

in results. The IRAS is a multi-ethnic cohort including Hispanic, non-Hispanic white and African-American participants, 33% of whom had diabetes, while in the SHS only American Indians with a > 50% prevalence of DM and advancing rates of heart disease were included [4,5]. Unlike in white subjects, the IR syndrome in American Indians has little association with blood pressure and perhaps the absence of this relationship extends to PAI-1. In addition, there is a higher prevalence of the metabolic syndrome (35%) in non-diabetic American Indian compared with US white (24%) cohorts [3]. Moreover, most American Indian subjects have abdominal obesity, which appears to be a major contributor to elevated PAI-1; this fat pattern was associated strongly with PAI-1 in non-diabetic subjects in our study (data not shown).

In conclusion, PAI-1 is associated with increased levels of insulin and IR, but it is not an independent predictor for incident DM in the American Indian population. Our results suggest that insulin and IR at least partly mediate the association between PAI-1 and the development of diabetes.

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Treating insulin allergy with continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion (CSII)

We would agree with a recent paper that insulin pump therapy can be extremely useful in clinical situations beyond the usual criteria provided by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence [1,2].

In the paper, the authors state that this is 'the first case report of insulin allergy in Type 2 diabetes being successfully managed by CSII'.

In fact, this has been reported previously [3,4].

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Reply

We sincerely apologise to Drs Kerr and Richardson for omitting their case report—they obviously have developed an expertise in management of such patients. We hope they agree that our case report provides a useful reminder, adds to the literature, and helps clinicians consider other management options in such patients.

In our defence, a PubMed search of 'insulin allergy and CSII' does not throw up their articles, although they do appear in a search of 'insulin allergy', along with over 1000 other articles!

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