



# Pre and Post Contrast Information for Patients Taking Metformin: For Patients with Severe Kidney Disease

Metformin is the generic name for a drug used to treat diabetes.

There are several medications containing metformin. Some examples include:

<p>Brand names</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fortamet®</li> <li>• Glucophage®</li> <li>• Glumetza®</li> <li>• Riomet®</li> </ul>	<p>Brand names of combination products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actoplus Met® (containing Metformin, Pioglitazone)</li> <li>• Avandamet® (containing Metformin, Rosiglitazone)</li> <li>• Janumet® (containing Metformin, Sitagliptin)</li> <li>• Jentadueto® (containing Linagliptin, Metformin)</li> <li>• Kombiglyze® XR (containing Metformin, Saxagliptin)</li> <li>• Metaglip® (containing Glipizide, Metformin)*</li> <li>• Prandimet® (containing Metformin, Repaglinide)</li> </ul> <p>*This branded product is no longer on the market. Generic alternatives may be available.</p> <p>New Metformin drugs with different names may be available by the time you read this. Some patients obtain drugs outside the USA, where other names for Metformin may be used.</p>
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Metformin has been rarely associated with serious side effects. The most serious side effect is lactic acidosis. Lactic acidosis is caused by a build-up of lactic acid in the blood. Lactic acidosis is rare, and occurs mostly in people whose kidneys are severely impaired. Although rare, lactic acidosis can be fatal.

Some tests involve injecting contrast agents (x-ray "dye") into the bloodstream. Some contrast agents (such as those given for "CAT scans") can cause mild and

short-term changes in kidney function. These changes are rarely important or long lasting. The chance of major changes in kidney function is very low, but rarely serious changes in kidney function can occur in patients who already have severe kidney impairment.

**Metformin should be stopped at the time of your test and for at least 48 hours after your test, because of the risk of lactic acidosis in the rare event that a serious change in your kidney function were to occur.**

- You should not take Metformin again until your healthcare provider evaluates your kidney function and tells you to start taking Metformin.
- Please refer to the Patient Information supplied to you with the medicine by your Pharmacy.

**If you have not received instructions about managing your diabetes while you are off Metformin, you will need to contact your healthcare provider.**

You should call your healthcare provider right away if you have symptoms such as:

- feeling very weak, tired or uncomfortable
- unusual muscle pain
- trouble breathing
- unusual or unexpected stomach ache
- feeling cold
- dizzy or light-headed; or developing a slow or irregular heartbeat.

If you have any questions, you may discuss them with your healthcare provider or with the staff providing your test today.

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by Michigan Medicine for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by Michigan Medicine and for which Michigan Medicine does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.

(Exhibit 1 of Department of Radiology Guideline I-2 A “Guidelines for Use of Iodinated Contrast Material in Children and Adults Including Premedication”)

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