

## Electronic supplementary material

**ESM Table 2** Baseline characteristics of all insulin users during follow-up by insulin glargine exposure group summarised across follow-up ( $n=49,197$ )

Characteristic	Data presented as	Non-glargine insulin	Non-glargine plus glargine insulin	Insulin glargine only	<i>p</i> value <sup>a</sup>
Subjects		64.5 (31,752)	30.9 (15,184)	4.6 (2,261)	
Person years		92,743	51,478	3,512	
Sex, % women	% ( <i>n</i> )	46.3 (14,697)	48.1 (7,298)	49.9 (1,129)	<0.0001
Age, years	median (UQ, LQ)	60 (45,70)	41 (28,54)	68 (58,76)	<0.0001
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	mean (SD)	29.7 (6.3)	27.3 (5.5)	30.3 (6.5)	<0.0001
Systolic BP, mmHg	mean (SD)	137.0 (22.5)	130.2 (20.2)	139.3 (24.0)	<0.0006
Diastolic BP, mmHg	mean (SD)	75.5 (12.2)	75.4 (11.5)	77.0 (13.1)	<0.0001
HbA <sub>1c</sub> , %	mean (SD)	8.6 (1.7)	8.9 (1.6)	8.9 (1.8)	<0.0001
Duration of diabetes					
≥5 years	% ( <i>n</i> )	78.5 (24,609)	77.2 (11,615)	82.6 (1,852)	<0.0001
Prior insulin					
≥5years on insulin	% ( <i>n</i> )	25.0 (7,922)	37.2 (5,656)	4.2 (95)	<0.0001
Prior cancer					
Ever	% ( <i>n</i> )	5.9 (1,879)	1.9 (295)	8.7 (197)	<0.0001
≤5 years ago	% ( <i>n</i> )	3.2 (1,015)	1.0 (155)	5.0 (113)	0.0001
Prior CVD	% ( <i>n</i> )	24.9 (7,902)	7.2 (1,093)	32.4 (733)	<0.0001
Ever smoked	% ( <i>n</i> )	30.3 (6,920)	29.3 (3,506)	28.8 (439)	<0.0001
Diabetes type:					
Type 1	% ( <i>n</i> )	23.0 (7312)	58.6 (8,892)	1.7 (38)	
Type 2	% ( <i>n</i> )	77.0 (24,440)	41.4 (6,292)	98.3 (2,223)	<0.0001
On three or more glucose-lowering drugs	% ( <i>n</i> )	35.5 (11,277)	13.3 (2,020)	73.2 (1,656)	<0.0001
In the two most deprived SIMD quintiles	% ( <i>n</i> )	47.9 (15,215)	37.1 (5,634)	50.2 (1,135)	<0.0001

<sup>a</sup>Age- and sex-adjusted *p* values are for tests of whether the overall variation between groups is significant and are taken from linear and logistic regressions of continuous and binary variables respectively

LQ, Lower quartile; UQ, upper quartile