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Investigating the Association Between Baseline Characteristics (HbA1c and Body Mass Index) and Clinical Outcomes of Fast-Acting Insulin Aspart in People with Diabetes: A Post Hoc Analysis

Keith Bowering  · Helena W. Rodbard · David Russell-Jones ·
Bruce Bode · Stewart Harris · Milivoj Piletic · Simon Heller ·
Vincent Woo · Vinay Babu · Claus Dethlefsen · Chantal Mathieu

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: The aim of this study was to investigate the association between baseline characteristics [HbA1c and body mass index (BMI)] and the effect of mealtime fast-acting insulin aspart (faster aspart) relative to insulin aspart (IAsp) or basal-only insulin therapy on several efficacy and safety outcomes in people with diabetes.

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K. Bowering (✉)
Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism,
University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada
e-mail: keith.bowering@ualberta.ca

H. W. Rodbard
Endocrine and Metabolic Consultants, Rockville,
MD, USA

D. Russell-Jones
Diabetes and Endocrinology, Royal Surrey County
Hospital, Guildford, UK

B. Bode
Atlanta Diabetes Associates, Atlanta, GA, USA

S. Harris
Western University, London, ON, Canada

Methods: Post hoc analysis of three randomised phase 3a trials in people with type 1 diabetes (T1D; onset 1) and type 2 diabetes (T2D; onset 2 and 3). Participants ($N = 1686$) were stratified according to baseline BMI ($< 25 \text{ kg/m}^2$, $25\text{--}< 30 \text{ kg/m}^2$, $\geq 30 \text{ kg/m}^2$) or HbA1c ($\leq 58 \text{ mmol/mol}$, $> 58\text{--}< 64 \text{ mmol/mol}$, $\geq 64 \text{ mmol/mol}$; $\leq 7.5\%$, $> 7.5\text{--}< 8.0\%$, $\geq 8.0\%$).

Results: In participants with T2D, the estimated treatment difference for change in HbA1c was similar for all BMI and HbA1c subgroups. No major differences between treatments were observed in risk of overall hypoglycaemia or insulin dose across subgroups. In participants with T1D, change in HbA1c was similar across BMI and HbA1c subgroups, and no major differences between treatments were observed for severe or blood

M. Piletic
General Hospital, Novo Mesto, Slovenia

S. Heller
Academic Unit of Diabetes, Endocrinology and
Metabolism, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK

V. Woo
Section of Endocrinology and Metabolism,
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada

V. Babu · C. Dethlefsen
Novo Nordisk A/S, Søborg, Denmark

C. Mathieu
Clinical and Experimental Endocrinology,
University Hospital Leuven, Catholic University of
Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

glucose-confirmed hypoglycaemia across subgroups. Total daily insulin dose (U/kg) was similar across all baseline HbA1c groups and the BMI < 25 kg/m² and 25–30 kg/m² groups, but was significantly lower with mealtime faster aspart compared with IAsp in the BMI > 30 kg/m² subgroup.

Conclusions: In participants with T1D and T2D, treatment differences (for change in HbA1c and overall hypoglycaemia) between mealtime faster aspart and insulin comparators were similar to the corresponding overall analysis across baseline HbA1c and BMI subgroups. The finding of a lower total daily insulin dose in participants with obesity (BMI > 30 kg/m²) and T1D treated with faster aspart, versus those treated with IAsp, may warrant further investigation.

Trial Registration: ClinicalTrials.gov NCT01831765 (onset 1); NCT01819129 (onset 2); NCT01850615 (onset 3).

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Keywords: Diabetes mellitus, type 1; Diabetes mellitus, type 2; Haemoglobin A, glycosylated; Index, body mass; Insulin aspart; Outcome, treatment

INTRODUCTION

Achieving recommended HbA1c targets of 48–58 mmol/mol (6.5–7.5%) remains a shared challenge for people with either type 1 diabetes (T1D) or type 2 diabetes (T2D) [1]. With a view to reducing risk and slowing the development of long-term complications, basal–bolus insulin therapy in both T1D and T2D aims to mimic physiological insulin secretion. A particular focus is placed on the reduction of postprandial hyperglycaemia, which is an essential requirement for achieving overall glycaemic control [1, 2]. Rapid-acting insulin analogues (RAIA) were developed to provide superior pharmacological action compared with regular human insulin; however, there remains an unmet need for even faster-acting mealtime insulins that can more closely mimic physiological early-phase insulin secretion than previously available RAIA [3]. Fast-acting insulin aspart (faster

aspart) is conventional insulin aspart (IAsp) in a new formulation with two added excipients (L-arginine and niacinamide) and has been shown to have an earlier onset of appearance, a two-times higher early insulin exposure and a 74% greater early glucose-lowering effect within 30 min compared with IAsp [4].

