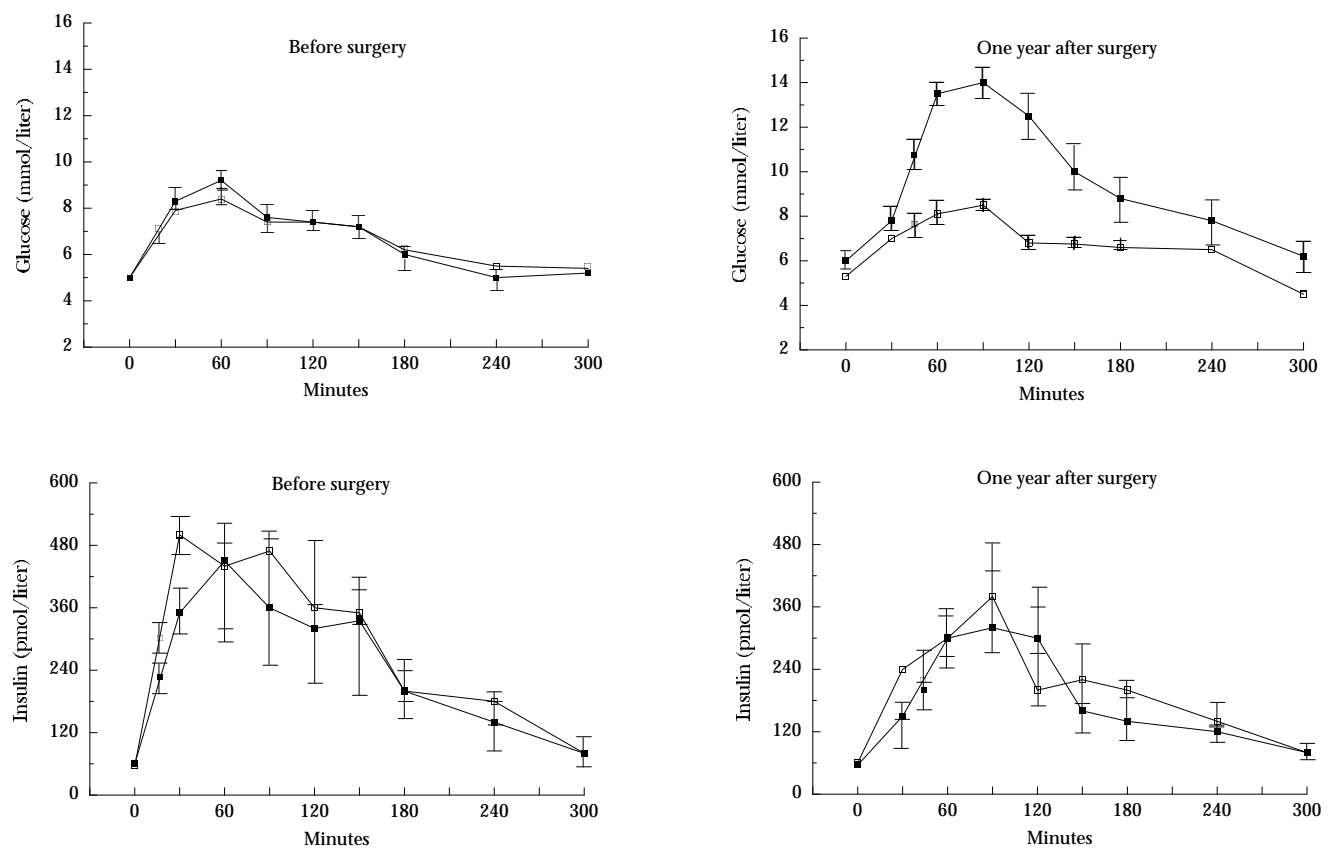
The pancreatectomized state provides a unique model of insulin-deficient secondary diabetes. Elegant studies in baboons with streptozotocin-induced β -cell destruction revealed that *in vivo* β -cell secretion became undetectable and fasting hyperglycemia developed when 40%-50% of β -cell mass was still detectable by islet morphometric assessment². However, of 28 healthy human donors who underwent ~50% pancreatectomy, only seven (25%) developed glucose intolerance and deterioration in insulin and glucagon secretion after 8-15 months^{3,4} (Figure 5.1), and none of these indi-

viduals developed overt diabetes. Therefore, the extent of β -cell loss required for the development of fasting hyperglycemia is debatable. It has been suggested that development of diabetes in partially pancreatectomized humans depends on several additional factors, such as the rate of regeneration of β -cells, the nutritional status due to weight loss and concomitant exocrine insufficiency, and glucagon deficiency due to loss of α -cells⁵.

Subtotal or total pancreatectomy provides a model for diabetes without pancreatic glucagon⁶, but there are many reports of normal or elevated immunoreactive glucagon originating from extrapancreatic sources (gastrointestinal) in such patients^{7,8}. The biological significance of extrapancreatic glucagon is not clear.

Figure 5.1

Glucose and Insulin Levels Before and After Hemipancreatectomy in Healthy Human Donors



The figure shows mean (\pm SEM) serum glucose and serum insulin levels measured before and one year after hemipancreatectomy during 5-hour oral glucose tolerance tests. Patients are divided into 21 transplant donors who had normal glucose tolerance at 1 year (open squares) and 7 donors who had abnormal glucose tolerance at 1 year (closed squares).

Source: Reference 3

Insulin withdrawal in such patients, compared with patients with IDDM, leads to slower and less severe ketoacidosis, despite comparable rates of lipolysis, supporting the role of pancreatic glucagon in the induction of ketoacidosis⁶.

