



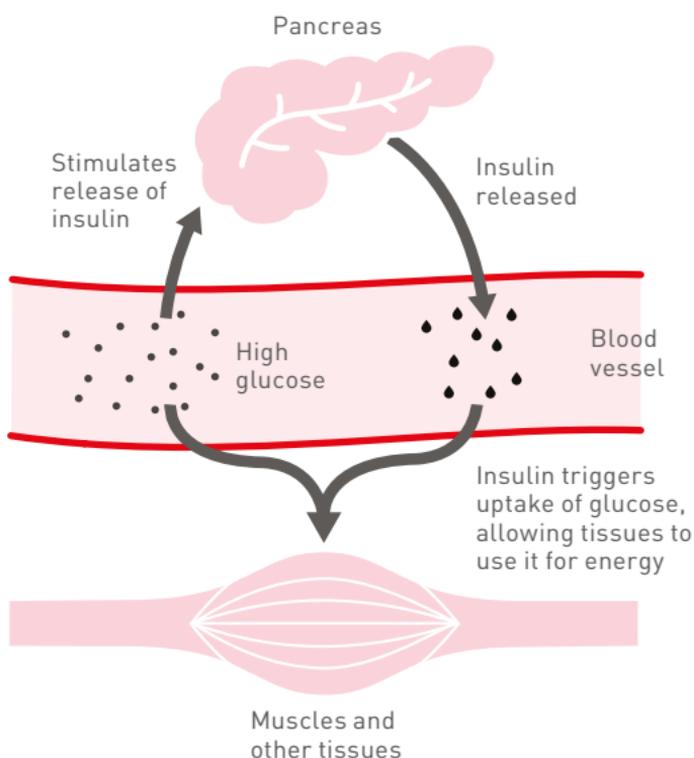
# DISCOVER THE DIFFERENCE

A DIET CAN MAKE  
FOR DIABETIC DOGS



# WHAT IS DIABETES?

**Diabetes is a condition in which a dog's blood sugar levels are persistently high.** Like humans, dogs rely on insulin from the pancreas to control their blood glucose (blood sugar). In healthy dogs, blood glucose rises after a meal and insulin is released in response. This acts like a key, allowing the cells in their muscles, liver and other tissues to take up glucose from the blood.<sup>1</sup>



**Most dogs with diabetes struggle to produce enough insulin — similar to type 1 diabetes in humans.** If your dog has diabetes, it's likely that their pancreas is unable to produce enough insulin. This leaves their tissues unable to absorb and use glucose effectively, leading to persistently high blood sugar.<sup>1</sup>

**DIABETIC DOGS CAN LIVE LONG, COMFORTABLE LIVES WITH APPROPRIATE TREATMENT AND MONITORING.<sup>2</sup>**

## WHO WE ARE

We are Royal Canin—a pet food brand that is obsessed about the knowledge and health of individual cats and dogs. Founded in 1968 by veterinarian Dr. Jean Cathary, with over five decades of research and scientific discovery, we are determined to bring out the best health that resides in each and every pet.

## WHAT SETS US APART

Once we identify a real need, nothing will stop us from developing nutritional solutions that will enhance medical treatment and address the specific needs of individual cats and dogs. Through partnerships with veterinarians, we strive to learn everything we can about pet health and how our formulas work with different breeds, sizes, lifestyles and therapeutic conditions. Stringent testing and quality control of raw materials and finished product allow us to continually provide precise nutritional solutions for pets across a host of medical conditions.

**For dogs with diabetes, high blood sugar levels typically lead to:**

- **Excessive thirst**
- **Increased urination**
- **Weight loss**
- **Increased appetite**

Without effective treatment, the clinical signs of diabetes are likely to worsen, and dogs can experience complications such as infections, cataracts and diabetic ketoacidosis.<sup>1</sup>

## **MANAGING YOUR DOG'S DIABETES**

There's no one-size-fits-all management plan for canine diabetes, and it's always best to work with your veterinary team to make a personalized plan for your dog.

### **MANAGEMENT GOALS FOR DIABETES IN DOGS**

- The main goal of diabetes management in dogs is to control blood sugar to reduce clinical signs like excessive thirst and urination.
- A secondary goal is to optimize body weight as dogs with diabetes may be underweight or overweight.<sup>1,3</sup>





## THE KEY PILLARS OF DIABETES MANAGEMENT

To increase the likelihood of achieving good control of blood sugar, it is recommended to start dogs on the right medication and diet for them as soon as possible after diagnosis. Management should center around 3 key areas:<sup>1,3</sup>



### Medication

As a dog with diabetes is unable to make their own insulin, treatment requires insulin injections, either once or twice daily depending on the insulin used.<sup>3</sup>



### A Purpose-Formulated Diet

Consider a diet specially formulated for diabetes management to help reduce blood sugar spikes after a meal and to help support healthy blood sugar levels.<sup>3</sup>



### Weight Maintenance or Optimization

Once a diabetic dog at an ideal body weight has stable blood sugar, it may be recommended that they remain on a diabetes-specific diet long term. For overweight, diabetic dogs, switching to a calorie-controlled weight loss diet may improve their response to insulin.<sup>1</sup> Pet owners should follow their veterinary team's recommendation as this could vary on a case by case basis.

