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Introduction

C-peptide, which is secreted in equimolar amounts with insulin, is a useful marker of pancreatic β -cell function. It is particularly useful in the setting of insulin therapy because it is not exogenous and is not affected by insulin resistance. C-peptide levels are low in type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM) and are also low in some cases of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM). The measurement of C-peptide can help to distinguish between T1DM and T2DM and to assess the degree of β -cell dysfunction in both conditions. In this review, we discuss the measurement of C-peptide and its clinical applications in the diagnosis and management of diabetes mellitus.



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