PANCREATITIS

Diabetes secondary to pancreatitis accounts for <1% of all diabetes in the United States and other Western countries^{9,10}. However, in many parts of the world (especially tropical countries such as Nigeria, Indonesia, and South India), pancreatitis associated with pancreatic calculi may account for 10%-15% of all diabetes and up to 50% of young patients (<30 years) with diabetes¹¹.

Transient hyperglycemia may be seen in up to 50% of patients with acute pancreatitis, but persistent diabetes develops in <5% of these individuals on long-term

followup in the absence of further attacks, presumably due to ongoing chronic, painless pancreatitis¹⁰. On the other hand, in patients with chronic pancreatitis, the incidence of diabetes increases over time, with prevalence rates of 40%-50% after 20 years and an additional 25%-30% having impaired glucose tolerance^{9,10}. Up to 80%-90% of patients with fibrocalcific pancreatitis have overt diabetes or impaired glucose tolerance^{9,10}. In Western societies, the etiology of pancreatitis is largely alcohol-related, with or without biliary disease (Chapter 21). Diabetes secondary to pancreatic calculi in the tropics is unrelated to alcohol^{10,11}. About 10%-15% of patients with cystic fibrosis may manifest overt diabetes as increasing numbers survive into adulthood. The prevalence of impaired glucose tolerance in cystic fibrosis varies between 27% and 57% in patients age >12 years¹².

The precise mechanisms whereby chronic pancreatic inflammation leads to glucose intolerance are not established, but compromised blood flow to islets from

fibrotic scarring of exocrine pancreas appears to play a major role. Insulin and c-peptide secretory responses to various secretagogues, including oral and IV glucose, sulfonylureas, glucagon, and amino acids, are impaired, and these abnormalities are correlated with the magnitude of exocrine pancreatic dysfunction^{13,14}. Glucagon levels are markedly increased in acute pancreatitis, both in the basal state and following stimulation with alanine, accounting in part for the transient hyperglycemia frequently seen in this situation¹⁵. In chronic pancreatitis, basal glucagon levels are normal or elevated, but responses to amino acids^{15,16} or to insulin-induced hypoglycemia^{17,18} are blunted. In some studies, increased levels of glucagon-like immunoreactivity were found after stimulation^{9,19}, perhaps due to glucagon derived from extra-pancreatic sources, but the significance of this observation is uncertain.

Patients with diabetes secondary to chronic pancreatitis may have delayed recovery from hypoglycemia, similar to the situation in pancreatectomized subjects. However, the incidence and severity of hypoglycemia in these patients is influenced by a number of factors, including alcohol intake, nutritional status, and state of malabsorption.

MALNUTRITION-RELATED DIABETES

In many tropical countries, extending from the West Indies and Latin America to Africa to the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia, diabetes presents with many atypical clinical features^{11,20,21}. Initially characterized by Hugh-Jones in Jamaica and termed J-type diabetes²², some of the features include onset at young age, resistance to ketosis, relatively large insulin requirement, and lean body habitus. A number of variants have been described from many of the tropical countries. Malnutrition and protein deficiency are the common features in most of the variants, and the prevalence estimates, although not adequately studied in all areas, range from <10% to >75% of all diabetic persons age <40 years¹¹.

The World Health Organization has identified two main subgroups: protein-deficient pancreatic diabetes (or J-type diabetes) and fibrocalculous pancreatic diabetes²³. In fibrocalculous pancreatic diabetes, no history of alcohol, biliary disease, or other known causes of pancreatitis exist. However, β -cell functional loss appears to be correlated with exocrine functional loss²⁴, similar to the situation with chronic pancreatitis in general^{10,13,14}. The etiology of both forms of malnutrition-related diabetes and their relationship, if any, to conventional IDDM or NIDDM remain enig-

matic^{11,21,25-27}. Theories relating malnutrition to diabetes abound²⁸, although none has been proven. One possibility is that protein deficiency might render β -cells susceptible to damage by toxic, viral, or autoimmune factors. It has been observed that tropical diabetes is endemic where cassava (tapioca) is the staple food^{28,29}. Cassava (95% starch) contains a cyanogenic glycoside that is normally inactivated by thiocyanate derived from sulfhydryl radicals of amino acids. Oral or intraperitoneal administration of cyanide in rats results in transient hyperglycemia. However, the causal relationship is far from proven and there are exceptions to the association between cassava consumption and diabetes in Africa and Brazil^{21,30,31}.

HEMOCHROMATOSIS

Hemochromatosis, one of the most commonly inherited metabolic abnormalities in white populations, is an autosomal-recessive disorder. Its gene frequency is 7%-10% and disease prevalence is 2-4 per 1,000 in Caucasians^{32,33}. The disease is three to five times more frequent in men than women, since ~80% of homozygous women do not accumulate iron significantly. About 70% of patients have antigen HLA-A3, whereas the frequency of HLA-A3 is only ~22%-28% in general Caucasian populations³³.

Iron deposition primarily occurs in parenchymal cells of liver, pancreas, adrenal, anterior pituitary, myocardium, and skeletal muscle. The classic triad of hepatomegaly, diabetes, and skin pigmentation ("bronze diabetes") once considered common is, in fact, not a frequent association considering the changing clinical presentation due to early diagnosis and treatment^{32,34}. Common presenting symptoms include hepatomegaly with or without abdominal pain, arthralgias, fatigue, and impotence. Presence of symptoms usually correlates with the severity of iron accumulation documented on liver biopsy and with the presence of cirrhosis, which is already present in ~70% of patients at the time of diagnosis³⁵. Hepatocellular carcinoma develops in ~15%-30% of patients, despite successful iron removal, depending on patient longevity.