# TIPS FOR YOUR DIABETIC DOG'S CARE

## ✓ CHOOSE A DIET DESIGNED FOR DIABETES

ROYAL CANIN® GLYCOBALANCE and GLYCOBALANCE SMALL DOG are specially formulated for adult dogs with diabetes.



### GLYCOBALANCE

[S/O  
INDEX]

Wet only

Available in 6.6 lb and 17.6 lb bags and a 13.4 oz can (loaf in sauce).

### GLYCOBALANCE SMALL DOG

Available in 1.5 lb and 8.8 lb bags.



### Supports Healthy Blood Glucose Levels:

Formulated with a reduced level of starch to support healthy blood glucose levels.\*



**High Protein:** A high protein content helps to maintain muscle mass.\*\*



**Food Intake:** Formulated for palatability to promote predictable food intake at meal times.



### Specially Formulated for Small Dogs:

Specially adapted benefits to meet digestive, dental and urinary sensitivities of small dogs and suitable for their small jaws.\*\*\*

\*GLYCOBALANCE dry contains 53% less starch than ROYAL CANIN® MEDIUM ADULT dry, GLYCOBALANCE wet contains over 50% less starch than ROYAL CANIN® ADULT wet, and GLYCOBALANCE SMALL DOG dry contains 48% less starch than ROYAL CANIN® SMALL ADULT dry. \*\*Only applies to GLYCOBALANCE dry and wet. \*\*\*Only applies to GLYCOBALANCE SMALL DOG.

## ✓ STICK TO A ROUTINE

- Make sure you're comfortable with your dog's medication and set up a **regular daily routine for feeding and giving your dog's insulin injections**, following your veterinary team's guidance.
- Whether your dog requires once or twice daily insulin injections, it's usually best to **give it shortly after they've eaten at approximately the same time each day**.
- Diabetes treatment can feel overwhelming at first, but it can quickly become a part of your and your dog's daily routine.

## ✓ FOLLOW A FEEDING PLAN FOR YOUR DOG'S NUTRITIONAL GOALS

Nutritional goals include **minimizing the impact of a meal on your dog's blood sugar and either achieving or maintaining their optimal body weight**. In addition to feeding a diet formulated for dogs with diabetes, it is important that you have discussed the following topics with your veterinary team:

- The total amount (**daily allowance**) of **wet and dry food** to feed your dog per day
- **How many portions** to divide the daily food allowance into and **when to feed each portion**:
  - If your dog is a grazer, ask if it is acceptable for them to graze each portion between feeding times
  - Weighing portions and giving them at set times makes it easy to monitor how much your dog is eating
- **Which treats are acceptable, how many can be offered and how often they should be fed**

## ✓ WORK CLOSELY WITH YOUR VETERINARY TEAM

- Set up **regular check-ups with your veterinary team** to track progress of your dog's diabetes. These visits ensure that your dog's blood sugar and clinical signs are optimally controlled on medication and diet, and that their ideal weight is achieved or maintained.
- It can take time — and, initially, frequent vet visits — to find the right dose of medication and control your dog's diabetes. Once the diabetes is controlled, these visits will often become less frequent.

# TAILORED NUTRITION FOR DIABETIC DOGS

**ROYAL CANIN® GLYCOBALANCE DOG and GLYCOBALANCE SMALL DOG** are specially formulated to support your dog in maintaining healthy blood sugar levels and a healthy body weight to help achieve the best possible outcomes.\*



ASK YOUR VETERINARY TEAM ABOUT **ROYAL CANIN®**  
**GLYCOBALANCE DOG AND GLYCOBALANCE SMALL DOG.**  
VISIT [ROYALCANIN.COM](https://royalcanin.com) TO FIND OUT MORE.

## HOW DO I START A NEW DIET?

Always consult with your veterinarian prior to starting your pet on any nutritional program. We recommend at least a seven-day transition when starting a new diet.

**DAYS 1-2**



**DAYS 3-4**



**DAY 5-6**



**DAY 7**



\*When fed as part of a veterinary diabetic management program in combination with medical treatment and close monitoring.

**References:** 1. Fracassi F. Canine diabetes mellitus. *Textbook of Veterinary Internal Medicine*. 8th ed. Ettinger S J, Feldman EC, Côté E. eds. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier; 2017; 1767-1781.  
2. American Veterinary Medical Association. Diabetes in pets. 2025. Available online at: <https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/pet-owners/petcare/diabetes-pets>. Accessed October 6, 2025.  
3. Behrend E, Holford A, Lathan P, et al. 2018 AAHA Diabetes Management Guidelines for Dogs and Cats. *J Am Anim Hosp Assoc*. 2018;54:1-21.



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