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Genotype-stratified treatment for monogenic insulin resistance: a systematic review

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1 Genotype-stratified treatment for monogenic insulin resistance: a systematic review

2

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30

31 **Running Title**

32 Precision Treatment of Monogenic Insulin Resistance

33

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35 **Abstract**

36

37 **Background:** Monogenic insulin resistance (IR) includes lipodystrophy and disorders of insulin
38 signalling. We sought to assess effects of interventions in monogenic IR, stratified by genetic
39 aetiology.

40 **Methods:** Systematic review using PubMed, MEDLINE and Embase (1 January 1987 to 23 June 2021).
41 Studies reporting individual-level effects of pharmacologic and/or surgical interventions in monogenic
42 IR were eligible. Individual data were extracted and duplicates removed. Outcomes were analysed for
43 each gene and intervention, and in aggregate for partial, generalised and all lipodystrophy.

44 **Results:** 10 non-randomised experimental studies, 8 case series, and 23 case reports meet inclusion
45 criteria, all rated as having moderate or serious risk of bias. Metreleptin use is associated with lowering
46 of triglycerides and hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) in all lipodystrophy (n=111), partial (n=71) and
47 generalised lipodystrophy (n=41)), and in *LMNA*, *PPARG*, *AGPAT2* or *BSCL2* subgroups (n=72,13,21 and
48 21 respectively). Body Mass Index (BMI) is lowered in partial and generalised lipodystrophy, and in
49 *LMNA* or *BSCL2*, but not *PPARG* or *AGPAT2* subgroups. Thiazolidinediones are associated with
50 improved HbA1c and triglycerides in all lipodystrophy (n=13), improved HbA1c in *PPARG* (n=5), and
51 improved triglycerides in *LMNA* (n=7). In *INSR*-related IR, rhIGF-1, alone or with IGFBP3, are associated
52 with improved HbA1c (n=17). The small size or absence of other genotype-treatment combinations
53 preclude firm conclusions.

54 **Conclusions:** The evidence guiding genotype-specific treatment of monogenic IR is of low to very low
55 quality. Metreleptin and Thiazolidinediones appear to improve metabolic markers in lipodystrophy,
56 and rhIGF-1 appears to lower HbA1c in *INSR*-related IR. For other interventions there is insufficient
57 evidence to assess efficacy and risks in aggregated lipodystrophy or genetic subgroups.

58

59 **Plain Language Summary**

60 The hormone insulin stimulates nutrient uptake from the bloodstream into tissues. In insulin
61 resistance (IR), this action is blunted. Some rare gene alterations cause severe IR, diabetes that is

62 difficult to control, and early complications. Many treatments have been suggested, but reliable
63 evidence of their risks and benefits is sparse. We analysed all available reports describing treatment
64 outcomes in severe IR. We found that the evidence is of low to very low quality overall. Injections of
65 leptin, a hormone from fat tissue, or thiazolidinedione tablets that increase fat tissue both appear to
66 improve diabetes control in people with reduced ability to make fat tissue. Injections of another
67 treatment, insulin-like growth factor, appear to improve diabetes control in people with direct
68 blockage of insulin action. There is a pressing need to improve evidence for treatment in these rare
69 and severe conditions.

70 **Introduction**

71 Diabetes caused by single gene changes is highly heterogeneous in molecular
72 aetiopathogenesis. It may be grouped into disorders featuring primary failure of insulin
73 secretion, and disorders in which insulin resistance (IR), often severe, predates secondary
74 failure of insulin secretion and diabetes. Monogenic IR is itself heterogeneous, encompassing
75 primary lipodystrophy syndromes, primary disorders of insulin signalling, and a group of
76 conditions in which severe IR is part of a more complex developmental syndrome ¹.

