

Association of Type 1 Diabetes vs Type 2 Diabetes Diagnosed During Childhood and Adolescence With Complications During Teenage Years and Young Adulthood

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IMPORTANCE The burden and determinants of complications and comorbidities in contemporary youth-onset diabetes are unknown.

OBJECTIVE To determine the prevalence of and risk factors for complications related to type 1 diabetes vs type 2 diabetes among teenagers and young adults who had been diagnosed with diabetes during childhood and adolescence.

DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS Observational study from 2002 to 2015 in 5 US locations, including 2018 participants with type 1 and type 2 diabetes diagnosed at younger than 20 years, with single outcome measures between 2011 and 2015.

EXPOSURES Type 1 and type 2 diabetes and established risk factors (hemoglobin A_{1c} level, body mass index, waist-height ratio, and mean arterial blood pressure).


MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES Diabetic kidney disease, retinopathy, peripheral neuropathy, cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy, arterial stiffness, and hypertension.

RESULTS Of 2018 participants, 1746 had type 1 diabetes (mean age, 17.9 years [SD 4.1]; 1327 non-Hispanic white [76.0%]; 867 female patients [49.7%]), and 272 had type 2 (mean age, 22.1 years [SD 3.5]; 72 non-Hispanic white [26.5%]; 181 female patients [66.5%]). Mean diabetes duration was 7.9 years (both groups). Patients with type 2 diabetes vs those with type 1 had higher age-adjusted prevalence of all measured complications except cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy. After adjustment for established risk factors measured over time, participants with type 2 diabetes vs those with type 1 had significantly higher odds of diabetic kidney disease, retinopathy, and peripheral neuropathy but no significant difference in the odds of arterial stiffness and hypertension.

Complication	Age-Adjusted Prevalence, %		Absolute Difference, % (95% CI)	P Value	Adjusted Odds Ratio (95% CI)	P Value
	Type 2 Diabetes	Type 1 Diabetes				
Diabetic kidney disease	19.9	5.8	14.0 (9.1 to 19.9)	<.001	2.58 (1.39-4.81)	.003
Retinopathy	9.1	5.6	3.5 (0.4 to 7.7)	.02	2.24 (1.11-4.50)	.02
Peripheral neuropathy	17.7	8.5	9.2 (4.8 to 14.4)	<.001	2.52 (1.43-4.43)	.001
Cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy	15.7	14.4	1.2 (-3.1 to 6.5)	.62	0.98 (0.57-1.67)	.93
Arterial stiffness	47.4	11.6	35.9 (29.0 to 42.9)	<.001	1.07 (0.63-1.84)	.80
Hypertension	21.6	10.1	11.5 (6.8 to 16.9)	<.001	0.85 (0.50-1.45)	.55

CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE Among teenagers and young adults who had been diagnosed with diabetes during childhood or adolescence, the prevalence of complications and comorbidities was higher among those with type 2 diabetes compared with type 1, but frequent in both groups. These findings support early monitoring of youth with diabetes for development of complications.

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 CME Quiz at jamanetworkcme.com and CME Questions 853

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The increased prevalence of type 2 diabetes among children and adolescents has been relatively recent in most populations,¹⁻³ beginning in the early to mid-1990s. Additionally, a long-term increase in type 1 diabetes has been observed both worldwide⁴ and in the United States.³ These recent epidemiologic trends in type 1 and type 2 diabetes diagnosed in young individuals raise the question of whether the pattern of complications differs by diabetes type at similar ages and diabetes duration. Recent studies have reported higher prevalence of some⁵⁻⁷ but not all⁸ complications in children and adolescents with type 2 diabetes compared with those with type 1. Reasons for discrepancies across previous studies include population differences, relatively small sample sizes, variable length of duration of diabetes at outcome assessment, variable ages, and reliance on routine clinical or administrative records to document outcomes. Preliminary findings have suggested that there is a higher prevalence of selected complications and risk factors among adolescents and young adults with type 2 diabetes compared with type 1.⁹

Given those findings, this study was designed as an outcomes evaluation to comprehensively estimate the prevalence of multiple diabetes-related complications (retinopathy, neuropathy, and nephropathy) and comorbidities (hypertension and arterial stiffness) by type of diabetes. The a priori hypothesis was that the prevalence of complications and comorbidities would be higher in adolescents and young adults with type 2 diabetes compared with those with type 1. The secondary hypothesis was that the increased prevalence of complications would be reduced, at least in part, by adjustment for longitudinally measured established risk factors, including glycemia (hemoglobin A_{1c} level), obesity (body mass index [BMI]; waist-height ratio), and blood pressure (mean arterial pressure).

Methods

Study Population

Children and adolescents with diabetes diagnosed at younger than 20 years were identified from a population-based incidence registry network at 5 US sites (South Carolina; Cincinnati, Ohio, and surrounding counties; Colorado with southwestern Native American sites; Seattle, Washington, and surrounding counties; and Kaiser Permanente, Southern California) by the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth registry study.⁹ Patients received a new diagnosis of type 1 or type 2 diabetes in 2002-2006 or 2008 and were identified from ongoing surveillance of networks of hospitals and other clinical sites. Patients who could be contacted were recruited for a baseline visit (mean of 9.3 months [SD, 6.4] from diagnosis) and, if they completed it, were asked to return for visits at 12, 24, and 60 months to measure risk factors for diabetes complications (Figure 1).

