

*In the name of GOD*

# *magnesium and diabetes mellitus*

*Dr. P. Aghajanzadeh*

*Nephrologist*

*Assistant professor of GUMS*



- ❖ diabetes was reported to be the **sixth leading cause of death** listed on US death certificates in 2000
- ❖ The treatment of the patients with diabetes requires a **multidisciplinary** approach whereby every potential complicating factor must be monitored closely and treated.
- ❖ In particular, although hypomagnesemia has been reported to occur with increased frequency among patients with type 2 diabetes, it is frequently **overlooked and undertreated**.

**Incidence** of hypomagnesemia in patients with T2DM, implicated contributing factors, and associated complications. Hypomagnesemia occurs at an incidence of **13.5 to 47.7%.**

**What may be contributory:**

- Poor dietary intake
- autonomic dysfunction
- altered insulin metabolism
- glomerular hyperfiltration
- osmotic diuresis
- recurrent metabolic acidosis,
- hypophosphatemia
- hypokalemia

**Hypomagnesemia has been linked to:**

- poor glycemic control
- coronary artery diseases
- hypertension
- diabetic retinopathy
- nephropathy
- neuropathy
- foot ulcerations

The **increased incidence** of hypomagnesemia among patients with type 2 diabetes presumably is **multifactorial**.

# *Magnesium and Cell Physiology*

Magnesium is the **fourth** most abundant cation in the human body and the **second** most abundant intracellular cation.

It may exist as a **protein-bound, complexed, or free cation**.

- ❑ It serves as a **co-factor** for all enzymatic reactions that **require ATP**
- ❑ as a key component in various reactions that require **kinases**
- ❑ an essential **enzyme activator** for neuromuscular **excitability** and cell permeability
- ❑ a regulator of **ion channels** and mitochondrial function
- ❑ a critical element in cellular **proliferation and apoptosis**
- ❑ an important factor in both cellular and humoral **immune reactions**



# Diagnosis of Hypomagnesemia

Traditionally, hypomagnesemia refers to a low serum magnesium (Mg) concentration because this measurement has long been readily available. Clinically, hypomagnesemia may be defined as a serum Mg concentration 1.6 mg/dl or 2 SD below the mean of the general population.

Clinically, it has been suggested that in a patient with suspected Mg deficiency, a low serum Mg concentration is sufficient to confirm the diagnosis. If the serum Mg level is normal in the same patient, then other more sensitive tests should be performed

# *Incidence of Hypomagnesemia among Patients with Type 2 Diabetes*

Hypomagnesemia, defined by low serum Mg concentrations, has been reported to occur in 13.5 to 47.7% of nonhospitalized patients with T2 DM compared with 2.5 to 15% among cohort.

In terms of gender difference, a higher incidence of hypomagnesemia in women compared with men, at a 2-to-1 ratio

In addition, men with diabetes may have higher ionized levels of Mg

# Clinical Signs of Hypomagnesemia<sup>1,8</sup>

## Neuromuscular

- Muscle tetany, tremors
- Seizure activity
- Ataxia

## Cardiac

- Electrocardiographic changes
  - Peaked T waves
  - Mild ST-segment depression
- Arrhythmias
  - Ventricular tachycardia
  - Torsades de pointes
  - Supraventricular tachycardia
  - Atrial fibrillation

## Electrolyte

- Hypokalemia
- Hypocalcemia



# *Hypomagnesemia and Diabetes: Cause and Effect*

- Not only has hypomagnesemia been associated with type 2 diabetes, but also numerous studies have reported **an inverse relationship** between glycemic control and serum Mg levels
- Although many authors have suggested that diabetes per se may induce hypomagnesemia, others have reported that **higher Mg intake may confer a lower risk for type 2 diabetes**
- It is interesting that the induction of Mg deficiency has been shown to reduce insulin sensitivity in individuals without diabetes, whereas Mg supplementation **during a 4-wk** period has been shown to improve glucose handling in elderly individuals without diabetes
- In patients with type 2 diabetes, oral Mg supplementation **during a 16-wk** period was suggested to improve insulin sensitivity and metabolic control .
- The mechanisms whereby hypomagnesemia may induce or worsen existing diabetes are **not well understood**.
- Nonetheless, it has been suggested that hypomagnesemia may induce altered cellular glucose transport, reduced pancreatic insulin secretion, defective postreceptor insulin signaling,



# *Hypomagnesemia and Adverse Clinical Associations in T2 DM*

Clinically, there are significant data linking hypomagnesemia to various diabetic **micro- and macrovascular complications**.