77 Monogenic IR is rare but underdiagnosed. The commonest subgroup is formed by
78 genetic lipodystrophy syndromes ^{2,3}. Recent analysis of a large clinical care cohort unselected
79 for metabolic disease suggested a clinical prevalence of lipodystrophy of around 1 in 20,000,
80 with a prevalence of plausible lipodystrophy-causing genetic variants of around 1 in 7,000 ⁴.
81 Monogenic IR is important to recognise, because affected patients are at risk not only of
82 micro- and macrovascular complications of diabetes, but also of complications such as
83 dyslipidemia, pancreatitis, and steatohepatitis, especially in lipodystrophy syndromes ⁵. Non-
84 metabolic complications specific to individual gene defects may also occur, including
85 hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and other manifestations of soft tissue overgrowth ³. Diabetes
86 is also commonly the sentinel presentation of a multisystem disorder, and recognition of
87 complex syndromes in a diabetes clinic may trigger definitive diagnostic testing.

88 The only therapy licensed specifically for monogenic IR is recombinant human
89 methionyl leptin (metreleptin), with licensed indications encompassing a subset of patients
90 with lipodystrophy and inadequate metabolic control. The current license in the USA is
91 restricted to generalised lipodystrophy, but in Europe it extends to some patients with partial
92 lipodystrophy. A substantial proportion of the body of evidence considered in licensing

93 addressed patients ascertained by presence of clinical lipodystrophy, and the role of genetic
94 stratification in precision treatment of lipodystrophy has not been systematically addressed.
95 Many other medications and other treatment options are also widely used in monogenic IR,
96 although not licensed for that specific subgroup. Such use draws on the evidence base and
97 treatment algorithms developed for type 2 diabetes. Several forms of monogenic IR have
98 molecular and/or clinical attributes that suggest potential precision approaches to treatment.

99 We sought now to undertake a systematic review of the current evidence guiding
100 treatment of monogenic IR stratified by genetic aetiology, to assess evidence for differential
101 responses to currently used therapies, to establish gaps in evidence, and to inform future
102 studies. This systematic review is written on behalf of the American Diabetes Association
103 (ADA)/European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) *Precision Medicine in Diabetes*
104 *Initiative* (PMDI) as part of a comprehensive evidence evaluation in support of the
105 2nd International Consensus Report on Precision Diabetes Medicine ⁶. The PMDI was
106 established in 2018 by the ADA in partnership with the EASD to address the burgeoning need
107 for better diabetes prevention and care through precision medicine ⁷.

108 Our analyses show that metreleptin and thiazolidinediones appear to lower HbA1c,
109 triglycerides, and body weight in patients with lipodystrophy of all genotypes, and rhIGF-1 appears
110 to lower HbA1c in patients with *INSR*-related IR. For other interventions there is insufficient
111 evidence to assess efficacy and risks.

112

113 **Methods**

114 *Inclusion Criteria and Search Methodology*

115 To assess treatment of severe IR of known monogenic aetiology, with or without
116 diabetes mellitus, including generalised and partial lipodystrophy and genetic disorders of the

117 insulin receptor, we developed, registered and followed a protocol for a systematic review
118 (PROSPERO ID CRD42021265365; registered July 21, 2021)⁸. The study was reported in
119 accordance with Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis
120 (PRISMA) guidelines. Filtering and selection of studies for data extraction were recorded using
121 the Covidence platform (<https://www.covidence.org>, Melbourne, Australia).

122 We searched PubMed, MEDLINE and Embase from 1987 (the year before
123 identification of the first monogenic aetiology of IR) to June 23, 2021 for potentially relevant
124 human studies in English. We used broad search terms designed to capture the heterogeneity
125 of monogenic IR and its treatments. We searched for studies addressing 1. Severe IR due to
126 variant(s) in a single gene OR 2. Congenital generalised or familial partial lipodystrophy due
127 to variant(s) in a single gene. We selected only studies that reported a treatment term,
128 including but not limited to mention of 1. Thiazolidinediones (TZD), 2. Metreleptin, 3. SGLT2
129 inhibitors, 4. GLP-1 analogues, 5. Bariatric surgery (all types), 6. Recombinant human IGF-1 or
130 IGF-1/IGFBP3 composite, 7. U-500 insulin. No interventions were excluded in the primary
131 search. In addition to the automated search, we hand searched reference lists of relevant
132 review articles. Given the rarity of monogenic IR, no study types were excluded in the initial
133 search. We ultimately considered experimental studies, case reports, and case series. The full
134 search strategy is described in Supplementary Table 1.