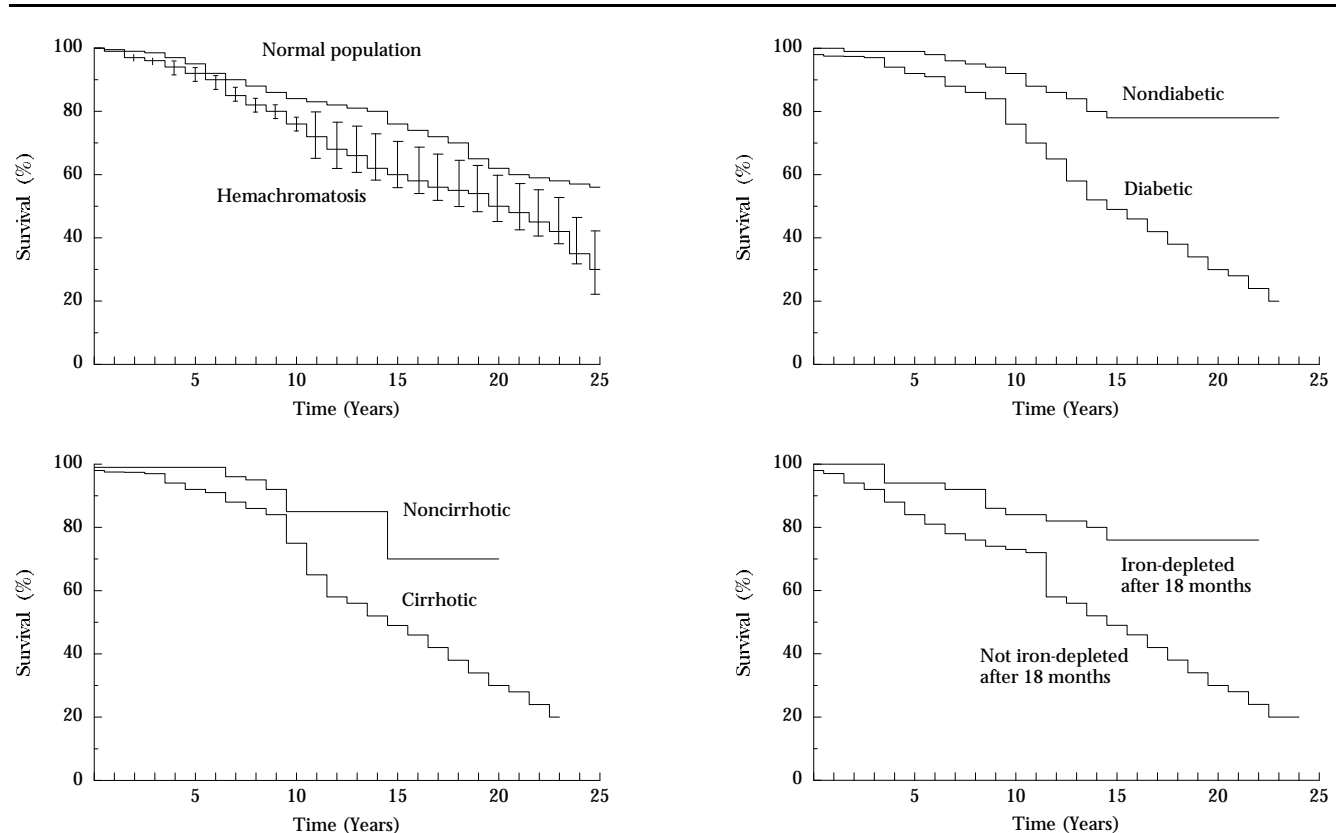
Hemochromatosis may result from a number of secondary causes, including sideroblastic anemias (chiefly, thalassemia major), chronic hemolytic anemias, multiple blood transfusions, porphyria cutanea tarda, and dietary or medical iron overload, e.g., iron-rich beer consumption in the Bantus³². In these states, the severity of iron load is variable but usually less than the 30 g or more seen in primary (idiopathic) hemochromatosis. Alcohol promotes iron absorption but does not, by itself, result in hemochromatosis.

Abnormal glucose tolerance occurs in 75%-80% of patients with hemochromatosis, of whom ~50%-60% have overt diabetes³⁵⁻³⁷. Similarly, glucose intolerance is present in ~50% of patients with thalassemia major following chronic transfusion therapy^{38,39}. In a large series of patients, 25% had a history of diabetes in first-degree relatives³⁶. The pathogenesis of glucose intolerance in iron-overload states remains controversial since multiple factors, including cirrhosis, pancreatic iron deposition, and underlying primary diabetes, are involved. However, the severity of cirrhosis and iron load are correlated with the severity of glucose intolerance, and the control of diabetes improves in 35%-45% of patients following iron depletion^{32,35}.

Studies of β -cell and α -cell function in hemochromatosis have revealed several interesting observations. β -cell function is usually impaired in patients developing overt diabetes³⁶⁻³⁸ and ~40%-50% of these require insulin therapy. However, patients in the pre-cirrhotic

stage and in those prior to development of overt diabetes have significant hyperinsulinemia following oral glucose^{40,41} or hyperglycemic clamp⁴¹. Furthermore, insulin-mediated glucose disposal rates are impaired in patients with transfusion-induced iron overload⁴¹. These observations suggest that insulin resistance, secondary to hepatic or extra-hepatic iron deposition at insulin-sensitive sites (e.g., muscle), precedes the eventual β -cell dysfunction before overt diabetes develops. However, the mechanism of insulin resistance due to iron overload remains unknown. Glucagon secretion in patients with hemochromatosis is augmented by arginine and is nonsuppressible after oral glucose^{42,43}, similar to responses seen in primary diabetes. In this respect, the α -cell responses seem to differ from those seen in patients with chronic pancreatitis^{13,14} and are consistent with the observation that iron deposition in islets, albeit variable, is restricted only to β -cells⁴⁴.

