



How to Care for Your Diabetic Pet

Daily Follow-up

- Following up each day on your pet’s health is an important part of controlling its diabetes. Activities may include:
- Evaluating water consumption once or twice a day
 - Evaluating daily urine production by recording the number of times the pet urinates
 - Monitoring weight once a week
 - Using urine test strips to detect glucose and ketone bodies

Preparing the Dose (for U-40 insulin syringe)

- After washing your hands, take the Vetsulin® (porcine insulin zinc suspension) bottle out of the refrigerator.
- Shake the bottle until the insulin is uniformly milky, allowing any foam to disperse. This evenly mixes the insulin to ensure the proper dose.
- Carefully remove the cap from the needle.
- Insert the syringe into the bottle.
- Turn the bottle and syringe upside down.
- Making sure the tip of the needle is in the Vetsulin®, withdraw the correct dose into the syringe.
- Before removing the needle from the bottle, check the syringe for any air bubbles.

- If bubbles are present, hold the syringe up and tap its side until the bubbles float to the top. Push them out with the plunger and withdraw the correct dose.
- Remove the needle from the bottle. Be careful that you do not inject yourself.

Hypoglycemia: What to Watch Out For

The most important complication seen in animals is an excessively low blood glucose level. Signs of hypoglycemia may occur suddenly and can include:

- Weakness
- Depression
- Behavioral changes
- Muscle twitching
- Anxiety
- Seizures
- Coma

If You See Hypoglycemia Signs (If Your Pet Is Conscious)

1. Rub about 1 tbsp of corn syrup on your pet’s gums.
2. When your pet is able to swallow, feed its usual meal.
3. Contact your veterinarian as soon as possible.

Feeding Your Diabetic Pet

Your pet’s diet will be: (brand) _____ (amount) _____.

Feeding times: _____ Treats: _____.

Please feed your pet _____ (time) before insulin injection OR _____ (time) after insulin injection.

If your pet hasn’t eaten, give 50% of the required dose OR _____.

Vetsulin® Dosage

☐ **U-40 Insulin Syringe:** Give _____ IU M every 12 hours (____AM ____ PM) OR _____ M every 24 hours (____ AM or ____ PM)

☐ **VetPen®:** Give _____ IU M every 12 hours (____AM ____ PM) OR _____ M every 24 hours (____ AM or ____ PM)

These are the medical concerns that need to be addressed in the near future:

☐ Fecal examination ☐ Deworming ☐ Dental ☐ Spay/neuter ☐ Heartworm test ☐ Vaccinations ☐ Bloodwork

☐ Other condition (specify):_____.

These conditions could have a direct impact on your pet’s diabetic care. They should be addressed as soon as possible to allow for optimum diabetes control.

Storage and Administration of Vetsulin®

Store the Vetsulin® bottle upright in the refrigerator. Do not freeze. Use contents within 42 days of first vial puncture and maintain a temperature of 25°C (77°F) or cooler.

Injection Instructions*

- Injections should be given just under the skin, 3/4 to 2 inches from the middle of your pet’s back.
- The location may vary from behind the shoulder blade to slightly in front of the hip bone, depending upon your veterinarian’s preference and which suits you and your pet.
- Alternating between your pet’s left and right side will help to ensure their greater long-term comfort.

Clinic Stamp

