

# a guide to diabetes meters

Most meters on the market today read blood plasma, the same standard that is used in a clinical setting (many older meters provide whole blood readings). Consider the following features when deciding on a blood glucose monitor:



## **Size and user-friendliness**

Is it convenient for your needs and easy-to-use?

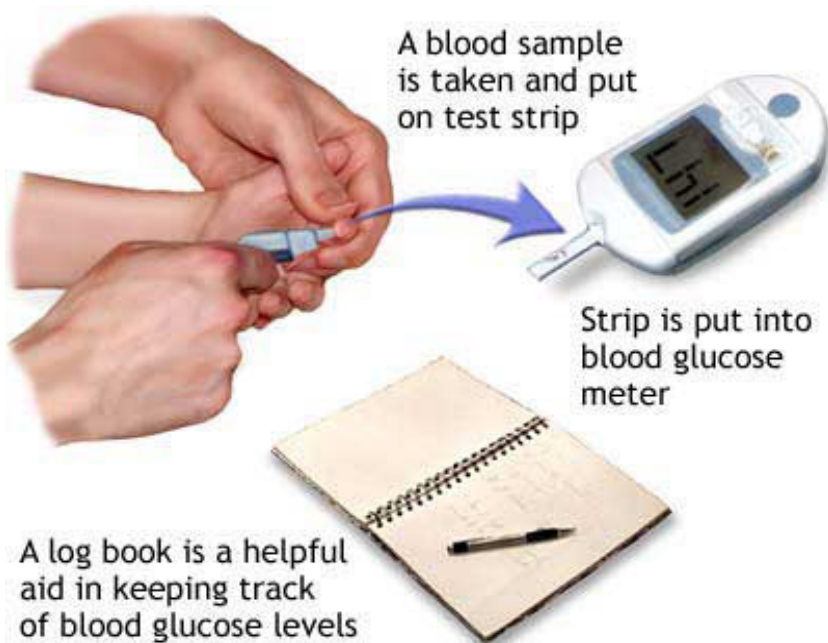
## **Time to readout**

How long does the meter take to display results?

## **Blood sample size**

Does the meter require a minimal amount of blood?

## how does the meter work?



# other features to consider

## **Memory**

How many test results will the meter's memory hold, and does it have the capability of averaging results for a designated time period?

## **Trend data and computer compatibility**

Does the meter interface with a computer and allow you to download meter results and generate blood sugar trend information?

## **Battery life and availability**

Will battery power last a reasonable amount of time, and are the batteries easily available at a local store or must they be specially ordered?

## **Alternative site testing**

Some meters allow you to test blood samples from the forearm and other sites beyond the fingertips.

## **Cost**

Factor in the cost of test strips when evaluating your meter purchase.

## **Multitasking**

Some blood glucose monitors double as blood ketone testers (Precision Xtra; Abbott Diabetes Care).

## **Adaptive technology**

If you have vision impairments, you may need a meter that "speaks" your results.

## **Bells and whistles**

Glow-in-the-dark cases, backlighting, and swappable faceplates are just a few of the other features today's blood glucose meters can offer.

## **contact us**

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