Figure 5.2
Survival of Patients with Hemochromatosis



The figure shows cumulative survival in 163 patients with hemochromatosis compared with the normal population; in the same patients with (n=112) or without (n=51) cirrhosis; with (n=89) or without (n=74) diabetes; and in those depleted (n=77) or not depleted (n=75) of iron during the first 18 months of venesection. All differences were statistically significant (p<0.05 to <0.002 by log-rank test).

Source: Reference 35

Successful iron depletion, initiated early in the course of disease, clearly reduces the incidence and progression of cirrhosis, improves diabetes control, and frequently reduces other target organ damage and overall morbidity and mortality. In a prospective study of 163 patients with mean followup of 10.5±5.6 years, major determinants of reduced survival included presence of cirrhosis, diabetes, and lack of iron depletion⁴⁵ (Figure 5.2). Mortality ratios (observed/expected) for liver cancer, cardiomyopathy, cirrhosis, and diabetes were 219, 306, 13, and 7, respectively, compared with the general population. Successful iron depletion, however, did not protect from developing liver cancer. In patients unable to undergo phlebotomy, such as patients with thalassemia or other anemic states, chelation therapy with deferoxamine is a useful alternative^{45,46}, although the effects of this regimen on long-term outcomes are not available.

ENDOCRINOPATHIES

Table 5.2 shows the major sites of action of various counterregulatory hormones on target organs and their principal mechanisms of diabetogenic effects.

ACROMEGALY

Acromegaly represents a prototype of diabetes and glucose intolerance secondary to an endocrinopathy. Growth hormone (GH)-hypersecreting anterior pituitary adenomas account for >90% of cases of acromegaly^{47,48}. Other causes include ectopic (nonpituitary) sources of GH or GH-releasing hormone, e.g., pancreatic islet cell tumors, carcinoid tumors, and hypothalamic hamartomas. The prevalence of diagnosed acromegaly is estimated to be ~40 per million population.

Glucose intolerance is prevalent in acromegaly in

~60%-70% of patients; however, overt diabetes requiring treatment occurs in only 10%-15% of patients⁴⁷⁻⁵⁰. Diabetes may be the presenting sign in only ~5% of patients with acromegaly^{48,50}. Even more frequent than glucose intolerance is GH-induced insulin resistance, manifested by striking hyperinsulinemia in response to oral or intravenous glucose and other secretagogues, as well as markedly attenuated responses to exogenous insulin⁵¹⁻⁵⁴. Furthermore, acromegalic patients with normal glucose tolerance but with hyperinsulinemia have impaired muscle glucose uptake due to diminished nonoxidative glucose metabolism⁵⁵. Overall, GH levels in individual patients correlate poorly with both hyperinsulinemia and the severity of glucose intolerance; a better correlation of disease activity, including glucose intolerance, is found with the serum levels of insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1)^{47,56}. In contrast to patients with normal or impaired glucose tolerance, insulin reserve is quite blunted by the time overt diabetes develops, with or without ketosis⁵², reminiscent of findings in animal models of metasomatotropic diabetes⁵⁷. However, the coexistence of primary diabetes (IDDM or NIDDM) cannot be ruled out in the absence of a genetic marker, particularly if diabetes persists after successful treatment of acromegaly. Considerable evidence exists, based on studies with somatostatin infusions, that lipolytic and ketogenic effects of GH supervene only after significant insulinopenia occurs^{54,58,59}.

Successful treatment of acromegaly, with normalization of GH and IGF-1, is usually accompanied by striking improvements in glucose tolerance, reversal of hyperinsulinemia, and normalization of insulin sensitivity^{47,52,56}. However, the results are unpredictable in those with overt, symptomatic diabetes^{52,60}. Acromegaly is associated with two- to threefold increased mortality rate^{50,61}. Increased incidence of malignancy contributes to the increased mortality. Post-therapy GH levels <5 mU/L (versus >10 mU/L) were associated with normalization of mortality rate, regardless of the presence of diabetes or hypertension,

Table 5.2
Sites of Action of Major Diabetogenic Hormones in Humans

	β-cell secretion	Liver		Muscle		Adipose tissue	
		Glycogen*	Gluconeogenesis	Glucose uptake	Amino acid release	Glucose uptake	Lipolysis
Growth hormone	+	+	+	-	?	-	+
Glucocorticoids	+	+	+	-	+		+
Catecholamines	-	-	+	-	-	?	+
Glucagon	+	-	+	0	?	0	?
Thyroid hormones	+	-	+	0	0	?	+

+, stimulation; -, inhibition; 0, no effect; ?, uncertain. *Net effect on glycogen content via glycogen synthesis or glycogenolysis.

in one survey⁶¹.

ISOLATED GROWTH HORMONE DEFICIENCY

It has long been appreciated that GH has cytotropic effects on β -cells *in vitro*^{62,63}. Exogenous GH administration to both normal and hypopituitary subjects augments their insulin responses to a variety of secretagogues before a significant change in blood glucose ensues⁶⁴. In light of these observations, it is of interest that patients with monotropic GH deficiency (sexual ateliotic dwarfs) have mild to moderately severe glucose intolerance and insulin deficiency⁶⁵. In the majority of these patients, insulin responses to glucose or arginine are impaired, and treatment with GH results in augmented insulin release⁶⁶. This model of diabetes supports the role of GH in sustaining β -cell growth and maturation.