Three confirmatory randomised clinical trials—onset 1, onset 2 and onset 3—evaluated the efficacy and safety of faster aspart as part of a basal–bolus regimen in adults with T1D (onset 1 [5]) and T2D (onset 2 [6] and onset 3 [7]). In onset 1, HbA1c was statistically significantly reduced from baseline to end of trial with mealtime faster aspart versus mealtime IAsp, and faster aspart showed superior postprandial plasma glucose (PPG) control (in terms of the 2-h PPG increment after a standardised meal test) [5]. In the onset 2 trial, mealtime faster aspart was non-inferior to mealtime IAsp in change in HbA1c from baseline, and the 1-h PPG increment after a standardised meal test was significantly improved versus IAsp. In both studies, the incidence of overall severe or blood glucose (BG)-confirmed hypoglycaemia and the increase in body weight from baseline observed at the end of trial were comparable between treatments [6]. In onset 3, adding faster aspart to basal insulin resulted in superior efficacy in reducing HbA1c and statistically significantly improved PPG control, compared with basal-only insulin therapy (BOT). As might be expected, higher rates of overall severe or BG-confirmed hypoglycaemia and a statistically significant increase in body weight were observed in the faster aspart group compared with the BOT group [7].

Generally, treatment effects observed in clinical trials are not homogenous across study populations. Previous studies have demonstrated that baseline characteristics related to the severity of disease can be predictors of the HbA1c-lowering effect of insulin treatment [8]. For instance, baseline HbA1c has been shown to predict HbA1c reduction following both continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion and multiple daily injection therapy in participants with T1D [9, 10]. Furthermore, in participants with T2D, lower baseline HbA1c has been shown to be the best clinical predictor of

achieving HbA1c ≤ 53 mmol/mol ($\leq 7.0\%$) and is also associated with a higher risk of BG-confirmed hypoglycaemia when titrating basal insulin [11]. HbA1c over 4 years has also been shown to be predominately determined by HbA1c prior to commencing basal insulin therapy [12], and higher baseline body mass index (BMI) and HbA1c have been independently associated with HbA1c ≥ 53 mmol/mol ($\geq 7.0\%$) following basal insulin treatment [8].

The aim of this post hoc analysis of the onset 1, 2 and 3 studies was to examine the association between baseline characteristics (HbA1c and BMI) and the treatment differences observed with mealtime faster aspart (in combination with basal insulin) and study comparators (basal insulin with or without mealtime IAsp) with regard to HbA1c, hypoglycaemia, body weight and insulin dose.

METHODS

Study Characteristics

The onset 1, 2 and 3 trials were phase 3, randomised, multinational, parallel-group, treat-to-target studies with the overall aim of investigating the efficacy and safety of faster aspart in a basal-bolus regimen in adults with T1D and T2D. Full methodology details and results of the trials have been published elsewhere [5–7]. A top-line summary of the trials and treatment titration algorithms can be found in the Supplementary Material (Table S1). Change from baseline in end-of-trial HbA1c (primary endpoint) was measured at week 26 in onset 1 and 2, and at week 18 in onset 3. onset 1 included an additional 26-week treatment period [13] but these results were not included in the post hoc analysis as they were not available when the analysis was conducted. The HbA1c and BMI inclusion criteria were HbA1c 7.0–9.5% (53–80 mmol/mol) (onset 1 and onset 2) or 7.5–9.5% (58–80 mmol/mol) (onset 3); BMI ≤ 35 kg/m² (onset 1 and onset 3) or ≤ 40 kg/m² (onset 2).

The three studies met the following inclusion criteria for the post hoc analysis: conducted in more than one country with a

population consisting of participants with T1D or T2D; included a mealtime faster aspart treatment arm with a treatment period of at least 3 months; HbA1c measured at baseline (before the study drug was administered) and at least once after baseline (after the study drug was administered); and study endpoints included total daily insulin dose, change in body weight and rates of hypoglycaemia.

Post Hoc Analysis

In this post hoc analysis, participants were stratified according to baseline BMI (< 25 kg/m² [underweight to normal weight], $25 < 30$ kg/m² [pre-obese], ≥ 30 kg/m² [obese]) [14] or HbA1c (≤ 58 mmol/mol, $> 58 < 64$ mmol/mol, ≥ 64 mmol/mol; $\leq 7.5\%$, $> 7.5 < 8.0\%$, $\geq 8.0\%$). Herein, we investigated the association between these two baseline characteristics (HbA1c and BMI) and end-of-trial treatment differences of mealtime faster aspart versus mealtime IAsp, both part of a basal-bolus regimen (onset 1 and 2), or mealtime faster aspart in a basal-bolus regimen versus BOT (onset 3). For onset 1, only the mealtime faster aspart and IAsp treatment arms were included, with the post-meal faster aspart arm excluded from the analysis [5].

