

# Pioglitazone has limited effect in lipoatrophic diabetes

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(HealthDay)—Pioglitazone may not be effective for lowering blood

glucose levels, although it is associated with slight improvement in liver function, in lipoatrophic diabetes induced by juvenile dermatomyositis, according to a case report published online Sept. 12 in the *Journal of Diabetes Investigation*.

Yusuke Baba, M.D., from the Chiba University Graduate School of Medicine in Japan, and colleagues present a case of lipoatrophic diabetes induced by juvenile dermatomyositis. A 19-year-old male was admitted for treatment of poorly controlled diabetes; he had been diagnosed with juvenile dermatomyositis at age 3, and was diagnosed with diabetes at age 9.

The authors note that pioglitazone improved [liver function](#) slightly, although it was not effective for lowering [blood glucose levels](#), with no change seen in blood glucose and hemoglobin A1c levels. Metreleptin was only administered for a short period, and consequently its effectiveness could not be ascertained. Burned-out nonalcoholic steatohepatitis was revealed on [liver biopsy](#).

"Our results indicate that the successful treatment of lipoatrophic diabetes induced by juvenile dermatomyositis requires an early diagnosis and therapeutic intervention," the authors write.

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
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