CUSHING'S SYNDROME

Glucocorticoids such as GH are the principal insulin-antagonistic hormones. They have diverse metabolic effects on liver, adipose tissue, and muscle^{67,68}. In normal humans, short-term increments in plasma cortisol levels within the range seen in moderate stress situations result in only a slight increase in glucose levels, mediated by hepatic and extrahepatic effects, but cause a significant increase in ketone and branched-chain amino acid levels. Insulin resistance induced by the chronic administration of moderate doses of glucocorticoids in normal humans is usually compensated by augmented insulin release, resulting in minimal changes in glucose levels. Thus, the spectrum of glucose intolerance in patients with Cushing's syndrome or exogenous steroid use largely depends on endogenous β -cell reserve, similar to the situation in acromegaly. Glucose intolerance occurs in 75%-80% of patients with Cushing's syndrome, but only 10%-15% of patients develop overt diabetes^{69,70}. Nearly all patients, however, manifest basal and stimulated hyperinsulinemia and insulin resistance.

PHEOCHROMOCYTOMA

Catecholamines, acting via adrenergic receptors, affect insulin secretion and produce anti-insulin effects at several loci in the intermediary metabolism^{71,72}. Glucose intolerance occurs in ~30% of patients with pheochromocytoma^{72,73}. It results from multiple mechanisms including the α_2 -adrenergic inhibition of insulin secretion, β -adrenergic stimulation of hepatic glycogenolysis and gluconeogenesis, and enhanced

lipolysis. Overt diabetes and ketoacidosis are distinctly unusual. Administration of α -adrenergic blocking agents, such as phentolamine or phenoxybenzamine, characteristically improves insulin secretion and glucose tolerance^{74,75}. Surgical removal of the tumor restores or improves glucose tolerance within several weeks post-operatively^{73,76}; however, in some cases, it may take up to several months.

PRIMARY HYPERALDOSTERONISM

The triad of hypertension, hypokalemia, and glucose intolerance (Conn's syndrome) was described in 1955⁷⁷. It occurs in <2% of patients with hypertension. Glucose intolerance, previously thought to be present in ~50% of these patients, is considerably less common and is usually mild. It probably results, to a variable degree, from potassium depletion, which may be responsible for blunted insulin secretion^{77,78} and perhaps increased glycogenolysis. However, it is not certain if the glucose intolerance seen in Conn's syndrome is entirely explained by potassium depletion⁷⁹.

HYPERTHYROIDISM

Hyperthyroidism or thyrotoxic states are associated with significant aberrations of carbohydrate, lipid, and protein metabolism⁸⁰. These states are characterized by increased oxygen consumption, rapid gastric emptying, enhanced gluconeogenesis and glycogenolysis, increased lipolysis and ketogenesis, and increased proteolysis. Many of these effects are reproducible in experimental hyperthyroidism induced in nondiabetic⁸¹ or diabetic⁸² individuals. The metabolic clearance rate of insulin is increased by ~40%⁸³. The data on peripheral glucose disposal and insulin sensitivity are controversial, perhaps due to differences in methodology employed.

An increased incidence of glucose intolerance, usually of mild to moderate severity, has been documented in 30%-50% of patients with hyperthyroidism⁸⁴⁻⁸⁶. An increased sympathetic sensitivity, mediated via β -adrenergic mechanism⁸⁷, probably contributes to the increased propensity to lipolysis and ketogenesis in such patients. In patients with preexisting diabetes, the metabolic consequences of untreated hyperthyroidism on hepatic glucose production, lipolysis, and increased insulin clearance lead to deterioration of glycemic control and recurrent ketoacidosis⁸⁸. In previously nondiabetic individuals, glucose intolerance persisted in 32% (7 of 22) of patients with hyperthyroidism after 12 years of followup after treatment⁸⁶. This may be explained partly by common autoim-

mune mechanisms underlying Graves' disease and IDDM.

TUMORS OF ENDOCRINE PANCREAS OR GUT

Glucose intolerance or overt diabetes is a frequent component of non- β -cell tumors of the endocrine pancreas that secrete glucagon (glucagonoma) or somatostatin (somatostatinoma)⁸⁹. Approximately 100 patients with glucagonoma and >20 patients with pancreatic somatostatinoma have been described. These tumors are often malignant and quite large when diagnosed. The prognosis is usually poor, with rare exceptions. Other clinical features of glucagonoma include a characteristic skin rash (necrolytic migratory erythema) and anemia. Patients with somatostatinoma frequently have gallbladder disease and diarrhea with or without steatorrhea. Mild glucose intolerance has occasionally also been described in patients with non-islet cell tumors secreting vasoactive-intestinal polypeptide (VIPOMA, pancreatic cholera syndrome) and with carcinoid tumors of the pancreas or gut. Finally, in patients with multiple endocrine neoplasia type 1, transmitted as an autosomal dominant disorder and resulting in endocrine, pancreas, parathyroid, and pituitary tumors, glucose intolerance may result from the production of diabetogenic hormones such as glucagon, VIP, corticotropin, and somatostatin.