Available data suggest that low Mg levels may promote

- ✓ endothelial cell dysfunction and thrombogenesis via increased platelet aggregation and vascular calcifications.
- ✓ induction of proinflammatory and profibrogenic response
- ✓ reduction of protective enzymes against oxidative stress
- ✓ induction or augmentation of vasoconstriction and hypertension
- ✓ stimulation of aldosterone

Moreover, because **Mg is crucial in DNA synthesis and repair**, it is possible that Mg deficiency may interfere with normal cell growth and **regulation of apoptosis**.

# Macrovascular complications

## Cardiovascular.

- (ARIC), a multicenter, prospective cohort study that lasted 4 to 7 yr and involved 13,922 middle-aged adults who were free of coronary heart disease at baseline, **an inverse** association between serum Mg and the risk for coronary heart disease was observed among **men with diabetes**

## Foot Ulcerations.

- Given the link between hypomagnesemia and risk factors for the development of diabetic foot ulcers (e.g., polyneuropathy, platelet dysfunction), suggested that hypomagnesemia may be associated with an increased risk of diabetic foot ulcers. Indeed, they observed a **higher incidence** of hypomagnesemia among their patients with diabetic foot ulcers compared with those without the condition

## Diabetic Retinopathy

- Not only did **patients with diabetes have lower serum Mg** levels compared with their counterparts without diabetes, but also the serum Mg levels among the cohort with diabetes had an **inverse correlation with the degree of retinopathy**

# *Nephropathy.*

a significant decrease in serum ionized Mg in both the **micro albuminuria and overt proteinuria** group compared with the non micro albuminuric group.

Accordingly ,in a recent retrospective study, an association between lower serum Mg levels and a significantly **faster rate of renal function deterioration** in patients with type 2 diabetes was reported.Others.

Finally, there also are data to suggest the association between hypomagnesemia and **other diabetic complications, including dyslipidemia and neurologic abnormalities**

a better understanding of Mg metabolism and efforts to minimize hypomagnesemia inthe routine management of diabetes are **warranted**.