Clinical outcomes selected for the analysis were change from baseline in HbA1c, total daily insulin dose, rate of treatment-emergent severe or BG-confirmed hypoglycaemic episodes, and change from baseline in body weight. Hypoglycaemic episodes were categorised as treatment-emergent if the onset occurred on the first day of exposure to the study drug and no later than 1 day after the last day of randomised treatment. Severe hypoglycaemia was defined according to the American Diabetes Association classification [15] and BG-confirmed hypoglycaemia by a plasma glucose value < 3.1 mmol/L (56 mg/dL) with or without symptoms consistent with hypoglycaemia.

Compliance with Ethics Guidelines

All procedures performed in studies involving human participants were in accordance with the ethical standards of the institutional and/or

national research committee and with the 1964 Helsinki declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards. Informed consent was obtained from all individual participants included in the study.

Statistical Analysis

To estimate the treatment differences for BMI and HbA1c subgroups in change from baseline in HbA1c, the primary analyses from onset 1, 2 and 3 [mixed model for repeated measurements (MMRM) including treatment, strata, region and baseline covariate] were modified by including the subgroup and subgroup-by-treatment interaction terms in the model. A similar model was used for change from baseline in body weight and for log-transformed doses. The dose treatment ratios were analysed using a model for log dose similar to the model for change in HbA1c, but with log dose at baseline as covariate. Treatment ratios for hypoglycaemic events were analysed using a negative binomial model for hypoglycaemic episode counts. The model used a log link and the logarithm of the exposure time as offset and included treatment, strata, region, subgroup and subgroup-by-treatment interaction. Estimated treatment differences (ETDs) are presented for each subgroup with 95% confidence intervals (CI). A significance level of 5% was used.

RESULTS

The current analysis reports data from 1686 participants across the three studies; their baseline characteristics are described in Table 1. With regard to baseline HbA1c, the majority of participants in onset 1 had HbA1c \leq 58 mmol/mol (\leq 7.5%), while in onset 2 and 3, the majority of participants had HbA1c \geq 64 mmol/mol (\geq 8.0%). For baseline BMI, the majority of participants in onset 1 had BMI 25–< 30 kg/m², whereas the majority of participants in both onset 2 and onset 3 had BMI \geq 30 kg/m² (Table 1) [5–7].

The efficacy and safety results of onset 1, 2 and 3 have been reported in full elsewhere

[5–7]. Briefly, the results of these trials indicated a similar or superior reduction in HbA1c with mealtime faster aspart when compared with the comparator treatments over 18 and 26 weeks. In the current analysis, the treatment differences in the change in HbA1c remained statistically significantly in favour of faster aspart compared with IAsp across BMI and HbA1c subgroups in onset 1 (except for baseline BMI \geq 30 kg/m² and HbA1c \geq 64 mmol/mol) and onset 3. The treatment differences in change in HbA1c were not statistically significantly different with faster aspart compared with IAsp across all BMI and HbA1c subgroups in onset 2 (Fig. 1).

In onset 1 and onset 2, no statistically significant difference was observed in the rate of severe or BG-confirmed hypoglycaemia between treatment groups, while in onset 3, as expected, the incidence of severe or BG-confirmed hypoglycaemia was significantly greater in the faster aspart group compared with the BOT group [5–7]. In the current analysis, a numerically higher rate of severe or BG-confirmed hypoglycaemic episodes was observed in participants with baseline BMI > 30 kg/m² receiving faster aspart compared with IAsp in onset 1, and no other differences of clinical interest in severe or BG-confirmed hypoglycaemia were observed across subgroups in onset 2 and 3 (Fig. 2).

In onset 1 and 2, there was no difference in the geometric mean daily total insulin dose at the end of the trial between treatment arms [5, 6], while in onset 3, as expected, the geometric mean daily total insulin dose was higher in the faster aspart group compared with the BOT group (ratio [95% CI], 1.85 U/kg [1.65; 2.07]) [7]. In the current analysis, in onset 1, there was a significantly lower total daily insulin dose in units per kilogram (mealtime faster aspart/mealtime IAsp) observed in participants with baseline BMI \geq 30 kg/m² (ratio [95% CI], 0.82 U/kg [0.71; 0.93]) (Fig. 3). There were no other major differences observed between treatments for the end-of-trial geometric mean total daily insulin dose in units per kilogram across subgroups in onset 2 and 3 (Fig. 3).