Table 5.3
Characteristics of Polyendocrine Autoimmunity Syndromes

	Type I	Type II
HLA association	None	DR3/DR4
Age at onset	Childhood	Adult
Gender ratio (F/M)	1/4	1/8
Clinical components		
Frequent	Hypoparathyroidism (80%) Mucocutaneous candidiasis (75%) Addison's disease (65%)	Addison's disease (100%) Hypothyroidism (70%) Diabetes mellitus (50%)
Infrequent	Alopecia (30%) Malabsorption (25%) Gonadal failure (15%) Pernicious anemia (15%) Chronic active hepatitis (10%) Thyroiditis (10%) Vitiligo (10%) Diabetes (2%-4%)	Gonadal failure (5%) Vitiligo (5%) Celiac disease (5%) Alopecia Myasthenia gravis Pernicious anemia

Source: References 90 and 91

POLYENDOCRINE AUTOIMMUNITY SYNDROMES

Insulin-requiring diabetes has been observed in ~50% of patients with polyendocrine autoimmunity syndrome type II, in contrast to <5% prevalence in type I syndrome^{90,91}. The other salient clinical features of these syndromes are outlined in Table 5.3. Type II syndrome has strong association (>95%) with HLA DR3/DR4 and characteristically multiple generations are affected, whereas in type I syndrome the affected relatives are siblings in a single generation and there is no increase in HLA DR3/DR4. The early detection of diabetes in type II syndrome (Schmidt's syndrome) may be possible by prospective evaluation with cytoplasmic anti-islet antibodies and assessment of first-phase insulin response to intravenous glucose. These patients may have insidious onset of diabetes years after onset of initial endocrinopathy such as Addison's disease or thyroid disease.

POEMS SYNDROME

POEMS syndrome (Polyneuropathy, Organomegaly, Endocrinopathy, Monoclonal gammopathy, Skin changes) is a rare form of plasma cell disorder associated with osteosclerotic type of myeloma and systemic features including hepatosplenomegaly, lymphadenopathy, severe sensorimotor neuropathy, hyperpigmentation, and hypertrichosis. About 100 cases have been reported⁹²⁻⁹⁴. In most cases (>90%), the M-component is of the lambda-light chain type. Other eponyms of this entity include Takatsuki syndrome and Crow-Fukase syndrome. A relationship of this syndrome to multicentric angiofollicular lymph node hyperplasia (Castleman's disease) has also been suggested⁹⁵. The etiology of these entities is obscure but they appear to be secondary to circulating immunoglobulins. Glucose intolerance, sometimes insulin-requiring, has been reported in 30%-50% of cases^{92,93}. Other endocrine features include hypogonadism, hypothyroidism, hyperprolactinemia, and adrenal insufficiency.

DRUGS, CHEMICAL AGENTS, AND TOXINS

A variety of drugs or chemical agents (Table 5.1) can result in glucose intolerance or diabetes in previously nondiabetic subjects or in worsening of hyperglycemia in known diabetic patients^{96,97}. The diabetogenic effects may be brought about by effects on islet cell secretion or on insulin action at hepatic or extrahepatic sites, or by variable combinations of these factors.

Table 5.4 presents the principal mechanisms of the diabetogenic effects of certain therapeutic agents that are more commonly associated with glucose intolerance or diabetes.

DIURETICS AND β -ADRENERGIC ANTAGONISTS

The diabetogenic effects of diuretics, particularly thiazides and chlorthalidone, and β -adrenergic antagonists have been well recognized in clinical practice. These effects appear to be dose-dependent. A 12-year follow-up epidemiologic study revealed, regardless of a family history of diabetes, a three- to fourfold greater risk of developing diabetes with thiazides, five- to sixfold greater risk with β -blockers, and 11-fold greater risk in subjects on both drugs⁹⁸. For thiazides, most studies have indicated the mechanism to be an insulin secretory defect due to hypokalemia, with at least partial correction of this defect by potassium replacement⁹⁹. However, the potassium depletion may not, by itself, entirely explain this phenomenon, since loop diuretics such as furosemide and ethacrynic acid are less likely to cause this defect. There is also evidence for extrapancreatic effects^{100,101}. Furthermore, diazoxide, a non-diuretic thiazide, has pronounced β -cell inhibitory as well as peripheral ef-

fects¹⁰². For β -blockers, an inhibitory effect on β -cell secretion has been shown¹⁰³ and, in some cases, drugs such as propranolol precipitated hyperglycemic, hyperosmolar, non-ketotic coma¹⁰⁴. However, evidence for peripheral effects resulting in insulin resistance with propranolol has also been reported^{100,101}.

DIPHENYLHYDANTOINS

Phenytoin (Dilantin) has direct inhibitory effects on β -cell secretion¹⁰⁵. This appears to be dose-related and there are occasional case reports of hyperglycemic, nonketotic coma precipitated by Dilantin¹⁰⁶.

GLUCOCORTICOIDS, ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES, AND PROGESTINS

Glucocorticoid-induced glucose intolerance is characterized by insulin resistance and hyperinsulinemia. Similar to patients with Cushing's syndrome, chronic administration of glucocorticoids induces distinct effects on hepatic and extra-hepatic sites. In a recent community-based case-control study, the adjusted odds ratios for initiation of hypoglycemic therapy (oral agents or insulin) were 1.77, 3.02, 5.82, and 10.34, according to prednisone-equivalent average daily dosage of <10 mg, 10-20 mg, 20-30 mg, and >30 mg, respectively¹⁰⁷. The effects of sex steroid hormones on carbohydrate metabolism are somewhat controversial⁹⁶. The bulk of evidence from better-designed recent studies suggests that postmenopausal estrogen use in current formulations, with or without low-dose progestins, has no appreciable deleterious effects on glucose or insulin levels, as shown in a recent multicommunity study¹⁰⁸. However, the effects of oral contraceptives on carbohydrate metabolism in young women are much more dependent on the formulations, particularly on the dose and relative potency of the progestin component of the pill. In a large cross-sectional study, employing oral glucose tolerance tests in 1,060 women on oral contraceptives, incremental glucose and insulin responses were 43%-61% and 12%-40% higher, respectively, than in nonusers¹⁰⁹. However, incidence of overt diabetes is distinctly rare in individuals without a family history of diabetes¹¹⁰.

