



Your Cat. Our Priority

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## Blood Glucose Curve

For diabetic pets, one reality exists: blood glucose cannot be normalized without treatment and monitoring throughout their lifetime. The four classical signs of diabetes are:

1. Weight Loss
2. Increased water consumption
3. Increased appetite
4. Increased urination

These signs are not only important for diagnosing a new diabetic pet, but are important home monitoring parameters (even if your pet has been on a stable insulin regimen at home). If you see a return of **ANY** of the above clinical signs, it may be an indication that blood testing may need to be done in an attempt to find a better treatment plan for your pet. We recommend scheduling an appointment with your veterinarian to discuss any changes or contact them via email or voicemail to discuss coming in for a blood glucose curve.

### What is a Blood Glucose Curve?

Determining the level of glucose in the blood is the most commonly used blood test for monitoring the effects of insulin on a patient at any given time. A glucose curve is a series of blood glucose levels taken throughout the day which provides important diagnostic information for your veterinarian.

### What do I Need to Bring?

1. Your pet
2. Insulin
3. Food (if you did not feed your pet)
4. Filled out Blood Glucose Curve Patient Admit Form (included in this packet)

## **What do I need to do the morning my pet is scheduled for their Blood Glucose Curve and what happens to him/her throughout the day?**

1. Feed your pet their normal morning meal and administer their insulin as you normally would, then bring them to the hospital immediately afterwards.
2. Fill out the **Blood Glucose Curve Patient Admit Form** (Page 3) and bring it with you.
3. Blood glucose levels will be monitored throughout the day by taking blood samples until your attending veterinarian receives the information necessary to decide on a treatment plan. Generally we expect to have a patient here 10-12 hours to ensure we are monitoring the highest and lowest glucose readings for the day (the highest should occur just before the insulin injection and the lowest at the time of peak insulin effect). Your veterinarian will let you know when you can come pick up your pet.
4. If your pet gets excited or very nervous when riding in the car or being in the hospital, the glucose readings may be falsely elevated. If this occurs, it is best to admit your pet to the hospital the morning (or afternoon) before testing to allow him/her to settle down. Otherwise, the information provided by doing a blood glucose curve will be limited.

### **Other Important Information:**

During the blood glucose curve, we strive to mimic a normal day for your pet. Please inform the admitting technician if you have a feeding schedule that differs from twice daily. Also let us know whether or not you feed your pet treats during the day and/or after insulin is given so that we can do the same (please bring a small baggie of treats if this is the case). Your pet will be walked multiple times throughout the day and will have fresh water available at all times.

# Blood Glucose Curve Patient Admit Form

Client name: \_\_\_\_\_ Pet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_ Veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Reason for coming in:**

My pet's DVM recommended it

My pet is displaying one or more clinical diabetic sign  **Please list:** \_\_\_\_\_

Other  **Please explain:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Insulin Information:**

Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount given and frequency: \_\_\_\_\_

Time morning meal was given: \_\_\_\_\_ Time insulin was given: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you feed your pet more than twice daily? If yes, please explain your pet's schedule:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Time next meal and insulin will be due: \_\_\_\_\_