# Is the Renoprotective Effect of SGLT2 Inhibitors due to their Beneficial Effect on Hypomagnesemia?

Tatsuo Yanagawa\*

Department of Medicine, Neri

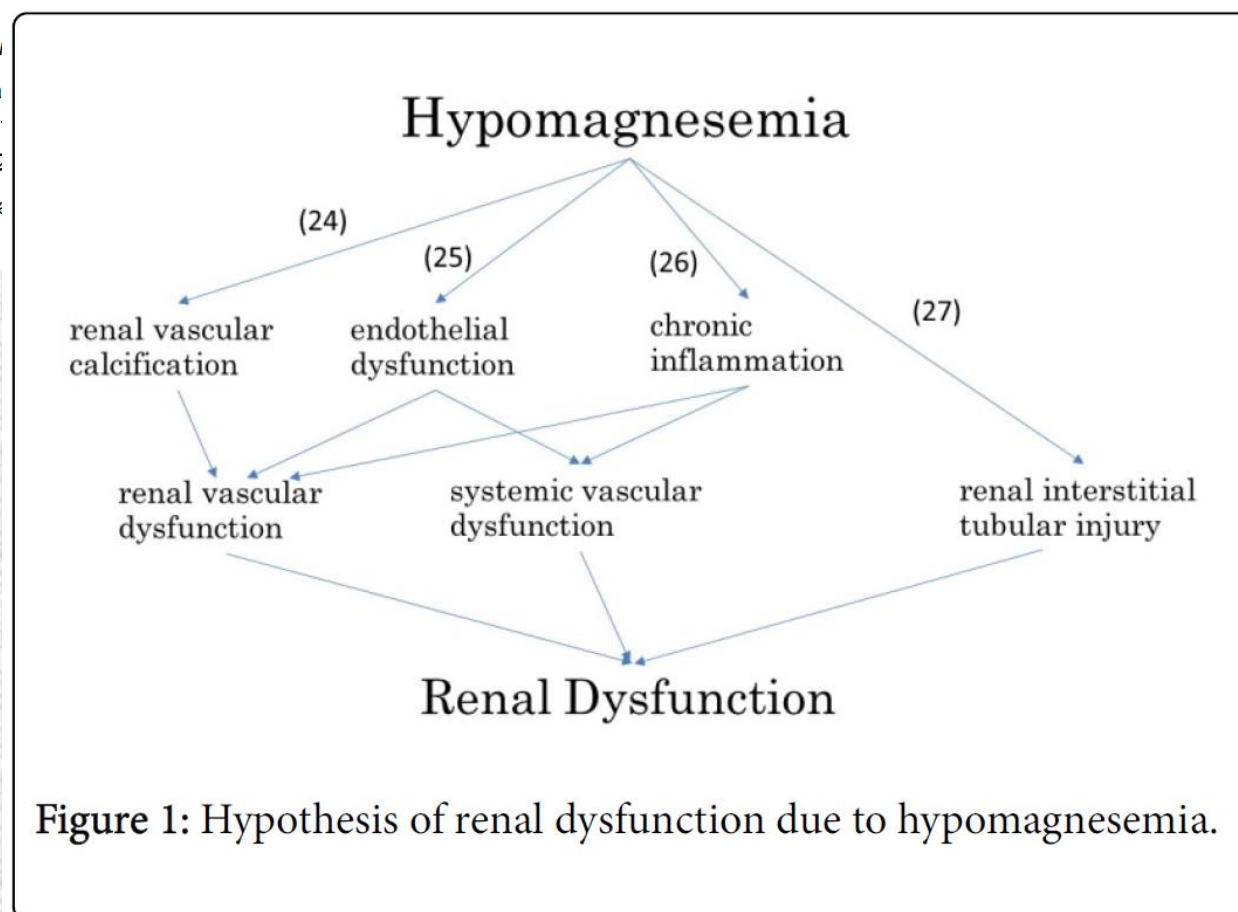
\*Corresponding author: Ta  
+81-3-5988-2200; Fax: +81-3-

Received date: October 23, 2

Copyright: © 2017 Yanagawa;  
distribution, and reproduction

8530, Japan, Tel:

ts unrestricted use,





# *Normal Mg Metabolism: Gastrointestinal Metabolism*

On an average American diet, **250 to 350 mg** of Mg is consumed daily. **25% to 60%** of dietary Mg is absorbed in the gastrointestinal tract. Gastrointestinal absorption occurs predominantly in the **small intestines** via paracellular **simple diffusion** at high intraluminal concentrations and active transcellular uptake via Mg-specific transporters at low concentrations. Active intestinal Mg absorption is presumed to involve transient receptor potential channel melastatin 6 (**TRPM6**), which is expressed along the **brush border membrane of the small intestine**.

Mutations of TRPM6 have been reported to be associated with hypomagnesemia with secondary hypocalcemia .

# Normal Mg Metabolism; Renal Metabolism

## Glomerular Filtration.

**70 to 80%** of plasma Mg is ultrafilterable in the **ionic** form (70 to 80%) and **complexed** with anions such as phosphate, citrate, and oxalate (20 to 30%).