135 Study selection for data extraction was performed in two phases, namely primary
136 screening of title and abstract, then full text review of potentially eligible articles. Two authors
137 independently evaluated eligibility, with discrepancies resolved by a third investigator. We
138 excluded publications without original data, such as reviews, editorials, and comments, and
139 those solely addressing severe IR or lipodystrophy of unknown or known non-monogenic
140 aetiology, including HIV-related or other acquired lipodystrophies, or autoimmune insulin

141 receptoropathy (Type B insulin resistance). Studies in which no clear categorical or numerical
142 outcome of an intervention was reported, or in which interventions were administered for
143 less than 28 days were also excluded.

144

145 *Data extraction and outcome assessments*

146 One author extracted data from each eligible study using data extraction sheets.
147 Data from each study was verified by all 3 authors to reach consensus. Data were extracted
148 from text, tables, or figures. Study investigators were contacted for pertinent unreported
149 data or additional details where possible, most commonly genetic aetiology of insulin
150 resistance in reported patients, and outcome data.

151 Data extracted for each study included first author, publication year, country, details
152 of intervention, duration of follow-up, study design, and number of participants. Subject-
153 level data were extracted for outcomes of interest, including sex, genetic cause of severe
154 insulin resistance (gene name, mono- vs biallelic *INSR* pathogenic variant), phenotypic details
155 of severe IR/lipodystrophic subtype (generalised vs partial lipodystrophy; associated
156 syndromic features). Subject level outcome data for were extracted prior to and after the
157 longest-reported exposure to the intervention of interest for hemoglobin A1c (A1c), body
158 mass index, serum triglyceride, ALT, or AST concentration, any index of liver size or lipid
159 content, and total daily insulin dose. Potential adverse effects of interventions were recorded,
160 including urinary tract infection, genital candidiasis, hypoglycemia, excessive weight loss,
161 pancreatitis, soft tissue overgrowth, and tumor formation.

162

163 *Risk of bias and certainty of evidence assessment*

164 Quality of extracted case reports and case series was assessed using NIH Study
165 Quality Assessment Tools⁹ by a single reviewer and verified by 2 additional reviewers.
166 Grading of overall evidence for specific research questions was undertaken as detailed in ¹⁰.

167

168 *Statistics and Reproducibility*

169 Extracted data were managed using Covidence and analysed with SAS version 9.4.
170 Pooled analysis was undertaken for all combinations of genotype and intervention for which
171 sufficient numbers were reported, as well as for aggregated lipodystrophies, and
172 generalized and partial subgroups of lipodystrophy. Generalized Estimating Equation
173 models were used with time as a fixed factor and study as a random factor to examine
174 treatment effects. Serum triglyceride concentrations were analyzed with and without log
175 transformation. Data were summarized using estimated least-squared means with
176 corresponding 95% confidence intervals.

177

178 **Results**

179 *Identification of eligible studies*

180 Initial searching identified 2,933 studies, to which 117 were added from the
181 bibliography reviews. 256 articles remained after screening of titles and abstracts, and 44
182 after full text screening (Figure 1).

