

Diabetes Mellitus

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☒ Definition

Diabetes Mellitus is a group of conditions in which there is a deficiency of the hormone insulin or an insensitivity to it. Insulin is produced in the islet cells of the pancreas and is normally responsible for controlling blood concentrations of the body's main fuel, glucose.

Diabetes mellitus is a metabolic disorder characterized by a congenital or Type I diabetes mellitus in people) or acquired or Type II diabetes mellitus in people) inability to transport sugar from the bloodstream into cells. Once inside cells, sugar (glucose) is used to generate the energy that is essential for normal cellular function.

☒ Types of diabetes mellitus

Type I :- less than 30 yr .
- similar to juvenile-onset .
- usually undernourished .

Type II :- Approximately 40 yr .
- similar to adult-onset .
- usually obese

☒ Therapy

☒ Oral hypoglycemics

Oral hypoglycemics are tablets used in the treatment of human diabetes mellitus which can lower blood glucose in some cases. In general, they are not useful for the treatment of diabetes mellitus in dogs but are some use in a small proportion of diabetic cats.

☒ Insulin

Insulin is the treatment of choice for diabetes mellitus in animals. Insulin must be given by injection because it is a protein and would be digested in the intestine if it was given as a tablet

☒ Stabilization

Unfortunately, there is no standard dose for insulin which can be applied to all animals. Each diabetic animal has to have its dose tailored to its individual needs which is done over a stabilization period.