

Published based on [Feline Diabetes: Symptoms And Treatment](#)

Feline Diabetes: Symptoms And Treatment

Cats are among the most popular of human companion animals and in fact are even more popular than dogs in some countries. It's easy to see why, cats are affectionate animals, who are quite easy to care for, and make excellent pets.

When you adopt a cat you are responsible for ensuring that it has access to the best possible veterinary care. Cats are usually quite robust creatures but they are susceptible to diseases like diabetes.

Diabetes is more common in humans than it is in animals. However, the cause of the disease is the same. Sugar, or glucose, is found in the blood, and the level of blood sugar in the body is controlled by insulin, a hormone produced by the pancreas. When the pancreas doesn't function properly, it fails to produce enough insulin, allowing blood sugar levels to get out of control, causing diabetes.

You need to be alert for signs that your cat may have the disease. Common signs include a significant increase in water consumption and urination, deterioration in the condition of the coat, a drop in weight and loss of appetite. If these symptoms are present you need to make an appointment with your vet right away.

If the cat has diabetes, and it isn't treated by a vet, you will begin to notice more severe symptoms. The cat will become lethargic, vomit frequently, and eventually fall into a coma.

On the other hand, if the diabetes is treated, your cat will be able to lead a full and normal life. You will however need to make a few adjustments to the cat's lifestyle (and yours!).

Diet is all important in controlling the disease. You will have to feed your cat at specific intervals every day, and you will also have to administer insulin shots twice daily. Your vet will set the dosage and intervals between shots and will show you how to get the syringe ready and give the injection.

Regardless of whether the cat was allowed out in the past, you will have to keep her indoors in the future. This is very important because of the set frequency of meals and insulin shots. If the cat is outdoors and does not have these on time, she may go into shock and even into a coma.

Follow your vets instructions closely when administering insulin. The cat must always be fed first before getting the injection. If the medication is administered before the cat has eaten, the result will be hypoglycemic shock, which is usually fatal.

Your vet will need to monitor the cat's health on a regular basis and may at some point reduce the frequency or dosage, but unfortunately the cat will always need to be on insulin.

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