

Table 1. Characteristics of patients with type 2 diabetes or diabetes secondary to another condition or steroid medication

Variable	Females (n=249)	Males (n=242)	Total (n=491)	Difference between males and females
	Mean (SD) or %	Mean (SD) or %	Mean (SD) or %	P value
Age at death (yrs)	78.6 (9.6)	77.5 (9.8)	78.1 (9.7)	0.21
Age at diagnosis (yrs)*	66.2 (12.4)	65.3 (11.6)	65.8 (12.0)	0.41
Duration diagnosed diabetes (yrs)*	12.4 (9.0)	11.8 (8.1)	12.1 (8.6)	0.44
Current smoker (%)	9.2	9.5	9.4	0.92
Ex-smoker (%)	36.9	71.5	54.0	0.00
<i>Treatments</i>				
Diet only (%)	25.7	26.9	26.3	0.77
OAs only (%)	50.2	46.3	48.3	0.39
Insulin only (%)	19.3	23.1	21.2	0.30
OAs and insulin (%)	4.8	3.7	4.3	0.55
ACE inhibitor (%)	55.0	52.9	54.0	0.64
Lipid lowering (%)	14.5	17.4	15.9	0.38
Other antihypertensives (%)	27.7	16.1	22.0	0.002

*Year of diagnosis values were missing for 16 females and 22 males; SD=standard deviation.

Table 2. Clinical characteristics of the group with diabetes mentioned on their death certificate and the group without diabetes mentioned on their death certificate

Variable	Diabetes on death certificate (n=280)		Diabetes <i>not</i> on death certificate (n=228)		Difference
	Number	Mean (SD) or number (%)	Number	Mean (SD) or number (%)	P value
Age at death (yrs)	280	77.6 (9.7)	228	77.4 (11.2)	0.82
Age at diagnosis (yrs)*	263	62.3 (14.8)	207	66.8 (12.8)	0.001
Diabetes duration (yrs)*	263	15.0 (11.5)	207	10.3 (7.5)	0.00
Diet only (%)		49 (17.5)		80 (35.1)	0.00
OH only (%)		132 (47.1)		105 (46.1)	0.93
Insulin only (%)		82 (29.3)		39 (17.1)	0.001
OH and insulin (%)		17 (6.1)		4 (1.8)	0.015
Diastolic BP (mmHg)†	274	74.3 (11.3)	222	75.5 (10.8)	0.23
Systolic BP (mmHg)†	274	134.5 (21.2)	222	137.3 (21.2)	0.15
HbA1c (%)†	264	7.4 (1.5)	216	7.0 (1.5)	0.004
Total cholesterol (mmol/L)†	160	5.3 (1.2)	136	5.5 (1.3)	0.20
HDL-cholesterol (mmol/L)†	158	1.06 (0.31)	134	1.2 (0.52)	0.002
Triglycerides (mmol/L)†	159	2.3 (1.6)	134	2.0 (1.2)	0.03

*Age at diagnosis was not recorded for 38 patients; †For some patients clinical measures or blood tests were not completed during the 12 months prior to death. OH=oral hypoglycaemics; BP=blood pressure; HDL=high-density lipoprotein; SD=standard deviation.

Table 3. Causes of death by major category for those with and without diabetes mentioned on the death certificate

Cause of death	Diabetes on death certificate (n=280)		Diabetes <i>not</i> on death certificate (n=228)		Total (n=508)		Difference
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	P value
Infectious and parasitic	14	(5.0)	9	(3.9)	23	(4.5)	0.57
Neoplasms	22	(7.9)	45	(19.7)	67	(13.2)	0.00
Endocrine	7	(2.5)	0	(0.0)	7	(1.4)	0.02
Cardiovascular disease	111	(39.6)	90	(39.5)	201	(39.6)	0.97
Cerebrovascular	26	(9.3)	16	(7.0)	42	(8.3)	0.36
Respiratory	46	(16.4)	25	(11.0)	71	(14.0)	0.08
Gastrointestinal	10	(3.6)	13	(5.7)	23	(4.5)	0.25
Genitourinary	13	(4.6)	3	(1.3)	16	(3.1)	0.03
Other	35	(12.5)	23	(10.1)	58	(11.4)	0.40