Reviewer's report

Title: Insulin secretion in patients with latent autoimmune diabetes (LADA): halfway between type 1 and type 2 diabetes. Action LADA 11

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Reviewer: Tiinamaija Tuomi

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The manuscript describes a cross-sectional study of three groups of patients diagnosed after 30 years of age (type 1 diabetes, LADA and type 2 diabetes) stratified for time since diagnosis of diabetes. C-peptide response to a mixed liquid meal test has been analysed. The LADA patients had an intermediate C-peptide response compared with patients with LADA or type 2 diabetes.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. How was type 1 diabetes diagnosed? The residual insulin secretion seems quite high at all time points and 25% of the patients have stimulated C-peptide over 0.2 nmol/l even after 5 years, which is uncommon.

2. Many patients were on insulin, when was the last insulin-dose administered before the test? That could affect the C-peptide response. How do the results look, if the insulin-treated patients are left out? In small patient groups a different portion of insulin-treated patients could affect the results a lot.

3. It is discussed that the LADA patients had a different pattern of meal-stimulated insulin secretion. It would be more correct to say that it was lower/higher than in T2D or T1D. If C-peptide had been tested at different time points and it had been highest in LADA at 15 min and T2D at 46 min, we could discuss different patterns.

4. The authors discuss "discordance between studies...", but as presented, there are really no discordances.

5. The numbers of patients in each group and the number of insulin-treated patients in each group should be added to the tables and figure legend.

6. Figure 1 shows all the relevant information in Tables 2 and 3, which could be left out.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'