In the three studies, the mean body weight at the end of trial increased from baseline across all treatment arms [5–7]. In onset 1 and 2, there

Table 1 Baseline characteristics. Reproduced from Russell-Jones et al. [5] *Diabetes Care* 2017;40:943–50 (onset 1) and Bowering et al. [6] *Diabetes Care* 2017;40:951–7 (onset 2), both under the terms of the American Diabetes Association [1], ©2017; and reproduced with permission of John Wiley & Sons Ltd. ©2017, from Rodbard et al. [7] *Diabetes Obes Metab* 2017;19:1389–96 (onset 3), under the terms of the Creative Commons License

Characteristic	onset 1 [5]		onset 2 [6]		onset 3 [7]	
	Faster aspart (mealtime)	Insulin aspart (mealtime)	Faster aspart	Insulin aspart	Faster aspart + basal	Basal insulin
<i>N</i>	381	380	345	344	116	120
Age, years	46.1 (13.8)	43.7 (14.0)	59.6 (9.3)	59.4 (9.6)	57.5 (9.9)	57.4 (8.5)
Gender, <i>N</i> (% men)	215 (56.4)	238 (62.6)	163 (47.2)	173 (50.3)	55 (47.4)	59 (49.2)
Body weight						
kg	78.6 (14.9)	80.1 (15.2)	89.0 (16.9)	88.3 (16.7)	82.2 (16.2)	85.1 (17.3)
lb	173.2 (32.8)	176.7 (33.5)	196.3 (37.3)	194.7 (36.9)	181.1 (35.8)	187.7 (38.2)
BMI (kg/m ²)	26.4 (3.8)	26.7 (3.7)	31.5 (4.7)	31 (4.5)	30.4 (5.0)	31.1 (4.7)
< 25, <i>N</i> (%)	144 (37.8)	129 (33.9)	32 (9.3)	36 (10.5)	19 (16.4)	10 (8.3)
25–< 30, <i>N</i> (%)	168 (44.1)	174 (45.8)	109 (31.6)	108 (31.4)	36 (31.0)	46 (38.3)
≥ 30, <i>N</i> (%)	69 (18.1)	77 (20.3)	204 (59.1)	200 (58.1)	61 (52.6)	64 (53.3)
Duration of diabetes, years	20.9 (12.9)	19.3 (11.8)	13.2 (6.7)	12.3 (6.3)	10.9 (6.1)	11.8 (7.4)
HbA _{1c}						
mmol/mol	59.7 (7.7)	59.3 (7.4)	63.5 (7.5)	62.7 (7.7)	63.2 (7.6)	63.1 (7.4)
%	7.6 (0.7)	7.6 (0.7)	8.0 (0.7)	7.9 (0.7)	7.9 (0.7)	7.9 (0.7)
≤ 58 mmol/mol (7.5%), <i>N</i> (%)	188 (49.3)	201 (52.9)	109 (31.6)	123 (35.8)	36 (31.0)	38 (31.7)
> 58–< 64 mmol/mol (7.5–8.0%), <i>N</i> (%)	83 (21.8)	84 (22.1)	70 (20.3)	73 (21.2)	25 (21.6)	31 (25.8)
≥ 64 mmol/mol (8.0%), <i>N</i> (%)	110 (28.9)	95 (25.0)	166 (48.1)	148 (43.0)	55 (47.4)	51 (42.5)
FPG						
mmol/L	8.4 (3.1)	7.9 (2.8)	6.8 (1.8)	6.8 (1.9)	7.4 (2.4)	7.7 (2.9)
mg/dL	151.4 (55.7)	141.8 (50.2)	121.7 (32.7)	122.7 (35.1)	132.5 (43.5)	138.9 (51.4)

Data are arithmetic means (SD) unless otherwise stated

BMI body mass index, *faster aspart* fast-acting insulin aspart, *FPG* fasting plasma glucose, *SD* standard deviation