183

184 *Included studies addressed limited interventions and most had a high risk of bias*

185 The 44 studies analysed, and assessment of their quality are summarised in Table 1
186 and detailed in Supplementary Data 1. Study quality was assessed as being fair in 15 cases
187 and poor in 29 cases, including all case reports. This was primarily due to high risk of bias,

188 particularly related to lack of control group for all studies. Three of the 44 studies included in
189 further analysis included only individuals already described in other reports and were
190 discarded, leaving 41 studies for final analysis. These comprised 10 non-controlled
191 experimental studies, 8 case series and 23 individual case reports (Table 1). No controlled
192 trials were found. Individuals reported in the studies included 90 with partial lipodystrophy
193 (72 due to *LMNA* mutation and 15 due to *PPARG* mutation), 42 with generalized lipodystrophy
194 (21 *AGPAT2*, 21 *BSCL2*, 2 *LMNA*), and 19 with IR due to *INSR* mutation(s). Among the
195 interventions described, only the responses to metreleptin (111 recipients),
196 thiazolidinediones (13 recipients) and rhIGF-1 (alone or as a composite with IGFBP3) (17
197 recipients) were described in more than 5 cases (Table 1). This meant that for the large
198 preponderance of possible genotype-treatment combinations no specific data were
199 recovered (Supplementary Table 2). Full outcome data extracted are summarised in
200 Supplementary Data 2, and subject-level data are shown in Supplementary Figures 1 through
201 8 with raw data provided in Supplementary Data 2.

202

203 *Metreleptin treatment was associated with improved metabolic control in lipodystrophy*

204 In our registered systematic review plan we posed several subquestions about
205 treatment of monogenic IR subtypes that we felt were tractable. The first related to the risks
206 and benefits (assessed by side effects, A1c, serum triglyceride concentration, body mass index
207 (BMI), and indices of fatty liver) of metreleptin in patients with different monogenic subtypes
208 of lipodystrophy. The response to metreleptin was described in 111 people (71 with partial
209 lipodystrophy, 40 with generalized lipodystrophy)¹¹⁻²³. Metreleptin was administered for
210 19±20 months (median 12, range 1-108) and was associated with lowering of A1c in
211 aggregated lipodystrophy, in generalized and partial subgroups, and in all genetic subgroups

212 for whom sufficient patients were reported, namely those with *LMNA*, *PPARG*, *AGPAT2* and
213 *BSCL2* mutations (0.5 to 1.5% least square mean reduction) (Level 3 evidence, Supplementary
214 Data 3, Figure 2). Metreleptin treatment was also associated with lowering of serum
215 triglyceride concentration in aggregated lipodystrophy, in generalized and partial subgroups,
216 and in those with *LMNA*, *PPARG*, *AGPAT2* and *BSCL2* mutations (92 to 1760 mg/dL least
217 square mean reduction for analyses of untransformed data) (Level 3 evidence,
218 Supplementary Data 3, Figure 2). BMI was lower after treatment in aggregated lipodystrophy,
219 in generalized and partial subgroups, and in those with *LMNA* or *BSCL2* mutations, but not
220 *PPARG* or *AGPAT2* mutations (Level 3 evidence, Supplementary Data 3, Figure 2). Liver
221 outcomes reported were too heterogeneous to analyse in aggregate. Only a single adverse
222 event, namely hypoglycemia, was reported.

223

224 *Thiazolidinedione treatment showed variable efficacy in limited studies*

225 We next addressed the evidence of risks and benefits of thiazolidinediones (TZDs) in
226 patients with lipodystrophy. We were specifically interested in any evidence of a greater or
227 lesser response in partial lipodystrophy caused by *PPARG* variants than in other lipodystrophy
228 subtypes, as TZDs are potent ligands for the product of the *PPARG* gene, the master regulator
229 of adipocyte differentiation. The response to TZDs was described in only 13 people, however
230 (12 FPLD, 1 CGL) ²⁴⁻³⁴. TZDs were administered for 29±28 months (median 24, range 2-96).
231 TZD use was associated with improved A1c in aggregated lipodystrophy (least square mean
232 reduction 2.2%) and in *PPARG*-related but not *LMNA*-related partial lipodystrophy (Level 4
233 evidence, Supplementary Data 3, Figure 3). Serum triglyceride concentration decreased in
234 aggregated lipodystrophy and in those with *LMNA*-related but not *PPARG*-related partial

235 lipodystrophy (Level 4 evidence, Supplementary Data 3, Figure 3). No adverse events were
236 reported.

