

6 IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT PET DIABETES

Pet diabetes may be scary for your clients, but you can help them. Here are 6 important things to remember when diagnosing and treating diabetes in pets

1 Pet diabetes is a group of metabolic conditions



Where there is **chronic hyperglycemia** due to little or no insulin production

3 To diagnose diabetes



Check urine for glucose using a **urine dipstick**

If positive, take a blood sample to confirm **hyperglycemia**, as well as for other lab tests

2 Hyperglycemia causes



Frequent urination

Due to excess glucose in the urine leading to an increase in water loss, and thus urine production



Increased thirst

To prevent dehydration due to an increase in water loss in urine



Weight loss with or without increased appetite

Glucose is lost in urine and cells use other substances (e.g. amino acids) as an energy source. Appetite can, but does not always, increase but this is usually not sufficient to compensate for energy losses

4 4 facts about insulin

1 Diabetic pets **need insulin** replacement

2 Insulin has to be **given by subcutaneous injection** because it is broken down (digested) when given orally



3 **Veterinary-approved insulin** is 40 IU/ml

4 **Insulin injections** should be given using a 0.5 or 1 mL U-40 insulin syringe or the veterinary insulin pen to avoid dosing errors

5 Veterinary-approved insulin should be used because



It has a low **40 IU/mL** concentration that allows for

more **accurate measurement** of the low doses required by many dogs and cats

6 Managing pet diabetes requires



Daily routine

Insulin injections, suitable diet & regular meal times, regular exercise and monitoring and recording progress



Patience

Most pets with diabetes respond rapidly to insulin, but it can take weeks to resolve all of the clinical signs

Diabetic pets can live happy and healthy lives

Ready to help your clients learn about pet diabetes? Download **Sugar & Spike's 3 Top Facts About Pet Diabetes**

To manage pet diabetes in your clinic, contact your MSD Animal Health representative today.


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