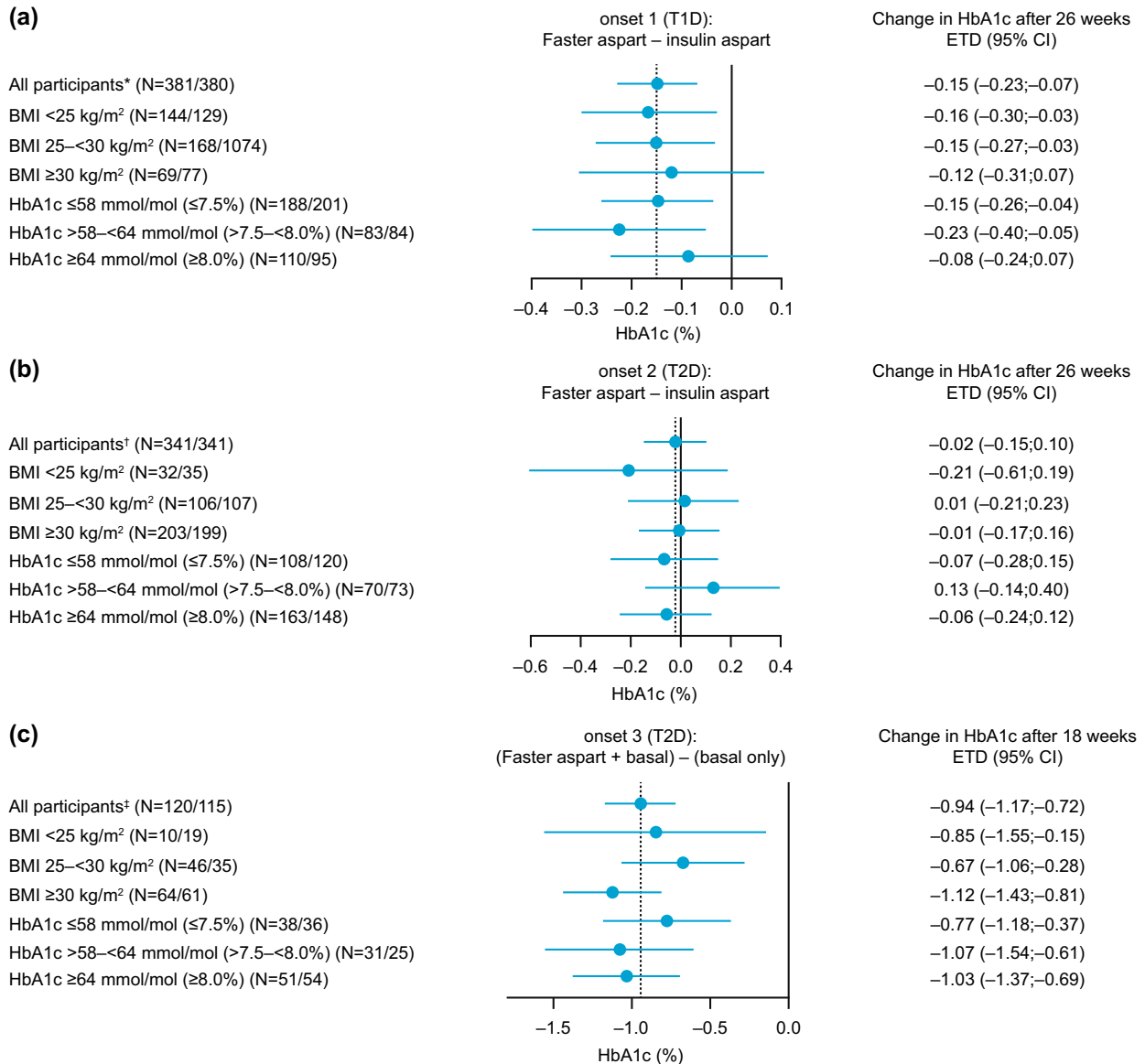


Fig. 1 Estimated treatment differences for the change in HbA1c from baseline according to baseline BMI and HbA1c subgroup in **a** onset 1, **b** onset 2, and **c** onset 3 trials. N (faster aspart/comparator). Data from full analysis set. ETD (faster aspart arm – comparator). Dotted vertical line represents the ETD for all participants. Changes in HbA1c (mmol/mol [%]) from baseline at the end of trial for the total study population in onset 1, 2 and 3 have previously been reported [5–7]: *mealtime faster aspart (– 3.46 mmol/mol [– 0.32%]), mealtime insulin

aspart (– 1.84 mmol/mol [– 0.17%]); † mealtime faster aspart (– 15.10 mmol/mol [– 1.38%]), mealtime insulin aspart (– 14.86 mmol/mol [– 1.36%]); ‡ mealtime faster aspart + basal insulin (– 12.72 mmol/mol [– 1.16%]), basal-only insulin (– 2.43 mmol/mol [– 0.22%]). BG blood glucose, BMI body mass index, CI confidence interval, ETD estimated treatment difference, faster aspart fast-acting insulin aspart, N number of participants, T1D type 1 diabetes, T2D type 2 diabetes