237

238 *rhIGF-1 treatment in INSR-related IR was associated with improvement in A1c*

239 Our last specific question related to the risks (e.g. tumors, hypoglycemia, cardiac
240 hypertrophy, other soft tissue overgrowth) and benefits (assessed by A1c) of recombinant
241 human IGF-1 (rhIGF-1) or IGF-1/IGFBP3 composite in patients with pathogenic *INSR* variants.
242 The response to rhIGF-1 was described in 17 people with pathogenic *INSR* variants for a mean
243 of 45±81 months (median 9, range 1-288)³⁵⁻⁴⁶. In *INSR*-related IR, we found that use of rhIGF-
244 1, alone or as a composite with IGFBP3, was associated with improvement in A1c, and this
245 was true also in subgroups with monoallelic and biallelic variants (1.5 to 2% least square mean
246 reduction, Level 4 evidence, Supplementary Data 3, Figure 4). One instance of increased soft
247 tissue overgrowth and two episodes of hypoglycemia was reported.

248

249 *Many questions about genotype-stratified treatment were not addressed*

250 While many other interesting and clinically relevant questions arise about other
251 potential genotype-specific responses to therapy in monogenic IR, the small size or absence
252 of other genotype by treatment groups precluded the drawing of conclusions about risks and
253 benefits, including for very widely used medications such as metformin^{26,47-49}, newer agents
254 commonly used in type 2 diabetes including SGLT2 inhibitors^{50,51} and GLP1 agonists, and non
255 pharmacologic interventions such as bariatric surgery⁵²⁻⁵⁴.

256

257 **Discussion**

258 Thirty-five years since *INSR* mutations were identified in extreme IR^{55,56}, and 23 years
259 since the first monogenic cause of lipodystrophy was reported⁵⁷, many different forms of
260 monogenic IR are known^{1-3,58}. These are associated with substantial early morbidity and
261 mortality, ranging from death in infancy to accelerated complications of diabetes and fatty
262 liver disease in adulthood, depending on the genetic subtype. Several opportunities for
263 genotype-guided, targeted treatment are suggested by the causal genes, and so we set out
264 to review the current evidence guiding treatment of monogenic IR stratified by genetic
265 aetiology. We found a paucity of high-quality evidence (all level 3 to 4). No controlled trials of
266 any intervention were identified, and there was substantial heterogeneity of study
267 populations and intervention regimens, even for the same interventional agent.

268 The evidence which we did find, from a small number of uncontrolled experimental
269 studies, augmented by case series and numerous case reports, suggest that metreleptin
270 offers metabolic benefits across different lipodystrophy subtypes, in keeping with its licensing
271 for use in some patients with lipodystrophy in both Europe and the USA. Notably, the
272 evidence base considered by licensing authorities was larger than the one we present,
273 including many studies of phenotypically ascertained lipodystrophy that included acquired or
274 idiopathic disease. In contrast we have addressed solely individuals with lipodystrophy caused
275 by variation in a single gene. The limited data we identified do not clearly support differential
276 effects among different monogenic lipodystrophy subgroups, but for many subtypes numbers
277 reported are very small. Moreover, although responses appear comparable for partial and
278 generalised lipodystrophy, this is highly likely to reflect selection bias in studies of partial
279 lipodystrophy towards those with more severe metabolic complications and lower baseline
280 serum leptin concentrations.

