

## **Experiential Learning**

An alternative to Carbohydrate Counting in blood glucose management

Elaine Chong, Dietitian

# Learning is the process whereby knowledge is created through the transformation of experience

David A. Kolb



#### **Blood glucose management:**



#### **Meal Timing**



#### Medication





**Exercise intensity** 





# Case Study



- 56M
- Originally from China, NZ for 15 years
- Non smoker. Non drinker
- Weight 85.4kg
- PMHx:
  - Functional Dyspepsia
  - Functional Diarrhoea
  - NAFLD
  - T2DM HbA1C 99
- What are the Dietetic issues at hand?



# Health Belief

- Food is medicine, medicine is food.
- Traditional Chinese Medicine (TMC) treats the 'root', Western Medicine treats the 'symptoms'.
- Food safety

## **Relevant Biochemistry Results:**

- HbA1c: 99 mmol/mol
- Total cholesterol: 7.2 mmol/L
- TG: 9.9 mmol/L
- Cholesterol: HDL: 8.5
- Ferritin: 714 ug/L
- ALT: 66 U/L

## **Medication:**

• 1500mg Sulphasalazine bd



## HbA<sub>1</sub>c as indicator of Diabetes Control



# Enable Experiential Learning

#### Short-term goals:

Improve capillary blood glucose levels with dietary intervention and medication.

- Convince him to do something about his blood glucose
- Enable him to take charge by providing him with the knowledge and tool
  - Glucose meter
  - Blood glucose targets
  - Manipulate dietary pattern to achieve blood glucose targets
  - Interpret capillary blood glucose levels and make changes accordingly
- Facilitate learning



## Random blood glucose levels in the clinic:



2 Chinese Ya Pears





2 fist size Eight Treasure Congee



1 hour after breakfast



Green tea

2-3 Shanghai Siew Mai



2 Chinese Pancake



2 hour after breakfast

# Eight Treasure Congee



Eight Treasure Congee



		Estimated carbohydrate
Breakfast	Rice porridge + steamed bun or	60 – 400g
9-10am	Mixed beans soup + glutinous rice dumplings or	
	Dumplings + eggs or	
	Meat pies/Sausage roll or	
	Beef noodles	
Lunch	Fruits	45-60g
12-1pm		
Dinner	2.5 cups of rice + meat + vegetables	100 – 120g
4pm		
Exercise	Swimming, sauna and hot bath	
5:30-6pm		
Supper	1 cup of milo made with milk	20g
Drinks	Water, tea, lemon-flavored water	











#### 10 mmol/L









Fibre 纤维	Carbohydrate Animal Sources 碳水化合物(淀粉) 动物	Protein Animal Sources 蛋白质	Saturated Fat 饱和脂肪 Trans Fat 反武脂肪 Fat
Plant Sources 植物	Plant Sources Plant Sources 植物 植物	Plant Sources 植物	月百月力 PolyansaturatedFat 多不復和脂肪 MonosaturatedFat 単多不饱和脂肪



Fibre 纤维	Carbohydrate 碳水化合物(淀粉)	Animal Sources 动物	Protein 蛋白质	Animal Sources 动物	SaturatedFat 饱和脂肪 TransFat 反武脂肪	Fat
Plant Sources 植物	Plant Sources 植物	Plant Sources 植物		Plant Sources 植物	PolyunsituratedFat 多不饱和脂肪 不饱和脂肪 MonosaturatedFat 单多不饱和脂肪	<b>月百 从刀</b>

#### Blood glucose management: Consistent carbohydrate portion



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### **Recommendations:**





# FACILITATE LEARNING

	Capillary blood glucose levels (mmol/L)						
	Fasting	After BF	Before D	After D	Before	Comment	
	ð	<b>Ĭ</b> 9ат	🍎 3-5pm	Ĭ			
Day 1	13.3	18.4	10.5	17.4	13.3		
Day 2	12	14.4	9.0	15.3	10.8		
Day 3	12.1	12.5	9.2	17.2	13.2		
Day 4	10.2	12.4	-		13.2		
Day 5	9.6	8.1	8.6	-	10.5		
Day 6	9.7	12.7	-	-		Start 80mg Gliclazide at dinner.	

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Day 4	10.2	12.4	-		13.2			
Day 5	9.6	8.1	8.6	-	10.5			
Day 6	9.7	12.7		-		Start 80mg Gliclazide at dinner.		



	Capillary blood glucose levels (mmol/L)					
	Fasting	After BF	Before D	After D	Before	Comment
	ĕ	Ť	è	Ť		
Day 1	7.5	12.5	5.5	-	10.1	80mg Gliclazide at dinner.
Day 2	7.7	-	7.1	-	-	Did not take Gliclazide
Day 3	8.4	-	5.5	-	-	80mg Gliclazide at breakfast
4 weeks F/U	7.3	Weight:84.1kg ( <i>re</i> <b>Weight History:</b> 85.4kg - May 2019 88kg - April 2019.	ported home scale	es was between	h 82-83kg).	3 hours after breakfast.

## HbA<sub>1</sub>c as indicator of Diabetes Control





		Estimated carbohydrate
Breakfast around 9am	Carbohydrate: 1¼ cup of mixed grains rice/mixed grains congee. Protein: fish. Fibre: a variety of vegetables. (Follow Healthy plate concept)	40-60g
Lunch 12-1pm	Tomatoes.	0-10g
Dinner 3-5pm	Carbohydrate: 1¼ cup of mixed grains rice. Protein: fish. Fibre: a variety of vegetables. (Follow Healthy plate concept)	50-60g
Exercise most days 5:30-6pm	Swimming, sauna, and a hot bath. Changes made: Increase exercise intensity.	
Supper Drinks	Fruit/Milk/Nuts. Water, tea, lemon-flavored water.	0 -20g

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Dinner 3-5pm	Carbohydrate: 1¼ cup of mixed grains rice. Protein: fish. Fibre: a variety of vegetables. (Follow Healthy plate concept)	50-60g
Exercise most days 5:30-6pm	Swimming, sauna, and a hot bath. Changes made: Increase exercise intensity.	
Supper Drinks	Fruit/Milk/Nuts. Water, tea, lemon-flavored water.	0 -20g









# Do I *Really* have Diabetes?



## Do I need to take some Nutrition Supplements?





# Health Belief

- Food is medicine, medicine is food.
- Traditional Chinese Medicine (TMC) treats the 'root', Western Medicine treats the 'symptoms'.
- Food safety



#### Short-term goals:

- 1. Improve capillary blood glucose levels with dietary intervention and medication (Achieved).
- 2. Weigh less at his next follow up appointment.
- 3. See improvement in HbA1c and blood lipid profiles in his next laboratory blood test.

#### Long-term goal:

- 1. Achieve his personal goal weight of 75kg.
- 2. Manage his blood glucose with lifestyle modification and minimal medication.

#### Discussion on:

How Gliclazide works on managing blood glucose.

The importance of exercise in weight management and blood glucose management.

- Aim for at least 3 hours of physical exercise weekly.
- Include cardio exercise, weight training, and core muscles strengthening exercise in his weekly exercise routine.
- The role of muscle mass in weight management.

Blood glucose management tips when eating out.

#### **Recommendation:**

3-4 smaller carbohydrate meal, spread over the day. This strategy helps to reduce post-prandial blood glucose. Hence needing less medication to control blood glucose.