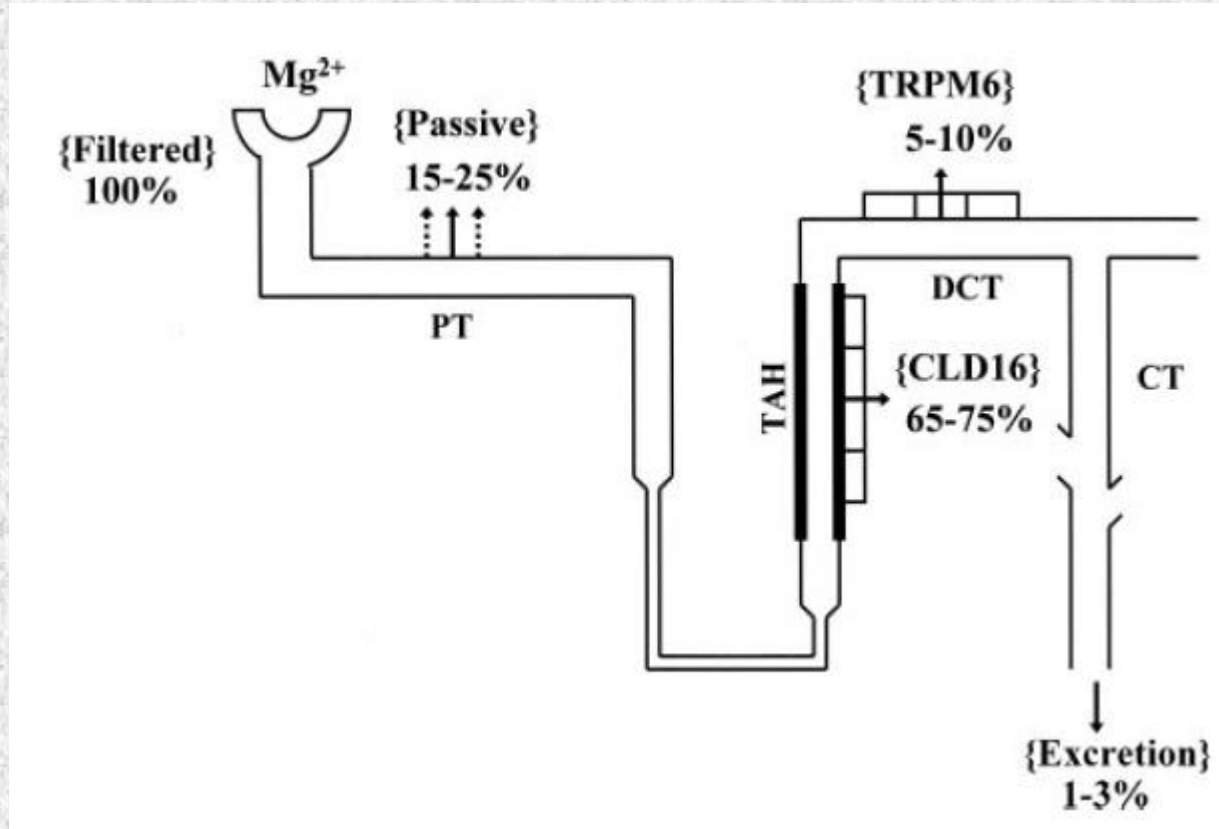
The ultrafilterability of Mg **depends on glomerular filtration, volume status, various metabolic states** that would enhance the selection for ionized Mg (e.g., acidemia, reduced serum content of negatively charged species), and the integrity of the glomerular basement membrane.

**Proximal Tubules.** Once Mg is filtered through the glomerulus **15 to 25%** is reabsorbed in the proximal tubules. Reabsorption at the proximal tubule is mainly passive and **proportional to sodium and water reabsorption**.

**Loop of Henle: 65 to 75%** of the Mg filtered load is reabsorbed via the paracellular pathway in TAL. Paracellular Mg reabsorption at this nephron segment has been suggested to be facilitated by **claudin 6**, also known as **paracellin 1**. Paracellin 1 is a tight junction protein whose mutation is associated with severe hypomagnesemia with hypercalciuria and nephrolithiasis.

**Parathyroid hormone, calcitonin, glucagon, and ADH** have been suggested to enhance Mg transport in the TAL via Camp.

**Insulin** also has been implicated to play a role at this nephron segment by increasing the favorable transepithelial potential difference for Mg reabsorption.





# Distal Convoluted Tubules.

DCT reabsorbs approximately **5 to 10%** of the filtered Mg via an **active** and regulated transcellular pathway. Although this is a low percentage of the filtered Mg load, it represents 70 to 80% of Mg that is delivered from the TAL. In addition, because a negligible amount of Mg is reabsorbed distal to this segment, Mg reabsorption at the DCT is of great importance because it determines the final urinary Mg concentration.

Recently, Mg reabsorption at the DCT was shown to occur via **TRPM6**. It has been postulated that upon entry into the cells, Mg binds to divalent-binding proteins such as parvalbumin or calbindin-D28K for transport across the cell to the basolateral membrane, where Mg is taken into the interstitium by a basolateral Na<sup>2</sup>/Mg<sup>2</sup> exchanger and/or ATP dependent Mg pump .

