

## Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1)

Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) is a hormone released from the gut into the blood in response to eating of food. After release, GLP-1 stimulates insulin release, thereby reducing blood sugar levels. As a result of these beneficial effects, agents that mimic the actions of GLP-1 are now used clinically to treat patients with type 2 diabetes, a disease that is reaching epidemic proportions in Canada and that results in enormous costs to the health care system. Our goal is to develop new approaches to this treatment, using novel agents to stimulate GLP-1 release. It is therefore important to understand the factors that control release of GLP-1 into the blood. The goals of our studies are thus to determine how GLP-1 is released into the blood, under (i) normal conditions and (ii) in type 2 diabetes, and to use this knowledge to design novel approaches for clinical use.

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### Glucagon-like Peptide-1 (GLP-1): A New Treatment for Type 2 Diabetes