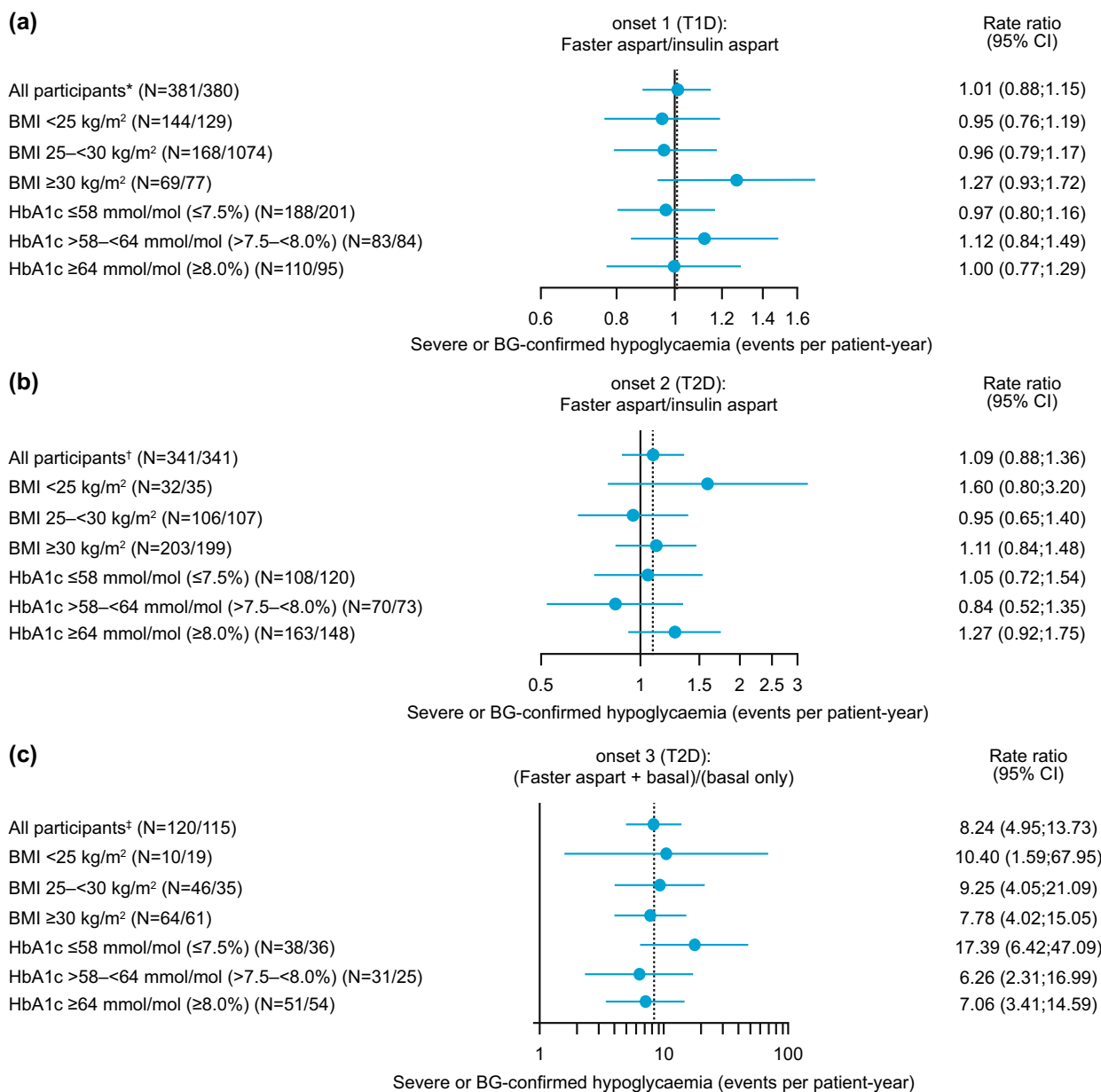


Fig. 2 Severe or BG-confirmed hypoglycaemia rate ratios according to baseline BMI and HbA1c subgroup in **a** onset 1, **b** onset 2, and **c** onset 3 trials. N (faster aspart/comparator). Data from full analysis set. Rate ratio (faster aspart arm/comparator). An episode that is severe (requiring assistance of another person to actively administer carbohydrate or glucagon, or take other corrective actions) or BG-confirmed by a blood glucose value < 3.1 mmol/L (56 mg/dL) with or without symptoms consistent with hypoglycaemia. Dotted vertical line represents the rate ratio for all participants. Severe or BG-confirmed

hypoglycaemic events per patient-year of exposure for each treatment in the total study population in onset 1, 2 and 3 have previously been reported [5–7]: *mealtime faster aspart (59.0), mealtime insulin aspart (58.7); †mealtime faster aspart (17.8), mealtime insulin aspart (16.6); ‡mealtime faster aspart + basal insulin (12.8), basal-only insulin (2.0). BG blood glucose, BMI body mass index, CI confidence interval, faster aspart fast-acting insulin aspart, N number of participants, T1D type 1 diabetes, T2D type 2 diabetes

