

**Table 8-1. Currently Available Insulin Preparations**

Insulin Class†‡	Pharmacodynamic Characteristics*		
	Onset	Peak	Duration
Rapid-acting (insulin analogues lispro, aspart, glulisine)	≤30 minutes	0.5–3 hours	3–5 hours
Short-acting (human regular)	0.5–1 hour	2–5 hours	Up to 12 hours
Intermediate-acting (human NPH)	1.5–4 hours	4–12 hours	Up to 24 hours
Long-acting (insulin analogues glargine, detemir)	0.8–4 hours	Relatively peakless	Up to 24 hours
<i>Human insulin mixtures</i>			
70% NPH/30% regular	0.5–2 hours	2–12 hours	Up to 24 hours
50% NPH/50% regular	0.5–2 hours	2–5 hours	Up to 24 hours
<i>Analogue mixtures</i>			
75% lispro protamine/25% lispro	<15 minutes	1–2 hours	Up to 24 hours
50% lispro protamine/50% lispro	<15 minutes	1–2 hours	Up to 24 hours
70% aspart protamine/30% aspart	10–20 minutes	1–4 hours	Up to 24 hours

Note: The time course of action of each insulin may vary among persons or at different times in the same person. Because of this variation, the time periods indicated here should be considered general guidelines only.

\*Blood glucose–lowering effect.

†Preparations vary within class. Please see package inserts for specific pharmacodynamic data.

‡Inhaled insulin powder (Exubera, Pfizer) has been omitted because it has been withdrawn from the market and will no longer be available after January 2008.