A subset of participants aged 10 years or older who had at least 5 years of diabetes duration (to increase the likelihood of detection of complications) were recruited for an outcome visit between 2011 and 2015 (mean of 7.9 years [SD, 1.9] from

Key Points

Question What is the prevalence of complications of type 1 diabetes and type 2 diabetes among teenagers and young adults who had been diagnosed during childhood and adolescence?

Findings In an observational study of 1746 patients with type 1 diabetes and 272 with type 2 diabetes with onset younger than 20 years, the prevalence of diabetic kidney disease, retinopathy, and peripheral neuropathy was significantly greater in patients with type 2 diabetes, even after adjustment for differences in hemoglobin A_{1c} level, body mass index, waist-height ratio, and mean arterial blood pressure.

Meaning Among teenagers and young adults who had been diagnosed with diabetes during childhood and adolescence, the prevalence of complications was higher among those with type 2 diabetes compared with type 1 diabetes, but frequent in both groups.

diagnosis), for whom a single prevalent measurement of diabetes-related complications and comorbidities was completed. A flowchart depicting included and excluded participants is shown in Figure 2. The study was approved by institutional review boards with jurisdiction, and for all participants, the parent, adolescent or young adult, or both provided consent or assent.

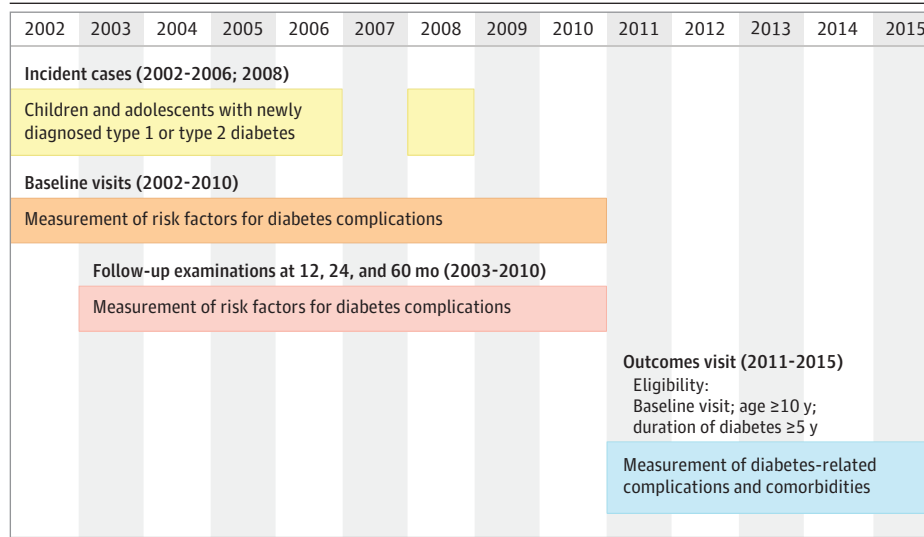
Research Visits

Trained personnel administered questionnaires, made measurements, and obtained blood samples. Because race and ethnicity are often related to differing disease outcomes, US census methods¹⁰ were used that provided a series of fixed race and ethnicity categories, as well as an "other" option for the self-report by parent or participant, depending on age. These were further categorized into non-Hispanic white and minority racial/ethnic groups, including Hispanic (regardless of race), non-Hispanic black, American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander, and other or multiple races/ethnicities. Education and income were self-reported. Body mass index was calculated as weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared and converted to a z score.¹¹ Waist circumference was measured with the natural waist location and was used to calculate the ratio of waist to height. The mean of 3 systolic and diastolic blood pressure levels was obtained with an aneroid manometer after at least 5 minutes of rest. A blood draw occurred after an 8-hour overnight fast, and medications, including short-acting insulin, were withheld the morning of the visit.

Laboratory Measures

Specimens were analyzed for glutamic acid decarboxylase-65 antibodies and insulinoma-associated-2 antibodies at the central laboratory¹² (Northwest Lipid Metabolism and Diabetes Research). Zinc-T8 autoantibody was analyzed at the Eisenbarth Laboratory (University of Colorado).¹³ Levels of fasting C-peptide, hemoglobin A_{1c}, glucose, lipids, creatinine, cystatin C, and urine albumin and creatinine were also measured.

Figure 1. Design of the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Cohort Study



Risk factors measured at baseline, follow-up, and outcome visits included glycemia (measured as hemoglobin A_{1c}), obesity (body mass index and waist-height ratio), and blood pressure levels. Outcomes measured at the outcome visits included diabetic retinopathy, neuropathy, nephropathy, hypertension, and arterial stiffness.

Type of Diabetes

Diabetes type was defined with an etiologic classification^{14,15} based on 1 or more positive diabetes autoantibody results and estimated insulin sensitivity score (validated equation including waist circumference and hemoglobin A_{1c} and triglyceride levels) at the baseline visit. Type 1 diabetes was defined as at least 1 positive antibody result, regardless of insulin sensitivity, or no positive antibody results and insulin sensitivity (score ≥8.15). Type 2 diabetes was defined as negative antibody results and insulin sensitivity (score <8.15).

