

Blood Glucose and Acute Coronary Syndrome (page 1 of 2)

I have diabetes already – what will happen?

On admission we will check your blood sugar both by pricking your finger and by sending a urine sample to the lab. We will also check an HbA1c blood test to get a gauge of how your diabetes has been over the past 2-3 months.

Will I need to stop any of my treatment?

The doctors will discuss with you if any of your diabetes treatment needs to be stopped when you first come in.

Do not be surprised if your treatment is adjusted; we will talk through the reasons for any changes with you.

I have been told my blood sugar is normal – what now?

If your blood sugar is normal on admission it is still important to monitor it carefully. We will make sure that your sugar is checked at least 4 times per day at first. If you are used to checking at home and wish to continue doing so then that is fine. If not, we will do this for you. We will discuss with you if we think your diabetes treatment needs adjustment.

I have been told my blood sugar is high – what should I expect?

If your blood sugar is high on admission we will talk to you about how we are going to manage this.

Often it will simply involve measuring the blood sugar regularly, which you can do yourself if you feel able, with changes in your treatment being decided with you if the blood sugar is persistently high.

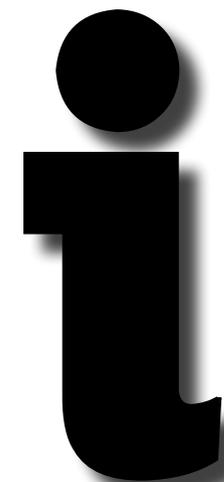
Sometimes we will suggest treating the high blood sugar with an insulin drip. If this happens the sugar will be checked every hour while you are on the drip.

If you usually take a long acting insulin (lantus or levemir) once or twice per day this will usually be continued while you are on the drip – if this is not happening please feel free to ask us about it.

We will try to use the drip for as short a time as possible – we will discuss this with you. When coming off the drip it may well be that your diabetes treatment will have been changed significantly but again we will talk you through this.

If at any time you are not sure about any aspects of your diabetes treatment then please ask. The diabetes team visit the ward Monday to

Diabetes Care Team
Tel: 01722 336262 ext. 2176



If you need your information in another language or medium (audio, large print, etc) please contact Customer Care on 0800 374 208 or send an email to: customer care@salisbury.nhs.uk

You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

Please complete The Friends & Family Test to tell us about your experience at: www.salisbury.nhs.uk/FriendsFamily or download our App from the Apple App store or Google Play Store.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk if you would like a reference list.

Friday and will be happy to come and discuss anything about your diabetes with you.

I don't have diabetes, why has my blood sugar been checked?

Everyone who comes into hospital with a heart problem has their blood sugar checked.

There are 2 reasons for this:

- Firstly, some people already have diabetes but are unaware of this.
- Secondly, sometimes people don't have diabetes but their blood sugar level is very high when coming into hospital due to the stress of illness.

What if my blood sugar is normal when I first come in?

If the sugar level is normal we will not need to do any more monitoring.

It is possible you may need some more tests to check for diabetes after you have gone home. If this is the case we will tell you and also make sure your GP knows that this needs to be done.

What if my sugar is raised?

If your blood sugar is high on admission then we will talk to you about how we are going to manage it. This does not necessarily mean that you have diabetes.

Often this will simply involve measuring the blood sugar regularly to see what the sugar is like through the day. Once we have that information we will be able to discuss with you what, if any, treatment is required.

Sometimes we will suggest treating the high blood sugar with an insulin drip. If this happens, the sugar will be checked every hour while you are on the drip.

We will try to use the drip for as short a time as possible. We will discuss this with you. When coming off the drip we will also discuss with you whether you need any ongoing treatment for raised sugar.

My blood sugar was raised on admission – do I have diabetes or not?

We will discuss this with you.

After you have gone home you might need to have more tests to confirm whether or not you have diabetes. If this is the case we will tell you and also make sure your GP knows that this needs to be done.

If new diabetes is confirmed during your admission, we will discuss this with you and will support you with information about what this means and how it should be looked after. We will arrange for a member of the diabetes team to come to see you to talk things through and make sure that you know what to do after you go home.

Diabetes Care Team

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