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Revisiting C-peptide measurement

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The assessment of insulin secretion enables the evaluation of β cell function. Measurement of C-peptide levels has long been the standard method to assess insulin secretion, which has been classically measured in response to an intravenous glucose bolus, following oral glucose ingestion or more recently, in response to a mixed meal. C-peptide levels are preferred to insulin levels due to several advantages including a longer half-life, renal clearance and equimolar co-secretion with insulin as well as more consistent results. However, measurement of physiologic insulin secretion in humans still presents a challenge because of various influencing factors. This becomes a concern when measurement of C-peptide levels is used as a diagnostic and prognostic measure. It is especially important to be careful when interpreting results of C-peptide levels in terms of eligibility for preventative and drug trials, in which case, results may be skewed. In this talk, we will discuss the reliability of C-peptide measurement and its use as a screening as well as prognostic tool for glucose intolerance.

Biography

Dr. Ismail has completed her MB BCh at the age of 24 years from Cairo University, Egypt, and her postdoctoral studies from the University of Washington, School of Medicine. She has published several type 1 diabetes related studies & book chapters, in addition to presenting at several international and national conferences. She is currently a clinical fellow at Seattle Children's Hospital, as well as holding her position as faculty at Cairo University in Egypt.