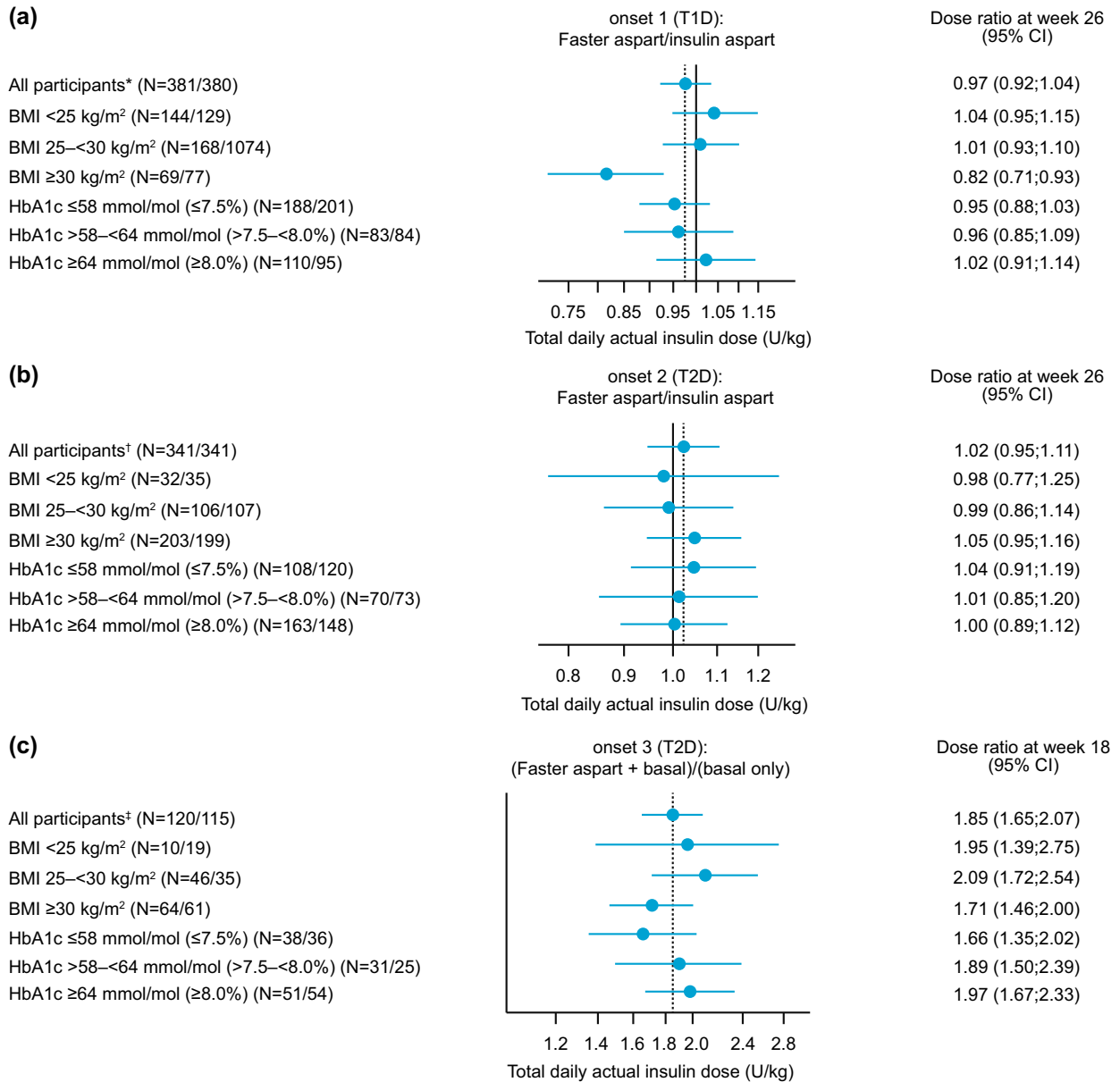


Fig. 3 Total daily insulin dose (U/kg) ratios according to baseline BMI and HbA1c subgroups in **a** onset 1, **b** onset 2, and **c** onset 3 trials. N (faster aspart/comparator). Data from full analysis set. Dose ratio (faster aspart arm/comparator). Dotted vertical line represents the dose ratio for all participants. Median total daily insulin dose (U/kg) at the end of trial for the total study population in onset 1, 2 and 3 have previously been reported [5–7]: *mealtime

faster aspart (0.80 U/kg), mealtime insulin aspart (0.83 U/kg); [†]mealtime faster aspart (1.0 U/kg), mealtime insulin aspart (1.0 U/kg); [‡]mealtime faster aspart + basal insulin (1.1 U/kg), basal-only insulin (0.6 U/kg). BMI body mass index, CI confidence interval, faster aspart fast-acting insulin aspart, N number of participants, T1D type 1 diabetes, T2D type 2 diabetes

were no statistically significant differences between treatments for change in body weight from baseline [5–7]. In onset 3, as expected with more intensive therapy, there was a statistically significant increase in body weight from baseline in the faster aspart arm compared with the BOT arm (ETD [95% CI], 1.66 kg [0.89; 2.43]) [7]. In the current analysis, the ETD between treatment arms for change in body weight from baseline was not statistically significantly different between treatments in any baseline HbA1c subgroups in onset 1 and 2 (Table S2). In onset 3, the ETD for change in body weight from baseline was statistically significantly in favour of the mealtime faster aspart arm compared with the BOT arm in the baseline HbA1c > 58–< 64 mmol (> 7.5–< 8%) and ≥ 64 mmol/mol ($\geq 8\%$) subgroups (Table S2).

DISCUSSION

This post hoc analysis of the onset 1–3 clinical trials [5–7] aimed to explore, in people with T1D or T2D, the association between baseline characteristics (HbA1c and BMI) and several end-of-trial clinical outcomes when using mealtime faster aspart in a basal-bolus regimen, either versus mealtime IAsp (basal-bolus) or BOT.