281 A clear opportunity for precision diabetes therapy in monogenic IR is offered by the IR
282 and lipodystrophy caused by mutations in *PPARG*, which encodes the target for
283 thiazolidinediones (TZDs) such as pioglitazone^{59,60}. *PPARG* is a nuclear receptor that serves as
284 the master transcriptional driver of adipocyte differentiation, and so as soon as *PPARG*
285 mutations were identified to cause severe IR, there was interest in the potential of TZDs as
286 specific treatments. Although we found small scale evidence supporting greater A1c
287 reduction with TZDs in *PPARG* vs *LMNA*-related lipodystrophy, only 5 patients with *PPARG*-
288 related lipodystrophy in whom TZD effects were clearly described were reported, and
289 responses were inconsistent. Thus, it remains unclear whether people with IR due to *PPARG*
290 variants are more or indeed less sensitive to TZDs than people with other forms of
291 lipodystrophy. Loss-of-function *PPARG* mutations are the second commonest cause of familial
292 partial lipodystrophy², and the function of coding missense variants in *PPARG* has been
293 assayed systematically to accelerate genetic diagnosis⁶¹, so the opportunity to test genotype-
294 related therapy in *PPARG*-related IR seems particularly tractable in future.

295 Other obvious questions about targeted treatment of monogenic, lipodystrophic IR
296 are not addressed by current evidence. Important examples relate to the risks and benefits
297 of treatments used in type 2 diabetes such as GLP-1 agonists and SGLT2 inhibitors. It is
298 rational to suppose that these medications, which decrease weight as well as improving
299 glycaemia in those with raised BMI and diabetes, may also be efficacious in lipodystrophy
300 even where BMI is normal or only slightly raised. This is because in both situations adipose
301 storage capacity is exceeded, leading to fat failure. It is the offloading of overloaded adipose
302 tissue, rather than the baseline BMI/adipose mass, which underlies the efficacy of therapy.
303 However, GLP-1 agonists are contraindicated in those with prior pancreatitis, while SGLT2
304 inhibitor use can be complicated by diabetic ketoacidosis. In untreated lipodystrophy

305 pancreatitis is common, yet this is due to hypertriglyceridaemia, which is likely to be improved
306 by GLP-1 agonist use, while excessive supply of free fatty acids to the liver may promote
307 ketogenesis. Thus, assessment of both classes of drug in lipodystrophy and its genetic
308 subgroups will be important to quantify risks and benefits, which may be distinct to those in
309 obesity-related diabetes.

310 A further question we prespecified related to the use of rhIGF1 in people with severe
311 IR due to *INSR* mutations. This use of rhIGF-1 was first described in recessive *INSR* defects in
312 the early 1990s ⁴⁴, and several studies of rhIGF-1 therapy of duration less than 28 days in
313 people with *INSR* mutations have provided proof of concept for acute metabolic benefits
314 (summarized in ³⁸). This use of rhIGF-1 is based on the rationale that IGF-1 activates a receptor
315 and signalling pathway very closely similar to those activated by insulin. Based on case
316 reports, case series and narrative reviews, rhIGF-1 is now commonly used in neonates with
317 extreme IR due to biallelic *INSR* mutations, although, unlike metreleptin in lipodystrophy, this
318 use is still unlicensed. Our review of published data, which was limited to durations of
319 intervention greater than 28 days, is consistent with glycaemic benefits of rhIGF-1, alone or
320 in composite form with its binding protein IGFBP3, in people with *INSR* mutations.
321 Nevertheless, such studies are challenging to interpret and are potentially fraught with bias
322 of different types, particularly publication bias favouring positive outcomes. Responses to
323 rhIGF1 are also challenging to determine in uncontrolled studies as small differences in
324 residual function of mutated receptors can have substantial effects on the severity and
325 natural history of the resulting IR, yet relatively few *INSR* mutations have been studied
326 functionally. This underlines the narrow nature of, and substantial residual uncertainty in, the
327 evidence base for use of rhIGF-1 in monogenic IR.

