UK Prospective Diabetes Study. IV. Characteristics of newly presenting type 2 diabetic patients: male preponderance and obesity at different ages. Multi-center Study.

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The characteristics of newly presenting Type 2 diabetes mellitus have been examined in 1857 newly diagnosed diabetic patients aged 25–65 years inclusive. The males were less obese than the females (121% vs 141% IBW, respectively), but a male-dominated sex ratio of 1.54 was found. Taking into account the prevalence of obesity in the general population, males had a 2.5-fold relative risk of presenting with diabetes, although with increasing obesity the male preponderance was lost. Presentation increased with age up to the age of 55 years. Patients presenting at all ages had similar glycaemia and were similarly obese. Those presenting at a younger age were usually particularly obese in relation to the general population. Obese patients were less physically active than normal weight patients. Type 2 diabetes had a seasonal variation of presentation with a peak in January to April.