

Metformin in Hospitalized Patients

Mechanism of Metformin



Increases insulin sensitivity



Decreases gluconeogenesis



Converts pyruvate to lactate



Lactic acidosis *very rare**

What to consider before prescribing metformin in the hospital?

1

Renal Function?

- Hold for AKI or GFR <30

2

Risk for lactic acidosis?

- Hold if sepsis, liver/heart failure, shock.

3

Other DM therapies?

- ⬇ risk hypoglycemia, may eliminate need for SSI