2265 Troy Rd. Springfield, Ohio 45504



937-342-DOGS (3647)

Diabetic Care Instructions

1. Feed your pet on a regular schedule two times each day. Diabetic pets <u>should NOT</u> be free-fed where the bowl is filled once a day and they are allowed to visit the bowl at any time. In order to regulate their uptake of glucose, it is very important to get your pet on a regular feeding schedule with very few treats between meals. It is often beneficial to use a prescription food designed specifically for diabetic animals.

For Cats: If using regular cat food, feed 1/4 cup twice a day. If using Royal Canin Diabetic food, feed 1/4-1/3 cup twice a day. Avoid giving treats between meals.

For Dogs: Feed _____ cup(s) twice a day. Avoid giving treats between meals.

- 2. Give insulin twice each day at 12-hour intervals, within 30 minutes of a meal. Starting dose for your pet is _____. If he/she does not eat at all, do not give the insulin. Doing so could push the glucose level too low. Instead, call us right away so we can check the glucose level.
- 3. Signs that your pet's glucose might be too high include increases in drinking and urination.
- 4. Signs that your pet's glucose might be too low include shaking or tremors, lethargy, seizures, and decreased temperatures. If this occurs, call us right away. If for some reason you can't reach us immediately, you can give a small amount of honey or corn syrup on the gums until we can give you further instructions.
- 5. Call right away if your pet does not eat, is acting poorly, or if you have any questions at all.
- 6. We will need to check the glucose level regularly, every one to two weeks until we can get it regulated. This should be scheduled at 2:00 pm, or roughly 6 hours after giving the morning dose of insulin.

Insulin Care:

SHAKE VETSULIN VIGOROUSLY

Keep the bottle of insulin refrigerated until ready to use.

When preparing for an injection, gently roll the insulin bottle between your hands to mix and warm it a little. Mix until all of the white sediment in the bottom of the bottle has been re-suspended.

Make sure the plunger in the syringe is all the way down at the zero mark. Insert the needle into the bottle of insulin, and invert the bottle. Gently pull back on the plunger and draw the appropriate amount of insulin into the syringe. Be sure that there is no air (or air bubbles) drawn into the syringe. Air bubbles will prevent the proper dosage from being administered. If bubbles are visible, then push the insulin back into the bottle and redraw.

Pinch a small amount of skin on your pet's back and gently pull up forming a small tent. Insert the needle of the syringe near the base of the tent and inject the insulin just under the skin.

Do not reuse syringes. Place used syringes in sharps container or laundry detergent bottles clearly labeled *SHARPS*. This can be placed in normal trash if sealed and clearly labeled.