PENTAMIDINE AND VACOR

Pentamidine (an anti-protozoal agent) and Vacor (a nitrosourea-derived pesticide) chemically resemble streptozotocin and alloxan. Pentamidine is used increasingly in the prophylaxis and treatment of pneumocystis carinii infection in patients with acquired

Table 5.4
Sites of Action of Drugs or Agents More Commonly Associated with Diabetes or Glucose Intolerance

	Impaired insulin secretion	Impaired insulin action	Comments
Diuretics			
Thiazide	+	±	Effects primarily mediated by potassium depletion
Loop diuretics	+	0	
Diazoxide	+	+	A non-diuretic thiazide
β -adrenergic antagonists	+	+	Effects more common with non-selective agents
Diphenylhydantoin	+	0	Direct β -cell effects
Glucocorticoids	0	+	Also cause hyperglucagonemia
Oral contraceptives	0	+	Effects less prominent than glucocorticoids
Pentamidine	+	0	Structurally similar to streptozotocin and
Pyriminil (Vacor)	+	±	alloxan
Nicotinic acid	0	+	Minimal effects in normal subject
Cyclosporine	+	+	Often used in combination with glucocorticoids
Opiates	+	±	Also stimulate glucagon secretion

immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), and increasing incidence of insulin-dependent diabetes following its use has been reported^{111,112}. Similarly, after accidental or intentional ingestion of Vacor, IDDM with or without ketoacidosis due to β -cell destruction may result^{113,114}. The sequence of events leading to diabetes with these agents is similar to that seen with streptozotocin and involves: a) initially, release of insulin due to β -cell lysis lasting for hours and frequently associated with hypoglycemia; and b) a delayed, persistent hyperglycemia following β -cell loss after days to weeks^{113,115}.

NICOTINIC ACID

Nicotinic acid causes glucose intolerance by inducing peripheral insulin insensitivity¹¹⁶. In normal individuals this is accompanied by minimal changes in glucose tolerance due to adaptive hyperinsulinemia. However, significant hyperglycemia or deterioration in glucose tolerance may result in patients with limited β -cell reserve or preexisting diabetes¹¹⁷.

CYCLOSPORIN

An increased incidence of diabetes has been reported in renal transplant patients treated with cyclosporin^{118,119}, particularly in the black population, in whom a 20% incidence posttransplant was reported¹¹⁸. This increase is probably independent of the concomitant diabetogenic effects of corticosteroids in these patients. Direct inhibitory effects of cyclosporin on β -cells are the likely explanation¹²⁰, although a pe-

ripheral effect on muscle glucose transport is also probable¹²¹.

OPIATES

A hyperglycemic effect of morphine and other opiates has been recognized. β -endorphin and enkephalin are produced in human islets. In normal and diabetic subjects, infusions of β -endorphin result in hyperglycemia, accompanied by hyperglucagonemia¹²². These results are in keeping with the observation of impaired β -cell responsiveness to glucose in narcotic addiction¹²³.

GENETIC SYNDROMES

The availability of newer molecular biologic techniques and their clinical application is unraveling distinct genetic subtypes of diabetes, although all genetic syndromes identified thus far account for only a small percentage of the diabetic population as a whole. This confirms the heterogeneity of diabetes¹²⁴.

Table 5.5 summarizes the genetic defects identified in relation to various candidate genes. Of these, molecular defects in families with mutant insulins have been best characterized¹²⁵. In 10 families, single point mutations in the proinsulin gene, transmitted in an autosomal dominant pattern, resulted in either an abnormal insulin molecule (Table 5.6) or an abnormal

Table 5.5
Diabetes Secondary to Identified Defects in Genetic Loci

Ref.	Gene affected	Number of mutations identified	Prevalence in diabetic persons	Comments
125, 126	Insulin	6	<1%	Abnormal insulin or proinsulin synthesis
127, 128	Insulin receptor	>40	~1%-2%	Numerous defects in receptor synthesis, transport, function or degradation
129-131	Glucokinase	16	~1%-2% (~55% of MODY families in France)	Impaired glucose sensing of β -cells
132	Adenosine deaminase-linked	1	One large kindred (RW)	
134, 135	Mitochondrial tRNA	1*	~1%-2%	Impaired insulin secretion; maternally transmitted diabetes and deafness
137	IRS-1	2	?	Site of defect unclear
138	Glycogen synthase	Polymorphism of non-coding region	Unknown	Functional significance uncertain. No change in protein content.
139	Rad (Ras-associated with diabetes)		Unknown (expression of gene in muscle 3- to 18-fold greater in NIDDM than in IDDM or controls)	AGTP-binding protein

MODY, maturity-onset diabetes of the young. *The same mutation (tRNA-leu (UUR)) is also observed in MELAS syndrome (mitochondrial myopathy, encephalopathy, lactic acidosis, and stroke-like episodes).

Source: References are listed within the table

Table 5.6

Characteristics of Probands from Six Families with Abnormal Insulin

	Chicago	Los Angeles 1	Los Angeles 2	Wakayama 1	Wakayama 2	Wakayama 3
Age (years), sex	51, male	28, female	60, female	56, female	57, male	44, female
Location	Los Angeles, CA	Los Angeles, CA	Montreal, Canada	Osaka, Japan	Wakayama, Japan	Saitama, Japan
OGTT results	DM	DM	IGT	DM	Normal	DM
Therapy	Diet → insulin	Diet → oral hypoglycemic	None	Insulin → oral hypoglycemic	Diet	Oral hypoglycemic
Plasma glucose (mg/dl)	143-182	143-175	93-140	113-340	70-102	154-244
Immunoreactive insulin (μ u/ml)	67-113	86-130	310-440	33-130	58-130	111-314
Insulin-C-peptide ratio (mol)	0.4-0.5	0.7-2.1	1.2	0.5-3.5	0.6-1.6	1.0-1.6
Structure	Leu-B25	Ser-B24	Ser-B24	Leu-A3	Leu-A3	Leu-A3
Receptor binding (%)	4.0-5.0	0.7-2.0	0.7-2.0	0.2-0.4	0.2-0.4	0.2-0.4
Biological activity (%)	4.0-5.0	0.7-2.0	0.7-2.0	0.2-0.4	0.2-0.4	0.2-0.4

OGTT, oral glucose tolerance test; DM, diabetes mellitus; IGT, impaired glucose tolerance.

