Dear future MDs,

A visit to the cardiologist has shaken your patient up considerably. Your patient is at risk for heart disease. In addition, visits to the cardiologist have cost your patient a pretty penny. Your patient is spending lots of cash on visits to the doctor and would like to contain costs. Evaluate your patient's needs with the additional information provided below about each of the medications.

| Drug A | Drug B | Drug C | Drug D | Drug E |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Oral administration; Very effective at regulating blood sugar; depressive effect on mood; may cause heart arrhythmias  $$$ | Intravenous administration; optimistic effect on mood; affects liver  $$ | Intravenous administration; Very effective at regulating blood sugar; no effect on mood; must be taken with Drug D  $$ | Oral administration; Weakly effective at regulating blood sugar; optimistic effect on mood; must be taken with Drug C; no known side effects  $ | Oral administration; Very effective at regulating blood sugar; depressive effect on mood; muscle aches; safe for heart patients  $$ |

Key: Each $ symbol represents an increase in cost. Therefore a drug that has three $ symbols is much more expensive than a drug that has only one $ symbol.

Evaluate the choices available to your patient to treat their diabetes. Respond with a letter describing your rationale for determining which is the best medication.

Sincerely,

Saccharine