Outcome Measures

Diabetic Kidney Disease

A first-morning urine void at home was brought to the outcome visit by 92% of participants, and if not available (in 8%), a spot sample was used. Diabetic kidney disease was defined as the presence of albuminuria (≥30 µg/mg of creatinine) or estimated glomerular filtration rate less than or equal to 60 mL/min/1.73 m² with the CKD-Epi equations with serum creatinine and cystatin C.¹⁶ Only 1 participant was classified as having diabetic kidney disease according to low estimated glomerular filtration rate.

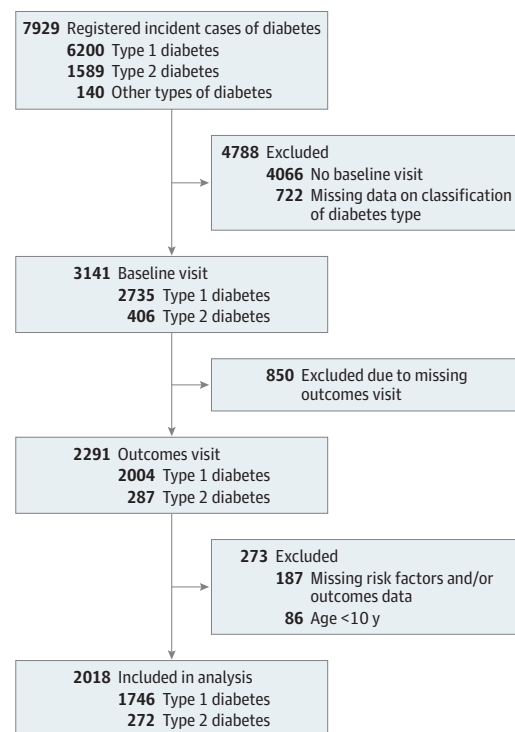
Diabetic retinopathy was determined by grading 45° color digital fundus images centered on the disc and macula of both eyes, taken with a nonmydriatic camera (Visucam Pro N; Carl Zeiss Meditech). The Wisconsin Ocular Epidemiology Reading Center graded photos masked to all clinical characteristics. Retinopathy severity was based on the worse eye and categorized as none, minimal nonproliferative, mild to moderate nonproliferative, or proliferative.¹⁷ Diabetic retinopathy was defined as presence of mild, moderate, or proliferative retinal changes.

Peripheral neuropathy was assessed with the Michigan Neuropathy Screening Instrument examination and was defined as a score greater than 2.^{18,19}

Cardiovascular Autonomic Neuropathy

Assessment of heart rate variability used the SphygmoCor-Vx device (AtCor Medical).²⁰ Indices of heart rate variability were

Figure 2. Flow of Participants in the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Cohort Study



"Other" types included unknown, hybrid, and missing diabetes type.

derived from the electrocardiographic R-R intervals and included standard deviation of the intervals, root mean square differences of successive intervals, normalized high-frequency power, normalized low-frequency power, and the low-frequency to high-frequency ratio. Cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy was defined as at least 3 of 5 abnormalities

based on fifth or lower percentiles or 95th or greater percentiles of data observed in age- and sex-matched control participants in the SEARCH Cardiovascular Disease ancillary study.²⁰

Arterial Stiffness

Pulse wave velocity was measured in the carotid-femoral arterial segment with the SphygmoCor-Vx device. A pulse wave velocity of 90th centile or greater of controls from the SEARCH Cardiovascular Disease study defined arterial stiffness.²¹

Hypertension

Hypertension was defined as blood pressure levels 95th or greater centile for age (<18 years),²² 140/90 mm Hg or higher (≥18 years), or relevant medical therapy.²³

Statistical Methods

Descriptive analyses calculated the mean (SD) or median (interquartile range [when data were not normally distributed]) for continuous variables and the number and percentage for categorical variables. Variables labeled “current” were from the outcomes visit and those labeled “mean over time” were the mean of all available visits from baseline to the outcomes visit (maximum possible = 5 visits). Hemoglobin A_{1c} levels (glucose control), BMI levels (overall obesity), and waist-height ratio (central obesity) from all visits were averaged. Mean arterial pressure was calculated as $(2 \times \text{diastolic}) + \text{systolic}$ /3 at each visit and averaged.

Prevalence of Outcomes

The prevalence of each outcome was estimated at age 21 years by diabetes type, as well as by type and race/ethnicity, with logistic regression. Absolute differences and 95% CIs were calculated from the age-adjusted prevalence estimates.

Risk Factors and Prevalence Differences

To understand which risk factors were associated with prevalence differences, odds ratios (ORs) and 95% CIs for the associations between diabetes type (type 2 vs 1) and each outcome were computed in sequentially adjusted models. A base model adjusted for age, sex, duration of diabetes, and clinical site. Additional models explored whether adjustment for individual covariates reduced the strength of the associations: race/ethnicity, hemoglobin A_{1c} level, BMI, waist-height ratio, and mean arterial pressure averaged over time (except when hypertension was the outcome, in which case mean arterial pressure was not included). A final model explored the changes in the ORs, with adjustment for all risk factors (except BMI, which was highly correlated with waist-height ratio). Model fit was determined with the Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness-of-fit test. Analyses used SAS version 9.4. All analyses used 2-sided $P = .05$ as statistically significant and were not adjusted for multiple comparisons. No formal tests for interaction were conducted.