**PTH, calcitonin, glucagon, and vasopressin** all have been implicated. The mediating mechanisms are unknown but seem to involve, in part, stimulation of cAMP release and activation of protein kinase A, phospholipase C, and protein kinase C. **Insulin** also

has been suggested to enhance intracellular Mg uptake, presumably via tyrosine kinase. Moreover, insulin may stimulate the production of cAMP and PTH. In addition, the Ca<sup>2</sup>/Mg<sup>2</sup> sensing receptor on the basolateral side may modulate hormone-stimulated Mg transport through G-protein coupling .

Finally, low dietary Mg intake and **estrogens** have been shown to upregulate **renal TRP M6** expression and reduce urinary Mg excretion. Whether gastrointestinal Mg absorption via TRPM6 is reduced in the patient with diabetes is not known. Because Mg reabsorption parallels sodium reabsorption in the proximal tubules, volume expansion can decrease both sodium and Mg reabsorption at this level. Similarly, a high tubular flow through the TAL may reduce Mg reabsorption at this segment.



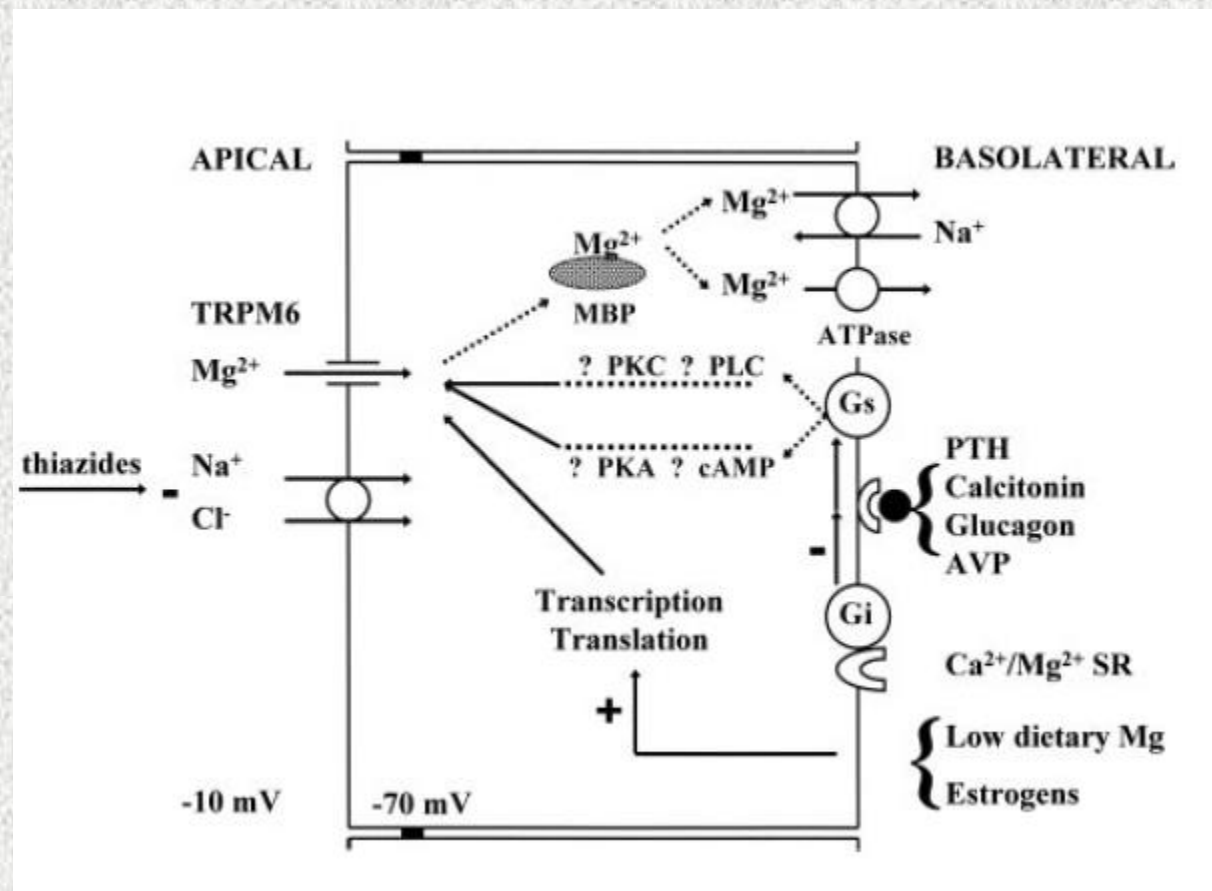


Table 1. Possible causes of hypomagnesemia in patients with type 2 diabetes

---

Decreased intake
poor oral intake
esophageal dysfunction
diabetic gastroparesis
Enhanced gastrointestinal loss
diarrhea as a result of autonomic dysfunction
Enhanced renal magnesium loss
enhanced filtered load
glomerular hyperfiltration
osmotic diuresis (glucosuria)
volume expansion as a result of excessive volume replacement
metabolic acidosis (diabetic ketoacidosis)
hypoalbuminemia
microalbuminuria and overt proteinuria
reduced renal reabsorption
endocrinologic dysfunction: insulin deficiency or resistance
metabolic acidosis (diabetic ketoacidosis)
electrolyte abnormalities: phosphate and potassium depletion
diuretics
others

---

## Causes of Hypomagnesemia<sup>1,6,8</sup>

### Inadequate intake or excessive excretion

- Malnutrition
- Diarrhea
- Malabsorption

### Renal loss

- Loop diuretics
- Parenteral fluid therapy
- Tubular disease
  - Acute tubular necrosis
  - Renal tubular acidosis
  - Interstitial nephritis
  - Postobstructive diuresis
  - Drug injury
- Osmotic agents
  - Mannitol
  - Hyperglycemia
- Hypercalcemia
- Hypokalemia

### Endocrine disease

- Diabetes mellitus
- Hyperthyroidism
- Hyperadrenocorticism

### Redistribution

- Pancreatitis
- Sepsis
- Insulin therapy
- Catecholamine excess

### Burns

### Lactation

# *Reduced Tubular Reabsorption in T2 DM*

Because insulin has been implicated in enhancing Mg reabsorption at the TAL, **insulin deficiency or resistance** in the diabetic state can **promote Mg wasting** at this nephron segment.

This is thought to be a compensatory mechanism for the increased Mg load that is **delivered to the DCT or blunted activity of the TRPM6** channel in the diabetic state.

