



as this group appears to be similar to women without diabetes with respect to infant feeding decisions.

MARGREETE JOHNSTON, MD, MPH<sup>1</sup>  
 CORNELIA GRAVES, MD<sup>2</sup>  
 PATRICK G. ARBOGAST, PHD<sup>3</sup>  
 WILLIAM O. COOPER, MD, MPH<sup>1</sup>

From the <sup>1</sup>Department of Pediatrics, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee; the <sup>2</sup>Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee; and the <sup>3</sup>Department of Biostatistics, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee.

Address correspondence to Margreete Johnston, MD, MPH, 56 Old Club Ct., Nashville, TN 37215-1100. E-mail: margreete\_johnston@hotmail.com.

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## Treatment of Hyperglycemia in a 7-Year-Old Child Diagnosed With Neonatal Diabetes

Permanent neonatal diabetes is persistent, insulin-requiring hyperglycemia occurring before 1 month of life. Recent studies have identified activating mutations in *KCNJ11* encoding the Kir6.2 subunit of the ATP-sensitive K<sup>+</sup> channel as a common cause of neonatal diabetes (1–5). These patients can be successfully managed with oral sulfonylureas rather than insulin (2,4,6,7). We describe our experience with a 7-year-old Mexican-American girl diagnosed with insulin-dependent diabetes at 2 weeks of age when she presented with a respiratory infection. Her blood glucose level was 442

mg/dl, C-peptide 0.33 ng/ml (ref. 0.8–4), insulin 3.1 uU/ml (ref. 0–22), and HbA<sub>1c</sub> (A1C) 7.7% (ref. <6.4), and she had negative diabetes autoantibodies. Her mother was diagnosed with insulin-dependent diabetes at 6 months of age. The prognosis was evaluated at the pediatric diabetes center at Loma Linda University at the age of 6 years, and DNA testing revealed the presence of the permanent neonatal diabetes-associated mutation Arg201His in *KCNJ11* in both her and her mother (2). Glucagon and mixed-meal glucose tolerance testing did not show an increment in C-peptide from the baseline value. Insulin was weaned and discontinued over 2 weeks, with a starting glyburide dose of 1.25 mg b.i.d. (0.05 mg · kg<sup>-1</sup> · day<sup>-1</sup>) and incremental increase to the current dose of 3.5 mg glyburide b.i.d. Previously, the patient's A1C on insulin ranged from 7.1 to 11.5%. Off insulin, and over the past 24 months, her quarterly A1C range was 5.1–6.3%, with no record or symptoms suggestive of hypoglycemia. Our results were consistent with other reports in the literature (2,4,6,7). The patient and her family were overwhelmingly pleased with the discontinuation of insulin, which they referred to as “a miracle.”

EBA HATHOUT, MD<sup>1</sup>  
 JOHN MACE, MD<sup>1</sup>  
 GRAEME I. BELL, PHD<sup>2</sup>  
 PÅL R. NJØLSTAD, MD, PHD<sup>3,4</sup>

From the <sup>1</sup>Department of Pediatrics, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California; the <sup>2</sup>Department of Medicine and Human Genetics, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois; the <sup>3</sup>Department of Clinical Medicine, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway; and the <sup>4</sup>Department of Pediatrics, Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen, Norway.

Address correspondence to Eba Hathout, MD, FAAP, Professor and Chief, Division of Pediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes, Department of Pediatrics, Loma Linda University, 11175 Campus St., Coleman Pavilion, Room A1120R, Loma Linda, CA 92354. E-mail: ehathout@ahs.llumc.edu.

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## Circulating Vitamin D Concentrations in Two Neighboring Populations With Markedly Different Incidence of Type 1 Diabetes

Recent studies have suggested that vitamin D deficiency may increase the risk of type 1 diabetes (1). In Finland, the incidence of type 1 diabetes is the highest in the world, while in the neighboring Karelian Republic of Russia, the incidence is approximately one-sixth