328 There are several reasons why important questions about precision treatment of
329 monogenic IR have not been settled. Although severe autosomal recessive IR is usually
330 detected in infancy, commoner dominant forms of monogenic IR are often diagnosed
331 relatively late, often only after years of management based on presumptive diagnoses of type
332 2 or sometimes type 1 diabetes. Initial management as type 2 diabetes means that by the
333 time a clinical and then genetic diagnosis is made, most patients have been treated with
334 agents such as metformin, and increasingly SGLT2 inhibitors or GLP-1 agonists, outside trial
335 settings. It is not clear that harm is caused by such use of drugs with well-established safety
336 profiles and efficacy in type 2 diabetes, but the lack of systematic data gathering precludes
337 identification of specific drug-genotype interactions. Moreover, because attempts to gather
338 evidence for monogenic IR treatment has tended to focus on high-cost adjunctive therapies
339 such as metreleptin, the evidence base for their use is better developed, although controlled
340 trials are lacking. Licensing of high-cost treatments such as metreleptin in lipodystrophy,
341 while effects of many more commonly used, cheaper drugs with well-established safety
342 profiles lack formal testing in monogenic IR is potentially problematic, skewing incentives and
343 guidelines towards expensive therapy before optimal treatment algorithms have been
344 established.

345 Other challenges in conducting trials in monogenic IR arise from the exquisite
346 sensitivity of IR to exacerbating factors such as puberty, diet, and energy balance. This creates
347 a signal to noise problem particularly problematic in uncontrolled studies, in which non-
348 pharmacological components of interventions such as increased support for behavioural
349 change may confound attribution of beneficial outcomes to pharmacological agents tested.

350 The key question now is how the evidence base for managing monogenic severe IR
351 can be improved in the face of constraints in studying rare, clinically heterogeneous, and

352 geographically dispersed patients who are often diagnosed late with a condition that is
353 exquisitely environmentally sensitive. Growing interest in and development of methodologies
354 for clinical trials in rare disease ⁶², including Bayesian methodologies ^{63,64}, and hybrid single-
355 and multi-site designs ⁶⁵ offer hope for future filling of evidence gaps. One important and
356 pragmatic opportunity arises from the development of large regional, national and
357 international networks and registries for lipodystrophy (e.g. the Europe-based ECLip registry
358 ⁶⁶), allied to emergence of randomised registry-based trial (RRT) methodology ^{67,68}. RRTs have
359 attracted increasing interest in several disease areas and are particularly suitable for
360 evaluation of agents with well-established safety profiles. When a simple randomisation tool
361 is deployed in the context of a registry, RRTs can offer rapid, cost-effective recruitment and
362 high external validity (i.e. relevance to real world practice). In monogenic IR this would permit
363 questions to be addressed about optimal usage of different common medications in different
364 genetic subgroups, including the order of introduction of therapies, and their optimal
365 combinations. The quality of such studies will critically rely on good registry design and quality
366 and completeness of data capture ^{67,68}.

367 In summary, severe monogenic IR syndromes are clinically and genetically
368 heterogeneous, with high early morbidity and mortality. However, despite opportunities for
369 targeted therapy of some monogenic subgroups based on the nature of the causal gene
370 alteration, the evidence for genotype-stratified therapy is weak. This is in part because of the
371 rarity and frequent late diagnosis of monogenic IR, but also because therapeutic research to
372 date has focused largely on phenotypically ascertained cross cutting diagnoses such as
373 lipodystrophy. We suggest that approaches such as RRTs hold the best hope to answer some
374 of the persisting major questions about precision treatment in monogenic IR.

375

376 **Data availability**

377 All data used in this review is available from publicly available and herein referenced sources.

378 A list of included studies is provided in Supplementary Data 1. All data generated or analyzed

379 during this study are included in this published article and its supplementary information files.

380 Source data for the figures are available as Supplementary Data 2.

381

382 **Competing interests**

383 The authors declare the following competing interests: R.K.S. has received speaker fees from

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386

387 **Author Contributions**

388 R.K.S., R.J.B., and K.A.P. researched data, wrote the manuscript, and reviewed and approved

389 the final manuscript. S.A. conducted statistical analyses and reviewed and approved the final