Results

There were 2018 adolescents and young adults for this analysis. Table 1 shows that participants with type 1 diabetes and

those with type 2 had a distribution of characteristics similar to those of the registry population from which they came on demographic factors (average diabetes onset age, sex, and race/distribution) and similar to those of the participants with a baseline visit on important clinical variables (hemoglobin A_{1c} level, BMI converted to a z score, waist circumference, waist-height ratio, and fasting C-peptide and blood pressure levels) and socioeconomic factors (insurance, household income, and parental education).

Table 2 shows demographic and clinical characteristics by type of diabetes. Compared with patients with type 1 diabetes, those with type 2 were older at diagnosis (mean age, 14.2 vs 10.0 years at diagnosis) and at the outcome visit (mean age, 22.1 vs 17.9 years), with a higher proportion of female participants (66.5% vs 49.7%) and minority participants (non-Hispanic black, Hispanic, American Indian, and other) (73.5% vs 24.0%). Duration of diabetes at the outcome visit was 7.9 years for both groups. Neither current nor mean hemoglobin A_{1c} levels were significantly different for participants with type 1 and type 2 diabetes. Measures of obesity and mean arterial pressure (current and mean over time) were significantly higher in type 2 diabetes than in type 1. A total of 72 type 2 diabetes participants (27%) did not report treatment with diabetes medications at the outcomes study visit.

Table 3 shows the number of outcomes observed and the age-adjusted prevalence for each outcome at aged 21 years by type of diabetes and by both type and race/ethnicity, along with absolute differences. A higher prevalence of complications and comorbidities was observed overall among adolescents and young adults with type 2 diabetes compared with type 1, with the exception of cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy.

A total of 44 participants (19.9%) with type 2 diabetes had diabetic kidney disease compared with 89 participants (5.8%) with type 1 diabetes (absolute difference, 14.0%; 95% CI, 9.1%-19.9%; $P < .001$). The prevalence of diabetic retinopathy was also significantly higher for type 2 diabetes participants than for type 1 (type 2 diabetes, $n = 36$, 9.1%; type 1 diabetes, $n = 71$, 5.6%; absolute difference, 3.5%; 95% CI, 0.4%-7.7%; $P = .02$).

The prevalence of peripheral neuropathy was also higher in participants with type 2 diabetes vs type 1 overall ($n = 58$ vs 110; 17.7% vs 8.5%; absolute difference, 9.2%; 95% CI, 4.8-14.4; $P < .001$) and in both racial/ethnic groups.

Cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy prevalence was not significantly different overall among type 2 and type 1 diabetes participants ($n = 43$ vs 197; 15.7% vs 14.4%; absolute difference, 1.2%; 95% CI, -3.1 to 6.5; $P = .62$). Because of poor model fit for race/ethnicity subsets, strata-specific comparisons of cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy prevalence by diabetes type could not be made.

Arterial stiffness prevalence was significantly higher among participants with type 2 diabetes vs those with type 1 ($n = 107$ vs 137; 47.4% vs 11.6%; absolute difference, 35.9%; 95% CI, 29%-42.9%; $P < .001$) and among both non-Hispanic whites and minority participants with type 2 diabetes compared with type 1, with an estimated prevalence of 55.4% in minority adolescents and young adults with type 2 diabetes ($n = 86$).

Table 1. Characteristics of SEARCH Registered Cases and Those of Participants With an Outcomes Visit Included in This Analysis

Variable	Type 1 Diabetes		Type 2 Diabetes	
	Registered	Outcome Participants	Registered	Outcome Participants
Registered (2002-2006, 2008)^a				
No.	6200 ^a	1746 ^b	1589 ^a	272 ^b
Diabetes onset age, mean (SD), y	9.9 (4.6)	10.0 (3.9)	14.7 (2.8)	14.2 (2.6)
Male patients, No. (%)	3242 (52.3)	879 (50.3)	637 (40.1)	91 (33.5)
Race/ethnicity, No. (%)				
Non-Hispanic white	4262 (70.7)	1327 (76.0)	357 (23.9)	72 (26.5)
Minority	1768 (29.3)	419 (24.0)	1139 (76.1)	200 (73.5)
At Baseline Examination^b				
No.	2735 ^b	1746 ^b	406 ^b	272 ^b
HbA _{1c} , mean (SD), %	7.7 (1.6)	7.6 (1.5)	7.5 (2.3)	7.4 (2.3)
BMI z score, mean (SD)	0.53 (1.06)	0.51 (1.04)	2.12 (0.65)	2.10 (0.65)
Fasting C-peptide, median (IQR), ng/mL	0.5 (0.2, 1.1)	0.6 (0.2, 1.1)	3.6 (2.4, 5.2)	3.6 (2.5, 5.1)
Waist circumference, mean (SD), cm	66.2 (12.3)	65.7 (11.7)	102.3 (17.3)	101.9 (17.4)
Waist-height ratio, mean (SD)	0.45 (0.06)	0.45 (0.05)	0.62 (0.10)	0.62 (0.10)
Systolic blood pressure, mean (SD), mm Hg	100.1 (11.9)	99.6 (11.7)	116.8 (12.0)	115.7 (11.7)
Diastolic blood pressure, mean (SD), mm Hg	63.1 (10.1)	62.6 (10.1)	71.8 (10.0)	71.0 (9.2)
Mean arterial pressure, mean (SD), mm Hg	75.4 (9.7)	74.9 (9.6)	86.8 (9.1)	85.9 (8.5)
Urine albumin, median (IQR), g/dL	0.0006 (0.4-1.2)	0.0006 (0.4-1.2)	0.001 (0.5-2.6)	0.0009 (0.5-2.3)
Insurance, No. (%)				
Private	2089 (77.2)	1379 (79.8)	184 (46.1)	127 (46.9)
Medicaid/Medicare	496 (18.3)	283 (16.4)	182 (45.6)	123 (45.4)
Other	71 (2.6)	42 (2.4)	17 (4.3)	11 (4.1)
None	49 (1.8)	25 (1.4)	16 (4.0)	10 (3.7)
Household income, No. (%), \$				
<25 000	380 (14.1)	223 (12.9)	176 (43.7)	120 (44.4)
25 000-49 999	579 (21.5)	346 (20.1)	97 (24.1)	66 (24.4)
50 000-74 999	512 (19.0)	336 (19.5)	39 (9.7)	29 (10.7)
≥75 000	1044 (38.8)	703 (40.8)	33 (8.2)	22 (8.1)
Do not know/refused to answer	176 (6.5)	116 (6.7)	58 (14.4)	33 (12.2)
Parental education, No. (%)				
<High school graduate	122 (4.5)	71 (4.1)	69 (17.6)	43 (16.1)
High school graduate or higher	2579 (95.5)	1655 (95.9)	324 (82.4)	224 (83.9)

Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index (calculated as weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared); HbA_{1c}, hemoglobin A_{1c}; IQR, interquartile range.

^a Outcome participants are included in the registered cases totals. For registered cases, type of diabetes was as assigned by the investigator.

^b For cases with an examination, type of diabetes was assigned with the SEARCH classification (see Methods).

Hypertension prevalence was significantly higher in participants with type 2 diabetes vs type 1 ($n = 66$ vs 141 ; 21.6% vs 10.1% ; absolute difference, 11.5% ; 95% CI, 6.8% - 16.9% ; $P < .001$), including among non-Hispanic white and minority groups.

Overall, 195 teenagers and young adults with type 2 diabetes (72%) and 562 of those with type 1 diabetes (32%) had evidence of at least 1 early diabetes-related complication or comorbidity.

Table 4 includes sequentially adjusted models for the associations of diabetes type and each outcome to determine whether established risk factors contributed to the higher prevalence among those with type 2 diabetes vs type 1. The base model (adjusted for age, sex, duration of diabetes, and clinical site) showed significantly higher rates of complications for type 2 diabetes vs type 1 for all outcomes, except for cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy. Adjustment for race/ethnicity did not attenuate the higher odds of complications

associated with type 2 diabetes vs type 1 for any of the outcomes explored. For diabetic kidney disease, retinopathy, and peripheral neuropathy, further adjustment for multiple risk factors did not attenuate the significantly higher odds of complications for type 2 diabetes vs type 1 prevalence, although for retinopathy, inclusion of mean arterial pressure alone attenuated the OR to nonsignificance. For arterial stiffness and hypertension, adjustment for waist-height ratio attenuated the OR to nonsignificance. With inclusion of multiple risk factors in the final model, the associations of diabetes type with arterial stiffness and hypertension were no longer significant.

Discussion

In this cohort of teenagers and young adults who had received a diagnosis of diabetes during childhood and adolescence,

Table 2. Characteristics of Study Participants With Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes (N = 2018)

Characteristic	Type 1 (n = 1746)	Type 2 (n = 272)	P Value ^a
Current age, mean (SD), y	17.9 (4.1)	22.1 (3.5)	<.001
Age at diagnosis, mean (SD), y	10.0 (3.9)	14.2 (2.6)	<.001
Male sex, No. (%)	879 (50.3)	91 (33.5)	<.001
Race/ethnicity, No. (%)			
Non-Hispanic white	1327 (76.0)	72 (26.5)	
Non-Hispanic black	136 (7.8)	116 (42.6)	
Hispanic	211 (12.1)	56 (20.6)	<.001
American Indian	5 (0.3)	19 (7.0)	
Other, including multiple	67 (3.8)	9 (3.3)	
No. of visits, mean (SD)	3.2 (1.2)	3.0 (1.1)	.01
Diabetes duration at outcome visit, mean (SD), y	7.9 (1.9)	7.9 (2.0)	.66
HbA _{1c}			
Current, mean (SD), %	9.2 (1.8)	9.1 (3.0)	.82
Current, mean (SD), mmol/mol	76.7 (20.1)	76.2 (32.5)	.82
Current glycemic control			
Good (<7.5%)	274 (15.9)	103 (38.1)	
Intermediate (7.5% to <9.0%)	611 (35.5)	31 (11.5)	<.001
Poor (≥9.0%)	834 (48.5)	136 (50.4)	
Mean over time, mean (SD), % ^b	8.4 (1.3)	8.3 (2.2)	.32
Mean over time, mean (SD), mmol/mol ^b	68.8 (13.9)	67.3 (24.6)	.32
Weight			
Current BMI z score, mean (SD)	0.60 (0.95)	1.79 (0.79)	<.001
Current BMI category			
Normal (<85th percentile or <25)	1027 (59.0)	28 (10.3)	
Overweight (85th to <95th percentile or 25 to <30)	465 (26.7)	48 (17.6)	<.001
Obese (≥95th percentile or ≥30)	249 (14.3)	196 (72.1)	
BMI z score mean over time, mean (SD) ^b	0.55 (0.89)	1.96 (0.67)	<.001
Current waist-height ratio, mean (SD)	0.47 (0.07)	0.63 (0.12)	<.001
Current waist-height ratio ≥0.5, mean (SD)	422 (24.3)	238 (87.5)	<.001
Waist-height ratio mean over time, mean (SD) ^b	0.46 (0.05)	0.62 (0.10)	<.001
Current fasting C-peptide (median [range]), ng/mL	0.05 (0.02-4.46)	2.7 (0.02-10.97)	<.001
Current fasting C-peptide category, No. (%)			
<0.8, absent	1650 (98.7)	34 (13.1)	
≥0.8, preserved	22 (1.3)	226 (86.9)	<.001
Current systolic blood pressure, mean (SD), mm Hg	106.3 (10.8)	118.2 (13.4)	<.001
Current diastolic blood pressure, mean (SD), mm Hg	68.8 (8.8)	76.0 (10.2)	<.001
Current mean arterial pressure, mm Hg	81.3 (8.6)	90.1 (10.4)	<.001
Mean arterial pressure over time, mean (SD), mm Hg ^b	78.1 (7.2)	87.8 (7.4)	<.001
Medication use			
Current insulin, No. (%)	1746 (100)	135 (49.8)	<.001
Current insulin regimen, No. (%)			
Insulin pump	984 (56.4)	7 (5.4)	
Basal/bolus injections	323 (18.5)	13 (10.1)	<.001
Other insulin regimens	438 (25.1)	109 (84.5)	
Current metformin, No. (%)	55 (3.2)	101 (37.3)	<.001
Current antihypertensive, No. (%)	114 (6.5)	48 (17.7)	<.001
Current dyslipidemic, No. (%)	58 (3.3)	23 (8.5)	<.001

Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index (calculated as weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared); HbA_{1c}, hemoglobin A_{1c}.

SI conversion factors: To convert fasting C-peptide to nmol/L, multiply by 0.331.

^a P values from t test or Wilcoxon test (continuous) or χ^2 test (categorical).

^b Data reported as "mean over time" are for the 7.9 years of average duration of diabetes.

the prevalence of diabetes-related complications was higher among those with type 2 diabetes than with type 1, but the prevalence was substantial in both groups. At an estimated age of 21 years and after 7.9 years' mean diabetes duration, ap-

proximately 1 in 3 teenagers and young adults with type 1 diabetes (32%) and almost 3 of 4 of those with type 2 diabetes (72%) had at least 1 such complication or comorbidity, and these rates are likely to increase. Moreover, these complications dis-

Table 3. Outcomes According to Diabetes Type Overall and by Diabetes Type and Race/Ethnicity

Complication and Race/Ethnicity Category	Type 1			Type 2			Difference (Type 2 – Type 1), % (95% CI)	P Value ^b
	No.	Denominator	Age-Adjusted Prevalence, % (95% CI) ^a	No.	Denominator	Age-Adjusted Prevalence, % (95% CI) ^a		
Diabetic kidney disease	89	1541	5.8 (4.6 to 7.4)	44	221	19.9 (15.1 to 25.7)	14.0 (9.1 to 19.9)	<.001
Non-Hispanic white	59	1177	5.2 (3.9 to 7.0)	6	64	9.3 (4.2 to 19.2)	4.0 (–1.1 to 13.7)	.18
Minority	30	364	8.0 (5.3 to 11.9)	38	157	24.4 (18.2 to 31.9)	16.4 (9.5 to 24.1)	<.001
Retinopathy	71	1710	5.6 (4.4 to 7.0)	36	267	9.1 (6.3 to 12.9)	3.5 (0.4 to 7.7)	.02
Non-Hispanic white	54	1297	5.5 (4.2 to 7.2)	4	72	3.7 (1.4 to 9.9)	–1.8 (–4.6 to 5.5)	.46
Minority	17	413	5.7 (3.5 to 9.0)	32	195	11.2 (7.3 to 16.7)	5.5 (1.0 to 11.0)	.03
Peripheral neuropathy	110	1720	8.5 (7.1 to 10.2)	58	265	17.7 (13.6 to 22.7)	9.2 (4.8 to 14.4)	<.001
Non-Hispanic white	82	1310	8.3 (6.8 to 10.3)	14	71	15.7 (9.1 to 25.6)	7.3 (0.4 to 17.6)	.03
Minority	28	410	8.8 (6.1 to 12.7)	44	194	19.6 (14.5 to 26.1)	10.8 (4.9 to 17.4)	<.01
Cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy	197	1615	14.4 (12.5 to 16.6)	43	252	15.7 (11.7 to 20.6)	1.2 (–3.1 to 6.5)	.62 ^c
Non-Hispanic white	155	1226	15.2 (12.9 to 17.7)	18	66	25.6 (16.6 to 37.4)	10.4 (1.2 to 22.3)	.03 ^c
Minority	42	389	12.3 (8.9 to 16.7)	25	186	12.7 (8.6 to 18.3)	0.4 (–5.0 to 6.7)	.90
Arterial stiffness	137	1625	11.6 (9.8 to 13.6)	107	205	47.4 (40.3 to 54.7)	35.9 (29 to 42.9)	<.001
Non-Hispanic white	94	1242	10.2 (8.4 to 12.4)	21	60	30.7 (20.0 to 43.9)	20.4 (10.1 to 33.0)	<.001
Minority	43	383	15.4 (11.5 to 20.3)	86	145	55.4 (46.8 to 63.7)	40.0 (30.9 to 48.5)	<.001
Hypertension	141	1743	10.1 (8.6 to 11.9)	66	272	21.6 (17.1 to 26.9)	11.5 (6.8 to 16.9)	<.001
Non-Hispanic white	100	1325	9.5 (7.8 to 11.5)	16	72	20.0 (12.5 to 30.6)	10.5 (2.7 to 21.3)	.01
Minority	41	418	12.2 (8.9 to 16.4)	50	200	22.4 (17.1 to 28.9)	10.3 (4.0 to 17.1)	<.01

^a Logistic regression model estimates set age = 21 y for type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

^b P values from age-adjusted logistic regression models.

