

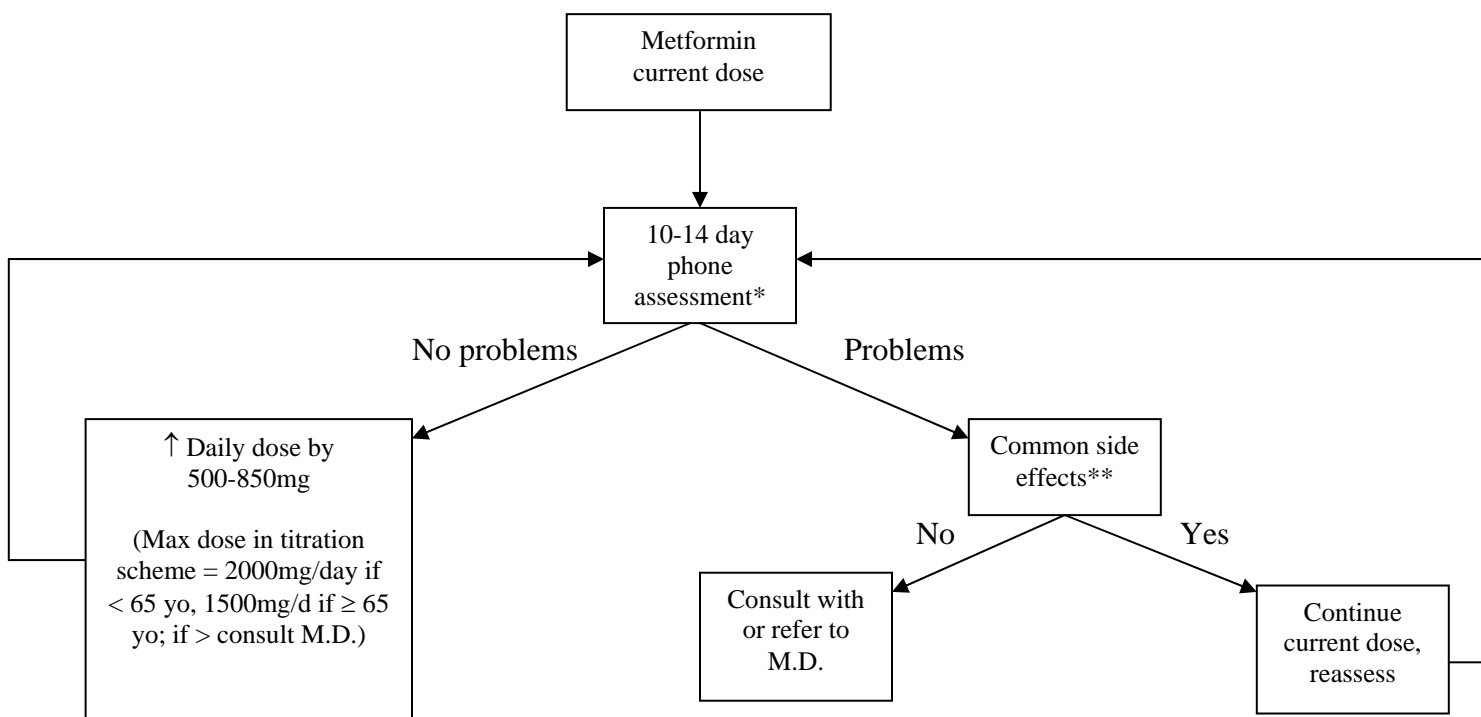


Standing Order: Metformin (Glucophage®) Initiation and Titration

Divisions:

General Internal Medicine

General Internal Medicine Extenders are allowed to initiate and titrate metformin per this standing order. Metformin should be initiated at 500 mg qd or bid. The pharmacists are to call the patient in 10-14 days to obtain at home blood glucose readings and assess possible adverse effects. If the patient is tolerating the medication, average blood sugar is > 140, and there are no unexplainable episodes of blood sugars < 70, the Extender may increase the daily dose of metformin by 500-850 mg. The Extender will reassess the patient in 10-14 days.



*Assessment: adverse effects, average blood sugars > 140, and no blood sugars < 70

**Common = diarrhea, nausea, abdominal pain, metallic taste, weight loss; uncommon = muscle aches, malaise, dizziness/lightheadedness, weakness, difficulty breathing/rapid breathing.

Signature _____
Internal Medicine Clinic Director

Updated June 9, 2005