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392

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Tables

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Study types	Number of studies
Case reports	23
Non-randomised experimental study	10
Case series	8
Study Quality*	Number of studies
Good	0
Fair	15
Poor	30
Phenotypes	Number of participants
Partial lipodystrophy	90 (72 LMNA, 15 PPARG, 2 PLIN1, 1 PIK3R1)
Generalised lipodystrophy	56 (21 AGPAT2, 21 BSCL2, 1 PTRF, 2 LMNA)
Insulin receptor	19 (7 Monoallelic, 12 Biallelic)
Intervention	Number of participants
Metreleptin	111 (71/40/0)
rhIGF-1 or rhIGF-1/IGFBP3 composite	17 (0/0/17)
Thiazolidinedione	13 (12/1/0)
Metformin	5 (2/1/2)
Bariatric surgery	4 (4/0/0)
SGLT2i	2 (1/1/0)

Table 1: Summary characteristics of included studies.

*Based on NHLBI quality assessment tool; #Numbers in brackets are for partial lipodystrophy/generalised lipodystrophy/ insulin receptor individuals respectively. Abbreviations: rhIGF-1, recombinant human insulin-like growth factor 1; IGFBP3, insulin-like growth factor binding protein 3; SGLT2i, sodium-glucose co-transporter-2 inhibitor

704

Figure Titles and Legends

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706

707 **Figure 1 Title: PRISMA diagram**

708 **Figure 1 Legend:** PRISMA flow diagram of publications evaluated based on the search
709 strategy.

710

711 **Figure 2 Title: Effects of metreleptin in monogenic forms of lipodystrophy**

712 **Figure 2 Legend:** Least square mean change in (a) Hemoglobin A1c (A1c), (b) Log₁₀
713 serum triglyceride concentration and (c) Body Mass Index (BMI) in patients with partial
714 lipodystrophy, generalized lipodystrophy, all forms of lipodystrophy, and subgroups with
715 *PPARG*, *LMNA*, *BSCL2*, and *AGPAT2* mutations. Error bars represent 95% confidence
716 intervals. N=64, 38, 102, 12, 52, 17, and 20 for change in A1c in partial lipodystrophy,
717 generalized lipodystrophy, all lipodystrophy, *PPARG*, *LMNA*, *BSCL2*, and *AGPAT2*-
718 associated lipodystrophy, respectively. N=66, 40, 106, 12, 54, 19, and 20 for change in
719 log₁₀ triglycerides in partial lipodystrophy, generalized lipodystrophy, all lipodystrophy,
720 *PPARG*, *LMNA*, *BSCL2*, and *AGPAT2*-associated lipodystrophy, respectively. N=47, 14, 61,
721 10, 35, 8, and 7 for change in BMI in partial lipodystrophy, generalized lipodystrophy, all
722 lipodystrophy, *PPARG*, *LMNA*, *BSCL2*, and *AGPAT2*-associated lipodystrophy,
723 respectively.

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725 **Figure 3 Title: Title: Effects of thiazolidinediones in monogenic forms of lipodystrophy**

726 **Figure 3 Legend:** Least square mean change in (a) Hemoglobin A1c (A1c), (b) Log₁₀
727 serum triglyceride concentration and (c) Body Mass Index (BMI) in patients with partial
728 lipodystrophy, generalized lipodystrophy, all forms of lipodystrophy, and subgroups with

729 *PPARG*, and *LMNA* mutations. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. N=5, 5,
730 and 10 for change in A1c and change in log₁₀ triglycerides in *PPARG*, *LMNA*, and all
731 lipodystrophy, respectively. N=1, 5, and 6 for change in BMI in *PPARG*, *LMNA*, and all
732 lipodystrophy, respectively.

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734 **Figure 4 Title: Effects of recombinant human Insulin-like Growth Factor-1 (rhIGF) alone**
735 **or in combination with Insulin-like Growth Factor Binding Protein-3 (IGFBP3) in**
736 **patients with *INSR* mutations**

737 **Figure 4 Legend:** Least square mean change in hemoglobin A1c (A1c), in all patients with
738 *INSR* mutations, and in subgroups with biallelic and monoallelic mutations. Error bars
739 represent 95% confidence intervals. N=7, 6, and 13 for biallelic, monoallelic, and all
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