Source: Reference 125

proinsulin molecule (Table 5.7). Of the six families with abnormal insulin, three different single point mutations causing amino acid substitutions resulted in insulin with normal immunoreactivity but greatly reduced (<1%-5%) receptor binding and bioactivity. The hyperinsulinemia mainly results from defective clearance of the mutant insulin. The affected subjects presented with only glucose intolerance or mild diabetes since they were heterozygous and a varying proportion of circulating insulin was normal. In four other families, single point mutations causing defects in processing the proinsulin molecule resulted in hyperproinsulinemia (Table 5.7). In each family, the phenotypic expression consisted of either normal or mildly abnormal glucose tolerance. Further search may disclose other forms of insulin gene mutations. However, in a restriction-fragment-length polymorphism analysis of the insulin gene in 213 individuals with NIDDM, only one possible defect (frequency ~5/1,000) was detected in one survey¹²⁶. Glucose intolerance or diabetes may also result from severe to extreme insulin resistance due to abnormalities of insulin receptor structure or function. A wide variety of mutations at numerous sites of the insulin receptor gene have been delineated, but the overall prevalence of these anomalies in NIDDM is probably very low^{127,128}.

Perhaps more common than the insulin gene and the insulin receptor gene defects are the mutations in the glucokinase (GK) gene on chromosome 7, responsible for mild hyperglycemia in many families with maturity-onset diabetes of the young (MODY). Although the prevalence of this defect in NIDDM in various populations is unknown, there have been 16 different mutations of the GK gene described in 18 of 32 French families with MODY¹²⁹. Mutations of the GK

gene have also been reported in a few kindreds from other parts of the world, including Great Britain and Japan^{130,131}. Only ~50% of patients with GK gene mutations developed diabetes, i.e., there is incomplete penetrance. A different mutation, on a gene linked to the adenosine deaminase gene on chromosome 20, was described in a large kindred of MODY in the United States¹³². However, in many other MODY pedigrees the molecular nature of the genetic defect remains unknown, despite extensive search for candidate genes¹³³. Since MODY represents a significant fraction of NIDDM in many parts of the world, further search for the prevalence of defects in GK and other

Table 5.7

Characteristics of Probands from Four Families with Abnormal Proinsulin

	Boston, MA	Providence, RI	Tokyo, Japan, 1	Tokyo, Japan, 2
Age (years), sex	15, male	12, male	65, male	69, male
OGTT results	Normal	DM/IGT	DM	DM
Therapy	Not required	Insulin → diet	Diet	Diet → insulin
Plasma glucose (mg/dl)	74-92	77-96	120	60-170
Immunoreactive insulin (μ u/ml)	24-287	45-71	77	37-70
Structure	Xaa-65	Asp-B10	His-65	His-65
HPLC analysis (plasma)	AC proinsulin	Normal proinsulin	AC proinsulin	AC proinsulin
Hypoglycemia	-	?	+	+ ? in family

OGTT, oral glucose tolerance test; DM, diabetes mellitus; IGT, impaired glucose tolerance; HPLC, high-performance liquid chromatography; AC, A chain-C-peptide; +, documented; -, not documented; ?, uncertain.

Source: Reference 125

genetic loci might be rewarding. Another interesting genetic subtype of diabetes is associated with a point mutation in mitochondrial DNA at position 3243 of leucine tRNA^{134,135}. Diabetes in these families is maternally transmitted, often insulin-requiring, and associated with deafness in ~60% of patients. This mutation was originally identified in patients with another mitochondrial disorder, the MELAS syndrome (Mitochondrial myopathy, Encephalopathy, Lactic acidosis, and Stroke-like episodes)¹³⁶. Other candidate gene mutations in NIDDM include a recently described polymorphism of the insulin-receptor substrate-1 (IRS-1) gene¹³⁷, a polymorphism of the glycogen synthase gene¹³⁸, and an overexpressed gene, Rad, a member of the Ras-guanosine triphosphatase superfamily, that was expressed 3- to 18-fold greater in skeletal muscle of patients with NIDDM, compared with nondiabetic and IDDM patients¹³⁹.

There are many other distinct but quite rare genetic syndromes associated with glucose intolerance or diabetes (Table 5.1). The precise genetic defect(s) leading to diabetes in these disorders are not known. Some

are characterized by obesity-associated insulin resistance, including Prader-Willi syndrome¹⁴⁰, Laurence-Moon-Biedl syndrome, and its variant, Bardet-Biedl syndrome¹⁴¹. In the latter, ~45% of patients have glucose intolerance. In a few of the other syndromes, the appearance of insulin-dependent diabetes simulating IDDM is an integral feature. These conditions include Stiff-man syndrome, an autoimmune disorder¹⁴², and two hereditary neurological disorders, Friedreich's ataxia¹⁴³ and DIDMOAD (diabetes insipidus, diabetes mellitus, optic atrophy, sensorineural deafness) or Wolfram's syndrome and its variants^{144,145}. In the former, up to 20% of patients have diabetes, although some may not be insulin-dependent¹⁴⁶. In contrast, in Wolfram's syndrome, autopsy studies revealed a selective loss of islet β -cells¹⁴⁷, explaining the onset of diabetes in early childhood and absolute insulin requirement in these patients.

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