^c Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness-of-fit test $P < .05$; indicates poor model fit.

proportionately affected teenagers and young adults with type 2 diabetes. Participants were phenotyped to avoid misclassification by diabetes type and were followed from near onset of diabetes, with multiple risk factor measures over time and a single standardized assessment of diabetes complications and comorbidities. These results were from a US study of adolescents and young adults with youth-onset type 1 and type 2 diabetes whose data were drawn from a population-based registry. The current data, coupled with previous work,³ suggest that the participants in this analysis are reasonably representative of the general US population with onset of type 1 and type 2 diabetes in childhood or adolescence.

The microvascular complications of diabetic kidney disease, retinopathy, and peripheral neuropathy were significantly elevated among teenagers and young adults with type 2 diabetes vs those with type 1 after adjustment for glycemic control, central obesity, and blood pressure levels over time. In several studies, both diabetic kidney disease and peripheral neuropathy have been reported as elevated in individuals with youth-onset type 2 diabetes.^{5,6,24-26} There is less consistency in regard to retinopathy, with several studies finding no significant difference in prevalence among youth-onset type 2 diabetes compared with patients with type 1 diabetes.^{5-7,24,27,28}

Two studies found a higher prevalence of retinopathy among patients with type 2 diabetes compared with those with type 1 diabetes,^{25,29} as did a previous pilot study.³⁰ We found that the higher prevalence of retinopathy (as well as that of diabetic kidney disease) was primarily among minority adoles-

cents and young adults with type 2 diabetes. Although it is possible that obesity played a role in the higher prevalence of retinopathy among patients with type 2 diabetes, the TODAY study found that among young persons with type 2 diabetes, retinopathy prevalence was lower among the highest tertile of obesity than among the lower tertiles.³¹

In the present study, the OR for retinopathy among patients with type 2 diabetes vs type 1 remained significant when measures of obesity were added in the logistic regression models, but was attenuated and became nonsignificant when arterial pressure was included (Table 4). These analyses suggest that mean arterial pressure may be an important factor that influenced the difference in retinopathy prevalence between type 1 and type 2 diabetes, although after inclusion of mean arterial pressure and other risk factors in the fully adjusted model, the OR indicating higher odds of retinopathy among type 2 diabetes vs type 1 remained significant. Given the young age of this group, only a small proportion received medications to control hypertension or dyslipidemia. For hypertension, this proportion was between 2% and 8%, and for dyslipidemia it was between 1% and 4%, depending on the visit. In a sensitivity analysis, the association between medication use and complications was minimal.

Because the greater association of microvascular complications in type 2 diabetes compared with type 1 remained significant after adjusting for established risk factors, these data indicate a need to explore other potential pathways, such as inflammatory markers, endothelial dysfunction, advanced glycation end products, endogenous inhibitors of nitric oxide

Table 4. Multivariable Logistic Regression Models for the Association Between Diabetes Type (2 vs 1) and Outcomes

	No. of Events/ No. of Individuals	Model 1: Base ^a	Model 2: 1 + Race/Ethnicity	Model 3: 1 + Glucose Control (Mean Hemoglobin A _{1c} Level Over Time)	Model 4: 1 + Waist-Height Ratio (Mean Over Time)	Model 5: 1 + BMI (Mean Over Time)	Model 6: 1 + Mean Arterial Pressure (Mean Over Time)	Model 7: 1 + All (Except BMI)
Diabetic kidney disease	133/1762							
OR (95% CI)		4.03 (2.53-6.43)	3.16 (1.92-5.22)	4.21 (2.61-6.80)	2.93 (1.60-5.39)	4.27 (2.46-7.42)	2.88 (1.75-4.75)	2.58 (1.39-4.81)
P value		<.001	<.001	<.001	<.001	<.001	<.001	.003
Retinopathy	107/1977							
OR (95% CI)		2.05 (1.25-3.39)	1.94 (1.12-3.37)	2.00 (1.19-3.36)	2.39 (1.24-4.61)	2.36 (1.28-4.32)	1.56 (0.91-2.67)	2.24 (1.11-4.50)
P value		.01	.02	.01	.01	.01	.10	.02
Peripheral neuropathy	168/1985							
OR (95% CI)		3.36 (2.21-5.10)	2.89 (1.83-4.57)	3.41 (2.24-5.18)	2.67 (1.55-4.60)	2.88 (1.76-4.71)	3.12 (2.00-4.86)	2.52 (1.43-4.43)
P value		<.001	<.001	<.001	.001	<.001	<.001	.001
Cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy	240/1867							
OR (95% CI)		1.27 (0.85-1.89)	1.54 (1.00-2.38)	1.26 (0.85-1.89)	0.85 (0.50-1.43)	1.17 (0.74-1.84)	0.97 (0.64-1.49)	0.98 (0.57-1.67)
P value		.24 ^b	.05	.25	.53	.50 ^b	.90	.93
Arterial stiffness	244/1830							
OR (95% CI)		6.72 (4.64-9.72)	5.52 (3.72-8.20)	6.77 (4.68-9.81)	1.36 (0.82-2.24)	2.78 (1.80-4.29)	4.16 (2.80-6.16)	1.07 (0.63-1.84)
P value		<.001	<.001	<.001 ^b	.23	<.001	<.001	.80
Hypertension ^c	207/2015							
OR (95% CI)		2.53 (1.75-3.68)	2.19 (1.46-3.28)	2.55 (1.76-3.71)	0.93 (0.56-1.54)	1.37 (0.88-2.12)		0.85 (0.50-1.45)
P value		<.001	<.001 ^b	<.001	.78	.17 ^b		.55

Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index (calculated as weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared);
OR, odds ratio.

^a Base model adjusted for age, sex, duration (time from initial diagnosis of diabetes to measurement of complication), and clinical site. Risk factor covariates were continuous variables except for race/ethnicity: non-Hispanic white and minority. Numbers of participants vary for each outcome because of missing data for the outcome.

^b Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness-of-fit test $P < .05$; indicates poor model fit.
^c Mean arterial pressure not included in models for hypertension.

synthase, markers of renal tubular dysfunction, and dietary factors. These results do not imply that glucose control (clearly important for the development of microvascular complications for both type 1³² and type 2 diabetes³³), obesity, and blood pressure were not important risk factors; however, including these variables in the analytic models did not attenuate the associations of higher prevalence of microvascular complications among teenagers and young adults with type 2 diabetes vs type 1.

The higher prevalence of microvascular complications in patients with type 2 diabetes vs type 1 and the relatively high prevalence among patients with type 1 diabetes present a challenge to clinicians. Patients with type 2 diabetes often have limited access to services and less than optimal participation in satisfactory treatment regimens for multiple economic, behavioral, and social reasons.³⁴ Glycemic control goals are not easy to meet among adolescents, regardless of diabetes type.^{35,36} It is possible that microvascular complications are more aggressive in adolescents and young adults with type 2 diabetes than in those with type 1 diabetes, resulting in greater prevalence at the same diabetes duration. Incidence data will be required to confirm this observation. Whether the smaller prevalence among adolescents and young adults with type 1 diabetes, especially those of non-Hispanic white background, could be related to more aggressive treatment in general must also be further explored.

Comorbid outcomes included hypertension and arterial stiffness, both of which had higher prevalence among patients with type 2 diabetes and in minorities with either diabetes type. The significantly higher prevalence for both outcomes in unadjusted analyses was reduced to nonsignificance with adjustment for risk factors, primarily waist-height ratio, indicating that differences in central obesity were associated with the type 2 diabetes excess. Given that cardiovascular disease²⁵ and mortality⁷ have been shown to be higher in young-onset type 2 diabetes than in young-onset type 1 diabetes, as well as in young-onset vs later-onset type 2 diabetes,³⁷ the presence of arterial stiffness and hypertension at a young age, together with an increased prevalence of risk factors⁹ and diabetic kidney disease, suggests that these patients may be at increased risk for subsequent cardiovascular events.

This study has several strengths. The study population was drawn from what is, to our knowledge, the largest multiethnic population-based registry of pediatric diabetes in the

United States and has demographic and clinical characteristics similar to those of the overall population from which it draws.³ Even though the outcomes were based on cross-sectional assessment, risk factors were measured longitudinally at previous visits, allowing the determination of the relationship of glucose control, markers of overall and central obesity, and mean blood pressure levels over time with differences in the prevalence of complications by diabetes type.

This study also has some limitations. First, a single measure of each outcome was used, without repeated testing. Second, there were relatively small numbers of participants with some outcomes, especially in subgroups by race/ethnicity. Third, the analysis of risk factors that might explain differences by type of diabetes did not include all possible factors and pathways. Fourth, it is possible that participants with youth-onset type 2 diabetes had a longer period of undetected glycemia such that the duration of hyperglycemia was longer than for type 1 diabetes. Data are not available in this study to address this question; however, surveys of high-risk minority youths have identified few with undiagnosed type 2 diabetes in cross-sectional surveys of glucose intolerance.^{38,39} If youth-onset type 2 diabetes had a longer preclinical course, it would be expected that a larger number of such undiagnosed cases would be identified. Fourth, the mean number of measures of risk factors was 3.2 for patients with type 1 diabetes and 3.0 for those with type 2 diabetes, so it is possible that the true excursions of hemoglobin A_{1c} level and blood pressure were underestimated. This could have led to less ability to fully characterize the associations of hemoglobin A_{1c} level and blood pressure with complications according to type of diabetes. Fifth, there were a large number of end points compared, without adjustment for multiple comparisons, so it is possible that some of the statistically significant findings represent type I error.

Conclusions

Among teenagers and young adults who had been diagnosed with diabetes during childhood and adolescence, the prevalence of complications and comorbidities was higher among those with type 2 diabetes compared with type 1, but frequent in both groups. These findings support early monitoring of these patients for development of complications.

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