

Equal employment rates in people with type 1 diabetes with preserved and impaired hypoglycemia awareness

Impaired hypoglycemia awareness is common in type 1 diabetes patients. It limits the use of insulin to achieve tight glucose control and is a recognized mortality risk. A recent study by Ogundipe *et al* assessed the effect of impaired hypoglycemia awareness on employment status and employability for people with type 1 diabetes.¹ A questionnaire was completed by 525 adults of employment age with type 1 diabetes. It detailed the history of their diabetes, their occupational history, and assessed both their hypoglycemia awareness status and whether, in their view, having diabetes had adversely affected their ability to obtain or retain employment. The study found no difference in employment rate between those with preserved hypoglycemia awareness and those with impaired hypoglycemia awareness (73% and 66%, respectively). However, those with impaired hypoglycemia awareness were older ($p < 0.05$) and more frequently perceived that having diabetes adversely affected their ability to work ($p < 0.05$).

In the latest issue of Diabetic Hypoglycemia, Dr Rory McCrimmon's Feature Article discusses the acquired defects in glucose counter-regulation in type 1 diabetes that lead to increased hypoglycemia, as well as the latest research into the basic mechanisms underlying glucose sensing and defective counter-regulation. He also details therapeutic measures designed to restore hypoglycemia counter-regulation. In Professor Simon Heller's related Editorial, he discusses key points of interest in the Feature Article and the major hurdles to the development of therapeutic intervention to prevent defective responses to hypoglycemia.

References

1. Ogundipe OO, Geddes J, Leckie AM, Frier BM. *Occup Med (Lond)* 2011;61(4):241-6.

About Diabetic Hypoglycemia

Published by ESP Bioscience (Crowthorne, UK), Diabetic Hypoglycemia is an influential online diabetes journal led by Editor-in-Chief Professor Brian Frier

(Edinburgh, UK), with Associate Editors: Professor Simon Heller (Sheffield, UK), Professor Christopher Ryan (Pittsburgh, USA), Dr Rory McCrimmon (Dundee, UK), and Professor Anthony L. McCall (Virginia, USA). Published three times annually, Diabetic Hypoglycemia provides an interactive forum for the sharing of practical knowledge and opinions in the field of hypoglycemia.

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