## Drug Information Table
### Incretin mimetics – exenatide (Byetta)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Therapeutic Use</th>
<th>Administration</th>
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</table>
| • Type 2 diabetes mellitus, as a supplement to sulfonylureas or metformin (Glucophage) | • Injection considerations  
  ◦ Give subcutaneously into the thigh, abdomen, or upper arm up to 60 min prior to the morning and evening meals, not after meals.  
  ◦ Rotate injection sites.  
  ◦ Expect the peak action 2 hr after dosing.  
| | • Preparation and care of the injection pen  
  ◦ Available in 5 mcg and 10 mcg doses  
  ◦ Follow manufacturer’s instructions for “New Pen Setup.”  
  ◦ Use needle size prescribed by provider.  
  ◦ Use new needle each time injection pen is used.  
  ◦ Keep pens in use at room temperature up to 30 days.  
  ◦ Do not store pens with needle attached.  
| | • Refrigerate unused injector pens until their expiration date. |

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<tr>
<th>Side/Adverse Effects</th>
<th>Interventions</th>
<th>Patient Instructions</th>
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| • Hypoglycemia | • Recommend a reduced oral hypoglycemic drug dosage when initiating therapy.  
  • Monitor for signs of hypoglycemia. | • Watch for and report symptoms of hypoglycemia. Test blood glucose to confirm, then consume a snack of 15 to 20 g carbohydrates, and retest in 15 to 20 min and repeat treatment if still low.  
  • Carry a carbohydrate snack at all times.  
  • Wear a medical alert bracelet. |
| • Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea | • Monitor for persistent nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.  
  • Monitor fluid and carbohydrate intake. | • Lie down when feeling nauseated.  
  • Consume adequate number of calories. |
| • Pancreatitis | • Monitor for indications of pancreatitis.  
  • Stop drug therapy for patients who develop signs of pancreatitis. | • Report severe, persistent abdominal pain and stop taking exenatide. |

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<tr>
<th>Contraindications</th>
<th>Precautions</th>
<th>Interactions</th>
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| • Renal failure  
  • Type 1 diabetes mellitus  
  • Diabetic ketoacidosis  
  • Ulcerative colitis  
  • Crohn’s disease  
  • Gastroparesis | • Thyroid disease  
  • Renal dysfunction  
  • Older adults | • Sulfonylureas increase the risk for hypoglycemia.  
  • Absorption of oral drugs slows, especially oral contraceptives and antibiotics, so patients should take them 1 hr before taking exenatide. |