Accordingly, despite the increase in TRPM6 expression, **overall renal Mg wasting is observed**.



# Metabolic Disturbances

Various metabolic disturbances that are associated with diabetes also have been suggested to promote urinary Mg excretion **Hypokalemia**.

At the TAL segment, hypokalemia may **reduce Na-K-2Cl co-transport activity**, the associated potassium extrusion through the potassium channel **ROMK**, and resultant diminution of the favorable trans **membrane voltage** that is required for paracellular Mg reabsorption.

In addition, there is evidence to suggest that cellular potassium depletion may diminish Mg reabsorption at the DCT by yet unclear mechanisms

**Hypophosphatemia:** Both micropuncture studies in phosphate-depleted dogs and in vitro studies involving phosphate depleted mouse DCT cells have demonstrated reduced Mg uptake.

**Phosphate-induced reduction in cellular uptake of Mg** is believed to be a post translational effect because the alteration in Mg uptake could be observed within **30 min** of phosphate depletion.



# *Metabolic Acidosis.*

In addition to its role in increasing serum ionized Mg concentration and, hence, **ultrafilterable** Mg load for renal excretion, metabolic acidosis has been suggested to enhance **protonation of the Mg channel in the DCT** and subsequent inhibition of cellular Mg uptake . **reduced expression of TRPM6** with induced chronic metabolic acidosis.

As previously discussed, insulin deficiency or resistance may exacerbate renal Mg wasting because insulin has been shown to have anti magnesiuric effects in both the **TAL and the DCT**

# *Use of Diuretics and others*

The common use of diuretics among patients with diabetes also may contribute to **magnesiuria**. The degree of magnesiuria is traditionally thought to be lower for thiazides compared with **loop diuretics**. In addition, inhibition of the Na-Cl co-transporter by **thiazides has been suggested to induce hyperpolarization of the DCT plasma membrane and, hence, a more favorable transmembrane electrical gradient for Mg reabsorption.**

Despite these theoretical advantages of thiazides over loop diuretics, severe hypomagnesemia is observed **more frequently with Gitelman's compared with Bartter's syndrome**, two syndromes that have traditionally been equated to the administration of thiazides and furosemide, respectively. Recently, in support of this observation, **reduced TRPM6 expression and enhanced magnesiuria were shown in mice given chronic thiazide therapy**. Given these observations and the lack of good direct comparative data between the two classes of diuretics, it must be assumed that significant magnesiuria may occur with either.

