



• Belle Mead •
Animal Hospital
Best Medicine. Most Compassionate Care.

Home Blood Glucose Monitoring with Lantus Insulin – OWNERS HANDOUT

Home blood glucose monitoring on cats is the best way that we can attempt to regulate a diabetic cat. The monitoring is not painful to the cat and most will learn to allow the sampling/monitoring with no complaint! Cats that are monitored at home and are treated with Lantus insulin may even go into remission – Lantus reverses the glucose toxicity in the beta cells of the pancreas, which allows the body to produce insulin again naturally and so the cat requires less insulin over time.

We have gone over how to take samples from your cat in the room with a technician and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us and we can talk you through it or send informational videos.

Important things to remember when testing your cat at home:

- You will be taking 2 samples from the cat – a pre-insulin and pre-feeding reading (this is to check the lasting effects of the previous injection), and one reading 4 to 6 hours after the cat has received the insulin (this is to check the nadir or the level of the highest action of the insulin and therefore the lowest blood sugar reading). We do NOT need a full 12 hours blood glucose curve.
- You will be taking samples every 3 to 5 days in the beginning. On the in between days we do not need to monitor the blood sugars. If it is more convenient for you due to your work schedule you can monitor only on the weekends. Once we get your cat regulated we can space out the testing.
- You should monitor your cats appetite, frequency of drinking and urination (especially any changes), and weight.
- When taking samples, please record the number in the provided chart and give the to the doctor so they can adjust the dose if necessary. The best way to do this is by emailing us at customerservice@bmvvet.com or you can call and leave a message with the receptionist.

Important things to remember about your cat's insulin:

- Your Lantus insulin needs to be kept refrigerated to ensure a long lifespan – the shelf life is only 4 weeks once open and kept at room temperature. If we keep your Lantus in the fridge, we can extend this lifespan up to 6 months.
- When you give your pet the insulin shot, please remember this insulin does NOT need to be rolled or shaken – this can actually damage the molecules of the insulin!
- Please also remember that the best chance of regulation or remission with your cat will also come with feeding a strict low carbohydrate canned diet – and limited dry food if any!
- Insulin should be given 12 hours apart from the previous dose.
- Only Ulticare U100, 3/10cc, 29 gauge syringes should be used with Lantus Insulin. Do NOT accept any needles from friends or family member previous diabetic animals you could accidentally overdose your cat!