



Lynn Valley | VETERINARY CLINIC
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BLOOD GLUCOSE MEASUREMENT

Blood glucose measurements are most commonly collected from the ears. This is the least invasive method for your pet.

Ask for our Diabetes Mellitus handout for more information on insulin, signs for hypoglycemia (low blood glucose levels), and more.



<https://www.chewy.com/alphatrak-2-blood-glucose-monitoring/dp/173361>

Collecting a blood glucose measurement:

- Search along the outside edges of the ear for a vein. It may be easiest to visualize on the inside of the ear flap.
- Prick the vein with a needle or lancing instrument. You do not need to insert the needle the whole way through the ear.
- Gently 'milk' out the blood. A 2mm sized bead of blood is all that is needed for a reading. Try to avoid your pet shaking its head, as this can interfere with the bead of blood.
- Fully insert the test strip into the glucometer. Wait for the screen to show it is ready for reading.

- Dip one of the small wings on the sides of the bottom of the test strip into the bead. The glucometer will beep when it has sufficient blood for a reading.
- Note all values to report to your Veterinarian. This can be brought to the clinic during an appointment, or emailed to lvvc@lvvc.ca.

Tips and tricks:

- Each test strip bottle has different settings for cats and dogs. Ensure your glucometer is on the correct setting. The number will show once you insert the test strip. Use the 'M' button to decrease, and the 'C' button to increase the number to the correct setting..
- Do not fully insert the test strip until you are ready to collect the blood glucose. If you insert it too early, your window to introduce the bead of blood may end, and then the test strip is wasted.
- When performing a blood glucose curve at home, do not wipe away the bead of blood unless it is excessive. This will create a scab that you will be able to gently scratch off for the next reading and can help avoid multiple needle pricks.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9eS3mJY3V1A> for canine
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=btPng4Mgad0> for feline