Finally, the more common use of **antibiotics** and **antifungals** such as **aminoglycosides** and **amphotericin** in patients with diabetes may also contribute to renal Mg wasting

# *Target Serum Mg Levels*

Although **no study** has ever documented an optimal serum Mg concentration in patients with diabetes

a level between **2.0 and 2.5** mg/dl may be favorable. within this range had the least degree of renal function deterioration and best glycemic control .

Although the correction of low serum Mg levels has **never been proved** to be protective against chronic diabetic complications intervention is justified because hypomagnesemia has been linked to many adverse clinical outcomes

In addition, Mg supplementation is **inexpensive** and, with the exception of **diarrhea**, a relatively benign medication. Nonetheless, **close observation** must be given to those with renal insufficiency.



*Table 2. Suggested management of hypomagnesemia in patients with type 2 diabetes*

Increase Mg intake

dietary consult

high Mg-containing food types

soy products, legumes, and seeds such as almonds and cashews, whole grains, and fruits and vegetables  
such as spinach, okra, Swiss chard, dried apricots, and avocados

Control of diabetic gastroparesis

eat multiple small meals instead of two to three large meals per day

tight glucose control

use of prokinetic medications to enhance gastric motility

others: pyloric botulinum toxin injection, enteric feeding, gastric pacing

Oral Mg supplementation

see Table 3

Decrease gastrointestinal loss (diarrhea)

trial of soluble fiber

regular effort to move bowels

trials of gluten-free diet, lactose restriction

others: cholestyramine, clonidine, somatostatin analog, supplemental pancreatic enzyme, and antibiotics such as  
metronidazole

Decrease renal Mg loss

decrease filtered load

use angiotensin-converting enzyme and/or angiotensin receptor blockers

tight glycemic control

avoid excessive volume replacement during periods of hyperglycemia

Increase renal reabsorption

tight glycemic control; measures to decrease insulin resistance (exercise)

replacement of phosphate and potassium as needed

replacement of diuretic-induced magnesiuria (based on a 24-h urine collection)



Table 3. Common Mg salts used as oral supplements in the United States

Mg Salt	Elemental Mg (mg)	Comments
Chloride	64	Slow-Mag, <sup>a</sup> Purdue <sup>b</sup> : contains calcium
Citrate	100	Active Calcium, <sup>a</sup> Usana <sup>b</sup> : contains calcium, vitamins D <sub>3</sub> and K
Gluconate	27/tablet 54/5 ml	Magonate, <sup>a</sup> Fleming <sup>b</sup> : contains calcium and phosphorus
Oxide	241 362	MagOx400, <sup>a</sup> Blaine <sup>b</sup> : no added products Beelith, <sup>a</sup> Beach <sup>b</sup> : contains pyridoxine

<sup>a</sup>Brand name.

<sup>b</sup>Manufacturer/pharmaceutical company.

## Mini-Review

---

# Hypomagnesemia in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes

Phuong-Chi T. Pham,\* Phuong-Mai T. Pham,<sup>†</sup> Son V. Pham,<sup>‡</sup> Jeffrey M. Miller,<sup>§</sup> and Phuong-Thu T. Pham<sup>||</sup>

*\*Nephrology and <sup>§</sup>Hematology/Oncology Division, Department of Medicine, Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, Sylmar, California; <sup>†</sup>Department of Medicine, Maine Medical Center, Lewiston, Maine; <sup>‡</sup>Cardiology Division, Sacramento Veterans Administration Medical Center, Sacramento, California; <sup>||</sup>Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles, California*

*Clin J Am Soc Nephrol 2: 366–373, 2007. doi: 10.2215/CJN.02960906*

Lisanne M.M. Gommers,<sup>1</sup> Joost G.J. Hoenderop,<sup>1</sup> René J.M. Bindels,<sup>1</sup> and  
Jeroen H.F. de Baaij<sup>1,2</sup>



CrossMark

# Hypomagnesemia in Type 2 Diabetes: A Vicious Circle?

*Diabetes* 2016;65:3–13 | DOI: 10.2337/db15-1028



***Any questions?***

***\*\*\*\*\****

***Thank you***

