

DIABETES CARE TASKS AT SCHOOL: What Key Personnel Need to Know



DIABETES BASICS

1-800-DIABETES www.diabetes.org



Goal: Optimal Student Health and Learning



All school staff members should have basic knowledge of diabetes and know who to contact for help.



Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to understand:

- What is diabetes?
- Why care at school is required
- Basic components of diabetes care at school
- Short and long term consequences of diabetes



What is Diabetes?

In diabetes:

Body does not make or properly use insulin

Insulin is needed to:

Move glucose from blood into cells for energy

If insulin isn't working, high blood glucose results:

Energy levels are low Dehydration Complications



Type 1 Diabetes

- Autoimmune disorder
- Insulin-producing cells destroyed
- Daily insulin replacement necessary
- Age of onset: usually childhood, young adulthood
- Most common type of diabetes in children and adolescents



Type 1 Diabetes

ONSET:

relatively quick

SYMPTOMS:

increased urination tiredness weight loss

increased thirst hunger dry skin blurred vision

CAUSE: uncertain, both genetic and environmental factors



Type 2 Diabetes

Insulin resistance – first step

Age at onset:

- Most common in adults
- Increasingly common in youth
 - overweight
 - inactivity
 - genes
 - ethnicity



Type 2 Diabetes

ONSET:

SYMPTOMS:

variable timeframe for children

tired, thirsty, hunger, increased urination

- some children show no symptoms at diagnosis
- others are symptomatic with very high blood glucose levels



Diabetes is Managed, But it Does Not Go Away.

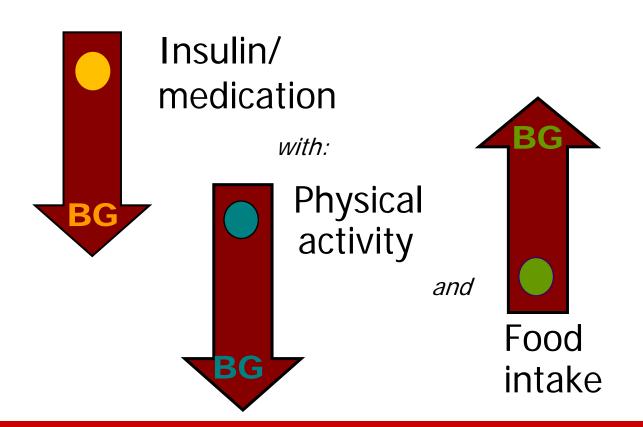


GOAL:

Maintain target blood glucose



Diabetes Management Constant Juggling - 24/7







Diabetes Management

Routine Care:

- Many students will be able to handle all or almost all routine diabetes care by themselves
- Some students will need school staff to perform or assist with routine diabetes care

Emergency Care:

 ALL students with diabetes will need help in the event of an emergency situation



Care in the Schools: School Nurses and Others

A School nurse is most appropriate to:

- Coordinate diabetes care
- · Supervise diabetes care
- Provide direct care (when available)
- · Communicate about health concerns to parent/guardian and health care team

However, a school nurse is not always available.

Non-medical school staff can be trained to assist students:

- For both routine and emergency care
- Including insulin and glucagon administration





Diabetes Medical Management Plan (DMMP)

- Basis for all school-based diabetes care plans
- Developed by student's personal health care team and parent/guardian
- Signed by a member of student's personal health care team
- Individualized
- Implemented collaboratively by the school diabetes team:
 - School nurse
 - Student
 - Parent/guardian
 - Other school personnel



Where to Get More Information

American Diabetes Association 1-800- DIABETES

www.diabetes.org

National Diabetes Education Program/NIH www.ndep.nih.gov