In participants with T2D, baseline HbA1c and BMI subgroups were not seen to exert a clinically relevant effect on the treatment differences of the studied outcomes, and the subgroup results generally aligned with what was reported in the overall population [6, 7]. In participants with T1D, the treatment differences in change in HbA1c across baseline HbA1c and BMI subgroups were generally similar to those reported in the overall population. However, a lower total daily insulin dose with mealtime faster aspart compared with IAsp, along with a numerically higher rate of severe or BG-confirmed hypoglycaemia, was observed in participants with baseline BMI > 30 kg/m². It is possible that the lower total daily insulin dose used by participants with baseline obesity was a behavioural response to the numerically higher rate of severe or BG-confirmed hypoglycaemia experienced following treatment with mealtime faster aspart relative to IAsp. Additionally,

subcutaneous fat thickness, along with low subcutaneous adipose tissue blood flow, can delay the rate of absorption of RAIA [16, 17]; therefore, the results indicate that the pharmacological profile of faster aspart may, to a certain degree, be less impacted by the presence of subcutaneous fat relative to IAsp. Although speculative, this suggests that people with obesity may require a lower dose of faster aspart compared with IAsp. Further, there was only a small number of participants in the baseline BMI > 30 kg/m² subgroup, along with a broad CI for the dose ratio, and only participants with BMI ≤ 40 kg/m² were included in the onset 1 trial. Thus, it is not clear if this effect would be observed in people with a BMI > 40 kg/m². Further exploration is needed to address the underlying physiological and behavioural factors contributing to this finding.

Generalisations from this subgroup analysis should be made with caution, but the current results could have implications for real-world treatment. Generally, clinicians may be mindful that glycaemic response, total daily insulin dose and rate of severe or BG-confirmed hypoglycaemia arising from faster aspart basal-bolus treatment may not be impacted by a patient's baseline BMI and HbA1c to any clinically relevant degree. However, in clinical practice, these baseline characteristics, in the context of a wider patient profile including social and psychological factors, may be used by clinicians to guide clinical decision-making within a patient-centred model of diabetes management [1]. For future research, it may be worth identifying other baseline factors (e.g. postprandial hyperglycaemia, duration of diabetes, frequency of self-measured blood glucose testing) that predict response to faster aspart basal-bolus treatment in people with T1D and T2D.

There are some limitations of the current analysis that should be highlighted. For example, the analysis was post hoc, and there were different numbers of participants in the subgroups, with only a small number in some subgroups. Moreover, for factors where subgroup categorisation depends on a biological measure, there is a risk of misclassification, in particular due to measurement or diagnostic error [18]. Additionally, when multiple

subgroup analyses are performed, the risk of a false positive finding can be increased [18]. No clinical outcomes other than those reported here were explored; for measures of adiposity, only BMI and body weight were analysed.

CONCLUSIONS

In the post hoc subgroup analysis of the onset 2 and 3 trials, neither baseline HbA1c nor BMI significantly influenced the treatment differences between mealtime faster aspart and IAsp (or BOT) with regard to end-of-trial glycaemic control, overall hypoglycaemia, total daily insulin dose, or body weight in individuals with T2D. In the post hoc analysis of onset 1, a lower total daily insulin dose with mealtime faster aspart compared with IAsp treatment was observed in participants with T1D who had baseline BMI > 30 kg/m², with no differences in glycaemic control, overall hypoglycaemia, or body weight across subgroups from the trial.

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Prior Presentation. The onset 1 data analysed in this manuscript have been previously published in the abstract book of the American Diabetes Association—77th Annual Scientific Sessions (ADA 2017), Orlando, FL, USA; and previously presented in poster form at International Diabetes Federation—24th World Diabetes Congress (IDF 2017), Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; Societe Francaise d'Endocrinologie—34th Annual Congress (SFE 2017), Poitiers, France; Sociedade Brasileira de Diabetes—XXI Congresso (SBD 2017), Sao Paulo, Brazil; Societe Francophone du Diabete—44th Congres Annuel (SFD 2018), Nantes, France; and Advanced Technologies & Treatments for Diabetes—11th International Conference (ATTD 2018), Vienna, Austria. The onset 2 and 3 data analysed in this manuscript have been previously published in the abstract book of the American Diabetes Association—77th Annual Scientific Sessions (ADA 2017), Orlando, FL, USA; and previously presented in poster form at International Diabetes Federation—24th World Diabetes Congress (IDF 2017), Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; Canadian Diabetes Association/CSEM 20th Annual Professional Conference and Annual Meetings (CDA 2017), Edmonton, Canada; Sociedade Brasileira de Diabetes—XXI Congresso (SBD 2017), Sao Paulo, Brazil; Societa Italiana di Medicina Interna—118 Congresso Nazionale (SIMI 2017), Rome, Italy; and Societa Italiana di Diabetologia—Congresso 27 (SID 2018), Rimini, Italy.

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Compliance with Ethics Guidelines. All procedures performed in studies involving human participants were in accordance with the ethical standards of the institutional and/or national research committee and with the 1964 Helsinki declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards. Informed consent was obtained from all individual participants included in the study.

Data Availability. The datasets generated during and/or analyzed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

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